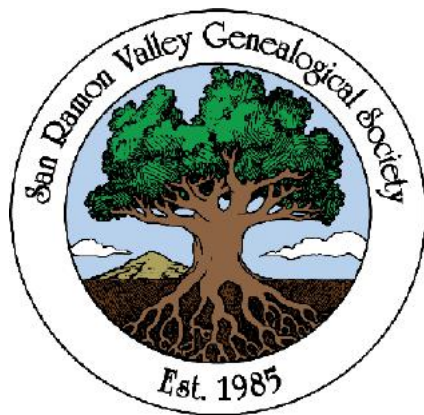




San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society



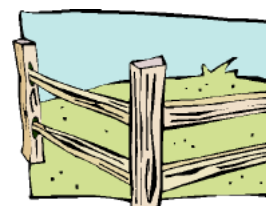
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San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXI No. 9 April - 2016



THIS MONTH – April 19, 2016
“Finding United States Land Records”
Presented by: Martha Wallace



Have you run across Metes and Bounds or Township, Range, and Section in your family records? Learn how land in the United States was originally recorded, where the records can be found, and how to plot and find the land today.

Martha Wallace is a retired middle school teacher who volunteers at NARA in San Bruno and Rengstorff House in Mountain View. She enjoys history and searching for her ancestors.



From the March Meeting
“Interpreting Your DNA Results”
Presented by: Katherine Hope-Borges
Reporter: Russ Erickson



The year 2004 saw the first genealogy DNA conference. Types include Y-DNA, mtDNA, SNP (single nucleotide polymorphisms for deep ancestry), and autosomal (for recent ancestry). One program does SNP plus mtDNA. Autosomal for genealogy began in 2009 with 23andMe which previously started with a focus on health testing and cost \$999, now only to \$199. Family Tree DNA is the only one with male line Y-DNA testing now. Ancestry stopped Y and mt and were going to destroy the prior results, but public outcry stopped them for now. (Sorenson ►

SNG is working on a database for this).

For Y-DNA, one gets a certificate by mail with the involved numbers. One can compare with others with similar surnames. Similar mutations are put in color, showing patterns of similar ancestors. One can triangulate on an ancestor on the male line. For SNPs, one can find indications of ancestral regions geographically. Using DNA, one can join projects involving surnames and geographic backgrounds. There are Haplogroup, family, and other autosomal projects. Log into the Family Tree DNA page and click join projects. ►



(Photo by: Nancy Alexander)

Katherine Hope-Borges

Y=DNA and autosomal DNA can help find ancestors back to the 1600s. mtDNA Haplogroup H is European. Surnames cannot be followed, since mtDNA is female based, but geographic information can be found. Ysearch.org has many Y-DNA results uploaded via Family Search, but is not being upgraded. Put in last names matching yours. Using 37 markers minimum, you can go back 300 to 400 years tentatively. Using Mitosearch.org (Family Tree DNA) you can copy and paste your mtDNA numbers from your certificate.

Using autosomal DNA from 23andMe and others, one can go to the 5th cousin tracing back to a common ancestor to the 1600s. One can match wives with unknown maiden names. Using autosomal DNA, you need to join projects to help expand knowledge. Ancestry does not have them, so go to Family Tree DNA (Ancestry also has a monthly fee to obtain current matches and now seeks family health data which could help Ancestry make more money later). ►



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

SRVGS CALENDAR

April 2016

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

May 2016

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

Genbank NCBI has many donated DNA results from Family Tree DNA (Ms. Borgas noted Haplogroup N is rare, but a mother group from the ancient Caucasus.) YHRD.org is a scientific database. 5 to 7 centiMorgan segments for DNA give the best matches; smaller are less reliable. In Gedmatch, one can upload DNA results free (cece Moore--<yourgeneticgenealogist.com>). It also contains a colored circular chart on percent origins.

In <DNAGedcom.com> is a more private place to upload DNA results. DNA Land is a new website, partially from Columbia University, making data public. It provides ancestral region reports but has only 15,000 uploads to date. 23andMe is changing its system and disturbing users. Check ISOGG wiki (International Society of Genetic Genealogists). The DNA Detectives Facebook Group is helpful for adoptees tracing parents. An audience question and answer session followed the talk. ■



President's Message

By Ted Shapas

SRVGS participated in an inaugural event in early March - the first Family History Discovery Day, sponsored by our local Family History Center. Thanks go to Bill George for coordinating with the FHC and for his enthusiasm. A bevy of SRVGS volunteers made it all happen, including Sande Burns, Russ Erickson, Gay Scott (who charmed the visitors in her early New England attire), Suzanne Johnston, Garl Satterthwaite, Steve Watty, Francie Lloyd, Kathy Javdani, and Ed Mason (who helped curate a "rogues gallery" of ancestor photos, some of which are displayed outside the FHC). Thanks also to Taressa Earl for pulling the event together and inviting our participation.

An additional thanks go to Steve Watty (and his talented nephew) and Sande Burns for revising the Society's logo. We can use this standard version wherever appropriate, such as on the new A-frame sign that Steve had produced.



Speaking of volunteers, I hope you've given some thought to how you might give your Society a hand. This is the time of year when terms of some Board positions end, and so we have openings for 1st VP, 2nd VP for Programs (2 openings), and Recording Secretary. In addition, we need someone (or a small team) to replace our Publicity Chair, and another someone as Speaker Notes Recorder for our newsletter.

If you haven't volunteered before, don't worry - you'll receive plenty of help learning the ropes. Please contact Russ Erickson or me with your interests. ■

Families are like fudge... mostly sweet with a few nuts. ~Author Unknown

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

By: Bill George

This month all seven of our Special Interest Groups are meeting as scheduled (see the Special Interest Group Update). Try our 4 meetings at the Danville Family History Center (Family Tree Maker, FamilySearch, Azores Research and Legacy Family Tree) or the three that meet at Society member's homes (Irish Research, Publishing, German Research). You might be amazed at what you'll learn at one of these meetings.

Our membership should be increasing this month due to our attendance at last month's March 5th, 2016 Family History Discovery Day Fair in Danville, put on by the Danville Family History Center. Our group contributed a booth (see below) and many volunteers. We hope to be back next year for an even bigger presence. Taressa Earl, FHC Director, the coordinator of the event, estimated at 500 people from the local area.



This photo shows Steve Watty in the background, Gay Scott (dressed as a Puritan with a story to tell) and Garl Satterthwaite. Steve provided three displays, Gay wandered around the event answering questions about Puritans and witches who were heavily put upon in the 1600s. Garl provided several charts for the booth and volunteered most of the day showing attendees how to negotiate the FamilySearch web site. Suzanne Johnston (sitting down) loaned us two family history quilts she made with photos of her ancestors. ■

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

NOTE: For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information refer to your Society Handbook. For schedules, visit our 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.



Ancestry/Family Tree Maker – This SIG meets **Monday, April 4th** (the 1st Monday) from **1:15 – 3:15 p.m. at the Danville Family History Center**. They study how to search records and family trees using the Ancestry.com web site and show how to use Family Tree Maker software. **Susan Rush** is the SIG leader.



FamilySearch - This SIG meets **Monday April 11th** (the second Monday) from **1:15 – 3:15 p.m. at the Danville Family History Center**. The topic for the meeting will be how to Merge people in the FamilySearch Family Tree. This SIG shows how to search records and study Family Trees on the FamilySearch.org web site. **Bill George** is the SIG Leader.



Irish Research - This SIG meets **Wednesday April 13th** (the second Wednesday) from **10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill**. **Patty Erickson** is SIG Leader.



Azores Research – This group will meet on **Wednesday April 20th** (the 3rd Wednesday) from **1:15 – 3:15 p.m. at the Danville Family History Center**. This group will help attendees solve some of their research issues & provide tips, specifically for ancestors from the Azores Islands. Large numbers of Azorean immigrants immigrated to the Bay Area and the Central Valley of California. **Diane George** is the SIG leader. ►



Publishing – This SIG meets **Thursday April 21st** (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 they plan to attend.



Legacy Family Tree – This SIG meets **Monday April 25th** (4th Monday) at **1:15 – 3:15 p.m. at the Danville Family History Center**. This group discusses how the Legacy genealogy program works and is for beginners as well as experienced Legacy users. **Sharon Clay** is the SIG Leader and can be contacted at sharonlclay@comcast.net.



German Research – This SIG will meet on **Wednesday April 27th** (the fourth Wednesday) at **10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** At the home of Dorothy Baker. **Helen Odegard** is the SIG Leader. Please contact Helen if you plan to attend a meeting which rotates between member's homes.

The **Danville Family History Center** is located at **2949 Stone Valley Road, Alamo, CA 94507, Phone: 925-552-5920**. Individual phone numbers and email addresses if not listed, can be found in the SRVGS Handbook. ■

It's Time to Renew Your SRVGS Membership

The SRVGS year runs from June 1st through May 31st. As June is only a few weeks away, it is time to renew your membership. At only \$15 per year, this is a great value. With monthly speakers on relevant topics, Special Interest Groups, research assistance, a great social experience and many other ways to help you enjoy your genealogy pastime, you couldn't do better. Please fill out the attached form and return it with your check as soon as possible. We have another wonderful year ahead of us. ■



German SIG Meets for their Annual German Luncheon

Once again the German SIG met at D.J.'s Bistro in Concord, for their annual German Luncheon. The Jäger Schnitzel seemed to be the favorite of the day. There was also good German Beer on tap and the perennial favorite, Red Cabbage. A good time was enjoyed by all.

Pictured (l to r): Jim & Susan Hanck, Helen Odegard, Barbara & Ted Shapas, Cathy Kanaka, Arlis & Melinda Kahler, Dorothy Baker, Carol Huvane and Bob Venter

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

Let's use some of our Spring energy for learning.



The California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org offers a variety of learning sessions.

For all the following activities, register online:

- April starts with the **Introduction to Genealogy** class on Sat., Apr. 2nd from 1 - 3 p.m.
- On Sat., Apr. 9th from 1 - 3 p.m., **What is Forensic Genealogy Really?** will be the presentation topic.
- On Sat., Apr. 16th, the **San Francisco SIG** will meet from 10 - 11:30 a.m.
- In addition, on Sat., Apr. 16th, the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1 - 3 p.m.
- May will start with the **Introduction** ►

to **Genealogy** class on Sat., May 7th from 1 - 3 p.m.

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>, has no classes listed but :

- On Wed., Apr. 13th from 10 - noon the East Bay Genealogical Society (EBGS) <http://caebaygs.com> will host Ralph Severson's presentation on **updates in FamilySearch.org** at the Oakland Family History Library.



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., Apr. 16th from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Jan Siegmann will present **One Step Beyond - Finding More Information** ►

in Family Search, Ancestry and Google.

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



The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society (www.L-AGS.org) meets on the second Monday of each month.

- At the meeting on Monday, Apr. 11th from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., Patrick Lofft will present **Exploring the L-AGS Website**.

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 Wed, Apr. 20th, from 6 - 7 p.m. James Baker will present **The Peripatetic Germans: Emigration and Immigrations (1693-1914)**
- On Sat., May 7th from 10 - 11 a.m., Gena Philibert-Ortega will present **Once Upon a Time at an Antique Store: Telling the Story of Mrs. E.G. Stetson**.

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., Apr. 12th, at 8 p.m. Central, Lisa A Alzo will present **Letters, Ledgers, and Lodge Books: Finding Ancestors with Ethnic Resources**. To register go to: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/370676992813425922>



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 Ginevra Morse at gmorse@nehgs.org. [EDUCATION](http://www.Americanancestors.org/education/online-classes).

- On Thurs., Apr. 28th, at 12 PST Lynn Betlock, Christopher C. Child, and Henry B. Hoff will present **Writing for NEHGS Periodicals**.

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



Ancestry.com has 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:

- April 24th – 30th the 16th Annual Family History Library/SLC Research Trip. For details and to register see Californiaancestors.org
- May 4th - 7th, NGS 2016 Family History Conference in Fort Lauderdale.
- June 3rd – 5th, Southern California Genealogical Society's Jamboree in Burbank. ■

Proposed Change to SRVGS By-Laws

The Board has voted to accept a change in the Society By-Laws regarding section V-B. That section currently reads as follows:

“Section B: Term of Office. The officers shall be elected for a one-year term, and no officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in any one office. All Officers shall take office at the close of the Annual Meeting.”

The proposed change will completely replace the existing text with the following:

“Section B: The officers shall be elected for a two year term, and no officer may serve more than two consecutive terms for any one office.”

The Board will request members present at the May meeting to vote positively on this change, allowing current officers who are willing to serve a second term and allowing the Board to continue fully functioning on behalf of all members. The vote will precede voting on Board candidates at the May meeting.

(To see the complete Constitution and By-Laws go to: <http://srvgensoc.org/files/constitution.pdf>) ■

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
programs@srvgensoc.org

3rd V.P. Membership:

Gay Scott
membership@srvgensoc.org

Recording Secretary:

Lynnet Keihl
recsec@srvgensoc.org

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 Coordinator.

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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