



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

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THIS MONTH – June 19, 2018
"British Genealogy on the Internet "
Presented by: Christine Bell Green



This presentation will focus on discovering your British Ancestors on English and Welsh Internet research sites that complement Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org and FindmyPast.com, the big three websites for British and Welsh genealogy. We will explore what records and information are available on free or pay-as-you-go sites.

Christine Bell Green PLCGS is a professional genealogy researcher and educator. Genealogy education is her passion. She teaches beginning to advanced genealogy in Mountain View/Los Altos and Palo Alto adult schools, is past president of SMCGR and the current seminar chair for the society. ■



From the May Meeting
"How to Hire a Genealogical Researcher"
Presented by: Richard Rands
Reported By: Russ Erickson

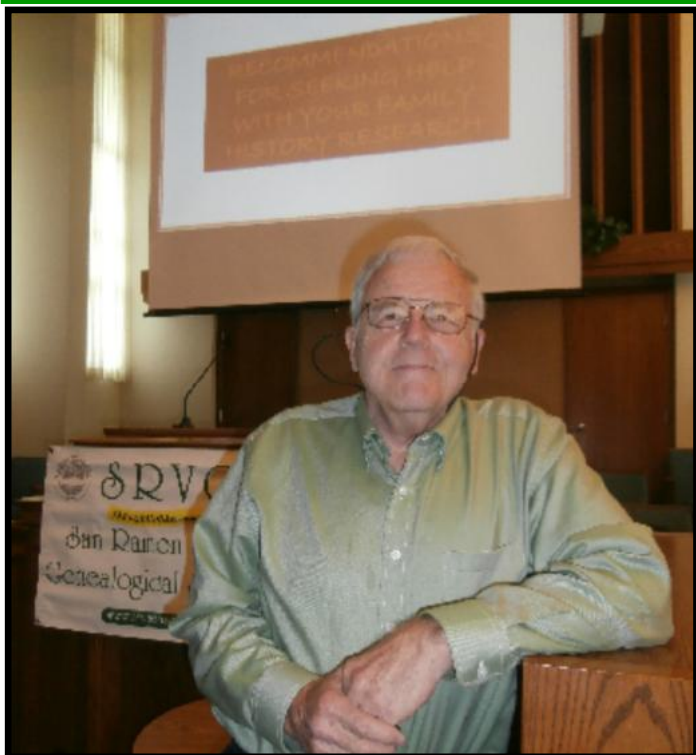


Find a professional group; for instance, for the "Volga" (Russian) Germans, there are groups in Oregon and in Sacramento genealogy societies with expertise. PBS also did a program involving them. Avoid Heraldry "experts", as Heraldry was strictly set up by kings to the 1600s and anything beyond the 1700s is suspect without a right to a coat of arms. Avoid those seeking large financial amounts for providing help, especially if asked to pay up front. One need not always go to foreign professionals for help. Even ancestral Polish farmers can be found by Polish immigrants in the USA who maintain contacts back home. In the USA, there are many levels of genealogical expertise and training and no license or dedicated certification

that is universal. There are types of college courses here and in Canada providing expertise in genealogical research. There are many inexperienced family tree copiers and some fraudulent "experts".

Salt Lake City still has much data that is not indexed. There is much not admitted to in other countries and in our Archives.

Roger Minert of Brigham Young University, specializing in German genealogy, found Archives all over Germany that stated census and other records were destroyed in the wars, but then he was able to locate them in their files. He wrote a book: "German Census Records, 1816-1916" stating where many are. In New England libraries much of the history is not out or ►



(Photo by: Nancy Alexander)

Richard Rands

acknowledged (Is this likely in the rest of our country?).

1. Clearly define; do you wish assistance or someone to do all your genealogy?
2. Avoid broad requests.
3. Know the history of time and place of your ancestors.
4. Study FamilySearch.org Wiki, it even has an article on how to hire a Professional.
5. Check Historical or Genealogical Societies for people to help you in areas you are searching. Call them; they are often helpful if you are specific.
6. Do you wish a record researcher or an entire family history researcher.
7. Identify the localities involved and narrow the time frame.
8. Specify any documents you have.
9. Some formal organizations have experts--for instance Ancestry.com "help" section, American Ancestors in NEGS (\$525 for 5 hours of expert help), Historical Genealogy Research Services for \$25 per hour, English National Archives-click on "Pay for ►

Research" in UK or Europe, at £112 per hour! Cyndi'sList.com has over 300,000 websites available.

10. Verify terms and conditions of any agreement and what occurs if there is disagreement.
11. Beware of phonies, full prepayment, lack of frequent communication. Expect references.

If research is done free, by a FHC person or librarian or Archivist, consider chocolates.

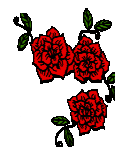
Note: there is a great difference between Archives.org and Archives.com. The latter has likely less knowledgeable and is distinctly commercial, looking to gain money.

Mr. Rand provided an outline of points and 4 internet sites:

1. www.progenealogists.com
2. www.americanancestors.org/services
3. www.genealogycenter.org/Services.aspx



In Memoriam Diane George



It is with heavy heart we report the passing of Diane George, who died on May 30, 2018. Diane, the wife of Bill George, was a very active member of our Society since 2009. She was the leader of the Azores Special Interest Group and assisted Bill with the FamilySearch SIG. A celebration of her life will be held on July 14th, 2018, in Pleasanton, California. She was a friend to all who knew her and will be deeply missed.

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

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

Roslyn Raley

Alice Heinig

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



President's Message

By Steve Watty



When I came to my first SRVGS general meeting in 2014 little did I know that four years later I would become President of this society. During my initial 2014 general meeting I was welcomed to the society by Sande Burns and then tapped for the

Treasurer's position, I believe all in the same breath.

Two years later I moved into the First Vice-President position and now President. Working with the Board during these last few years has been very rewarding. The dedication of these volunteers is what makes our SRVGS continue to grow, provide knowledgeable speakers, distribute a high-quality newsletter, form many diversified special interest groups and provide an atmosphere that is always welcoming. I look forward to working with the new board and the various committees as we take on new projects and challenges.

I would like to give a special thanks to our Past President, Ted Shapas. He has done an outstanding job guiding our society during the past term and I look forward to his advice and friendship going forward.

Without volunteers, most genealogy societies, including SRVGS, would cease to exist.

- Who would write and edit the newsletter and provide mailing services?
- Who would manage the membership program and welcome potential new members?
- Who would research and organize guest speakers, special interest groups and available education options?
- Who would balance the budget, pay bills, and deposit society dues?
- Who would prepare the tables, refreshments and audio-visual requirements for general meetings?

The simple answer: The "Volunteers".

We genealogist volunteers have a ►

common trait, the desire to share and help others. In our case "It Takes a Village", since we have multiple positions that together provide an excellent venue for our membership. We need more of you to step up and give back to the society. Please talk to any board member about our society's current and future needs.

I look forward to meeting every one of you during the various society functions and will solicit your ideas on how we can make this society even better. If you should have any questions or suggestions for me, please contact me anytime. ■

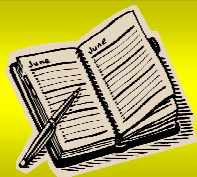
It's Time to Renew Your SRVGS Membership!

The SRVGS year runs from June 1st through May 31st. As we are now a few weeks into June, it is time to renew your membership. At only \$20 per year for individuals, this is a great value and, remember, it is tax deductible. 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. If you haven't done so already, please fill out the membership form which came with April's newsletter or download a copy from http://srvgensoc.org/forms/srvgs_mem_app.pdf and return it with your check as soon as possible. We have another wonderful year ahead of us. ■

Reminder – Intro to Genealogy "Bag Lunch" Session Tuesday, June 19, 2018.

The next session of our popular *Intro to Genealogy* series will be held after the general meeting at the Danville Family History Center. During this session we will review previous topics, answer questions and discuss the next step to organized research. Bring any family information and questions. Assistance will also be available to help with the Family History Center Library if needed.

Anyone (members, friends, family) interested in genealogy is welcome to attend these free sessions. So bring your bag lunch, stay after the general meeting and pick-up some tips to aid in your genealogy research. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

June 2018

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

July 2018

- 3 **Tuesday - 10:00 am** A Board meeting will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 17 **Tuesday - 10:00 am** 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 refer to your Society Handbook. For schedules, visit our web site at: <http://www.srvgensoc.org/sig.html>.

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.

Changes to the SIG schedule this month:



Legacy Family Tree will be on hiatus until September.



FamilySearch will be on hiatus until September.



Family Tree Maker/Ancestry group has dissolved and will no longer meet.



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday June 13th (the second Wednesday) **10 am – 12 pm**, at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is SIG Leader. You may contact Patty at: russpat@comcast.net.



DNA - Monday June 18th (the third Monday) **1:15 – 3:00 pm**, at the **Danville Family History Center**. This SIG assumes a basic knowledge of Genealogical DNA testing and therefore is only open to those who have completed Mark McLaren's *SRVGS Intro to DNA* class or an approved equivalent. Mark McLaren is SIG Leader. You may contact Mark at: greatscot@earthlink.net.



Publishing – Thursday June 21st (the third Thursday) **from 10 am – 12 pm**, 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.



German Research – Wednesday June 27th (the fourth Wednesday) **10 am at a members home**. Cathy Tanaka is SIG Leader. You may contact Cathy at: cathytanaka622@gmail.com. ■

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

Let's celebrate summer with some exciting learning.



The month begins with the California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org For all the following activities, register online:

- On Sat., June 2nd with **Intro to Genealogy** from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm.
- Also on the 2nd, the **DNA Study Group** will meet from 1 - 4 pm. ►

- On Sat. the 16th from 10 am – 12:00 noon, the **San Francisco SIG** will meet.
- Also on the 16th the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1- 3 pm.
- On Sat., the 23rd the **LGBT Genealogy group** will meet from 1- 2:30 pm.
- July meetings begin on Sat. the 7th with **Intro to Genealogy** from 10:15 am—12:15 pm. This will be followed from 1 - 4 pm by the **DNA Study Group**.

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/wiki/en/Oakland California family](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_family)

[Search Library](#), offers the following support: (See website for registration details.)

- On Tues. June 5th from 2:30 - 4 pm, Alvis Ward, Jr. will discuss **Setting Google Extensions for Research Success**. Registration required.
- On Thurs., June 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, from 10 am - 4 pm, Beryl and Wade Olofson will provide individual help with **Swedish research**.
- On Wed. June 13th at 7 pm, the **Mac Users Workshop** will meet
- On Sat., June 16th at 1 pm, Ralph Severson will lead a **Sons of Norway Genealogy Workshop**.
- On Wed., the 27th from 6 - 8 pm, Alvis Ward will lead the **African American Research Workshop**.

You can check the Family Search website <https://familysearch.org> for tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and webinars. June's numerous webinars are listed at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

Enjoy learning more from home?



The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) www.scsgsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html continues to offer free webinars. Register in advance on line. This month ►

it will be presenting:

- On Wed. June 20th from 6 - 7 pm, Kristi Sexton will present **Who Do You Trust with Your Trusted Research**.
- On Wed., July 18th from 6 - 7 pm, Davon Noel Lee will share **Beginner's Guide to Photographing Family Treasures**.
- On Sat., Aug. 4th from 10 - 11 am, Melissa Barker will discuss **Loose Records in an Archive: What Are They?**

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

- **Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides National Archives Website** 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 Illinois State Genealogical Society (ilgensoc.org) continues its webinar series. The initial presentation of each webinar is free to the public.

- On Tues., June 12th, at 8 pm Central Peggy Clemens Lauitzen will share **Ohio and the Early Gathering of the LDS Church**. Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4880554381107385091>



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.

- On Thurs., June 21st from 12 - 1 pm PDT Scott Andrew Bartley will discuss **Early Vermont Settlers to 1784 Study Project**. Register online.

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 many courses at the Ancestry Academy. Some courses are FREE, while others require a subscription.

tion.

- 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 FamilyTreeWebinars.com to register. April's webinars

include:

- On Tues., June 5th from 11 am - 12 noon, MyHeritage Webinars will present **Digital Gravestones**.
- On Wed., June 6th from 11 am - 12 noon, Melissa Barker will discuss **What Your Ancestor's Neighbors Can Tell You**.
- On Fri., June 8th from 11 am - 12 noon, 2 Nicki Smith will share **The Family DNA Project**.
- On Wed., June 13th from 5 - 6 pm, Sharon Monson will present **Easily Read Old Style American Handwriting**.
- On Tues., June 19th from 5 - 6 pm, Sara A. Scribner will discuss **Using Maps in Genealogical Research**.
- On Tues., June 19th from 11 am - 12 noon, Mike Mansfield will share **You Need a Search Strategy: Maximizing Your Results with Online Genealogical Databases**. ►

- On Wed., June 27th from 11 am - 12 noon, Jared Hodges will present **Lightroom or Photoshop? What Should I Use for My Photo Editing**.

- On Fri., Jul 6th from 11 am - 12 noon, Geoff Rasmussen will discuss **Legacy 9 Unlocked (Part 4): Adding Estate/Probate Records**.

- On Wed., Jul 11th from 5 - 6 pm, Jeanne Bloom will present **The Art of negative-Space Research: Women**,



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

- 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



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

Save the date:

- On Sat., June 9th from 9 - 11:30 am, the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group, www.svcgg.org will meet at 875 Quince Ave., Santa Clara. The program will include **Genealogy Research Class** by Richard Rands, **Family Search** by Pamela Brigham and **Reunion –Working with Charts** by Martha Wallace.
- On Mon., June 11th from 1 - 4:30 pm, the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society, www.scchgs.org will have a free class, **Getting Organized**. Pre-registration required. ►

- On Wed., June 13th from 1 - 4 pm, Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society will hold another free class taught by Patricia Brurrow and Pam Fujii will discuss **DNA Basics for Genealogist-How Three Testing Companies Can Change Your Family Tree**. Both classes will be held at the Santa Clara Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara. Must pre-register
- On Mon., June 11th at 7:30 pm, the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will meet at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Speaker TBA.
- On Thurs., June 14th from 7 - 9 pm, the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society will meet at the LDS Church at 1360 Alberta Way, Concord. This month's speaker, Steve Morse, will discuss **Navigating the New York Census With Fewer Tears**. Contact cccgsca@gmail.com for more information.
- On Fri., June 15th at 10 am, the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society (mdgs.webs.com) will meet at the Rossmoor Creekside Clubhouse. As mini speaker Adrienne Tomkins will discuss **Scottish Genealogy**. Main speaker Chris Pattillo will then present **Preserving Family History-Things You Can Do Now to Capture and Share Your Family History**. ■

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS!

By: Kathy Javdani

- ◇ From Aug., 15th - 18th The Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society will hold the Northwest Genealogy Conference- Beyond Your Family Tree. Register at www.NWGC.org.
- ◇ On Sat., Oct. 6th from 8 am - 4 pm, the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society will hold their **2018 Fall Seminar** with Thomas MacEntee at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Lane. Go to <https://cccgs.net> for registration information. ■

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

- President:** Steve Watty
president@srvgensoc.org
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- Corresponding Secretary:**
Barbara Shapas
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- Treasurer:** Mark McLaren
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NEWSLETTER TEAM

- Coordinator:** Bob Venter
editor@srvgensoc.org
- Calendar Coordinator:**
Bill George
srvgs@srvgensoc.org
- Education Coordinator:**
Kathy Javdani
srvgs@srvgensoc.org
- Mailing:** 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: 1:00 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)

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