



# Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Researching the World



## "SBCGS Virtual General Meeting" Saturday, April 18th, 10:30am



SBCGS Members, please join us on Saturday, April 18th, for our first virtual monthly general meeting and featuring a special presentation by **Neal Graffy**.

**10:30 - 10:45am**

Business Meeting with President, Karen Ramsdell  
and Committee Reports

**10:50 - 11:15am**

Introduction of Neal Graffy by Elizabeth O'Neal, VP  
"The Story of El Canon Perdido" by Neal Graffy

### **About the video from Neal Graffy:**

The video was produced as the pilot for a weekly cable TV show. The great production crew included Tony Ruggieri and Chris Bell on cameras; Jon Zubar, director; Annie J. Dahlgren, editor; Doug Hector on animation; and music by David West. Actors in this episode were James Paul Garcia, Luis Moreno, and Salistino San Juan.

**Neal Graffy** first gave voice to history in 1989 when he premiered a slide show talk on Santa Barbara History.

Encouraged by the response, more talks were developed; and currently there are twenty different topics that have been presented in well over 300 shows. Graffy has appeared on local, state and national radio and TV including Huell Howser's California Gold, KCET TV's Life and Times, and, nationally, on This Old House. He has authored numerous monographs for historical organizations, as well as articles in regional and national publications. His two previous books are *Street Names of Santa Barbara* and *Historic Santa Barbara*. Neal serves on the SBCGS Board of Directors.



### ***Zoom Instructions for Participants will be sent to SBCGS members before the General Meeting***

#### **General Information:**

1. You will need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with speaker or headphones.
2. You will receive notice via email for a unique link to SBCGS General Meeting. The notification will also include a Meeting ID or password.
3. At the start time of your meeting, click on the link in your invitation to join. You may be instructed to download the Zoom application.
4. You will be sent to our waiting room. Rosa Avolio, our Zoom host, will admit you. This process insures the security of our Zoom meeting.
5. Your microphone and video will be muted, but you will be able to hear and see President Karen Ramsdell, other meeting contributors, and the program.
6. More complete information on using Zoom will be sent to SBCGS members several days before the meeting.

### **Meeting Information Virtual Meeting**

- Zoom Online Meeting for SBCGS members
- Saturday, April 18th, 2020
- 10:30 am

### **Special Interest Groups Will Return — Stayed Tuned!**

*SIGS meet prior to our general meetings. All are welcome.*

**9:30 AM Civil War Group - Blue or Gray.** Coordinator Alex Grzywacki

**9:30 AM Writers' Support Group.** Coordinator Alicia Watt

**9:30 AM Jewish Genealogy.** Come to share ideas on research resources. Coordinators: G. Rosenberg, J. Honikman, C. Daly and H. Hinderstein

**9:30 AM DNA Group** meets under the leadership of Mary Hall

**9:30 AM German Ancestry Group** meets under the leadership of Cari Thomas

**9:30 AM Genealogy Tips and Discussion** meets under the leadership of Merna McClenathen

**9:30 AM Italian Roots** meets under the leadership of Rosa Avolio

**9:30 AM French Canadian Genealogy** meets under the leadership of Charmien Carrier

**9:30 AM New Member and Beginning Genealogy SIG** meets under the leadership of Norma Johnson and Jean Foster.

**9:30 AM Scandinavian Roots** meets under the leadership of Larrie Wanberg.

**9:30 AM Early California and Hispanic Roots.** Please contact Molly Gleason if you can chair this group.

# President's Message

## Karen Stanton Ramsdell



Dear Members,

I hope this finds you and yours in good health and adjusting to life at home. We are all doing our part to keep ourselves and others healthy using creative ways to socialize, keep in touch, and take care of business – at a distance.

The Society fulfills its mission through educational programs, operation of a genealogical research library, and preservation of local genealogical records, but it is our members and volunteers, their camaraderie, friendship, and social interaction that are the heart of our organization.

Since the current situation has removed the “face to face” interaction that many of our members value, we are working to create ways for members to stay engaged, continue to learn, and to maintain a social connection to the Society and each other. Just because the Library is closed and in-person programs are cancelled, it doesn't mean that Society activities have come to a stand-still. For the time being, we've gone “virtual”!

**Board News.** Fourteen board members attended the March 19 board meeting via video conference. Surprisingly, it worked very well. The board reviewed the actions the Society has taken to date in response to the COVID-19 and decided to extend the Library closure until May 1. The Society's committee chairs have embraced the challenge to keep connected to our members and continue to conduct the necessary business of the Society.

**Video conferencing** has become the “go-to” technology. The following is how the Society is functioning in the virtual world:

**Communication** is key during normal times and especially during times of crisis. Since March 10, when you received our first email letter about the Society's response to the COVID-19 crisis, this week's Tips for Stay at Home Genealogists #4, our goal has been to keep in touch and engaged with our members. Since then about seven email newsletters have been sent to our members with updates and tips. The two-dozen or so members who prefer not to receive email communications, were called by the Membership Committee to let them know of the closure and cancellations.

**Education** continues virtually. So far, two Lunch & Learn sessions were held and attended by 55 Society members.

On April 18 at 10:30am, we will hold our **first virtual General Meeting**. There will be a short business meeting followed by “*The Story of El Canon Perdido*” a video produced by local historian Neal Graffy. Neal is a popular Society speaker and has been a member since 2013. He serves on the board of directors. Members will receive an invitation and more information closer to the meeting date.

**The Library** may be closed, however many resources are available on the Society's website, sbgen.org. Check out the Member's Area for available Mentors, speaker handouts, and the webinar archive.

**The Seminar Committee** is working on rescheduling the April 4 seminar with the speaker and the venue. Members who registered for the seminar have been contacted about options for the registration fees paid.

**The Records Preservation Committee** has been finishing scans and indexing local historical records. To date, the Committee has scanned and indexed over 203,000 local records and made the indexes available on our website.

**The Membership Committee** continues its work behind the scenes maintaining the membership database and answering membership questions online. The Mentor Program has switched from face-to-face assistance to other forms of communication such as video conferencing or telephone. To date, at least one mentor-member meeting has occurred via video conferencing.

**The Outreach Committee's** job is to spread the word about the Society in the community. Just before most public venues closed, the Committee had just finished relocating the Santa Barbara Italian Pioneers Exhibit from the Goleta Library and the Sahyun to the exhibit hall at Rancho La Patera/Stow House. You may visit the exhibit virtually, of course, by going to sbgen.org and the Santa Barbara Italians page.

**Nominations Committee.** The Committee is identifying potential candidates for board positions and expects an announcement about nominees at the April board meeting.

**Finance Committee.** The Committee will meet the second week in April and will finalize the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed Budget to present to the board in April or May. At the April meeting, the Committee will review the March financial reports and continue to closely monitor the Society's finances.

**Investment Committee.** April 6, the Committee will hold its quarterly meeting via video conferencing. They will review the third quarter investment reports for the Endowment Fund and Operations Reserve.

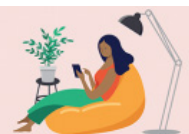
**Property Maintenance.** The Committee is working through its list of property maintenance and safety and security items.

Please take care of yourself and your family. Check your email and sbgen.org for updates on Society activities.

I look forward to seeing you in person when this health crisis is over. Until then, see you online!

Karen Stanton Ramsdell, President

# Stay home.



# Stay healthy.



## SBCGS Lunch & Learn

### ***DNA Lunch & Learn***

#### ***George LaPlante***

Members will be contacted via email about future virtual DNA Lunch & Learn.

See SBCGS website for Genetic Genealogy Resources:  
<http://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=91>

### ***Tuesday Lunch & Learn***

#### ***Rosa Avolio***

Members will be contacted via email about future virtual Tuesday Lunch & Learns.

## RootsMagic Software User Group

### ***RootsMagic User Group Meeting***

Members will be contacted via email about a future virtual RootsMagic User Group meetings.

## Carpinteria Library Classes

### ***Researching with FamilySearch***

#### ***Holly Snyder***

Stayed tuned for more information about the reopening of the Carpinteria Library

### ***Googling Your Family Tree***

#### ***Holly Snyder***

Stay tuned for more information about reopening of the Carpinteria Library.

## Helpful Tips

Check these sites to look for free webinars:

- BYU Family History Library - <https://fh.lib.byu.edu/classhttps://fh.lib.byu.edu/classes-and-webinars/online-webinars/>
- Florida State Genealogical Society - <https://flsgs.org/>
- Georgia Genealogical Society - <https://www.gagensociety.org/>
- Minnesota Genealogical Society - <https://flsgs.org/>
- Southern California Genealogical Society - <http://www.scgs-genealogy.com/>
- Utah Genealogical Society - <https://ugagenealogy.org/>
- Virtual Genealogy Association - <https://virtualgenealogy.org/>
- Wisconsin State Genealogical Society - <https://wsgs.org/>

## Recognizing Our Volunteers



This month, SBCGS recognizes and thanks **Kathy Stark**, our Society Historian. Having joined in 2008, Kathy is long time member who has watched the society grow and has documented its rich history along the way. Thank you, Kathy, for telling us a little about yourself.

I was born in Minneapolis, MN and came to California just before starting Kindergarten, so I am almost a native Californian. I graduated from Carpinteria High School in 1965 and then attended Santa Barbara City College. My career dealt with Human Resources and the insurance industry. I never knew a lot about my ancestors and my maternal grandfather always said not to look in to the past. That made me very curious about our family. I enrolled in a Genealogy class that was taught by Betty Root at Adult Ed. Two of my neighbors were in the class and they had a head start on me. My mother never talked about my biological father (they divorced when I was 6 and I last saw him around age 10). I really wanted to find out what happened to him. Suggestions that came out of Betty's class helped me locate their marriage license and that gave me the names of my paternal aunt and uncle. A call was placed to my uncle and he told us that my father had died in 1970 in Los Angeles. As my research continued I got his death certificate only to find out that he died in 1970 in Inglewood and my husband and I had lived in Long Beach at that time. No one on his side of the family had any idea where I lived but I did manage to find his half-brother (my uncle) and visited him in Minnesota. Uncle Ray sent me some photos that he said he had kept in his basement for years. They are some of my treasures! I recently went to Ireland to see if I could find any more information on my Irish ancestors on my mother's side but did not have any luck. I did get to visit two of the villages where they were from and walk the streets of Cork City. I have found a wealth of information on my husband's German ancestors and we have visited his cousins in Germany.

I became the historian for the society at the request of Bob Bason. With some help from Gloria Clements we managed to put together the scrapbooks that are located in the library. I have a file basket in the office at the library and always check to see if anyone has left me articles, pictures, etc. to put in our scrapbooks. I do a lot of photo scrapbooking at home and have approximately 80 albums including some great old photos from my side of the family and my husband's side of the family. I also love doing crafts of various types. I have written a couple of articles for Ancestors West and the only volunteer work I do right now is at the society's library where you can find me the 4th Thursday of each month.

~ Kathy Stark



## Membership Corner by Molly Gleason



I hope you are doing well and staying safe and healthy during this difficult time. Aren't we fortunate to be able to remain so connected when we are so isolated? We owe our good fortune to so many people whose inspirations,

research and collaboration made instant communication around the world possible today.

I discovered this interesting photo while browsing some Internet related articles – via the web, of course. The NeXT workstation shown in the photo was used by Sir Tim Berners-Lee while working at CERN in 1991 and became the world's first web server. Berners-Lee is credited with inventing the World Wide Web. Besides the diagram, of particular interest to me is the open book, which is part of the display. It is an encyclopedia of household advice titled *Enquire Within upon Everything*, first published in 1856 in London. According to a 2017 Forbes article, the book was part of Berners-Lee's family collection and he named his precursor of the World Wide Web network, "ENQUIRE," after the book. So we could be saying, "I found this on ENQUIRE" – but I like "the web" better. His book, *Weaving the Web*, written in 1999 must be fascinating – I'll add that to my list.

Amazing what is at our fingertips!

**A Warm Welcome to our new members and thank you continuing members for your renewals last month!**

**A note about renewals:** In order to reduce the amount of mail that our volunteers need to handle, please renew online if possible. Thank you!

We have several new members since our last issue of Tree Tips. They are:

**Don Galloway, Shelley Hurst,  
Kathy Roegner, Alice Scott, and Eileen Smith.**

**New members:** If you do not have a "New Member Packet," please pick one up at the Sahyun Library when it reopens. Or, once our monthly general meetings resume, I will be happy to give you one there.

### REMINDERS AND TIPS

- Please continue to monitor the Society website at sbgen.org for status updates regarding the Sahyun Library, meetings and educational classes.
- Need help with your research? Our mentors are still available to help either by email, phone or in some cases video conferencing. The Society has over thirty volunteer mentors in our Mentor Program who are ready to share their extensive expertise in several areas of genealogical research with our members. Please contact our Mentor Coordinator, Kathy Cre-

meen, kajcremeen@gmail.com, if you would like help – or would like to become a Mentor. To view a list of our mentors, click on the Members Area/Mentors for Members link in the sidebar of the home page of our website.

- Need help renewing? Contact the Membership Committee at membership@sbgen.org.

Please contact me at membership@sbgen.org with your questions, comments, and suggestions.

Take care and may you find many inspirations this month!  
Molly



## Ancestors West Kristin Ingalls, Editor

The theme of this upcoming issue was to be about the impact the turn of the century had on our ancestors, with a particular interest in women's suffrage. But one of the huge events back then was the flu pandemic of 1918. It is surreal to think of both those events being just 100 years ago.

So, if you can find yourself a quiet moment or two, reflect back a century ago, write it all down and do send the stories along to me. I really need a project!! I think we genealogists have an advantage during times like this because we have studied so much history and have a perspective that gives us hope.

Please send articles (500 - 3000 words) to antkap@cox.net by May 1st.

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## Ancestors West

A quarterly publication for the members of the  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY





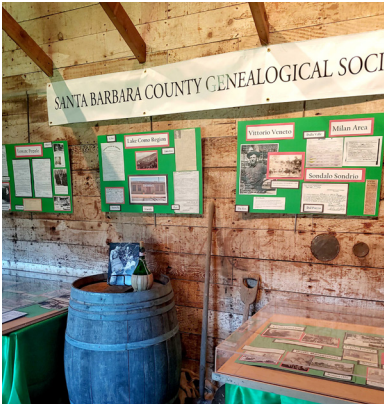
## Outreach, Tips, Ideas by Holly Snyder

Haven't seen the Santa Barbara Italian Pioneer Exhibit at Rancho La Patera/Stow House yet?

Don't worry, you can take a virtual trip to see the exhibit!

Click here to view the exhibit: <https://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=247>

The exhibit will reopen once Rancho La Patera/Stow House is able to reopen.



**“Family Matters” Student Art Exhibit UPDATE:** We will be collecting student art work now through September. Attached in this TreeTips issue is the English version of the flyer. Due to schools being closed till the end of the school year, we will now accept student art submissions from anywhere! Please forward the flyer to your grandchildren and/or anyone else who may be interested. We will send back all artwork after October.

Interested in helping the Outreach Committee with events and/or exhibits, or joining the committee? Email Holly Snyder at [hs\\_spartan@yahoo.com](mailto:hs_spartan@yahoo.com).

## Contact Information

President: Karen Ramsdell, [ksramsdell11107@gmail.com](mailto:ksramsdell11107@gmail.com)  
Library Director: Kathie Morgan, 682-4456  
President Elect and Librarian Scheduler:  
    Connie Burns, [connieburns12@hotmail.com](mailto:connieburns12@hotmail.com)  
V.P. Membership: Molly Gleason, [membership@sbgen.org](mailto:membership@sbgen.org)  
Newsletter Address Corrections: [membership@sbgen.org](mailto:membership@sbgen.org)  
Vice President, Programs: Elizabeth O’Neal, [lizybth@gmail.com](mailto:lizybth@gmail.com)  
Ancestors West: Kristin Ingalls, [antkap@cox.net](mailto:antkap@cox.net)  
Adult Ed Genealogy Classes: Norma Eggli, [neggli@cox.net](mailto:neggli@cox.net)  
Carp Library Genealogy Classes: Holly Snyder, [hs\\_spartan@yahoo.com](mailto:hs_spartan@yahoo.com)  
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Tree Tips: Diane Sylvester, [sylvester.diane@gmail.com](mailto:sylvester.diane@gmail.com)  
DNA: George LaPlante, [sbgeorgelaplante@gmail.com](mailto:sbgeorgelaplante@gmail.com);  
    Paul Cochet, 566-1036  
Facilities Manager: William Noack, 805-617-0435  
Interior Facilities Manager: Jim Friestad, [ronjim@cox.net](mailto:ronjim@cox.net)  
Exterior Facilities Manager: Cheryl Jensen, [cftzjen@cox.net](mailto:cftzjen@cox.net)

### Contact Us

[www.sbgen.org](http://www.sbgen.org)  
[info@sbgen.org](mailto:info@sbgen.org)  
[sbcs-education@sbgen.org](mailto:sbcgs-education@sbgen.org)  
806-884-9909

# CALLING ALL STUDENT ARTISTS!

## “FAMILY MATTERS” ART EXHIBIT



In recognition of Family History Month, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society (SBCGS) invites students of all ages to submit artwork reflecting the theme *Family Matters*.

**The art exhibit “opening” will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup>** in conjunction with the SBCGS Family History Month Open House. The exhibit will be on display during the month of October.

**This is not a juried competition and prizes will not be awarded. All entries reflecting the theme will be displayed and given a ribbon.**

**Theme:** “Family Matters”

**Size:** No larger than 12” x 18”. No frames please.

**Media:** Pen and ink, charcoal, paint, markers, color pencils, pastels, mixed media, collage

**Please write in pencil on the back of the artwork:**

- Student's name, age, and school.
- The title of the work and/or a sentence or two about the subject of the artwork (optional)
- The medium of the work (i.e. pen & ink, paint, collage, etc.)

**Due:** On or before **June 21, 2020**

### Artwork Delivery Options:

- **Drop off** - SBCGS Library – **316 Castillo St., Santa Barbara**  
**Library Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am – 4pm; Sunday 1pm -4pm  
**OR**
- **Arrange for pickup** –
  - **Call SBCGS Library 1+(805) 884-9909** – leave a message for Outreach Coordinator Holly Snyder; or
  - **Email SBCGS at [info@sbgen.org](mailto:info@sbgen.org)** – Subject – “Student Art Exhibit – Attn. Holly Snyder”

### Who we are

SBCGS formed in 1972 to foster an interest in the study of family history through education, operation of a genealogy research library, and preservation of local genealogical records to enhance understanding of ourselves and our heritage. SBCGS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. To learn more about SBCGS visit [SBGen.org](http://SBGen.org).

