



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



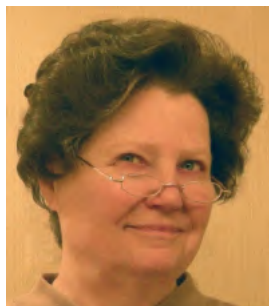
San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXVI No. 7 February - 2021

This Month's Presentation: Tuesday February 16, 2021 at 10 am

Researching the War of 1812 Records

BY: KATHRYN MARSHALL via Zoom



Sandwiched between two wars that were fought with the Barbary pirates off "the shores of Tripoli," over 450,000 Americans fought in the War of 1812. Hundreds of thousands more served in state militias which, in theory, included all free adult males of military age. On the opposing side were Canadians, British, and a large proportion of Irish personnel. Battles raged from Canada to New Orleans, involving much of the population as suppliers, freighters, soldiers and sailors, pensioners and their widows. Learn the best web sites, special collections, and strategies for mining the extraordinary depth of records from this pivotal era in our nation's past. We know the familiar phrases. Now know the ancestors who gave them meaning.

Kathryn Miller Marshall has been serving with FamilySearch for the last four years, developing maps and helping maintain the Research Wiki. A frequent speaker at genealogical conferences and workshops, Kathy was the Director of the Lodi Family History Center for 14 years. Honored for her contributions to preserving and educating the public about California history, she has written biographical sketches of pioneers and interpretative panels for museum exhibits, published Gold Rush maps, edited historical reference books, and put on living history exhibits at Coloma's Gold Discovery Historic State Park. With a Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of California at Berkeley where she taught for many years, Dr. Marshall developed substance abuse prevention programs for schools through the National Institutes of Health during her earlier professional career. ■

A link to the meeting will be sent out to all members a few days prior to the meeting. If you have any Zoom questions or issues please contact Steve Watty at 925-766-6706 or Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.

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Notes on Last Month's Presentation:

Tuesday January 19, 2021

Creative Hypothesis Development to Solve Your Brick Wall Challenges

BY: DR. JAN M. JOYCE via Zoom

Create hypotheses, prioritize, then refute or support them. You might need multiple hypotheses, seek a variety of information, use bullet points for critical facts, highlight a time line, and simplify, write everything out, then share your data with others who might provide new hypotheses. Be receptive to new ideas. Dr. Joyce uses mind mapping, letting thoughts flow freely without sequence or outlining; branch out with general ideas in the center and going more specific as you branch out. Bring up any new ideas as you do so, then visualize a story around your brick wall.

She used the ancestry data of a farmer who sold his farm land to his 10 children (8 married boys and 2 unmarried daughters from ages 24 to 42) in equal shares for \$3500 per 80 acres just prior to his death, not going via a will or through probate. He died with no debts or disputes in Amish country. (He was not Amish but the family appeared Presbyterian.) Dr Joyce and her SRVGS audience had an interactive discussion as to WHY all this was done. She finished with her story about this ancestral event. Suggestion: SRVGS members with brick walls could begin this process, then share with 3 or 4 other members to enhance ideas.■

In case you missed it, the link to the Zoom recording of this presentation is available on our website www.srvgensoc.org for our members until February 19. (You may wonder why we are restricted as to the length of time we can retain the recordings. We are limited to the amount of space we are allowed for Zoom recording and some of our speakers have restrictions on how long we make their presentations available.)



Don't miss out on RootsTech 2021, February 25-27. This year it's **FREE** and conveniently available on your computer! But you must register first, which you can do by going here: <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng/>. That will put you on their mailing list for updates and reminders.

*Just in case you were wondering, Yes, the Danville Family History Center is **still closed**!*



President's Message

By Steve Watty



How were you assigned your given and middle names? Were you named after a family member or an ancestor? Or was it possibly a celebrity, famous person, fictional character, religious or even a location? During our January General Meeting Q&A with our speaker, Dr. Jan Joyce, a question was

raised regarding naming traditions or customs which could help solve a genealogical question or brick wall.

There are a multitude of naming traditions around the world, so culture and location may be in play when naming an offspring. Some naming traditions are easy to follow, and many of you have these examples in your Family Trees. You may find that some naming trends present research nightmares. The use of the same given name through multiple generations can present unique problems especially if the use of senior/junior or the numbering sequence was not used. In other families, the use of nicknames complicates your research journey. Nicknames were common when siblings or multiple generations used the same given name among other reasons.

Here in the U.S. we seemed to cycle through popular names during the last century, departing from previous naming traditions. As a Baby Boomer, my given name "Steven" was a popular name at the time or was I named after Saint Stephen? I do not know - I never asked my parents (another lost opportunity), but I do know that my middle name was also my father's given name. I was pleasantly surprised when my grandson was given my surname as a middle name. I understand this was common practice particularly in the South, and many times an ancestral surname was even assigned as a first name. There is much written within the genealogical community about naming traditions and customs. Read some of these articles and then you can include a naming analysis for each of your ancestors in your bag of research options. I am sure many interesting stories exist on why a certain name was used and may also assist you with a brick wall break-through.



I invite all of you to join me at our next General Meeting on February 16. Kathryn Marshall will present "Researching the War of 1812 Records." If any of you have research topics you would like our Programs Committee to consider, please forward your suggestions to programs@srvgensoc.org. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

February 2021

16 Tuesday - 10 am the February General Meeting will be held via a Zoom Link. The speaker will be Kathryn Marshall on Researching The War of 1812 Records via Zoom.

23 Tuesday - 10 am The Board meeting will be held via ZOOM video.

March 2021

16 Tuesday - 10 am The March General Meeting will be via a Zoom Link. The speaker will be Thomas MacEntee on How Do I Know What I Don't Know? Fast Tracking Your Genealogy Education via Zoom■

23 Tuesday - 10 am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom video.

April 2021

20 Tuesday— 10am The April General Meeting will be via a Zoom Link. The speaker will be Eric E. Johnson speaking on Researching Ancestors in the Old Northwest Territory.

27 Tuesday—10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom video■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

Let's all extend a Warm Welcome to our newest member

Heather Hamby

To DNA OR NOT TO DNA... MY PERSONAL STORY

By: Barbara Thurston

I started on the genealogy quest when I lived in Salt Lake City in the 1980's allowing myself one Saturday a month in The LDS Library in SLC searching for my English ancestors. Though I was born in England most, but not all, of my great grandparents were immigrants to England from Eastern Europe, Poland, Lithuania, Galicia and Austria. However, my father had always told me that his grandmother, Julia Lyons, was born in England and so were several generations before her. And to the best of my knowledge all my ancestors were Jewish. I started what became my genealogy hobby with his line and was successful in finding his grandmother, Julia Lyons, her father David Lyons and his father Benjamin Lyons in UK Census records. And I found Benjamin's London New Synagogue birth record, my 3rd great grandfather's born on April 13, 1789, all by searching FHC microfilm. When I moved back to the Bay Area in early 1990's, I shelved my genealogy hobby for several reasons, mainly because The Library was no longer available to me, and I just didn't have time for it since I also worked full time.

Fast forward to 2014 when I retired, I decided it was time to resume this hobby since I had all the time in the world; and with computers and the various programs available from the comfort of my own home, I jumped back into it. I began using Ancestry.com and found a wealth of information. I reached several brick walls in my tree and decided to take a break and move on to my husband's tree.

That was much easier since his aunt had done much of the preliminary work plus much of his family had emigrated to America in colonial/pre-revolutionary times and it was readily available on Family Search. I should point out that he does not have the enthusiasm for genealogy that I have and his eyes glaze over when I ask him if he is interested in seeing a picture of his great grandparents, or if he knew his 2nd great grandfather fought in the Civil War.

However, when Ancestry.com was offering a sale on DNA in December for \$69, my husband expressed a desire to know what his DNA ancestry was. I told him he was probably mostly English, with some German and Dutch. But he insisted, and since he was going to do it, I figured I would too.

I must confess that I didn't know much about DNA at the time and was dubious; and if it came back indicating I was 15% Cherokee Indian, I would know it was hooey. We got our results back in January 2017, and my husband's came back as 45% English, 25% and 30% other regions, pretty much as I had suspected. Mine came back as 96% European Jewish, so there were no surprises there; and no Cherokee Indian, I might add!

However, there were 2 close relatives that popped up, though (in addition to 10,000+ 3rd, 4th and more distant cousins). One was a male showing he was 1st cousin or closer and the second was a female 1st or 2nd cousin. Neither of them had a meaningful tree built out, and I was sure I knew all of my cousins, so I contacted both via Ancestry messaging prefacing my emails with the thought that perhaps Ancestry had made a mistake. I got replies back from both immediately.

Let me start with the female, Julie, showing up as my 1st or 2nd cousin. She indicated she was born in San Francisco in 1960 and was adopted and currently lives in Berkeley. I knew my cousin had had a child when she was visiting here but had not thought any more about it in 60 years. Julie had 2 pictures of her mother that were left with the adoption attorney. To cut to the chase, Julie was indeed the daughter of my cousin, my father's niece, confirmed by the fact that the snapshots left with the adoption attorney were the same as those that we had in our family collection. She is a lovely person and I feel fortunate to have her in our family, my first cousin once removed. I contacted my cousin in England and carefully worded an email indicating I had met her daughter and she was thrilled. Julie has since travelled to England and met her mother, her aunt, and her half siblings and their families. Sadly my cousin died of COVID-19 last April just as Julie was planning a second trip there. How glad they all are that she did have a chance to meet after all these years. ►

*Home is a place you grow up wanting to leave,
and grow old wanting to get back to.*

-John Ed Pearce

TO DNA OR NOT TO DNA (CONT'D)*By: Barbara Thurston*

Now, The Rest of The Story.... Patrick replied to my email indicating that he was English, lives in Canterbury, was born in 1937, and was also adopted as an infant. He had obtained his birth certificate many years ago as a result of the opening of these previously sealed records and tracked down his mother from the address on the certificate. She was not receptive to starting a relationship and sadly she died 2 years later, he having met her only once. Her name was not familiar to my sister nor me.

Clearly he was related to me, but it probably wasn't through his mother, so it must've been through his father. He'd had his DNA done as soon as it became available in England, and it had come back showing him that he was 97% Jewish which was a complete surprise to him since he was adopted by a Church of England family and raised in that religion. His mother had kept her own religion secret even to her own family. But how was he related to me? Remember, Ancestry said he was a first cousin or closer.

I immediately thought of my Uncle Harry, my mother's brother, since he was a rather worldly chap, and had been married at least twice. I sent Patrick pictures of Uncle Harry, and he replied that he did not see any family resemblance. It was unlikely that Uncle Joe, my mother's other brother, was his father particularly since he was much more stable and was married at the time. But I had no pictures of Uncle Joe.

However it came out in the sending of emails back and forth with Patrick and Julie, that they also showed up on each other's DNA matches as close relatives, so that led us to the revelation that since Julie was related to me on my father's side, that Patrick must also be related to me on my father's side. So I looked at Dad's side. He had 2 brothers, the elder was married with 2 daughters in 1937 so it was unlikely that he was Patrick's father. The younger brother was much younger and was disabled so we eliminated him. Dad, however, was single in 1937. (My parents were married in 1939.)

Could it be that our Dad was Patrick's father? I sent him pictures of Dad, and he sent me his picture and there was a definite resemblance. We connected via FaceTime, and to me there was no doubt. His resemblance to our father was uncanny.

But we decided to have a confirmatory test done anyway, and it came back with 99.3% probability that we are half siblings! My sister and I feel confident that Dad, or Mum for that matter, did not know of Patrick's existence for several reasons that I won't go into here.

Patrick has said that after all those years of not knowing who his father was and not expecting to ever find out, he finally feels settled. He has also connected with his birth mother's children, his half siblings, albeit after his mother died. Evidently they were very angry that their mother kept her secret from them for her entire life. Perhaps there is a lesson to be learned there. I'm only sorry that Dad did not know of his son's existence or have a chance to meet his son. Perhaps that was fortunate for many reasons, the least of all being that I know we would have had to peel our mother off the ceiling had she known!

My sister and I have traveled twice to England to visit; and Patrick and his wife came to visit last year and helped us celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. We talk on FaceTime weekly and it has truly been a blessing and wonderful to get to know him and his family.



Epilogue: Since finding my brother I have been able to find out more on our paternal great grandmother, Julia Lyons' husband Mark Asher from a biographical document on the Ascher family found in Archive.org and have used DNA matches to provide evidence the family described in this document was indeed the family of my great grandfather. But perhaps this is the subject of a future article. ■

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Calendar Coordinator:
Bill George

Education Coordinator:
Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bob Venter
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SRVGS is on Facebook!

Click on the link below or go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/>

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

By: Bill George

In February, five SIGS will meet online. The Publishing SIG is using Google Meet and the rest, Zoom. All SIG members receive emails from their leaders on how to join each meeting. See details below:



Family Search - Monday, February 8th (the 2nd Monday) **1 pm – 3 pm** in a Zoom Meeting. Learn the many aspects of this free, comprehensive genealogy web site. You may contact SIG Leader Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday February 10th (the 2nd Wed) **10 am – 12 pm** in a Zoom meeting. They share information from the internet, journals, DNA and books. Patty Erickson is SIG Leader. You may contact Patty at russpat@comcast.net.



DNA - Monday February 15th (the 3rd Monday) **1 – 3pm**, 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.



Publishing – Thursday February 18th, (the 3rd Thursday) **10:30am – 12noon** via Google Meet. 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.



German Research – Wednesday February 24th, (the 4th Wednesday) **10am – 12noon**, in a Zoom meeting. Members share information from a variety of sources. You may contact SIG Leader Cathy Tanaka at cathytanaka622@gmail.com.



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



It's February, the month of love. And, how we love our genealogy, brick walls and all. This month we have numerous opportunities to enrich our love and to learn more to aid us in our quest.



The California Genealogy Society's Library, www.californiaancestors.org, remains physically closed due to COVID-19. However, it now has a number of online events scheduled. Sign up now on the website and note any fees. Also, please check the site or Blog for future updates on the closure.

- On Tue. Feb. 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd from 6 - 8:30 Lia Gorrell will present four sessions in the **Finding, Reading, Platting Deeds with Metes and Bounds Workshop** for intermediate to advanced level genealogists. Cost: \$100 - \$140 for the complete set of sessions.
- On Sat. Feb. 6th from 10:15 – 12:15 **Introduction to Genealogy** offers a free discussion on how to get started with family research. This month **the focus will be on using the census.**
- On Sat. Feb. 20th from 1 – 3 the Family Tree Special Interest Group will explore **All Things Newspapers-and FTM.**
- Also on the 20th from 1 – 3 the **Eastern European Special Interest Group** will meet.
- On Tues. Mar. 2nd, Maureen Hanlon will begin the first of a 5 part **19th Century Irish Records Series.** Cost: \$10-\$30 per session.
- On Sat Mar. 6th from 10:15 – 12:15 **Introduction to Genealogy** addresses how to get started with family research. The emphasis of this month's class will be **on vital records.**



Oakland Family History Center,
www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/

Oakland California FamilySearch Library
The library is closed for the month of February. However, it still offers some support services. Email fhcoakland@gmail.com or call 510-531-3905 for further details.



The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), www.scsgsgenealogy.com/

webinar/overview.html offers free webinars. Register in advance online. The upcoming presentations are:

- On Sat. Feb. 6th from 10 - 11 Beth A. Stahr will explore **Unscrambling the New Orleans Passenger Lists.**
- On Wed. Feb. 17th from 6 - 7 Melissa Barker will reveal **10 Things a Genealogist Should Do Before Leaving a Library or Archives.**
- On Sat. Mar. 6th Michael Brophy will examine **Alcoholics and Teetotalers: Finding Yours in America's Temperance.**

SCGS also offers the following webinars at their website free to the public.

- **Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides National Archives** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **Neither Filmed or Scanned: NARA Treasurers Await** by Kerry Bartels
- **Military Records at the National Archives** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **The Many Facets of the National Archives Website** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **National Archives Website Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), <https://www.americanancestors.org/education/>

[online-classes](https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes) 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 online.

- On Thurs. Feb. 4th from 3 - 4 Janice P. Nimura will discuss her book **The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women – and Women to Medicine.**
- On Wed. Feb. 10th, 17th and 24th from 3 - 4:30 Ann Lawthers will present **Building Your Genealogical Skills.** Cost: \$85.
- Beginning on Fri. Feb. 12th and continuing to May 31st Pam Holland, Ann Lawthers, Rhonda R. McClure and Melanie McComb will lead an online conference on **Christian Church Records and Research.** Cost: \$125.
- On Thurs. Feb. 18th from 3 - 4 Richard Thompson Ford will discuss his book, **Dress Codes: How the Laws of Fashion Made History.**
- On Mon. Feb. 22nd from 1 - 2 author Bernice Lerner will share her book, **All the Horrors of War: A Jewish Girl, a British Doctor, and Liberation of Bergen-Belsen.**
- On Tues. Feb. 23rd from 3 - 4 author Anna Malaika Tubbs will discuss her book, **The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation.**
- On Thurs. Feb. 25th from 12 - 1 Mary Blauss Edwards will present **Black Families of Revolutionary-era Plymouth, Mass.**
- On Tues. Mar. 2nd from 3 - 4 author Russell Shorto will share his book **Smalltime: A Story of My Family and the Mob.**

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A recording of the free events will be posted to the NEHGS website the following day.



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 at www.dar.org offers two different types of programming. The Library Lecture Series features authors discussing their historical work and the Genealogy 101 Series offers presentations on a variety of genealogical topics led by the professional genealogists on staff at the DAR or by other experienced genealogists. Both series are held throughout the month on Saturdays and are free to the public. See the upcoming schedule here: www.dar.org/libraryevents.



Ancestry.com offers online courses. Some are FREE, while others require a subscription. You can READ about them at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy>.



The Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center offers a number of webinars. Go to <https://acpl.libnet.info/events> to register online for them. Also explore the Genealogy Center Videos at <https://acpl-cms.wise.oclc.org/our-services>.

- On Tues. Feb. 2nd from 11:30 - 12:30 Jen Baldwin will share **Whistle Stop Tour: The British Newspaper Archive.**
- On Thurs. Feb. 4th from 3:30 - 4:30 Jessica Trotter will present **Your Results are In! Using DNA in Your African American Research.**
- On Tues. Feb. 9th from 11:30 - 12:30 Elizabeth Hodges will answer **Who Said Bank Records are Boring? – A Look at the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank.**
- On Thurs. Feb. 11th from 3:30 - 4:30 John Beaty will explore **Breaking through the Brick Wall: 14 Steps for Re-thinking and Solving Genealogical Problems.**
- On Sat. Feb. 13th from 7 - 9 Shamele Jordon will examine **Freedmen's Bureau eXperience.**
- On Sun. Feb. 14th from 11 - 1:30 Mark Halpern will lead a **Genealogy Event** sponsored by the Northeast Jewish Genealogy Society.
- On Tues. Feb. 16th Thom Reed will present **Reclaiming Our African Roots: FamilySearch's Efforts to Preserve Oral Genealogies in Africa.**
- On Thurs. Feb. 18th from 3:30 - 4:30 Mary Mannix will explore **Searching the Old Line State(Maryland) On-Line.**
- On Tues. Feb. 23rd from 11:30 - 2:30 Cynthia Theusch will share **Digging into the Agricultural Schedules.**



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

- On Tues. Feb. 2nd at 5 Cyndi Ingle will explore **Nurturing Your Family Trees: Online or On Your Device (or Both)?**
- On Wed. Feb. 3rd at 11 Diahann Southard will consider **Me and My 1000+ DNA Cousins.**
- On Fri. Feb. 5th at 11 Angela Walton-Raji will present **Finding Indian Ancestors in African**

American Families.

- On Tues. Feb. 9th at 11, Daniel Horwitz will share **Making the most of MyHeritage Resources With the Help Center, Knowledge Base and site settings.**
- On Wed. Feb. 10th at 11, Grant Din will examine **Chinese American Research: Challenges and Discoveries.**
- On Wed. Feb. 10th at 5, B. J. Jamieson will present **Researching Your Maine Ancestors.**
- On Fri. Feb. 16th at 5, Ruth Randall will explore **A Family for Suzanne.**
- On Wed. Feb. 17th at 11, Elizabeth M. O'Neal will explain **Shoot Like a Pro: How to Record Quality Videos Using Your Mobile Device.**
- On Fri. Feb. 19th at 11, Janice Nickerson will answer **How to Locate an ancestor in Ontario, Canada, West or Upper Canada.**
- On Tues. Feb. 23rd at 11, Keren Dotan will present **Bringing Your Family Photos to Life on MyHeritage.**
- On Wed. Feb. 24th at 11, Kinga Urbanska will share **Polish Genealogy Online-Portals and Databases.**



Here are some other webinars and podcasts that are online:

- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <https://extremegenes.com/blog>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast <http://genealogyguys.com>
- Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems <https://lisalouisecooke.com/podcasts>
- Lisa also has an hour genealogy chat on YouTube at 9 am on Thursdays entitled Eleven-tes.
- Thomas MacEntee's www.abundantgenealogy.com
- Judy Russell's www.legalgenealogist.com
- Family History Fanatics <https://www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog>

AND THERE IS MORE!

- The Sutro Library hosts the Bay Area Genealogy Calendar, library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy/calendar. This calendar provides information about events throughout the Bay Area.
- ConferenceKeeper.org lists conferences events, calls for papers, contests, grants, volunteer opportunities, tours and more. You can sign up at mail@sendfoxmail.com to receive *Tami at Conference Keeper* which lists events that have been added in the last week.

Save the Date:

- On Mon. Feb. 8th from 7-8:30 the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, <http://www.l-ags.org/> will have a ZOOM meeting. Stewart Traiman, MD will present **Citations- Easier Than You Think**. For additional information contact: Tom Mathews at program@L-AGS.org.
- On Fri. Feb. 19th at 9:30 the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society, mdgs.webs.com/calendar will host a Zoom meeting. The speaker, Kathryn Marshall will discuss **Internet Archive and the Wayback Machine**.
- On Sat. Feb. 20th, at 12 (presentation begins on Zoom at 1) the Sonoma County Genealogical Society, www.scgsonline.org, will have a virtual meeting. Michael Lacopo will share **Telling Their Story: Adding Character to Your Genealogical Narrative**. Register for this presentation at www.scgsonline.org.
- On Tues. Feb. 16th from 6:30 - 8:30 the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society, www.scchgs.org, will hold its February meeting via Zoom. Tom Calarco will share **Persistence: The Rewards It Can Bring the Researcher of Local History**. Go to the society's website to register.
- On Tues. Feb. 23rd at 1, the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, www.sggs.us will present Eric Kopittke via Zoom. Dr. Aigner will explore **Germans Migrated to Australia, too! – Researching German Immigrants in Australia**. Check the society's website for further information.



Murphy's law of Genealogy: You finally find your ancestor's obituary and all it says is "Died last week"

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS!*By: Kathy Javdani*

Please note that some conferences are opting to hold virtual presentations instead of their usual on-site events. Visit the conference site for registration and updates.

- From Feb. 25th – 27th **RootsTech** will present its annual conference virtually and **Completely Free**. Go to <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng> for more information.
- On Sat. April 17th Sonoma County Genealogical Society will hold its **28th Annual Spring Seminar**. Via Zoom Thomas W. Jones will offer four lectures. For more information or to register go to www.scgsonline.org.
- From June 11th – 12th the Southern California Genealogical Society will hold its **Annual Jamboree** virtually. See www.genealogyjamboree.com for details.

- From June 13th – 18th the all virtual **2021 Texas Institute of Genealogical Research**, www.txsgs.org Check the website for fees and details.
- From July 17 – 24th the **2021 International German Genealogy Conference (National Conference)** will meet virtually. This year's theme will be **Researching Together Worldwide/Weltweit Gemeinsam Forshen**. See the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, www.sggs.us for details. ■



Hot on the trail.

San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society
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FIRST CLASS MAIL