



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

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THIS MONTH – October 16, 2018
"The Virginia Colony"
Presented by: Dr. Jane "Xan" Alexander



The Virginia Colony was the first of the original 13 colonies on the Atlantic coast of North America. The Province of Virginia was an English colony in North America that existed from 1607 until 1776, when it joined the other 12 of 13 colonies in the rebellion against Great Britain and later became the U.S. State of Virginia.

Virginia was named after Queen Elizabeth I of England-the "Virgin Queen". This colony was founded in 1607 by John Smith and other colonists including John Rolfe backed by the London Company of Jamestown.

Xan will focus her presentation on the founding, establishment, geography, climate, religion, history, natural resources, raw material, industries and the famous historical people associated with Virginia Colony of Colonial America.

Dr. Alexander received her BS in Physics from Stanford University and did her graduate work at MIT, earning a PhD in Physics. She has held several highly responsible positions with government and private agencies, including Deputy Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Deputy Director of the Electronics Technology Office, and Program Manager of various programs including biological warfare defense. She also served as a Congressional Legislative Assistant in the areas of science and technology, environmental issues and civilian use of outer space from 1986 to 1987.

Xan is the daughter of long time SRVGS member, Nancy Alexander, and with these career credentials she is very experienced with research. ■



From the September Meeting
"Finding Great Grandpa" or "How to Locate
Lost Ancestors in 1890 Census Substitutes"
Presented by: Madeline Yanov
Reported By: Russ Erickson



From 1880 to 1900 one needs multiple sources. There are 3 main national substitutes, 4 local and 4 lesser known data sources.

The 1890 census was in a basement in Washington D.C. on January 10, 1921, when a fire occurred via unknown source. Fire fighters cut ►



(Photo by: Xan Alexander)

Madeline Yanov

holes in the floor above and poured in water. Many census books were burned and most of the rest badly damaged by water and inability at that time to restore them. The remnants sat for 13 years and were then destroyed. Of a population of nearly 63 million names, 6100 survived! In 1935, the National Archives were begun, partially as a result of this loss. The lost census had information on names, occupations, education, nationality, military experience, race, illnesses, imprisonments, whether a pauper, owned or rented, and other family data. By Congressional law, NO copies of the 1890 census were allowed to the states!

Census substitutes: Most state and territorial censuses (those extant are provided in the speaker [handout](#)). The 1890s veteran schedules for many states can also be used, but those from Alaska to Kansas alphabetically were destroyed. The 1890 schedules were for Union soldiers, but many include confederates. Use also city directories--they give addresses, names, and occupations. Tax records are available for many states which include owned animals, wagons, etc.--anything taxable then plus an idea of land worth. Voter records for cities and counties contain varied information. ►

School records are more rare, but do occur, with names of parents and addresses. School yearbooks might help. Church histories have data, Newspapers of the era are increasingly online. In 1885, Congress mandated a special census, but few states complied--those are in the handout. There was an 1880 NYC police census. Some indices for all these are in Salt Lake City or on Ancestry. There was an 1890 African American census in Delaware, but with only 444 names.

One can also use marriage records, probate, prison records, Naturalization, voter records, wills, newspaper data, College books, orphanage, state hospital and asylum records. Land records can be very valuable. For sources of all these, check municipal and county courthouses and archives, then state archives and libraries. Also local, county and state genealogy and historical societies. Online, one has the usual well known sites, Cyndi's List, US Gen Web, and Don's list. Dollarhide's source books are handy. Remember that records can often be located far from the original source, in other states or data centers--make no assumptions.

Editor's note: Ms. Yanov's presentation handout is available from the Society's [website](#). ■

COMING UP!

In the coming months our Society will be featuring the following speakers:

November 2018

Ralph Severson will be speaking on *Ferretting Out Obscure Sources Using FamilySearch*

January 2019

Brooke Schreier Ganz will be speaking on *How Genealogists Can Use Freedom of Information Laws*.

February 2019

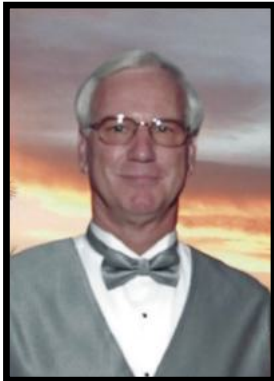
Mark McLaren will be speaking on *Scotland & Northern Ireland Research*.

These and the other fine presentations we have planned should not be missed. Please plan on attending. ■



President's Message

By Steve Watty



"Are you talking to the dead again?", a question posed to me quite often by my wife as I sit in front of my desktop contemplating my online Tree. My quick answer is "Yes", as I know she can observe the many stacks of folders, books and notes spread out before me and the visual of my Ancestry.com or FTM Tree on the computer screen. But this question should probably be changed to "Are you talking to your ancestors again?" My answer again would be "Yes". Am I alone or do you also **reach out** looking for answers to family connections, residence and burial locations, or that illusive document relating to your ancestor? Some non-family historians may suggest that it is only through well-organized detective work that these facts are uncovered. I know differently, I'm not suggesting like the Bruce Willis movie 'Sixth Sense' that I actually see ghosts, it's more like *deja vu* moments. If this feeling is described as an overwhelming sense of familiarity with something one shouldn't be familiar at all, could this by chance be attributed to an ancestral inner-voice? Until proven otherwise, when I stand in front of an ancestral home or in a new-found grave yard standing over my ancestor's headstone and have a *deja vu* moment, I will look down and smile knowing that my long-departed family is communicating with me. Any of you experience this extra help in your research? ■

Reminder – Intro to Genealogy "Bag Lunch" Session Tuesday, October 16, 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 answer questions and help organize your research. Assistance will also be available to help with the Family History Center Library. 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

October 2018

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

November 2018

- 6 Tuesday - 10:00 am** A Board meeting will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 20 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.



FamilySearch - Monday, October 8th (the second Monday) **1:15 pm – 3 pm** at the **Danville Family History Center**. Learn how to search records and study family trees on the FamilySearch.org web site. **Bill George** is the SIG Leader at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday, October 10th (the second Wednesday) **10 am – 12pm**, 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 October 15th (the third Monday) **1:00 - 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 the SRVGS Intro to DNA class or an approved equivalent. Mark McLaren is SIG Leader. You may contact Mark at: greatscot@earthlink.net.



Publishing – Thursday October 18th (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 at frances_lloyd@comcast.net.



Legacy Family Tree – Monday, October 22nd (the fourth Monday) **from 1:15 pm - 3 pm.** The 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 – Wednesday October 24th, (4th Wednesday) **10 am – 12 pm, at a members home.** Please contact Cathy Tanaka at: cathytanaka622@gmail.com if you plan to attend the meeting.

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

It's October and Family History Month. What better time to learn!



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

- From Oct. 3rd through Nov. 7th from 6 - 8:30 pm, Lisa Gorrell will teach **Intermediate Records, Series Part 2** at the Oakland Family Search Library.
- On Sat., Oct. 6th **Intro to Genealogy** will meet from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm.
- Also, on the 6th, the **DNA Study Group** will meet from 1 - 4 pm.
- On Sat. the 20th from 10 am - 12:00 noon the **San Francisco SIG** will meet.
- Also, on the 20th the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1 - 3 pm.
- On Sat., the 27th from 1:30 - 3 pm, Kate Black will discuss **Finding Your Ancestral Home**.
- November activities begin on Sat. the 3rd 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, offers the following support: See website for registration details:

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_familySearch_Library.

- On Thurs., Oct. 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, from 10 am - 4 pm, Beryl and Wade Olofson will provide individual help with **Swedish research**.
- On the 2nd, 4th, 9th, 11th, 16th, 18th, 23rd, 25th and 30th there are **webinars** that you can view from home. Refer to the calendar on Oakland Family Search Library website for time and topic.
- On Wed., the 10th, the **Mac Users Workshop** will meet from 7 – 8 pm.
- On Wed., the 24th 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](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars)

Enjoy learning more from home?



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

- On Sat., Oct. 6th Sara Gredler will share **The GPS, Document Analysis and Citations, Oh My!**
- On Wed., Oct. 17th from 6 – 7 pm, Dian Southand will explain why **The YDNA Test Should Be Your Favorite.**
- On Sat., Nov. 3rd, from 10 – 11 am, Susan Rogers will present **Facebook for Genealogy (Even If You Hate Facebook).**

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., Oct. 9th, at 8 PM Central Jean Wilcox Hibben will explore **Chicago Rises from the Ashes: The Columbian Exposition Gives Perspective to the Family Historian.**

Register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3256193076836331011>



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

- On Thurs., Oct. 25th from 3 - 4 pm EDT Molly Rogers and Rachel Adams will discuss **Database Volunteer Opportunities at AmericanAncestors.org**
- On Sat., Oct. 20th from 12 - 6 pm EDT there will be an online conference, **Researching Upstate New York** presented by genealogists at NEHGS. \$125 registration fee.

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.



Ancestry.com has many courses at the Ancestry Academy. Some 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>



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

- On Wed., Oct. 3rd from 11 - 12 noon, Rick Sayre will discuss **Remote Research in the Databases of the Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Research System**.
- On Fri., Oct. 5th from 11 - 12 noon Geoff Rasmussen will present **Legacy 9 Unlocked (Part 7): Adding Email Correspondence**.
- On Tues., Oct. 9th, from 11 - 12 noon, My Heritage will offer **On the Go: Using Your Mobile Device for Genealogy**.
- On Wed., Oct 10th from 5 – 6 pm, Beth Foulk will share **In Search of My Brother's Mother – An Adoption Story**.
- On Fri., Oct. 12th from 11 - 12 noon, Shannon Combs-Bennett will examine **Strategies for Using FamilySearch**.
- On Tues., Oct. 16th from 5 – 6 pm, Julie Miller will discuss **Using Emigrant Guides for Genealogical Research**.
- On Wed., Oct. 17th from 11 - 12 noon, Peggy Clemens will offer **Ho to California: Draw of the Gold Rush**.
- On Fri., Oct. 19th starting from 8 am - 2:30 pm, five presenters will discuss 5 topics.
- On Tues., Oct. 23rd from 11 - 12 noon, My Heritage Webinars will present **True Stories of Families Reunited Thanks to Genetic Genealogy**.
- On Wed., Oct. 24rd from 11 - 12 noon, Lisa Alzo will share **10 Eastern European Genealogy Resources You Might be Missing**.
- On Fri. Oct. 26th from 11 - 12 noon, Craig R. Scott will discuss **Researching Your French and Indian War Ancestor**. ►

- On Wed., Oct. 31st, from 11 - 12 noon, E. Randol Schoenberg will examine **Privacy Issues with Online Family Trees**.



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, Oct. 6th at 11 am, the Solano County Genealogical Society will meet at the Moose Lodge at 623 Taylor St., Fairfield. Christine Green will present **Immigrating to America Before 1820**.
- On Mon., Oct. 8th at 7:30 pm, the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will meet at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Patrick Lofft will share **Military Service Can Be an Important Part of Your Family's Story**.
- On Thurs., Oct. 11th from 7 – 9 pm, the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society have its monthly at the LDS Bldg., at 1360 Alberta Way, Concord. The speaker will be Marilla McDonald who will discuss **Follow the Double Helix Road: Where Can My DNA Results Take Me?** ►

- On Sat., Oct. 13th from 9 - 11:30 am, the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group, www.svcgg.org will meet at 875 Quince Ave., Santa Clara. Topics this month include **Creating a Book, Digitizing Old Media, and Reunion Basics.**
- On Tues., Oct. 16th from 6:45 - 8:30 pm, the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society, www.scchgs.org will hold its general meeting at the Santa Clara Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara. Gail Chaid will discuss **Forced Emigration—Scottish Genealogy Research.**
- On Fri., Oct. 19th at 10 am, the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society (mdgs.webs.com) will meet at the Rossmoor Creekside Clubhouse. Melinda Kashaba will present a - Mini Seminar, **Using Maps in Genealogical Research and Using Google Earth in Genealogical Research.** ■

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS!

By: *Kathy Javdani*

- ◇ 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
- ◇ The **2018 British Institute** will be held from Oct. 15th - 19th in Salt Lake City. Consult the website <https://isbgfh.org/cpage.php?pt=56> for details.
- ◇ The **Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy** will take place in Salt Lake City from Jan. 13 - 18, 2019. Registration is now open at SLIG.ugagenealogy.org
- ◇ From May 30th – June 2nd the 2019 **Jamboree 2019** will be held in Burbank. Go to: genealogyjamboree.com
- ◇ From June 15 - 17, 2019 the second **International German Genealogy Conference** will be held in Sacramento. For information visit <http://iggpartners.org> ■

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

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Education Coordinator:
Kathy Javdani
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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)

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
SRVGS CALENDAR	3
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	3
COMING UP (FUTURE SPEAKERS)	2
CONTACT INFORMATION	7
EDUCATION	4
FAMILY HISTORY CENTER INFORMATION	8
INTRO TO GENEALOGY 'BAG LUNCH'	3
LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER NOTES	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	3
UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS	7

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