



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXVIII No. 8 March - 2023

March Presentation:

Tuesday March 21, 2023 at 10 am

“History of San Ramon Valley & Founding Norris Family with a focus on William Norris” (VIA ZOOM)

BY BILL CLARKSON



The first people who inhabited the San Ramon Valley for thousands of years were Native American, the Ohlones. When the Spanish were establishing their missions in California, the Spanish soldier, Jose Maria Amador was awarded over 20,000 acres which became Rancho San Ramon. After California became a state in 1850, Jose Maria Amador started selling off his land holdings.

The first American family to settle in and build a wood frame house in the San Ramon Valley was headed by Leo Norris in 1850. Leo Norris bought a league of land(4,550 acres) in the northwest section from Jose Maria Ama-

dor.

The Presentation will focus on William Henry Norris (1832-1921) who bought the Norris Ranch and operated it for years. William Norris was the first-born son of Leo and Mary Jane Norris. He was reported to be an extraordinary horseman and learned other skills from the Mexicans.

Bill Clarkson is a long time San Ramon civic leader and local historian who enjoys telling the story of San Ramon and the Valley. Bill has lived in San Ramon over 43 years and is the retired mayor of San Ramon after serving 4 terms, finally terming out in 2020. Bill was raised in Oakland and received his Master's in Business Administration from San Jose State in 1978. In that same year, Bill started his own real estate business. He has served the San Ramon Community through the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District where he was Board President three times.

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President's Message

By Steve Watty



Technology is an integral component of genealogy in the research, preservation, and ultimate display of our family history. Technology keeps evolving, improving the methods used for all stages of genealogical research. Artificial Intelligence (AI), as an example, can be used to tell family stories (i.e.; MyHeritage's "DeepStory").

We can now use Artificial Intelligence to answer questions. An example of this AI technology is ChatGPT. The question "What new technology is available for genealogy research?" submitted using the ChatGPT application. The following is the answer given:

"There are many new technologies available for genealogy research that can make the process more efficient, accurate, and enjoyable. Here are some examples:

1. DNA Testing: DNA testing has revolutionized genealogy research, allowing people to identify ancestors, find living relatives, and learn about their ethnic and geographical origins. Companies like AncestryDNA, 23andMe, and FamilyTreeDNA offer DNA testing services that can provide valuable insights into family history.

2. Artificial Intelligence (AI): AI-powered tools can help with tasks like handwriting recognition, document transcription, and image analysis. For example, MyHeritage offers a tool called "Deep Nostalgia" that can animate old family photos to bring them to life.

3. Digital Archives: Many archives and libraries are digitizing their collections, making it easier to access historical records and documents from anywhere in the world. Websites like FamilySearch, Ancestry.com, and FindMyPast offer vast collections of digitized records.

4. Mobile Apps: There are many mobile apps available for genealogy research that allow users to build and manage family trees, access records and documents, and connect with other researchers. Ex-

President's Message cont'd on P10...



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 2023

- 21 Tuesday—10am The March General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Bill Clarkson on **The History of San Ramon Valley & Founding Families, Amador, Bollinger, Norris, Baldwin and Boone.**
- 28 Tuesday –10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom.

April 2023

- 18 Tuesday—10am The April General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal on **Learn From Lineage Societies Without Being a Member!**
- 25 Tuesday –10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom.

May 2023

- 16 Tuesday—10am The May General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Marian Wood Burk on **Planning a Future for Your Family's Past**
- 23 Tuesday –10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom..■

Bill Clarkson...cont'd from p.1

His favorite activity with the City now is telling the Story of San Ramon for each third grade class when they tour the City Hall. He emphasizes that we need to honor and respect the hard work of the early landowners and pioneers of the Village of San Ramon.■

A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out to all members a few days prior to the meeting. If you have any friends or family that would like to attend, have them contact Steve at president@srvgensoc.org prior to the meeting for the link. If you have any Zoom questions or issues, please contact Steve Watty at 925-766-6706 or Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.

Announcing our Society's New Photo Album!

Our Society's Webmasters, Bob Venter and Bill George, have put together a Society photo album as an adjunct to our website, accessible to members only. You can navigate to it by first logging in to the society website (srvgensoc.org) and then selecting 'Photo Album' in the left-hand margin, which will then take you to the photo album located on an external server.

In the photo album you will find pictures of our Board of Directors and other support personnel to help you recognize them when we meet in person. You will also find photos taken at some of our various society events, such as our recent Holiday Celebration of last December. In addition, there is a link to our 'Historic' photo album which was located on our previous website of several years ago.

Your webmasters would like to hear from you regarding your impressions, comments or questions, and hope you find the album interesting. Look for future announcements as new features are added to the album.■

WELCOME — NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Let's all extend a Warm Welcome to our newest members,

Karen Jean Davis

Donna Rascano

Pat Butts

Laura Anne Ferree

Donna Kennedy

Jane Carol Ware

Kathy Gustafson

Lynn, Timothy & Deanna Jesus

And a Warm Welcome Back to returning members,

Karla Henderlong

Harold Bradley

Lorna Defiebre

MUSEUM OF THE SAN RAMON VALLEY

From Barbara Shapas

In the most recent issue of "The Branch Line" newsletter from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley in the Depot in downtown Danville, there is an article about their third-Thursday virtual programs. The museum has developed these over the past couple of years.

I didn't know about this wonderful free resource, but fortunately the programs are archived so you can see those from the past by going to the museum website at: www.museumsvr.org. Click on *Events and Programs* at the top and then choose *Past Virtual Programs*. Currently there are 28 past programs to be viewed, the subject of many pertaining to our local tri-valley area. Check out these programs to learn more about our local history. ■

Bill George announces a new section, *New Member Resources*, added to our Society's website

A "New Member Resources" section has been added to the Members-Only section of our website <https://srvgensoc.org> this month. It contains websites for people just starting their genealogy journey and a list of Society members willing to give help and advice on certain topics. Topics we have so far are *California*, *FamilySearch*, *Getting Started*, *General Research*, *Italian*, *Jewish*, *Lithuanian* and *Polish* research with Society member names, emails and phone numbers supporting those topics. If you have experience in an area that might be helpful, please contact me to add your name to the list. My email is wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com.■

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 Bill George

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani

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webmaster@srvgensoc.org

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE*By: Bill George*

In March, 2023 SIG dates are "normal", meeting on-line, except for the innovative German SIG. They will be meeting at a local bistro in March for lunch a couple hours later than their normal meeting. They are considering meeting at the Danville FamilySearch Center in the future at 1pm on the 4th Wed. The publishing SIG is using Google Meet for their on-line meetings. All SIG members receive emails from their leaders on how to join each meeting.



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday March 8th, 9am-11 (the 2nd Wednesday) in a Zoom meeting. They share info from the internet, journals, DNA and books. You may contact Patty Erickson, the SIG

leader, at russpat@comcast.net.



Family Search - Monday, March 13th, 1-3pm, (the 2nd Monday). Learn the many aspects of this free, comprehensive genealogy web site.

You may contact SIG Leader Bill George at wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Publishing – Thursday March 16th (the 3rd Thursday), **10:30-12noon**. Contact Kathy Javdani at kjjsc@aol.com for info on how to

join the meeting. Francie Lloyd, is the SIG Leader and can be reached at frances_lloyd@comcast.net.



DNA - Monday March 20th, 1-3pm, (the 3rd Monday), in a Zoom meeting. This SIG assumes a basic knowledge of Genealogical DNA testing and therefore is only open to those who have completed the

SRVGS Intro to DNA class or an approved equivalent. You may contact SIG Leader Mark McLaren at greatscot@earthlink.net.



German Research – Wednesday March 22nd, 12-3pm, (the 4th Wednesday) in person only at a local bistro. Members share information from a variety of sources.

You may contact SIG Leader Karen LaDuca at kblquilts@comcast.net. ■



The World's Largest Family History Conference is coming up March 2-4 and it is both Virtual and In Person this year! Register now—Ctrl-click the link for [Roots Tech registration](#). Note that the Virtual is FREE again this year. The In-Person fee is \$98. You can also go to the [FamilySearch](#) site for detailed info on the event. Don't miss this marvelous event.



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



March, as spring approaches, is the perfect time to refresh our knowledge. .

☞ The California Genealogy Society Library, www.californiaancestors.org, is open for visits from 10-2 Wednesday thru Friday and from 10-4 on the third Saturday of the month. Visitors must register in advance. Classes and events will continue online or hybrid. Check website for details and to register for the following activities. Note any fees. Also, visit the website for access to available recordings and videos.

- On Sat. Mar. 4th from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will meet. The focus of the meeting will be on **Vital Records**.
- On Wed. Mar. 8th from 6:30-8 Lisa Gorrell and Jacqueline Henderson will lead the **CGS Member's-Only Roundtable** in a discussion of **members' genealogical research**.
- On Sat. Mar. 11th from 1 -2:30 Pam Vestal will answer **Why They Left, Where They Went, and What Their Journeys Can Reveal** in a Zoom meeting.
- On Sat. Mar. 18th from 1-3 Ron Madson will lead a hybrid meeting of the **Family Tree Maker SIG**. Fee for non-members.
- On Thur. Mar. 16th Maureen Hanlon will share **San Francisco Irish in the late 1899s: The Story of My Great-Grandparents** in a Zoom meeting.
- On Wed. Mar. 22th from 6:30-8 the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** will meet online. See society's website to register.
- On Mon. Mar. 27th from 7-8:30 the **DNA Skills SIG** will meet online. Contact Mark McLaren for more information.
- On Sat. Apr. 1st from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will meet. The topic will be **Organizing Your Family History Work**.

☞ The Oakland Family Search Library, www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_FamilySearch_Library/Classes_and_Workshops, is open Tuesday-Saturday, Tue 10-5, Wed&Thur 10-8, and Fri&Sat 10-4. Email

fhcoakland@gmail.com or call 510-531-3905 for Information or to register for online classes and workshops. In addition, the website has links to online classes at the other Family Search Regional Libraries BYU. The Family History Library in Salt Lake City also presents a number of webinars each month. Check the Oakland Family Search Library website for a list of numerous online webinars and classes.

- On Wednesdays from 4-8 Jane Lindsey will provide **French Canadian Assistance**. Appt. only.
- On Thursdays from 11-6 there will be assistance for **Swedish Research**. No appt. required.
- On March 22nd from 6-8 the **African American Research Workshop** have a Zoom meeting.

The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html offers a variety of webinars. Register online in advance. The upcoming presentation for March is:

- On Wed. Mar. 15th from 6-7 Diane L. Richard will present **Let's Get Lost in Ledgers: Much Genealogically-Leverageable Data Waiting to be Discovered**.

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), www.americanancestors.org/events has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. It contains subject guides on a variety of genealogical topics, informative videos, webinars, online courses, and more. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education. Register for its webinars at its website.

- On Wed. Mar. 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th from 3-4:30 Christopher Child, Lindsay Fulton, David Lambert and Ann Lawthers will explore the **Basics of Early New England Research**. \$125.

- On Tue. Mar. 7th from 3-4 Richard Cohen will share his book, **Making History: The Storytellers Who Shaped the Past.**
- On Thu. Mar. 9th from 12-1 Sheilagh Doerfler will present **Finding Your Ancestral Homestead.**
- On Fri. Mar. 10th from 1-2:30 Curt DiCamillo will discuss the **British Crown Jewels and the Kings and Queens Who Wore Them.** \$35.
- On Sat. Mar. 11th from 6 AM – 1:30 Gillian Hunt and Mullan will present **Finding Your Ancestors in Irish Church Records.** \$125.
- On Tue. Mar. 14th, 21st, and 28th from 1-2:30 Miriam Mora will explore **Behind the Golden Doors: American Jewish Life in the of Age Immigration Restriction, 1924-1965.** \$85.
- On Thu. Mar. 16th from 12-1 Dustin Axe will share **Genealogy for the Next Generation: A National Family History Curriculum.**
- Beginning on Sat. Mar. 18th from 11-12:30 Judith Lucey, Rhonda McClure, and Eileen Pironti will discuss **Researching Ulster Scots Ancestors.** \$125, 5 classes.
- On Mon. Mar. 20th from 3-4:30 Lindsay Fulton, Pam Fessler, and Alex Green will present **The Secret History of Institutions and Institutionalization in America, 1880-1960.** \$65.
- On Thu. Mar. 23rd from 12-1 Claire Vail will answer **What's New at American Ancestors.**
- On Mon. Mar. 27th from 3-4 David Waldstreich will share his book, **The Odyssey of Philis Wheatley: A Poet's Journeys Through American Slavery and Independence.**

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A recording of the free events will be posted on the NEHGS website the following day. Many courses with fees are available on demand following their initial presentation.

 The Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center offers many webinars. Go to <https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy> to see the current list and to register online. Also, explore the Genealogy Center Videos at <https://acpl.lib.in.us/explore-genealogy/our-services>. Recorded Genealogy Center programs can be found on the Genealogy Center

section of the library's YouTube channel.

- On Thu. Mar. 2nd from 3:30-4:30 Sara Allen will present **Your DNA Match is Adopted: Now What?**
- On Tue. Mar. 7th from 11:30-12:30 Daniel Loftus will share **Mastering Mastodon: Another Tool in a Genealogist's Arsenal.**
- On Wed. Mar. 8th from 4-5 Roberta Ridley will present **African-American Genealogical Research.**
- On Thur. Mar. 9th from 3:30-4:30 join a discussion, **Let's Talk - Where Are the Women?**
- On Tue. Mar. 14th from 11:30-12:30 Robert Myers will present **Historical Society of Michigan: Historical Writing and Publishing.**
- On Thu. Mar. 16th from 3:30-4:30 Kate Kelley will explain **The Photo Angel: Reuniting Long Lost Photos with Families.**
- On Sat. Mar. 18th from 11-12 Al Brothers will share **Research Tools & Tips: Deep Dive into Tennessee & Kentucky.**
- On Tue. Mar. 21st from 11:30-12:30 Dan Bouk will explore **Democracy's Date: Reading Hidden Stories in the 1940 Census.**
- On Thu. Mar. 23rd from 3:30-4:30 Helen Smith will discuss **Researching in UK Archives from Abroad.**
- On Tue. Mar. 28th from 11:30-12:30 Daniel Ware will share **Genealogy Resources at the Kentucky Historical Society.**

 Legacy offers numerous free webinars every month. Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com> to register.

- On Wed. Mar. 8th at 5 Gena Philibert-Ortega will examine **Written in Stone: In-Depth Study of a Gravestone.**
- On Fri. Mar. 10th at 1 Elizabeth O'Neal will present **An Introduction to Using WordPress to Build a Blog or Website.**
- On Tue. Mar. 14th at 11 Daniel Horowitz will discuss **RootsTech Recap.**
- On Wed. Mar. 15th at 11 Warren Bittner will explore **Exhausting Research to Find an Impossi-**

ble Immigrant!

- On Fri. Mar. 17th at 11 Joy Oria will present **Pardones of the Past: Colonial-era Censuses of Mexico.**
- On Tue. Mar. 21st at 5 Dana Palmer will share **Uncovering Immigrant Origins Through Cluster Research.**
- On Wed. Mar. 22nd at 11 Sunny Morton will discuss **PERSI 2.0: The New PERSI for Everyone.**
- On Fri. Mar. 24th at 11 Elizabeth Shown Mills will present **Margaret's Baby's Father & The Lessons He Taught Me.**
- On Tue. Mar. 28th at 11 Gal Zrihen will share **New Developments of MyHeritage DNA.**
- On Wed. Mar. 29th at 11 Andy Klein will present **3-2-1- Data Backup is Great, But First You Need to Find All of Your Data.**



The State Historical Society of Missouri has produced nearly 100 On Demand programs through its virtual program series and past recorded events. Freely available through the Society's website, <https://shsmo.org>, On Demand topics include genealogy, art, scholarship, signature lecture series, and more.



Here are some other webinars and podcasts that are online:

- Auntie Jen's Family Trees, <https://Auntiejentrees.blogspot.com>
- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <https://extremegenes.com/blog>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast www.genealogyguys.com
- Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems <https://lisalouisecooke.com/podcasts>
- Lisa also has a genealogy chat on YouTube at 9 am on Thursdays entitled **Elevenes**.
- Thomas MacEntee's www.genealogybargains.com
- Judy Russell's www.legalgenealogist.com
- Family History Fanatics www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog

- Connie Knox <https://genealogytv.org>

And there's more....

The following are sites with large amounts of valuable information:

- The National Archives- www.archives.gov/research/genealogy offers a genealogy tutorial, genealogy research topics and a variety of charts and forms.
- The DAR Library – www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy offers help on the variety of genealogical topics. Also see the upcoming events schedule at www.dar.org/libraryevents.
- The Sutro Library hosts the Bay Area Genealogy Calendar, www.library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy/calendar. The calendar provides information about events throughout the Bay Area.
- Conference Keeper, <https://ConferenceKeeper.org>, lists conferences, events, calls for papers, contests, grants, volunteer opportunities, tours and more. To sign up to receive *Tami at Conference Keeper* which lists events that have been recently added go to mail@sendfoxmail.com.

Events from Local Societies

- On Thu. Mar. 2nd at 1:30 The Genealogy Society of Vallejo and Benicia, <https://gsvb.org>, will present a Zoom meeting. Guest speaker Nancy Calhoun will share **Runnin' Down Grandma**. To attend send an e-mail to GSVBzoom@gmail.com to request an invitation.
- On Thu. Mar. 9th from 6:30-8 the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, <https://cccgs.net>, will have Madeline Yanov as its guest speaker at its Zoom meeting. Madeline will discuss **Ancestral Road Trips, Part II: Go West Young Man**. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Mon. Mar. 13th from 6:30-8:30 the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will host a Zoom meeting with Glenda Lloyd as guest speaker. She will explore **Cemetery Records**. Register at the l-ags website.
- On Wed. Mar. 15th at 1 the Sacramento German Genealogy Society will hold a Zoom meeting. The guest speaker, Don Heinrich Tolzmann will

present **The German 48ers in America: Characteristics and Contributions**. Administration. Register on the society's website <https://SGGS.us>. \$10.

- On Fri. Mar. 16th at 1 the Napa Valley Genealogical Society, <https://napagensoc.org>, will hold a Zoom meeting. The guest speaker, Pam Vestal will present **Finding What You Need and Using What You Find**. Register on the society's website.
- On Fri. Mar. 17th at 10 the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society, <https://mdgs.webs.com> will hold a hybrid meeting on Zoom and at the Fireside Room at Gateway in Rossmoor. The guest speaker, Kathryn Miller Marshall will examine **Escaping the Great Hunger – Migration and the Irish Potato Famine**. For the Zoom presentation email mdgs.webs@gmail.com at least 2 days prior to the meeting to receive the link.
- On Sat. Mar. 18th at 12 the Sonoma County Genealogical Society, <https://scgsonline.org>, will hold its Zoom meeting beginning at 12 with the presentation starting at 1. Lisa Gorrell, the guest speaker, will share **Fleshing Out Your Family Using City Directories**. Register on the society's website.
- On Sat. Mar. 25th from 10-3 the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society, <https://scchgs.org>, will hold a hybrid seminar. Bill Cole will present **Researching England's Records: All Ancestors Great and Small – How to Discover Genealogical Gems in Underutilized Treasure Troves**. The in-person venue will be at 875 Quince Ave., Santa Clara. See the society's website for registration details. \$0 - \$18.

Upcoming Special Events

- From March 2nd-4th the 2023 **Rootstech Conference**, <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/> will be held both in person in Salt Lake City and virtually.
- From March 31st-Apr. 2nd the Southern California Genealogical Society will hold its in-person and virtual **Genetic Genealogy 2023 Conference**. For more information visit <https://genealogyjamboree.com>.
- From May 3-6th the **New England Regional**

Genealogical Consortium will hold an in-person event in Springfield Mass. For more information visit www.nergc.org

- From May 31st – Jun 3rd the **National Genealogical Society** will hold a hybrid conference both in-person in Richmond, VA and online. For further information visit <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>. ■

Danville Family Search Center

2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo

Phone: (925)552-5920

Family Search Center Changes

You may have noticed the new name. The Church is standardizing the naming worldwide. Henceforth the name is changing from *Family History Center* to *Family Search Center*.

Our own Family Search Center in Danville is losing its director, Chris Engstrom, who is relocating to Utah this month. We wish her our very best in her new home.

Rudy Wolf will be taking her place in the interim and if you want to discuss volunteering or any other subject regarding the FSC, you can reach him preferably by email at RudigerWolf@me.com or at (925)699-7040.

Monday 10-1

Tuesday 2-5

Wednesday 1-5

You may call for an appointment (925)837-7010.■

Did You Know...?

The Family Search Centers provide free access to several subscription applications to help you in your research. Many you probably know of, but here is a more comprehensive list:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Family Search | • Godfrey Memorial Lib. |
| • Ancestry.com | • Newspaper Archive |
| • Fold3.com | • World Vital Records |
| • Heritage Quest | • Findmypast (UK) |
| • MyHeritage.com | • Geneanet |
| • Origins.net | • Filae |
| • ProQuest Obituary Listings | • Puzilla |
| • American Ancestors | • Kinpoint |
| • Genealogy Bank | • Newspapers.com |
| • Archion | • Fold3 |

Have you recorded any of your family stories yet...?

Below is a very charming letter provided to me by Francie Lloyd, leader of our Publishing SIG, and published with the permission of the owner that may spur you into action. *See the transcription below the letter if you have trouble reading it.*

September 26, 2022

Dear Jean & Jack,

Thank you for the most wonderful gift of the genealogy creation for the Kelly/Kieran/Crosby Families. It is simply amazing! There are so many stories I have never heard—and to have the photos with the stories makes it even more special and real. It's hard to express my gratitude for your years of commitment, expertise, writing, organizing, and insights. You have given me a family I never knew I had—and that foundation has such strength. It helps to know my dad, aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc. etc. in a whole new, and more meaningful way. I am in awe of your talents!

With Love, and Deep Gratitude,
Rose Kelly.



September 26, 2022

Dear Jean & Jack

Thank you for the most wonderful gift of the genealogy creation for the Kelly/Kieran/Crosby Families. It is simply amazing! There are so many stories I have never heard—and to have the photos with the stories makes it even more special and real. It's hard to express my gratitude for your years of commitment, expertise, writing, organizing and insights. You have given me a family I never knew I had—and that foundation has such strength. It helps to know my dad, aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc, etc, in a whole new, and more meaningful way. I am in awe of your talents! With Love and Deep Gratitude, Rose Kelly



Notes on Last Month's Presentation

By Karen LaDuca

Local History & Genealogy Research at the Library of Congress

By Candice Buchanan

This talk was the perfect introduction to what is available at the Library of Congress and how to access it. In the past I was always overwhelmed when I tried to use the LOC website and never felt that I was able to find what I was looking for. Part of that was not knowing what is actually housed at the LOC.

Ms. Buchanan started with a very interesting history of the Library of Congress and moved on to what some of the types of resources available are and how to access them. One that she mentioned was the Historic American Building Survey and the fact that these were not just big buildings, but more ordinary buildings. These will be very interesting to check out for your ancestral towns.

Her one page handout "Search Library of Congress Collections" gives a step-by-step guide to both Searching the Online Catalog and Searching the Digital Collections, including many important tips. Her presentation was packed with examples of how to use the website and would be well-worth rewatching while it is still available on our website so that you can stop the video and try out the steps for yourself.

She also emphasized using the "Ask a Librarian" link that is found on every page. They will not do your research for you, but they will do specific look ups. This is a great resource for US research that is likely very under-used.■

The handout from the February 21, 2023 Candice Buchanan on "Genealogy Research using the Library of Congress" is available by logging in to the member section of our web site. It will be available for one month. The recording is also available to members only, again for only one month.

President's Message cont'd from p2.

amples include MyHeritage, FamilySearch, and Ancestry.

5. *Social Media:* Social media can be a powerful tool for connecting with other researchers and sharing information. Facebook groups, Twitter hashtags, and Reddit communities are just a few examples of the many online spaces where genealogists can connect and collaborate.

6. *Genealogy Software:* Genealogy software like RootsMagic, Family Tree Maker, and Legacy Family Tree can help researchers organize and track their family trees, attach documents, and record research notes.

Overall, there are many exciting new technologies available for genealogy research that can make the process more accessible, efficient, and enjoyable."

How can we use this technology to further our family history research? New applications for this technology are being applied to our genealogy software, used by archival institutions, the scientific community (DNA research), and publication companies. This is the future. Is it a positive improvement? I believe so, but you need to answer the question for yourself.■

