



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXVI No. 5 November - 2020

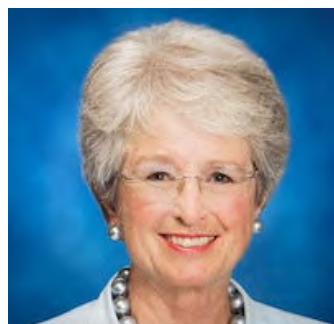
This Month's Presentation:

Tues. Nov. 17, 2020 at 9:30am

“WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE WARRIORS”

WOMEN WIN THE VOTE IN CALIFORNIA AND THE COUNTRY 1920-2020

PRESENTED BY: BEVERLY LANE via Zoom



Beverly Lane, a local historian with a particular interest in women's history, will be presenting this very timely election month and year topic. The women's suffrage movement was a new way of thinking of what it meant to be a woman and a citizen of the United States.

The presentation will provide a brief history of the 72 year American women's civil rights and suffrage movement, culminating with information about the final years before the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920. Part of the programs discusses the California campaign in 1911 when women won the vote in California. Before the ratification in 1920, there were already 20 states who had passed a women's suffrage amendment.

Beverly Lane has lived in Danville since 1973 and has been active in local civic organizations and government for several decades. She was the founding President of the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, past President of the Eugene O'Neil Foundation Tao House, Member of Danville Town Council and served as Mayor of Danville for three terms. Currently, Beverly is an elected Director of East Bay Regional Park District on which she has served 25 years. In the early years, Beverly focused her efforts on developing the Iron Horse Trail. Beverly is also an author of several local history books and is completing a history book on Alamo.

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley currently has an exhibit on the Women's Suffrage Movement which is on display through the end of 2020. ■

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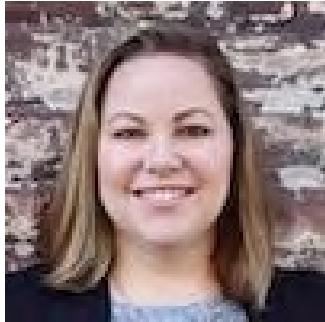
Notes on Last Month's Presentation:

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

UNKNOWN DNA MATCHES

BY IRENE ROSSMAN

Notes by Russ Erickson



DNA match finding a new mystery adds to your research, especially for adoptees or unknown parentage. Collateral relatives matter, finding unknown tree branches (which must be confirmed)

Process--3 steps; Identify, Build out a tree, Compare DNA with your paper trail. Look for ethnicity and surname clues; seek collateral relatives. Shared cM Project adds a tool to investigate relationships and build trees back to a time or place. For cM matches, do not let age differences fool you. Look also for relative information on social networking sites as well as genealogy sites. Cross reference information from different websites. Keep track of locations and spouse surnames. Get creative with Google search terms and operators. Remember, shared cM range IS a range! and the average presented.

Screenshot and document everything! Gather information for identification only, find your person, then forget others you looked up to get there--respect other's privacy. Finding a new person might open a surprise or a secret; could be a happy ending or a worst case scenario. Do not force a relationship. Not all lost relatives consider themselves lost; give people space. When contacting, do not contact minors. Keep your approach short and simple and do not overwhelm. Ask if willing to COLLABORATE. If you have photos to share, that often encourages further contact. Always obtain permission to share information with others. Avoid "cold" calls. Initial email and Ancestry messages preferred usually, though letters can add legitimacy. Send letters priority, not certified. An Ancestry or Family Tree kit could be managed, so provide surnames. A full handout will be provided SRVGS by Ms. Rossman, forwarded by email and in our website. Q&A--noted checking Facebook does not seem to open you to tracing, but "Linked In" might.■

A link to the **General Meeting Zoom** will be sent to the SRVGS membership just prior to our **Nov 17th** meeting. If you have not used Zoom before, it will direct you to download the app. For last minute help, call Steve Watty at 925-766-6706 or e-mail Bill George at: williamcgeorge@gmail.com■



A note from the SRVGS Board...

For those of you who donated to the NARA digitizing projects as part of your membership renewal, we want to alert you to a change - those projects are completed. As a result, any donations that were collected but weren't donated will be divided between our Library Fund and our General Fund. Our membership form will no longer include the NARA donation option. ■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

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

Gervaise Christiansen

Gervaise has already joined the Irish Scottish SIG

Lisa Bloom



President's Message

By Steve Watty



As we transition from early Fall weather into the Holiday Season some of us are reminded of the 1993 movie "Groundhog Day" where every day seems to be a mirror image of the previous one. While immured in this Coronavirus pandemic, we find ourselves reliving the same day over and over. For

some this may provide ample opportunity to continue one's research and be viewed as a blessing. For others, this predicament is really starting to get old and we yearn for the good ole days when we were allowed to travel without fear, visit friends and family to share a hug, and best of all, to think not of a contagion but to plan the next research outing.

Your SRVGS is planning for continued restrictions on large group gatherings into the middle of 2021. Even though we are not able to meet in person, modern technology provides a substitute method to gather. The use of the Zoom virtual application provides our membership with the ability to meet online for the monthly General, SIG, and Board meetings. Speakers able to present via Zoom are scheduled through July 2021. We know this is not the preferred medium of most members, but a good alternative under the circumstances. The last two monthly Zoom meetings brought about half our membership together, like previous in-person meetings, so some accept this even if reluctantly. If conditions change the society will react accordingly, and when safe to do so will revert to in person meetings. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

November 2020

- 3 Tuesday - 10 am** A Board meeting was held via ZOOM video.
- 17 Tuesday - 9:30 am** The November General meeting will be via a Zoom Link. The speaker will be Beverly Lane on **Women's Suffrage**. *Note this time is a one-time-only change to accommodate our speaker's availability.*

December 2020

- 1 Tuesday - 10 am** The Annual Cookie Exchange usually held in lieu of the monthly board meeting *will not* be held this year because of Virus Restrictions.
- 22** As usual, there will be no December meeting

January 2021

- 5 Tuesday—10 am** A Board Meeting will be held via Zoom video
- 19 Tuesday - 10 am** The January General meeting will be via a Zoom Link. The speaker will be Jan Joyce on **Creative Hypothesis Development to Solve Your Brick Wall Challenges**. ■



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS*By: Bill George***Help Needed with a New SIG**

I would like to get a Genealogy Programs SIG started. We could have a monthly get-together and discuss the ins and outs of the main genealogy programs, **Legacy**, **Family Tree Maker**, **Roots Magic** and Macintosh-only **Reunion**. The only problem is that there needs to be at least one person who knows something about each program. I'm familiar with Reunion and could address those questions. You don't have to be an "expert", just interested enough in your program to look something up if needed. If you were an "expert", that would be great. But a few people for each program would make it work. Please contact me (williamcgeorge@gmail.com) if you are interested.

We could do the same thing for Internet Family Tree Web Sites, if there was interest. The major web sites are ancestry.com, myheritage.com and findmypast.com. Please contact me

(williamcgeorge@gmail.com) if you are interested and/or have expertise in one or more of the web sites.■

Editor's note: This is just a reminder that there will be no Newsletter published next month—December. I wish you all a very happy, safe and healthy Holiday Season, and I'll see you in the next issue in early January.

Please pay particular attention to the Education opportunities published this month for November and December. You may need to check individual websites for sessions later on in the month of December and the beginning of January for those events and sessions not available at our publishing time.■

There are no limits to what you can accomplish in your Genealogy research when you are supposed to be doing something else.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE*By: Bill George*

In November, 2020 four of our five SIGS will meet via Zoom. The fifth, the publishing SIG, is emailing amongst themselves, waiting until the shelter in place is lifted so they can meet again in person. All SIG members receive emails on how to join each Zoom meeting. See details below:



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday 11th (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.



Family Search - Monday, November 9th (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 wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com.



DNA - Monday November 16th (the 3rd Monday) **1:00 - 3:00 pm**, 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 – Does not plan to meet in person. Members are contacting each other throughout the month during this stay-at-home pandemic. Francie Lloyd, is the SIG Leader and can be reached at frances_lloyd@comcast.net.



German Research – Wednesday November 18th, (usually the 4th Wednesday but moved up one week this month due to Thanksgiving) **10 am – 12 pm**, in a Zoom meeting. You may contact SIG Leader Cathy Tanaka at cathytanaka622@gmail.com.



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



November is the Thanksgiving month that makes us think of family whether near or far. It's a time to share what we have learned about our families.



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

- On Sat. Nov. 21st from 10-12 online, Anne Brenneis will discuss **The Company They Kept: Enrich Your Family History Thru Cluster Studies**.
- Also on Nov 21st from 1-3 online, the **FamilyTreeMaker Special Interest Group** will meet.
- On Sat. Dec. 19th from 10-12 online, Jeff Vailant will explore **Finding Your Civil War Ancestors**.



The San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society www.sfbajgs.org usually conducts meetings in San Francisco, Oakland at the Family History Center and in Palo Alto each month, however during the COVID-19 lockdowns, the number of meetings have been reduced and are conducted via Zoom. The meetings are free and open to the public with a prior registration.

- On Sun. Nov. 15th at 1, Vivian Kahn will speak on **Hungarian Jewish Family Research: New Additions to the JewishGen Hungary Data Base and Much More**. [Register for this event](#).
- On Sun. Dec. 6th at 1, Dr. Steve Morse will speak on **The History of the Geography of New York City**. [Register for this event](#).



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. Nov. 7th from 10-11, Johanne Gervais

will present **Researching Your French Canadian Ancestors**.

- On Wed. Nov. 18th from 6-7, Jane Neff Rollins will share **From Chernorudka to Chicago – Learning From One Family's Immigration Path**.
- On Sat. Dec. 5th from 10-11, Barbara Randall will discuss **George Randall – Beyond the Military Record: A Case Study**.

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 Treasures 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.



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), <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. Nov. 5th from 12-1, Judy Lucey will share **Stories from the Archives: Objects of Mourning**.
- Also on Thurs. Nov. 5th from 2-3, author Tama-

ra Payne will present **The Dead are Arising: The Life of Malcolm X.**

- On Thurs. Nov. 12th from 3-4, author Nathaniel Philbrick will present **Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War.**
- On Tues. Nov. 17th from 4-5, Briann Greenfield and Erica Lome will explore **Jewish Immigrants in the American Antiques Trade.**
- On Thurs. Nov. 19th from 12-1, Sally Benny will share **Navigating the Digital Library & Archives at AmericanAncestors.org.**
- On Fri. Nov. 20th from 1-2, Curt DiCamillo will explore **The Great Houses of Yorkshire.**
- On Tues. Dec. 1st from 1-2 Dr. Kami Fletcher and Dr. Allan Amanik will examine **Jewish and African American Cemeteries as Borders Uncrossed.**

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://ancestry.com/academy>

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

- On Tues. Nov. 3rd from 11:30-12:30 there will be a presentation on **The Forgotten and the**

Maligned: Using Government Documents for Genealogical Research.

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

- On Tues. Nov. 3rd at 5 Helen V. Smith will share **Australian Census Substitutes.**
- On Wed. Nov. 4th at 11, Kate Eakman will explore **How to Connect with Your Pilgrim Ancestors to Join the Mayflower Society.**
- On Tues. Nov. 10th at 11, Sunny Morton will examine **Why I Love—and How to Use—the Newspaper Collections at MyHeritage.**
- On Wed. Nov. 11th at 5, Michael L. Strauss will present **Deeds Not Words: Finding Your Merchant Marine Ancestors.**
- On Tues. Nov. 17th at 5, Shannon Green will share **Separating and Merging Identities of Same-named Men.**
- On Wed. Nov. 18th at 5, Mags Gaulden will discuss **Surname Projects and DNA Projects.**
- On Tues. Nov. 24th at 11, Yaniv Zach will present **MyHeritage Mobile App: All New Features from 2020.**
- On Tues. Dec. 1st at 5, Carol Baxter will share **Once Upon a Time: It's All About the Story.**
- On Wed. Dec. 2nd at 11, Jonny Perl will discuss **Four Ways DNA Painter Can Help with Your Family History.**
- On Fri. Dec. 4th at 11 Diahan Southard will present **Your DNA Questions Answered Live with Diahan.**

 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://lislouisecooke.com/podcasts/>
- Lisa also has an hour genealogy chat on

YouTube at 9 am on Thursdays entitled *Eleven-
ses*.

- Thomas MacEntee's www.abundantgenealogy.com
- Judy Russell's www.legalgenealogist.com
- <https://www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog>

AND THERE IS MORE!

www.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. Nov. 9th from 7-8:30, the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, <http://www.l-ags.org/>, will have a ZOOM meeting. Christine Cohen will explore **Immigration Ports of Entry**. For additional information contact: Tom Mathews at program@L-AGS.org.
- ⇒ Thurs. Nov. 12th from 6:30-8, the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, www.cccgs.net will hold a Zoom webinar. Grant Din will share **Stories of the Sacramento Delta**. Go to the Events page of the Society's website to register.
- ⇒ Tues. Nov. 17th from 6:30-8:30, the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society, www.scchgs.org will hold its November meeting via Zoom. Dr. Jan Joyce will present **Help Solve Your Genealogical Roadblocks Through Writing Techniques**. Go to the Society website to register.
- ⇒ On Sat. Nov. 21st, at 12, the Sonoma County Genealogical Society, www.scgsonline.org/events, will have a virtual meeting. Tom Jones will present **Solving the Mystery of the Disappearing Ancestor**. Register for this presentation at www.scgsonline.org. ■

You know you're addicted to Genealogy when you have more pictures of tombstones than you have of the kids.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Steve Watty
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Calendar Coordinator:
Bill George

Education Coordinator:
Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bob Venter
webmaster@srvgensoc.org



SRVGS is on Facebook!

Click on the link below or go to:

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

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.

- On Sat. Nov. 7th from 9-3, the San Mateo Genealogy Society, www.smcgs.org, will hold its 2020 Fall Seminar – via Zoom. Presenter Lisa Louise Cooke will explore **Gems for Genealogical Research**. Go to www.smcgs.org/calendar for registration details.
- 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.

Danville Family History Center*2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo*

Phone: 925-552-5920

Monday: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**Tuesday:** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**Wednesday:** 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

and 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Closed on Holidays and the month of August

FHC Director:Chris Engstrom: cechocolatego@prodigy.net**Subscription Sites Available For Free at FHC:**

- Ancestry.com
- Fold3.com
- Heritage Quest
- MyHeritage.com
- Origins.net
- ProQuest Obituary Listings
- Godfrey Memorial Lib
- Newspaper Archive
- World Vital Records
- Findmypast (UK)

**Still
closed!**

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