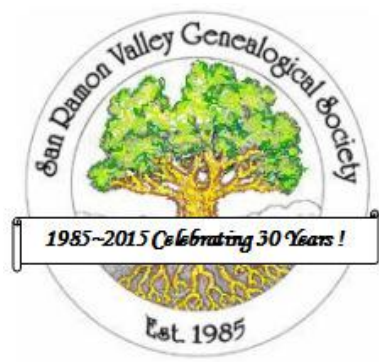




San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXI No. 7 February - 2016

THIS MONTH – February 16, 2016

**“Online at the Library of Congress and the National Archives:
You Need a Treasure Map!”**

Presented by: Susan Goss Johnston

Researchers accustomed to the "name in a search box" methodology may not be familiar with the rich online resources available through the Library of Congress and the National Archives. Take a guided tour through these two "treasure caves."

Susan Goss Johnston is a 2011 ProGen alumna, has completed the *Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis* course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and the National Archives' lecture and lab course, *Going to the Source*, and has attended the National Institute on Genealogical Research. She is a co-editor of *Source Templates for The Master Genealogist* (available on Lulu.com). Her personal research focuses on families in New England and the Mid-Atlantic region, and she specializes in military records. ■



From the January Meeting
“Boundary Changes and Lost Ancestors”
Presented by: Kathryn Miller Marshall
Reporter: Russ Erickson



This January, Kathryn provided us a superb and pleasant discussion complete with a fine summary.

Her early family records came from Indian lands in Alabama; therefore few records. Her ancestors lived near the Trail of Tears, where Indians were forced out to the future Oklahoma, losing

their wealth and many lives along the way. Some early records of this territory were Spanish or French/English, as varied nation forces changed hands. Early American records are with Federal agencies. One must know the jurisdiction at different early times.

Maps from 1755 show east coast ►



(Photo by: Nancy Alexander)

Kathryn Miller Marshall

boundaries from north to south, extending at each level straight west, beyond our early states. Virginia was very large and extended north and far west, where French, English, and Spanish claims overlapped. Note that a similar situation came later, with Russia claiming down the west coast to Ft. Ross, with Russian trading posts and settlements. There were early British proprietorships and land grants, later state land grants (20), 30 domain state regions, and military bounty lands delineated. On the inner east coast were French settlements and trading posts along waterways, and some Spanish land grants there and in Florida. There is much information on the internet, especially in Ancestry, on all the boundary changes.

Animap, a \$69 program for your computer, has a county boundary historical atlas with county, state, and Indian land changes year by year, showing also latitude and longitude. Animap has a site find listing historic places, even post offices, plantations, etc. It can overlay with modern maps. ►

It shows railroads and rivers, etc. Mississippi, Missouri, and Indiana territories once covered 1/3 of the country! Michigan and Louisiana territories extended far north and west, Iowa territory was vast, and all changed as people moved west and states were formed.

Cenntenia is a program that does the same for Europe and the Mid-east in historical maps, with events noted and month to month map changes.

When jurisdictions changed, documents were not always forwarded to appropriate agencies. One must read the descriptions of documents to see what is missing. Check church jurisdictions also and get to know their boundaries. There is much more in books within regions than on the internet at present. Note that historic military records are held at the military personnel center in St. Louis. Historic Death certificates are usually at county or state public health departments. Check Justice of the Peace records, heirs holdings, local historical societies, local and state libraries for documents. Family Search Wiki often links where records can be found, for marriages, births, etc. Consider national records in unusual sites; broaden your imagination. ■

New SRVGS Azores Research SIG

by Diane George

For researchers looking for ancestors in the Azores, SRVGS is starting an Azores Research Special Interest Group. The first meeting will be on February 17, 2016, at 1:15 pm in the Danville Family History Center in Alamo in the Relief Society Room

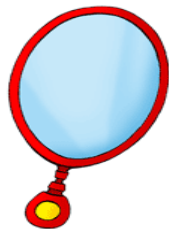
At the first meeting, we will determine if there is enough interest to continue with regular meetings. We will discuss resources for Azores researchers, including databases, digital images, help for translation of records and help each other to figure out some of the information, particularly in the Portuguese language records from Centro de Conhecimento dos Açores (CCA). We will also discuss some of the social media resources for researchers, as well as DNA sites. ■

(See the Azores Research SIG notice on p. 4)



President's Message

By Ted Shapas



As I was staring at my face in the mirror recently, I thought about a recent speaker we had, Joan Coppack. She had mentioned the importance and urgency of interviewing the older generation. It dawned on me, as I peered at my sparse hair and gray beard, that in many cases, that's us! So it begs the question: have you made arrangements for someone with genealogy skills to interview you? That could be an interested relative, friend, or even an SRVGS member. Or, maybe it's a "self-interview", utilizing all the tools and prompts one might use to extract family history information from others, but now used on ourselves by ourselves. If that feels strange, you could even look in the mirror during the interview!

Now that we're into the New Year, it's time to rejuvenate our volunteer ranks. One important opening that's just appeared is Publicity Chair. This is all about getting the word out regarding SRVGS and its many great programs. Ed O'Donnell has had this job for several years (thank you, Ed!), but he's moving and would like to pass the reigns onto someone else. This job can be a lot of fun, and is pretty easy once contacts are all set up (Ed agreed to help his replacement in that regard). There's even an option to make this a team effort, so if you and a friend or two are interested, please contact me or any board member.

Speaking of our board, we have several members' terms that are coming to an end this year. Russ Erickson is heading up a Nominating Committee for replacements, and could use a couple of volunteers to help with the process. If you're interested in this short-term committee work, or in a longer-term board post, please see Russ. ■

Friends come and go, but relatives
tend to accumulate.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

February 2016

- 2 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 16 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

March 2016

- 1 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 15 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

NOTE: For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information and schedules, you may also visit the web site at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.htm>. Please **note** some activities take place early in the month, before our newsletter is issued. Be sure to check with the SIG coordinator if you have a particular interest.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

By: Bill George

Please try one of our Special Interest Groups this month. We have a variety of topics to choose from. A new Azores SIG is starting on February 17th, the 3rd Wed., 1:15pm - 3pm at the Danville Family History Center.

If you want information about Family Tree Maker, Legacy, FamilySearch, German ►

Research, Irish Research or writing a book about your family (the Publishing SIG), we have it for you. Review our SIG pages at <http://srvgensoc.org/sig.html> for details.

Our SIGs will have a booth at the March 5th, 2016 Danville Stake Family History Discovery Day Fair from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. Visit our booth and find out more about our SIGs. ■



Ancestry/Family Tree Maker – The February meeting will have been held on **February 1st (the 1st Monday) at 1:15 p.m. at the Danville Family History Center.** This group studies how to search records and family trees on the Ancestry.com web site and how Family Tree Maker works. Susan Rush is the SIG leader.



FamilySearch - This SIG meets **Monday February 8th (the second Monday) 1:15 p.m. – 3pm, at the Danville Family History Center.** The topic for the meeting will be an overview of the FamilySearch.org web site. This group studies how to search records and Family Trees on the FamilySearch.org web site. Bill George is the SIG Leader: williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Irish Research - This SIG meets **Wednesday February 10th (the second Wednesday) 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill.** Patty Erickson is SIG Leader.

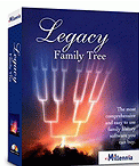


Azores Research – The first meeting of this group will meet **Wednesday, February 17th (the 3rd Wednesday) 1:15 p.m. – 3 p.m. at the Danville Family History Center.** This group will study Portuguese research, specifically Azores Islands. Large numbers of Azorean immigrants came to the Bay Area and the Central Valley of California. Diane George is the SIG leader.



Publishing – This SIG meets **Thursday February 18th (the third Thursday) from 10 a.m. –**

12 p.m., at the home of Francie Lloyd in Danville. This informal Group shares advice, encouragement, and suggestions to preserve their genealogy project, big or small. Members share their projects as they progress to a hoped for completion. Society members interested in attending should let Francie Lloyd, the SIG Leader, know that they plan to attend.



Legacy Family Tree – This SIG meets **Monday, February 22nd (4th Monday) 1:15 p.m. – 3pm at the Danville Family History Center.** This group discusses how Legacy works and is for beginners as well as experienced Legacy users. Sharon Clay is the SIG Leader and can be contacted at: sharonclay@comcast.net.



GERMAN – The German Group will meet **Wednesday 24th (the fourth Wednesday) at 10:00 a.m., at the home of Susan Hanck in Walnut Creek.** The coordinator for this group is Helen Odegard. Please contact Helen if you plan to join the group. ■

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

February is a good month to learn as we continue to plan our research for the year.



The California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org continues to provide a variety of learning sessions. For all the following activities, register online.

- February starts with the **Introduction to Genealogy** class on Sat., Feb. 6th from 1-3. Register online.
- Also on Sat. Feb. 6th from 10-12, Frances Silcox will lead a field trip to the **San Francisco Public Library**.
- On Sat. Feb. 20th the **San Francisco SIG** will gather from 10 – 11:30. ►

- Also on Sat, Feb. 20th, the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1-3.
- In addition on Sat., Feb. 20th from 1-3 Marisa Louie Lee will present **Tips & Tools for NARA Research**.
- On Sat., Feb. 27th, from 1-3 there will be a presentation titled **Discovering Your German Roots: the Great Migration 1885-1914**.
- March will start with the **Introduction to Genealogy** class on Sat., March 5th from 1-3.

For more upcoming events from Santa Cruz to Sacramento check the CGS "San Francisco Bay Area General Calendar" at <http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com>



This month the Oakland Family Search Library, <https://familysearch.org>, offers the following support:

- On Wed., Feb. 10th, our own Bill George will lead the **Mac Users workshop** at 7 p.m. On Sat., Feb. 27th he will also lead the **Mac Gen Users meeting** at 1:30 p.m..
- On Wed., Feb. 24th Alvis Ward Jr. will guide the **African American Research Workshop** at 6 .
- On Thursdays throughout the month from 1 - 4 Beryl and Wade will provide individual assistance on **Swedish research**.



The Concord Family History Center at 3700 Concord Blvd. offers how-to classes from January through September on the third Saturday from 10 - 1:30. There is no charge and pre-registration is not required. For questions, contact Jackie Hein at 925-827-4729.

- On Sat., Feb. 20th from 10 - 11:30 Madeline Yanov and Karla Henderlong will present **The Tax Man Found Your Ancestor, Can You?**

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

Enjoy learning from home?



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

- On Sat., Feb. 6th, from 10 - 11, Tom Underhill will present **Scanning and Photo Retouching for Beginners**.
- On Wed Feb. 17th, from 6 - 7 Nicka J. Smith will present **The Family Historian's Publishing Primer**.
- On Sat., Mar. 5th, from 10-11, Julie Goucher will present **Origins & Evolution of a One-Name Study or Surname Research**.

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

- **National Archives Website Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **Military Records at the National Archives** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **How to Get the Most Out of a Genealogy Conference** by George Morgan.



The Illinois State Genealogical Society (ilgensoc.org) continues its webinar series. The initial presentation of each webinar is free to the public.

- On Tues., Feb., 9th, at 8 p.m. Central Time, Angela Walton-Raji will present **Reconstructing Black Community Life Through Benevolent Societies**.

To register go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8291948619192469250> ►



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) 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 Coordinator G i n e v r a M o r s e a t : gmorse@nehgs.org. [EDUCATION](http://www.Americanancestors.org/education/online-classes)

- On Thurs., Feb. 18th at 12 PST Lindsay Fulton will present **Using the US Federal Census. Kane Register online.**

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



Ancestry.com has recently launched FREE courses at the Ancestry Academy. More than a half a dozen courses 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>



From an article by Gena Philibert-Ortega here are some other webinars and lectures that are online:

- Legacy Family Tree Webinars <http://www.familytreewebinars.com/>
- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <http://extremegenes.com/>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast <http://genealogyguys.com/>
- Genealogy Boot Camp http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/fhd/community/en/community/thomas%20jay%20kemp/genealogy_boot_camp/player.htm ►

Save the Date:

- Sat. Apr. 2nd, Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society www.ccngs.org 2016 History Seminar.
- May 4th -7th, NGS 2016 Family History Conference in Fort Lauderdale.
- June 3rd – 5th, Southern California Genealogical Society's Jamboree in Burbank. ■

Danville Family History Discovery Day Fair

Bringing the FAMILY into Family History

Saturday, March 5: 9:30 - 1:30 pm

**Danville LDS Church Building
655 Old Orchard Rd., Danville**

- **Keynote speaker 9:45 - 10:30 am**
(In the chapel)
- **Booths 10:30 - 1:30 pm**
(In the gym)

The Danville Stake and the Family History Center will be hosting the *Family History Discovery Day Fair*. This event will be for the entire family starting with a keynote speaker at 9:45 am - 10:30 pm.

From 10:30 - 1:30 the cultural hall and classrooms will be opened with booths, games and activities, hands on exhibits, story time, ROOT-Stech presentation broadcasts, Boy Scout Genealogy merit badge workshop, etc. You will leave with ideas for family reunions, learn how to write your personal history, receive instruction on FamilySearch.org, gather ideas for how to digitize old photos, and have a chance to audio record your testimony and upload it onto familysearch.org for your posterity, and leave inspired to learn more of your family's stories.

Bring your children and grandchildren and neighbors and friends!

If you are interested in volunteering and getting involved, Please contact Taressa Earl, the Director of the Family History Center. ■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

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

John & Barbara O'Mara

Larry & Jan Anderson

Karen Aldridge

and a returning member

Michael Stein

Please look for these members at our
meetings and welcome them to our Society.

Genealogy Research Assistance

Looking for your ancestors?

Could you use a little help?

Bring your questions to the

Danville Library

10:00 until noon

Monthly on the Fourth Tuesday.

Members of

**The San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society**

will be available to help

you with your search.

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Ted Shapas

president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. Russ Erickson (Acting)

2nd V.P. Programs:

Suzanne Johnston

Wayne Mortensen

Carol Satterthwaite

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3rd V.P. Membership:

Gay Scott

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Recording Secretary:

Lynnet Keihl

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Corresponding Secretary:

Barbara Shapas

srvgs@srvgensoc.org

Treasurer: Steve Watty

treasurer@srvgensoc.org

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Bob Venter

editor@srvgensoc.org

Calendar Coordinator:

Vern Segelke

srvgs@srvgensoc.org

Mailing: Sally Germain & Mary Tom

*Deadline to put information in the Newsletter is
the Last Thursday of the month.*

Members are encouraged to submit articles for
the Newsletter by mail or email to the Coordina-
tor.

INDIVIDUAL HELP

Do you need individual help in overcoming
a "brick wall" in your research? Go to the
SRVGS web site at: <http://srvgensoc.org/>, click
on RESOURCES, then click on INDIVIDUAL
HELP FOR SRVGS MEMBERS.

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

Phone: 925-552-5920

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

and 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Thursday: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Closed on Holidays and the month of August

FHC Director:**Taressa Earl** jntaress@hotmail.com**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)

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