



# Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Researching the World



## SBCGS Virtual Member Share Meeting Saturday, December 19, 10:30am



Please join us on Saturday, December 19,  
for our virtual Holiday Share meeting.

[You must register for this meeting.](#)

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email  
containing the link to join the class.*

**10:30 - 11:00am**

Business Meeting with President  
and Committee Reports

**11:00 - 12:00 Noon**

Elizabeth O'Neal, VP, Introduction of Speakers

**"HOLIDAY SHARE"**

**Speakers: Members of SBCGS**



**What do these SBCGS members have in common?** Carol Roth, Harry Glen, Selma West, Carlton Smith, Mary Ellen Galbraith, Harry Titus, Bette Kot, Emily Thies, Norman Scofield, Doreen Dullea, Jan Cloud, Ken Mathewson, Bea McGrath, Carol Kosai, Cheryl Jensen, Emily Aasted, Jim Friestad, Sheila Block, Michol Colgan, Art Sylvester, Mary Hall, Bob Bason, Marie Sue Parsons, Karen Ramsdell, Connie Burns. All had the honor and privilege of serving as President of our wonderful organization over the past 48 years.

The Nominating Committee is conducting a search for the next SBCGS President. As you know, President Connie Burns recently resigned and relocated to southern California to be closer to family. The Board appointed Marie Sue Parsons Interim President through January 2021. What does the President do? The President serves as the Society's chief executive officer and spokesperson, presides over the monthly board and general membership meetings, serves as an ex-officio member of all committees, and, with the board, establishes committees and appoints committee chairs. The current term ends June 30, 2023.

### **What are the qualifications for President?**

- SBCGS member for at least 1 year
- Familiar with the field of genealogy and family history (being an expert, not required)
- Strong interpersonal, managerial, and leadership skills
- A good working knowledge of the Society is desired

**What is the time commitment?** On average, about 20 hours per month.

If you are interested in serving as President or know a Society member who you believe has the needed skills, knowledge, experience, and leadership qualities, please contact Karen Ramsdell at [governance@sbgen.org](mailto:governance@sbgen.org).

### **You must register for all meetings and classes including the General Meeting:**

General Information:

1. You will need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with speaker or headphones.
2. After you register, you will receive a your link to SBCGS General Meeting.
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. Our Zoom host, will admit you. This process insures the security of our Zoom meeting.

## Meeting Information Virtual Meeting

- Zoom Meeting Saturday, December 19, 2020
- 10:30 am

## Webinar and Groups on Zoom

**12 Noon, Dec. 18, DNA Lunch and Learn** meets under the leadership of George LaPlante

**12 Noon, Dec. 8 & 22, Genealogy Lunch and Learn** meets under the leadership of Rosa Avolio.

**12 Noon, Dec. 4, How to Write Your Life Story in 5 Pages.**  
Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

**11 AM, Dec. 10, Conversation with author Nathan Dylan Goodwin.** Zoom Host: Rosa Avolio.

*You must [register for these classes.](#)  
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class.*

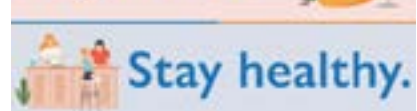
**Other December events  
on Dec. 15, 23, 29.  
Check flyer in this newsletter.**

## Contact Us

[www.sbgen.org](http://www.sbgen.org)  
[info@sbgen.org](mailto:info@sbgen.org)  
[sbcs-education@sbgen.org](mailto:sbcs-education@sbgen.org)  
806-884-9909  
316 Castillo Street, SB



**Stay home.**



## President's Message

Marie Sue Parsons, President



Dear Friends,  
It is the season! And what a strange season it has been. Hopefully your zoom Thanksgivings were fun and you are staying home and staying healthy.

If you spent some of the last few months looking over your family scrapbooks and photo albums, now is the time to share them with us! ***Do you have a special story about a favorite ancestor? A way that you leapt over a brick wall? A mystery? Elizabeth O'Neal is putting***

***together our popular Member Share Holiday General Meeting, with three or four members telling their stories. So let her know if you want to tell us yours. A few photos or a document or two may be just the thing to add to our December meeting.***

And if you, like me, are missing some of our usual favorite treats, grab your cup of coffee or tea and some of those cookies that you're saving for Christmas and sample a few during the meeting--we can all admire your munchies on zoom!

As ***some of your annual donations have already begun to arrive*** in the Society mailbox, we thank you for your generosity. You are supporting all of the society's operations and all the member events that we value. And if you haven't yet sent yours in, there's still time!

And on behalf of the board, thank you for your membership. We are an all-volunteer society and each and every one of you is important to us. We wish you peace and good cheer in the New Year! Marie Sue Parsons



### Help Us Reach Our Goal

We at SBCGS are grateful for the support of our members, donors, and friends during this eventful year. Your donation will help support many of our educational programs, online databases, outreach opportunities, and maintenance of our property.

**[DONATE HERE](https://sbgen.org/donation.php?dc=9)**  
**<https://sbgen.org/donation.php?dc=9>**

## Outreach by Holly Snyder

This year has certainly been filled with challenges; however, Outreach learned to adapt and find new ways to reach out to our community and beyond. Before the shutdown, we combined our Santa Barbara Italian pioneers exhibits into one at Rancho La Patera/Stow House and had a successful Speaker's Bureau speaking engagement at Encina Royale. Unfortunately, the exhibit at Rancho La Patera remains closed, but we hope to open it up soon in 2021. Catch a brief tour here: <https://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=247>



Since the shutdown, we have presented our first virtual student art exhibit that featured student artists, aged 6 to 16 years old, who shared how their family matters locally and around the world. We also invited members from the JewishGen Special Interest Group to present our first virtual genealogy exhibit. Three members created presentations featuring their own Jewish heritage. Don't miss these virtual exhibits! Go to [sbgen.org](https://sbgen.org) -> Outreach (<https://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=329>).

In the works for 2021:

- Virtual exhibit: Santa Barbara African American Life, Culture, and Contributions, 1890-1990 (bulk of exhibit will focus prior to 1950)- March/April
- Goleta Library Display- June 2021 (if the library opens in time)
- Picnic at the Cemetery- Oct. 23, 2021 (See past cemetery events at Outreach->Picnic in the Cemetery or <https://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=333>)

We would love your feedback on the exhibits and suggestions for future genealogical exhibits! We are also accepting virtual exhibit proposals from members and SBCGS's special interest groups. We are also available for virtual genealogy speaking engagements for any interested organization or group anywhere! Contact Holly Snyder at [Outreach@Sbgen.org](mailto:Outreach@Sbgen.org) for more info.

## How to Research Your Family History: Level 2

Have you reached a dead end in your genealogy research? Need a new strategy plan for tackling your 'brick wall'? Explore alternative and less known sources including using newspapers, directories, many types of military, land, probate, and other court records. Create an action plan, compile a toolbox of resources, explore creative ways to think outside the box to aid in your research. Class includes hands-on practice in a computer lab as well as some demo/lecture. Due to Covid the class will be meeting via Zoom.

**Course:** 001413LE/23770 **Cost:** \$63+ Materials: \$5

7 classes Jan. 20 – Mar 3, 2021

Wednesdays 9 :30 am - 11:15 am

**To register go to:** <http://sbcc.augusoft.net/>

**December 10: Spring 2021 Fee-based Class Registration Starts at 8 a.m.**

Questions or need help registering, contact **Norma Eggli**, instructor, at [egglin@sbcc.edu](mailto:egglin@sbcc.edu)

## Volunteer Corner by Molly Gleason



This month, the Membership Committee would like to thank and recognize all our volunteer classroom instructors who presented dozens of classes this year starting in January at the library and continuing virtually via Zoom, without missing a beat.

Rosa Avolio  
Jean Foster  
Erin Graffy  
Mary Hall  
Norma Johnson  
Cathy Jordan  
George LaPlante  
Nancy Loe  
Mary Mamalakakis  
Robin McCarthy  
Elizabeth O'Neal  
Karen Ramsdell  
Holly Snyder  
Sharon Summer  
Art Sylvester  
Diane Sylvester  
Larrie Wanberg  
**THANK YOU!**

## Contact Information

President: Marie Sue Parsons, mariesueparsons@gmail.com  
Library Director: Kathie Morgan, 682-4456  
Past-President: Karen Ransdell  
2nd VP, Membership: Molly Gleason, membership@sbgen.org  
Newsletter Address Corrections: membership@sbgen.org  
1st Vice President, Programs: Elizabeth O'Neal, lizybt@gmail.com  
Ancestors West: Kristin Ingalls, antkap@cox.net  
Secretary: Mary Jacob, maryjjacob8@gmail.com  
Adult Ed Genealogy Classes: Norma Eggli, neggli@cox.net  
Outreach: Holly Snyder, outreach@sbgen.org  
Sales Table: Kristin Ingalls, antkap@cox.net  
Tree Tips: Diane Sylvester, sbcgs-education@sbgen.org  
DNA: George LaPlante, sbgeorgelaplane@gmail.com;  
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Property Team Leader: Fred Marsh, fmarsh2@cox.net  
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Interior Facilities Manager: Jim Friestad, ronjim@cox.net  
Exterior Facilities Manager: Cheryl Jensen, cfitzjen@cox.net  
Records Preservation: Dorothy Oksner, oksner66@gmail.com  
Book Buy: Christine Klukkert, ordway2@aol.com  
IT Chair: Milt Hess, itchair@sbgen.org

## Tech Tips, December 2020 Milt Hess, Technology Chair



Although the Sahyun Library remains closed during the pandemic, remember that you can access Ancestry Library Edition and the Genealogy Bank newspaper collection from the comfort of your home. Just log in to the Members Area of our website and click on the links to these services.

Also accessible from home is a rich collection of records on the Society website about people who lived here in Santa Barbara. You can find them in the website's Research section. Stay tuned for a reorganization and simplification of this section, which The Tech Team is working on to make it even more useful as a research tool.

Milt Hess  
[ITchair@sbgen.org](mailto:ITchair@sbgen.org)  
Milt Hess

*Do you have a background in IT, either as a professional or as a knowledgeable user? If you do and would like to join the team, I'd love to talk to you. [ITchair@sbgen.org](mailto:ITchair@sbgen.org)*

## SBCGS Lunch & Learn

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

#### **Rosa Avolio**

Tuesdays, Dec. 8, and 22, at 12 Noon  
and Dec. 23 for Happy Hour! at 6:30 pm  
Registration Required:

<https://sbgen.org/eventListings.php?nm=216>

### **DNA Lunch & Learn**

#### **George LaPlante**

Friday, December 18, 12 Noon  
Registration Required:

<https://sbgen.org/eventListings.php?nm=216>

### **The Research Road Map, Your Path to Success**

#### **Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy**

Tuesday, December 15, 10:00 am  
Registration Requires:

<https://sbgen.org/eventListings.php?nm=216>

### **Need help with your DNA test results for solving your brick walls?**

20 minute DNA One-on-One Virtual consultations with  
Mary E Hall. Free to SBCGS members.  
Contact: Mary E Hall [just23gen@gmail.com](mailto:just23gen@gmail.com)





## Membership Corner by Molly Gleason



Holiday Greetings everyone!

I hope you are staying safe and healthy. Isn't it nice to be able to do most, if not all, of our holiday shopping from the comfort of home? I'm sure you must be inundated with catalogs by now. The image on the left is the cover of the first Sears, Roebuck and Co. expanded catalog (also called the "Consumer's Guide"), which was published in 1894. The Sears catalog however

was by no means the first commercially produced mail order catalog. Aldus Manutius, a Venetian bookseller, is credited with the first mail order catalog, which he published in 1498 to sell his "pocketbooks." Then there was Ben Franklin who in 1744 published the first British American catalog, "A Catalogue of Choice and Valuable Books, Consisting of Near 600 Volumes, in most Faculties and Science." The cover included the guarantee that *"Those persons that live remote, by sending their Orders and Money to said B. Franklin, may depend on the same Justice as if present."*

These catalogs were followed by several others including Tiffany & Company's "Blue Book" in 1845; the Pryce-Jones Royal Welsh Warehouse catalog, selling local Welsh flannel, in 1861 (Queen Victoria was a regular customer); the Montgomery Ward & Company catalog in 1872; the Hammacher Schlemmer catalog, the "Illustrated Catalogue and Price List of A. Hammacher & Co.," selling tools and hardware, in 1881; and - at last - the R.W. Sears Watch Co. catalog in 1888 which was expanded to the Consumer's Guide in 1894 and claimed to be the "Greatest Supply House on Earth," carrying most everything. And the rest is history....

By the way, you might want to add August 18th to your calendar. It is National Mail Order Catalog Day, to coincide with the day in 1872 that the first Montgomery Ward catalog was produced.

Happy shopping!

A Warm Welcome to our newest members: **Dick Barbar, Susan Ham, Michael Powers, Carolyn Reed, Marti Schwartz and Tara Stoker.**

And Thank You, continuing members, for your renewals in November!

**The SBCGS New Member Packet is now on our website! Click on Members Area then New Member Packet.**

**New members:** The packet includes helpful information about the library and instructions for renewing as well as adding or changing information in your individual profiles. In addition, it includes "how to get started in genealogy" tips, forms, and references to several genealogy sources including free websites and Santa Barbara County facilities for local and worldwide family history research. Paper copies of the New Member Packet will also be available at the Sahyun Library and the monthly General Meetings once we resume normal operations.

### REMINDERS AND TIPS

• **Virtual events.** Members and non-members will need to register for all events shown on the website Events Calendar – includ-

## Ancestors West by Kristin Ingalls



Time Marches On....

It is hard to believe that we closed the library in March thinking we would reopen in a few weeks. Am I the only one who feels a little like Rip Van Winkle these days?

While the theme for our next issue will be **Cous-**

**ins**, we love ANY good story. Do you do have a special story about a cousin you may have met through DNA testing or who you found on an online Family Tree. What new discoveries did you make with the help of your newly-found cousin (or aunt or uncle or nephew or niece or ?)

December is one of our favorite monthly meetings for that is when our members share their own genealogy stories. Happily, we will still be able to see them - thanks to today's technology and our own very dedicated team of Zoom experts.

***This is an invitation to those among us who know we have great stories to share but are a little shy, or perhaps terrified, to do a presentation to a big audience. Friends, you are in luck. It is Ancestors West to the rescue!***

1. Select which of the many fascinating stories about your family you would like to share, to brag about, to wow us with.
2. Write it down. Embellish with family photos or documents.
3. Send it to me by February 1st, 2021.

If you need a little help, let me know and one of our editors will be happy to assist. Get started soon... February 1st, ... you know you can do it... won't your kids be proud?

Kristin Ingalls, Editor [antkap@cox.net](mailto:antkap@cox.net)



ing the Monthly Meeting – unless otherwise noted.

• **Need help? Work with a Mentor.** 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 Cremeen, [kajcremeen@gmail.com](mailto:kajcremeen@gmail.com), if you would like help – or would like to become a Mentor. To view a list of our mentors and contact information on our website, click on Members Area then Mentors for Members. You may also contact the volunteers directly.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at [membership@sbgen.org](mailto:membership@sbgen.org) with your questions, comments, and suggestions. Looking forward to seeing you at our "Member Share" Holiday Meeting!  
Molly



## Virtual Classes and Meetings — December 2020

*All events are **free and open to the public** unless otherwise noted. Advance registration is required. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class. The registration links can be found below each event. If the links don't work on your computer, copy and paste this: <https://sbgen.org/eventListings.php?nm=216> to access the Events Calendar. Ordinarily these events are a benefit of SBCGS membership. If you like what you see and you are not a member, please consider joining [here](#).*

### Friday, December 4

#### How to Write Your Life Story in 5 Pages or Less

12:00 pm to 1:15 pm

Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

Presented by: Alison Taylor

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class. (Don't forget to download the handout when registering! Scroll down below the registration description for the link.)

### Tuesday, December 8

#### Virtual Lunch and Learn Tuesdays

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host & Moderator: Rosa Avolio

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

Come join us for our Tuesday Lunch & Learn. All levels beginner to advanced. Bring your lunch and let's talk genealogy!

### Thursday, December 10

#### A Conversation with author Nathan Dylan Goodwin

11:00 am to 12:15 pm

Zoom Host: Rosa Avolio

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the meeting. Join Rosa for this special event as she interviews genealogy mystery writer Nathan Dylan Goodwin. [More information here.](#)

### Tuesday, December 15

#### The Research Road Map, Your Path to Success

10:00 am to 11:15 am

Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

Presented by: Amy Johnson Crow

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class. Don't forget to download the handout when registering! Scroll down below the registration description for the link.

### Friday, December 18

#### DNA Lunch and Learn

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

Moderator: George LaPlante

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class. George will talk about Y-DNA and recent changes in some of the tools that are available for analyzing your DNA results. Bring your lunch!

#### Annual Holiday Season Member Share



#### Saturday, December 19 Virtual Monthly Meeting

10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Zoom Host: Elizabeth O'Neal

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the meeting.

### Tuesday, December 22

#### Virtual Lunch and Learn Tuesdays

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host & Moderator: Rosa Avolio

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class. Come join us for our Tuesday Lunch & Learn. All levels beginner to advanced. Bring your lunch and let's talk genealogy!

### Wednesday, December 23

#### Genealogy Happy Hour

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm



Join Rosa Avolio (Zoom Host) for a fun happy hour genealogy chat. BYOB!  
**The Zoom link will be emailed to our members.**

### Tuesday, December 29

#### Heirloom, Documentation or Junk: What to Keep or Toss

10:00 am to 11:15 am

Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

Presented by: Janet Hovorka

[Advance registration is required HERE!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class. Don't forget to download the handout when registering! Scroll down below the registration description for the link. (Somewhere in the continuum between a hoarder and compulsive purger is a happy medium for your family history. When a genealogist keeps everything, the next generation can be overwhelmed and decide to toss everything, just to save their sanity. But one person's junk could be another's family history treasure. With a few simple steps, you can determine what is most valuable and how to best preserve it.)

#### JewishGen SIG [Virtual Exhibit](#)

<https://sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=331>

*The Rosenberg Mystery; From Romania to China to Australia; The Streitmans of Ostrowiec, Poland; The Deli Family of Soroki, Bessarabia, Romania, by Charlene Daly*  
*Finding Cantor Levy, by Jane Israel Honikman*  
*A German Town Works to Preserve Its Jewish Heritage, by Milt Hess*  
*My Uncle in a World War I Military Uniform, by Milt Hess*



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## SBCGS Special Event

### A Conversation with Genealogy Mystery Author Nathan Dylan Goodwin Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:00 AM



A new Nielson Book survey revealed that people in the UK have almost doubled the amount of time they spend reading books since lockdown began, but instead of dystopian fiction readers are turning to the “comfort” of crime and thrillers. People want to be absorbed,” one author said, “and that means they’ll go for any book where there’s a story that will pull them in and hold their attention.” One genre of crime fiction is the genealogical crime novel, and the author who reigns supreme in this genre is **Nathan Dylan Goodwin**. Following his fictional character, Morton Farrier, a forensic genealogist, might be the perfect pandemic escape for you!

Join us on Thursday, December 10th at 11 AM for a personal conversation with Nathan and our Zoom moderator, Rosa Avolio. His website is [here](#).

**You must register for this meeting.**

[Register Here](#). After you register, you will receive your link to the meeting.

## More Information

### Biography of Nathan Dylan Goodwin

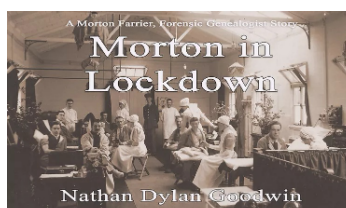
Nathan was born and raised in Hastings, East Sussex. He completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Radio, Film and Television Studies, followed by a Master of Arts degree in Creative Writing at Canterbury Christ Church University. Nathan has been a genealogist since a very young age and has written articles for local and national family history journals and magazines. [Continue Here](#).



### Help Morton Solve a Mini-Case

*...The problem was that all of his genealogical cases had ground to a halt on the 24th March, the day after the prime minister had ordered a nationwide lockdown, in line with many other countries around the world. Since the lockdown included every archive, library, church and museum in the country, if his research could not be undertaken online then it had been put on indefinite hold...*

[Get your free book here](#) and help Morton solve his case in this new web-based story!!

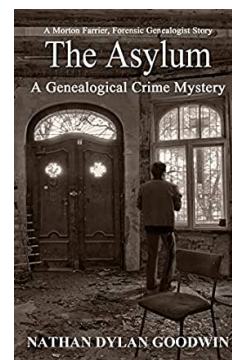


### Nathan Goodwin's Books

Order the FREE prequel to **The Asylum** [here](#).

See thumbnail sketches of other genealogical mystery books by Nathan [here](#).

Buy Nathan's books from [smile.amazon](#).







## Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Sahyun Library: 316 Castillo Street, Santa Barbara, California

Telephone: (805) 884-9909 • Website: [www.sbgen.org](http://www.sbgen.org)

Dear Members,

I am writing to wish you a season of good health and gratitude. One of the things that I continue to be grateful for is this amazing society. I plan to put this group at the top of my annual donation list, and I hope that you too will consider making the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society one of your giving priorities. We have set a goal again this year of raising \$17,000 to support our many activities on your behalf.

Your society has not skipped a beat during this pandemic. Look at all that we've accomplished in 2020:

- \*We began holding monthly meetings by zoom, expanding our ability to hear from distant speakers.
- \*We arranged with Ancestry for free access from home for our members during the Lockdown.
- \*We added Genealogy Bank to remote services available to members.
- \*The Education Committee held our bi-annual Seminar successfully on zoom.
- \*We held Lunch and Learn Zoom Sessions with as many as 59 people attending.
- \*We held many additional zoom classes each week during Family History Month.
- \*We began sending Free Tips for Stay at Home Genealogists.
- \*The JewishGen Interest Group with the Outreach Committee created a virtual Jewish Heritage exhibit.
- \*Outreach also continued our annual children's art exhibit and made it virtual this year.
- \*The Preservation Committee has scanned to-date over 206,000 documents that are available for research.
- \*A well-attended presentation of genealogy was made to Residents of Encina Royale (prior to lockdown).
- \*The landscape committee hired a new gardening firm to maintain the landscaping at the Sahyun library.
- \*Volunteers continue to assist with gardening, repairs, etc.
- \*The board created a new split budget to separate the operation of our society from the maintenance of the library facility itself.
- \*We created a new Property Committee to manage the property grounds and the structures.
- \*The board also created a new Technology Committee.
- \*The property committee installed a new roof on the redwood building, resurfaced the parking lot, and painted the Victorian house.
- \*The Ancestors West Committee continued creating wonderful quarterly issues.
- \*We restructured the organizational chart of the Board of Directors and created new job descriptions.
- \*Your board selected Property Committee and Tech Committee chairs. Whew, that was a lot!

Finally, I hope that you are keeping a journal for your descendants, describing the year of the 2020 Pandemic...

And after creating your 2020 pandemic diary, please send your annual donation in the enclosed envelope!

All the best,

*Maui Sun*