



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

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A Message from Our President

Over the past month we have been faced with a unique situation that requires us to stay sequestered in our homes, distance ourselves from extended family and friends and refrain from our normal SRVGS activities. Our board and committee leaders continue to meet, via Zoom conference calls, to evaluate all available options to resume adjusted or the new normal operations. Unfortunately, these options are very limited under the current state and local health mandates. We will continue to keep all our members advised to any change that will ultimately provide a safe, healthy venue to onsite History Center researching, General Meeting attendance and gatherings of our Special Interest Groups.

During this downtime I am sure you have cleaned your homes from top to bottom, finished your spring yardwork and tried every recipe handed down through the generations. Have you taken an online genealogy course or viewed some of the many free webinars on the web? You always wanted the time to partake in these activities, what a perfect excuse to now complete these tasks.

When we resume normal operations, we will be prepared to jump right into our scheduled programs. All of us miss the social interaction with our members and of course your continued SRVGS support. With this support we will continue to fulfill our mission during this challenging time and well after we have emerged from this difficult period. Stay tuned to our future updates through the blast email system, this newsletter and our SRVGS website.

Steve Watty



Attention SRVGS members! We usually vote for board members and other items at our Annual Meeting in May, but for this special year we'll vote online. Please watch for an email message with voting instructions. Stay busy and be safe!



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



Hope this article finds you well as we continue to shelter in place. With few outside activities to distract us, we have an opportunity again this month to focus on webinars, blogs, podcasts, books and more. This continues to be a good time to examine in depth the websites of the various societies that we have joined and the societies that are listed in past education articles. Most have specific treasures and leads that we can explore. Let's start.



You can check the Family Search website <https://familysearch.org> for tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and webinars.

May's numerous webinars are listed at: [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family History Library Classes and Webinars](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars)



The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html offers free webinars. Register in advance on line. This month it will be presenting:

- On Sat., May 2nd from 10-11 David Dowell will share **When Prussian Grandpa Contributed No DNA, Can We Find Out Who Did?**
- On Wed., May 20th from 6-7 Nancy Waters will discuss **The Packet Ships That brought Them to America.**
- On Wed., Jun. 17th from 6-7 Thomas MacEntee will explore **The Other Census- US State Censuses.**

SCGS also offers the following webinars at their website for 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. ►

- **How to Get the Most Out of a Genealogy Conference** by George Morgan.

- **National Archives Website Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), www.Americanancestors.org/education/online 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. Remember to register online.

- On Fri., May 8th from 1-2:15 Curt DiCamillo will share **The English Country House: Center of the Universe.**
- On Thurs., May 14th from 12-1 Molly Rogers will examine **Searching Databases on AmericanAncestors.org.**
- On Fri., May 22nd from 1-2:15 Curt DiCamillo will present **Lords, Ladies & Mummies: The Story of Highclere Castle.**
- On Fri., June 5th from 1-2:15 Curt DiCamillo will explore the **English Garden: Perfection on Earth.**

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/events 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 it at: <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy>
- And at: <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy/courses>
- Also at: <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy/courses/skills>



Legacy offers numerous free webinars every month. Go to www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com to register. May's webinars include:

- On Wed., May 1st at 11 Wayne Shephard will present **The Future is Still in the Past: An Introduction to Online Parish Clerks in the United Kingdom.**
- On Tues., May 5th at 7 Thomas MacEntee will explore **Smarter Search Strategies for Genealogy.**
- On Wed., May 6th at 11 Paul Woodbury will share **Crème de la Crème: Targeted Autosomal DNA Testing to Isolate Pertinent Genetic Cousins.**
- On Tues., May 12th at 11 James M. Beidler will explore **Leveraging MyHeritage's German Resources Effectively.**
- On Wed. May 13th at 5 Nicka Smith will offer **The Ultimate Family History Interview.** ►

- On Tues., May 19th at 5 Teresa Steinkamp McMillin will present **Discover the Holdings of German Archives.**
- On Wed., May 20th at 11 Lisa Also will share **Timesaving Apps for Busy Genealogists.**
- On Tue., May 26th at 11 Janet Hovorka will examine **Enlightened Design with the MyHeritage Chart Creation Tool.**
- On Wed., May 27th at 11 Dr. Bruce Dune will discuss **Mistrust Transcriptions: And Here's Why**
- On Tue., Jun 2nd at 7 Paul Milner will present **Sources for Landed and Titled People**
- On Wed., Jun 3rd, at 11 Jonny Perl will explore **"What are the Odds" – An Online Tool That Can't Help Solve DNA Puzzles.**



Here are some other webinars and podcasts that are online:

- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio: <http://extremegenes.com/>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast: <http://genealogyguys.com/>
- Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems: <http://lislouisecooks.com/podcasts/>

Lisa also has half hour genealogy chat on [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) at 9 am on Thursdays entitled *Elevenes*.

- Genealogy Boot Camp http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/fhd/community/en/community/thomas%20jay%20kemp/genealogy_boot_camp/player.htm
- Thomas MacEntee's: www.abundantgenealogy.com
- Judy Russell's: www.legalgenealogist.com
- blog.familyhistoryfanatics.com ►

On-line Books and More

Let's learn and enjoy good free books on numerous topics and much more at Internet Archive www.archive.org. This treasure of a site has launched *The National Emergency Library* with over 1.4 million volumes. This emergency library will be open through June 30th. Go to <https://archive.org/account/signup>

- American Ancestors, www.americanancestors.org, is currently providing free access to every one of their Digital Collections. Go to : <https://library.nehgs.org/>
- And there is more
- ConferenceKeeper.org, www.ConferenceKeeper.org, lists conferences events, calls for papers, contests, grants, volunteer opportunities, tours and more.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS!

By: Kathy Javdani

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

- From May 20th-23rd the National Genealogical Society (NGS) www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org will present a virtual conference: *Echoes of Our Ancestors*.
- From Aug. 12-15th at Arlington, Washington the Stillagaumish Valley Genealogical Society presents the *Northwest Genealogy Conference*, www.NwGC.org,
- From Sept. 2-5th at Kansas City, the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) <http://fgs.org>. As of now this conference, *Blazing Trails In the Heart of America*. is still listed as on-site

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