WHO KNOWS ONLY HIS OWN GENERATION REMAINS ALWAYS A CHILD

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org

San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Vol. XXIX No. 9 April - 2014

THIS MONTH – April 15, 2014

"Mocavo/ My Heritage/ Find My Past/ Ancestry"

Presented by: Virginia Kysh

Virginia Kysh will be comparing and contrasting the on-line genealogy services: Mocavo, My Heritage, Find My Past and Ancestry.

Virginia is a longtime genealogist, currently the Assistant Director of the Antioch FHC, a volunteer for Find A Grave, and a Board member of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society. She was the Key-note speaker at Digging For Your Roots last October plus teaching three classes. Virginia has been teaching two and three classes for the last several years at this event, always with new topics. She is a genealogist who keeps up with the current happenings in the world of genealogy. Her enthusiasm for genealogy carries over to each of her presentations.

From the March Meeting

"An Introduction to Our Favorite Genealogy Programs"

Speakers: Society Members Reporter: Jean Hunt

Susan Rush who conducts the SIG class **Family Tree Maker** started us off by displaying the software on a screen as it would appear on our own computer screen so we could follow right along.

She said that the cost for the **Family Tree Maker** 2014 Version software program is $39.99 but it is now on sale for $27.99 for previous owners. You can get it by going to **Ancestry.com** and ordering either the disc version or by downloading it. If a person needs immediate help while using the software they can go on line, speak to a live person by calling the 800 number or using the companion guide that comes with the FTM software for the PC or Mac.

Susan demonstrated the programs sections, working through the "Plan", "Places", "Media"," Sources", "Publish" and the "Web Search" areas, spending time in each area showing different ways to use each of the spaces.

The new Family Tree Maker offers a new family view. It makes navigation easier. It lets ►

(Photos by Nancy Alexander)

Presenters at our March Meeting:

Susan Rush Sharon Clay Diane & Bill George

you easily synchronize your tree in Family Tree Maker with the Ancestry.com tree. It has more organizational tools, new and improved charts and reports, more editing options, it saves time with the ability to copy and paste facts including related source citations, media items and notes. There are free learning tools and tutorials to work with. And of course we have our SIG classes.

Sharon Clay and Diane George are **Legacy Family Trees SIG teachers and** shared the presenting chores. Sharon's opinion about what this software can do is "*Everything*!" She really is a fan. You can find the software site at **Legacy FamlyTree.com.**

Legacy describes itself as a family history program and its Legacy 8.0 Standard edition is downloadable for free at www.LegacyFamilyTree.com. It works in tandem with familyhistory.com. It works on Windows only.

It has the ability to store all kinds of information. It has sound, stores pictures, trees, reports, research logs, and more. You can print on it and publish. You can publish on CD's.

One of its best advantages are it's Webinars which are free to the first 1000 who sign up and if you happen to miss it you can go back to the web site for up to a week and still catch it. There is also a possibility you could buy it. ►

Why would you want to upgrade to the Deluxe Version of Legacy Family Tree for $27.00? Sharon says it's because 98 more options have been added to this version! One of the main things is the "Source Writer" which Diane George went into some detail showing us about.

"Source Writer" is based on the book "*Cite Your Source*" by Elizabeth S. Mills.

Diane proceeded to do a lot of visual things for the audience that would be lost on the reading audience, she said much was in some ways similar to features in Family Tree Maker especially with the multi web searching, etc. and there were things like the cutting and pasting that she just loved and they save so much time so we shall now proceed to our final review of **Reunion**.

Bill George told us about **Reunion** which is a genealogy application for the Macintosh**.** He set up a simple tree, added a source, showed how to sort a source, correct a site name and showed that Reunion was a lot like FTM and Legacy. He liked what you could do with charts, the special editing and other effects and the catch and drag of pictures attracted his creative side.

Reunion cost $99.00

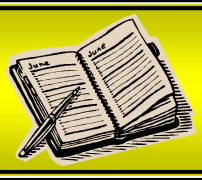
In the end we all must decide what will work for us. Do we need only the barest level of organization? Do we want to plan creatively? Write a book with lots of charts and questionnaires and blank family sheets? ■

President's Message

By Russ Erickson

My Mini-Ed in February centered on organizing. Do not wait to find "just a few more ancestors". We need to write down just as much ancestry as we have and SOURCE what we have found. With sources, we have genealogical research. Without, we have suggestions and possibilities. Even if our children and grandchildren have little interest now, there will be a time in the future when some of them will look back on all the work we have done and thank us. I look back on two Butler ancestors and thank them for writing down, in the family Bible, valid family births, marriages, and deaths for Butlers and Dorrs to the early 1800s. That information even lead me to a great-great-grandmother's tombstone in an abandoned graveyard near Kahoka, Missouri; a truly spiritual experience. If you are not a computer person, write out a generation chart (preferably 2 or 3 copies, giving some to relatives so there will always be a copy safe elsewhere). Do the same by computer where able, using Reunion (Macs), Legacy, Family Treemaker, Roots Magic, etc. and PDF copies to relatives. Perhaps send one to Salt Lake City for general availability, via Family Search. Think ahead--if I go to the next existence sooner than I expect, will all the glorious information I have gathered be carried on and useful for the future family that will know me as an ancestor?

I wish to thank Francie Lloyd and Jean Hunt for volunteering to be Nominating Committee members this year, and to thank my wife, Patty for added suggestions for approaching good people to serve as Board members and committee members for the coming year. We have, I believe, a strong group of people willing to keep SRVGS running strongly, who will be presented to the Board in April, then to the general membership at the April meeting. A new Board will then be voted in the May meeting. Anyone not yet approached who wishes to join the Board or a committee in the coming year, please call or email me. The Nominating Committee still seeks a Treasurer for the coming year; please volunteer, especially if you know Excel or are willing to learn its simple (for our purposes) use. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

April 2014

1 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd in Danville.

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. From the I-680 Freeway, take Stone Valley Road east 2 1/2 miles.

May 2014

6 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd in Danville.

20 **Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo. ■

Special Interest Group Update

By: Bill George

All of our six special interest groups (SIG) will be meeting, as scheduled, in April. They are Family Tree Maker, Irish, FamilySearch, Publishing, German and Legacy SIGs, in that order. Please check elsewhere in the newsletter and on our web site (http://srvgensoc.org/sig.htm) for details.

I recommend that any SIG leader or person attending a SIG meeting, consider writing an article for the newsletter on the area you're interested in. You would be surprised how helpful it is to write for others. In order to be "authoritative" you will dig very deep into topics. So consider learning a little more and author an article.

We had a nicely attended (15 people) one-time Azorean research presentation last month. ►

If any of you have a topic, that you know a lot about, please volunteer to present a one-time presentation. We're hoping to start some beginning genealogy topics on the third Monday. Please let an officer know if you would be interested in attending or presenting. ■

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

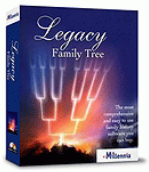
ANCESTRY/FAMILY TREE MAKER – This group focuses on how Family Tree Maker interacts with Ancestry.com. This group will **meet Monday April 7th (the first Monday) at 1 pm at the Danville Family History Center, 2949 Stone Valley Road.** They are also scheduled to meet on May 5th. Susan Rush is the coordinator for this group. You may contact her by e-mail gen4you@astound.net or phone 674-0929.

FAMILY SEARCH / FAMILY TREE This Special Interest Group will meet **Monday April 14th** (the second Monday) **at 1 pm at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road.** The theme topic for this meeting will be FamilySearch Sources Part 2. Bill George is the coordinator and contact person for this group. You may contact him via e-mail: williamcgeorge@Gmail.com

IRISH - This special interest group will meet **Wednesday April 9th** and May 14th (the second Wednesday) at **10:00 am., at the home of Russ and Patty Erickson** in Pleasant Hill. Patty Erickson is the contact person for this group. You may contact Patty via e-mail at russpat@comcast.net or phone 229-0889.

PUBLISHING – The publishing group will meet **Thursday April 17th at 10:00 am at the home of Frances Lloyd** in Danville. This Group invites you to monthly, third Thursday, meetings where you will learn the ins and outs of publishing your family History. This informal group of members will offer advice, encouragement, suggestions and guide you to publishing sources as you develop your book. Members that are interested in joining should let Francie know that they plan to attend. Please contact Francie via e-mail, frances_lloyd@comcast.net or phone 837-9382.

GERMAN – The German Group will meet **Wednesday April 23rd (the fourth Wednesday). at 10:00 am., at the home of Helen Odegard in Alamo.** The coordinator for this group is Helen Odegard. Please contact Helen if you plan to join the group. You may contact her via e-mail, odegardsh@gmail.com or phone 932-6796 for more information.



LEGACY SOFTWARE – This is a genealogy software users group. This group is scheduled meet **Monday April 28th** (Fourth Monday) from **1-3 pm at the Family History Center on Stone Valley Road in Alamo**. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please contact Sharon Clay with an e-mail to sharonlclay@comcast.net, or phone 462-4518. ■

CALENDAR OF OTHER EVENTS

8 April Tuesday 7:30 pm The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. This is the last time that they will meet on Tuesday evenings. **Future meetings will be on the second Monday of the month.** At the April meeting, Anne Homann will speak about researching her family lines of Hamann and Mansfield. Anne is a local historian, author and has resided in Livermore for over 40 years. The web address for the society is: http://www.l-ags.org

10 April Thursday 7 pm The Contra Costa County Genealogical Society will hold one of their regular meetings on the second Thursday of the month at the ►

LDS Building, 1350 Alberta Way in Concord. Janice Sellers will make a presentation titled: "*Get me to the Church on Time: Finding Religious Records*." Janice is a professional genealogist who has been on the staff of the Oakland Family History Research center since the year 2000. She edits 3 genealogy journals.

15 **April Tuesday 6 pm** The Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society will hold one of its regular meetings in the Cedar Room of the Santa Clara Central Park library, 2635 Homestead Road in Santa Clara. Duane Dalley will talk about "*Scandinavian Ancestor Research*." Duane has been an accredited Genealogist for over 20 years. The web address for the society is: www.scchgs.org

16 **April Wednesday 7:30 pm** The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold a regular member meeting at the Grace Lutheran Church Hall, 2825 Alameda de las Pulgas in San Mateo. "*Local Heritage Societies*" will be the topic for the evening. You will hear a short presentation from a representative of **Sons of the American Revolution, the California Mayflower Society, the Colonial Dames of the XVII Century**, and the **Society of Daughters of Holland Dames**. The web address for the society is: www.smcgs.org

26 **April Saturday 1:30 pm** A Macintosh Genealogy (MacGen) group will meet at The Oakland Family Search Library, 4766 Lincoln Avenue in Oakland. The topic will be *Reunion Citations*. Their web address is: http://www.macgen.org/

26 **April Saturday 9 am to 4 pm** The Sonoma County Genealogy will sponsor a spring seminar. Donna Moughty will be the featured lecturer. She is a Professional Genealogist and former Regional Manager for Apple Computer. Donna has been conducting family research for over 20 years. Four lectures are scheduled. Registration fee at the door will be $35. It will be held at the Harry A. Merlo Theater at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts off Highway ► 101 at River Road in Santa Rosa. Visit http://www.scgsonline.org for further details and see the registration form.

2 - 3 **May Friday and Saturday** A Family History Expo is to be held in Sacramento at the Crowne Plaza Sacramento Northeast. Full details are located online at https://www.familyhistoryexpos.com/viewevent/index/69. This event focuses on the principles and strategies used by professionals to locate and correctly document family history. Don R. Anderson, is the keynote presenter and he will be presenting additional lectures as well. James L. Tanner, will also be presenting, along with Arlene H. Eakle, PhD.

7 - 10 **May** The NGS conference will be held in Richmond, Virginia. For more information go to http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/

10 **May Saturday 8 am to 4:30 pm** The Sacramento German Genealogical Society will sponsor an all day seminar at the Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, 11427 Fair Oaks Blvd, in Fair Oaks. The *New Family Search/Family Tree* will be the focus of the morning presentations by Kory Meyerink. The afternoon sessions will be about "*German Church Records*" and "*Internet Sources for German Research.*" For further details go to http://www.sacgergensoc.org/. Click on spring workshop, then click on the pre-register icon. ■

WELCOME — NEW MEMBERS

A warm "Welcome" to our newest member:

Wayne Mortensen
133 Sedgefield Court
San Ramon, CA 94583
(925) 875-9740
wmortens11@aim.com

(clockwise from upper-left) Sherman & Helen Odegard, Dorothy Baker, Susan & Jim Hanck, Pam & Ed Thiede, Bob Venter, Barbara Shapas (husband Ted is taking the picture), Pat and Michelle Strong, Marilynn Tanner.

(Photo by Ted Shapas)

The **German Special Interest Group** (Pictured above) once again met for our annual spring luncheon at D.J.s Bistro in Concord. We were joined by several guests who enjoyed the wonderful German food as much as we did. We visited and reminisced about our trips to Germany. It's such a beautiful country and we all have a lot of great memories. We are now looking forward to our Oktoberfest luncheon in September and of course meeting again at D.J.s next spring. (By: Helen Odegard, German SIG Lead)

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

Spring has sprung! There are definitely numerous opportunities to expand our knowledge in April.

The California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org starts the first Saturday of each month with its *Introduction to Genealogy* class from 1-3. This month the class will meet on Sat., Apr. 5th. Please register on line.

- Tues., Apr. 15th the **Roots Magic** SIG will meet from 6:30 -8:30.
- Sat., Apr. 19th the **San Francisco** SIG will meet from 10 – 11:30. This SIG always meets on the third Saturday of each month. ►
- Sat., Apr 26th from 10 -1 CGS will present **"Seeking City Slickers in Lesser-Known Records".** Register online.

The Oakland Family Search Library (FSL) https://familysearch.org

- Wed., Apr. 9th from 7 – 8 pm **Mac Users Workshop**
- Fri., Apr. 11th, at 1:30 **Introduction to Roots Magic**
- Sat., Apr. 12th at 1 pm **"Read All About It"-Using Online Newspapers**
- Tues., Apr. 22nd at 10:30 **Documentation in Roots Magic**
- Wed., Apr. 23rd at 6 pm **African American Research Workshop**
- Fri., Apr. 25th at 1:30 **Importing &** ►

Exporting Files with GEDCOM in Roots Magic

- Sat., Apr 26th at 1:30 **Mac Gen Group Meeting**
- Sun., Apr. 27th at 1pm **San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society** meeting featuring Jim Mavrikios presenting **"Greek Jewry and the Little Schul That Could"**
- Tues., Apr. 29th from 10:30 – 12:30 **Creating Custom Reports & Using Search in Roots Magic**
- Tues., Apr. 29th at 7 pm **Beginning Evernote**

The Concord Family History Center will present another of its free *How To* classes entitled **"Evernote for Beginners"** on Sat., Apr. 19th at 10. Contact Jackie at 827-4729 for further information.

It is always a good time to check the tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and Webinars on your favorite websites. The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) www.scgsgenealogy.com continues to offer free Webinars. This month it will be offering:

- Sat., Apr. 5th at 10 am **Descedency Research** by Michael Brophy
- Wed., Apr. 9th at 6 pm **Timeline Creation Applications** by Tammy Hepps
- Wed., Apr. 16th at 6 pm **Caring for Keepsakes:The Top 10 Family Treasures** by Denise Levenick
- Sat., May 3rd at 10 am **Nifty and Powerful Technologies for Genealogical Analysis and Documentation** by Ron Arons

Also on the SCGS website under Webinars there are presentations and PDF notes for researching information at NARA

- **Neither Filmed or Scanned: NARA Treasures Await** by Kerry Batlets (download PDF broadcast notes) ►

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: **Russ Erickson** **925-229-0889**
e-mail: president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. **Lynnet Keihl** **925-672-2567**

2nd V.P. Program:
Patty Erickson **925-229-0889**

3rd V.P. Membership:
Ed Mason **925-838-7848**

Recording Secretary:
Mary Tom **925-376-2756**

Corresponding Secretary:
Barbara Shapas **925-820-7943**

Treasurer: **Vern Segelke** **925-838-8570**

Parliamentarian:
Virginia Rood **925-937-8659**

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: **Bob Venter** **925-454-9919**
e-mail: rjventer@comcast.net

Calendar Coordinator:
Vern Segelke **925-838-8570**
e-mail: v.m.seg3@sbcglobal.net

Mailing: **Lucy Carver** **925-837-3146**

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

Members are encourage 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.

- **National Archives Website, Microfilm, Catalog, Archival Databases, and Guides** by Kerry Batlets
- **Military Records at the National Archives** by Kerry Batlets

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) www.Americanancestors.org has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. There is access to archived Webinars, online courses, how-to videos, subject guides, and more.

Save the Date:

- **Family History Expo** in Sacramento from May 2nd – 3rd. See www.fhexpos.com
- Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree from June 6th - 8th.

Happy Researching!! ■

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
SRVGS CALENDAR	3
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	4
OTHER EVENTS	4
CONTACT INFORMATION	7
EDUCATION	6
GERMAN SIG LUNCHEON	6
LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER NOTES	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	3
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE	3
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	5

San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 305
Diablo, CA 94528-0305

FIRST CLASS MAIL