



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Researching the World

February 2021

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 37, No. 2

Finding Calvin: Following My Enslaved Ancestor Through Multiple Owners — A Case Study

Speaker: Renate Yarborough-Sanders



In this case study, Renate Yarborough-Sanders demonstrates, step-by-step, how she first discovered her ancestor's status as enslaved, and then, using exhaustive research techniques, followed him through 25 years of enslavement with four different owners. Participants will learn to use specific documents for identifying and documenting the lives of once enslaved individuals.

Renate Yarborough Sanders, an experienced and engaging speaker, is the descendant of formerly enslaved ancestors, as well as enslavers and free people of color. She is the author of two blogs: "Into the LIGHT", which focuses on her own family history; and, "Genea-Related", a platform for presenting a variety of information of genealogical interest. Renate also produces a "(Mostly) African-American Funeral Programs" online database, in which she

publishes vital data extracted from funeral programs.

Renate is a member of the National Genealogical Society, the North Carolina Genealogical Society, the Afro-American Genealogical and Historical Society (AAHGS), and the Tyrrell County (NC) Genealogical and Historical Society. She is a panelist on BlackProGen LIVE, an online live show presenting topics of interest for people researching ancestors of color and co-hosts a YouTube series, "Let's Talk North Carolina Genealogy," which focuses on topics specific to North Carolina research. Renate is the Newsletter Editor and Membership Chairperson for the Hampton Roads Chapter of AAHGS, a member of the AAHGS National Editorial Board, and a volunteer photographer for Find-A-Grave. She retired in July 2017 from a 32-year career as elementary educator.

Saturday, February 20, 2021

[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

SBCGS Members Access Subscription Sites From Home

The following sites are available to SBCGS members during the time the Sahyun Library is closed due to the current COVID situation.

- American Ancestors (NEHGS)
- Ancestry Library Edition
- Genealogy Bank

Click on "Access from Home" under **Members Area**.

Virtually Travel From Your Living Room!

Enjoy two Heritage Travel experiences by joining us on February 22 and March 22.

- **Finding Cousins and More in Germany** on Monday, February 22 at 1:00 pm with Sharon Summer
- **Our Heritage Trip to Denmark and Sweden**, Monday, March 22 at 1:00 pm with Cheryl and Gary Jensen.

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

VIRTUAL EVENTS, MEETINGS & GATHERINGS



[REGISTER HERE](#)

You must register for February virtual classes. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the class.



SBCGS Needs You!

The Nominating Committee is conducting a search for the next SBCGS President.

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
- Strong interpersonal, managerial, and leadership skills
- A working knowledge of the Society is desired
- The time commitment is, on average, about 20 hours per month.

If you are interested in serving as President or know a Society member who you believe is qualified please contact Karen Ramsdell at Governance@sbgen.org. The Board is willing to consider a Co-President position.

[President Job Description Attached](#)
[SBCGS Organizational Chart Attached](#)





President's Message: Rosa Avolio, Interim President

Dear SBCGS members,

As you know we are currently without a formal president and the board has decided to rotate board members into the position on a monthly basis,

so February is my month.

A little background, I joined the society in 2006 after mentioning my interest in genealogy to my friend and neighbor Michel Nellis. The first person she introduced me to was Emily Aasted who invited me to help her at the book sales table, and, before I knew it, Art Sylvester (President at the time), was asking me to join the board, and, as they say, the rest is history. My involvement with the society over the last 15 years has been a very rewarding experience.

I think this experiment of rotating the president's responsibilities through the board will have some benefits. It will give each board member a taste of what it is like to be president and it will give them a chance to focus on one or two areas they might like to improve. We might even find someone who wants to throw their hat in the ring for a possible longer tenure. That said, I'm happy to stay in the background, helping out and sharing genealogy research with our members.

My personal goals for this month as president:

- To invite new people to be nominated to our board.
- To develop two teams (not active right now): Publicity and Fund Development. A Zoom class for each team, taught by an expert in the field, will be offered so potential members can get an idea of what is involved. Watch for an email for details about day and time.

The SBCGS is an incredible group of people who work hard to keep this organization going. In the past month I've had interaction with other genealogy societies around the country and we are a very sophisticated and communicative society, having developed systems, policies and procedures that direct our day-to-day operations. We have a large membership and a fabulous library and property and so many excellent volunteers that manage it all without a single paid employee.

This has been a very unusual and difficult year for all of us, but we jumped right into Zoom as if we'd always used it. This has kept us all in touch without skipping a beat and will likely be a tool we continue to use long after COVID is a distant memory. In the meantime, classes and meetings have continued, work at the Sahyun and the surrounding grounds has also continued. I understand the Victorian house has been painted though I haven't been there to see it personally. I want to thank all the volunteers that work hard to get these things done.

Notice that I have picked the shortest month for my turn as president, so I will be rolling up my sleeves and pushing my agenda. I appreciate your support and suggestions.

Rosa Avolio, Interim President



Holly Snyder, Chair

We are looking for a new **Speaker's Bureau Coordinator!** Everything is still running virtually so this person does not need to live in Santa Barbara. You would help coordinate virtual speaking engagements between interested groups/organizations and the speakers. Contact Holly for more information.

We are also accepting **new Outreach committee members!** Would you like to help with planning events and exhibits and sharing information about our great organization to our community? This is the committee for you! Contact Holly for more information.

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 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 for more info.

Publicity Team

Creation of Publicity Team for SBCGS

Presented by: Julia McHugh

Feb 16, 2021 (look for email with login information)

Do you enjoy spreading positive news? Are you the one who lets your friends know what's going on and when? Are you a good communicator? Do you want to be an influencer? Would you like to get the genealogical message out to our community? If you answered yes to any of these, you might just be a natural PR person for our SBCGS Publicity Team. Want to learn more? Come listen to our free seminar by Julia McHugh. Julia has been a public relations and marketing Consultant in Santa Barbara for 25 years. She does the PR for the Santa Barbara Zoo and teaches PR and Marketing at SBCC. Come hear her talk about the ins and out of PR and see if you might be interested in becoming part of our PR team.

Fund Development Team

Creation of Fund Development Team for SBCGS

Presented by Jill Rode

March 4, 2021 (look for email with login information)

Are you a people person? Do you like to tell a story and motivate others? Are you willing to ask others to stand up for a good cause? If you answered yes to any of these or you ever thought about helping to raise funds you just might be the right person to join the SBCGS Fund raising committee. Join us for a free presentation by Jill Rode, fundraising and non-profit professional for over 30 years and a Certified Fund Raising Executive. This is a no obligation chance to find out a little more about what fundraising is all about and what exactly is involved in raising those critical dollars that enable any organization to execute their mission.



Membership Corner by Molly Gleason

*Since on this ever Happy day,
All Nature's full of Love and Play,
Yet harmless still if my design,
'Tis but to be your Valentine."*
~ 1797 Valentine's Day card

Hello and Valentine Greetings to all!
This sweet little message is the verse
on what is believed to be the oldest

printed Valentine's Day card in existence. It is part of the York Castle Museum collection, London.

Lots going on this month, starting with National Freedom Day on February 1st, which ushers in the beginning of African American History Month. Our society Events Calendar is already packed with a wide variety of subjects highlighted by African American heritage lectures and the Santa Barbara African American culture and contributions exhibit. Be sure to check out these opportunities! (I'm drawn to the one telling me it's OK to be an "Imperfect Genealogist," however.)

A Warm Welcome to our newest members: **Elaine Ellis, Dee Smith, Jim Terzian, Mark Walker, and Jan Ward.**

And Thank You, continuing members, for your renewals last month!

New members: The SBCGS New Member Packet is available for viewing on our website. Click on Members Area then New Member Packet.

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 – including 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, 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.
- **Need help renewing?** Contact the Membership Team at membership@sbgen.org.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at membership@sbgen.org with your questions, comments, and suggestions. I look forward to hearing from you! Molly



Tech Tips by Milt Hess, IT Chair

The Tech Team has continued to plan for the replacement of the Society's website. As I wrote last month, we have been notified by the company that hosts and supports our website that it will cease operation on June 30, 2021. We have developed specifications for the new website and will be soliciting proposals from software firms to do the development work.

While retaining the valuable content on the existing site, the new site will provide features that make it easier to find what you're looking for. And behind the scenes it will improve processing of membership renewals, Book Nook purchases, donations, and related transactions. Much like moving to a new home, the website replacement project will allow us to move our stuff, organize it better, and display it more attractively.

Contact SBCGS

www.sbgen.org
info@sbgen.org
sbcgs-education@sbgen.org
806-884-9909

Contact Information

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Volunteer Corner Featuring Chris Gallery

This month, SBCGS recognizes and thanks Chris Gallery. Chris joined the Society in 2018 and, with a Library Science background, soon volunteered to help catalog the newly acquired books at the Sahyun Library. She is now the lead cataloger, a critical role and one we all appreciate when searching

the shelves for information. Thank you, Chris, for all you do and thank you for sharing your fascinating bio!

I was the fifth of six children of William Onahan Gallery and Elizabeth Jane Sunderland, both of Chicago. My father was a career naval officer, but he retired when I was five, so I was spared most of the moves and changing schools every year.

We moved to Chicago in 1956, and lived in the house my mother grew up in, north of the city. I went to her old high school, New Trier, where Charlton Heston, Rock Hudson, Ann-Margaret, and Donald Rumsfeld had attended.

I attended Marquette University in Milwaukee for the first years of college, but dropped out in the middle of my junior year, 1969, against the advice of the dean and my mother. I took a two-year hiatus that included work and travel.

I finished undergraduate school at Boston University, and after graduation a friend and I drove to Los Angeles where he had a job waiting. During the five years I lived in LA I worked at the UCLA libraries and also completed my Masters degree in Library and Information Science. This was in the early years of library automation, and most work was still done the old-fashioned way. Staff members still had responsibility for filing new cards into their assigned section of the enormous card catalog.

I moved to Santa Barbara in 1980, remembering what a nice town it was when I took a day trip here a few years earlier. Job prospects in my field were poor, and the country was in a deep recession, so after a while I joined the army of local real estate agents to make my fortune. Not the wisest choice, especially given that I was loath to encourage buyers to spend over \$100,000 on an ordinary small house in a boring neighborhood, with interest rates at 18%!

A couple of years later I was hired as an information specialist at Kaman Tempo (formerly GE Tempo), a government contractor. I met my future husband, a single father of two, and after our wedding we bought a "heavy fixer" of a house in Isla Vista. It was the cheapest house in the MLS book at the time, but had an excellent location at the far west end of I.V., across from the bluff and a block from the beach stairs. Fortunately, we were too naive to realize what a wreck the house really was, but over a couple of years it was rehabilitated and we added another child to the family. It turned out to be a wonderful place to live and raise kids. I was hired as librarian at EG&G Energy Measurements, another research contractor, and worked there until the birth of the next baby.

After a two year break, I went back to work as administrative assistant at the County Mental Health Department, then in 1994 was hired part-time as a reference librarian at the Santa Barbara Public Library. This was when the public internet was so new that many questions could still only be answered by going to the books in the library reference collection. There was a significant collection of genealogy-related books there, but none of us really knew anything about genealogy research, so they were donated to the Sahyun Library. Genealogy questions were referred there, too.

The public library reference desk at that time was staffed with two or three librarians to handle the walk up and phone traffic. Questions ran the gamut from local and world history, quotations, census information, occasional calls for a fact to settle a bet or help with a crossword puzzle, business information, requests for Thomas Bros. maps for driving directions -- anything from 001 to 999.

After a few years I went full-time at the public library and was assigned the responsibility for, among other things, the annual Santa Barbara Reads, a community reading program. I met Ray Bradbury, Tim O'Brien, Marilyn Robinson, Paul Farmer and other great authors over the years when they came to deliver free public lectures as part of the program.

I retired in December 2015, and now live downtown. When I first decided to look into my family history a bit in 2018, just to get basic pedigree lines back to the first immigrants, I of course went to the Sahyun to join up and get a little help on my research. Kathie Morgan casually chatted with me and, finding that I was a retired librarian, in her charming way expertly reeled me into volunteering to help with cataloging. Before long I was there for several hours most Tuesdays learning the ropes and cataloging the newly acquired books.

Maybe next year, if travel becomes safe again, I can get to Ireland, and Alsace, Bavaria and England to see the towns my forebears left to seek a new life in America. I look forward to returning to volunteering at the Sahyun and reconnecting with the wonderful people who come there to volunteer, research, learn from other members, and enrich their lives and ours.

Chris Gallery
31 January 2021

Ancestors West by Kristin Ingalls



Here it is, February, nearly a year since we "temporarily" closed the Sahyun Library. More and more, life resembles the movie, Groundhog Day. So, we at Ancestors West would like to add a little spice to your life and invite you to ponder all your genealogy research and contribute an article to our next issue. I always love reading the stories we publish, but never so much as now. Other than our zoom sessions, it is the best

way to keep in touch with my genealogy friends.

[Our next issue will have several themes:](#)

- Who is your oldest ancestor; not the one who lived the longest, but that would be great too, but the farthest back you can trace that ancestor? How did you trace them? Was DNA research involved?
- Did you have any bachelors or spinsters in your family? Have you found any good stories about their lives?
- On quite another topic, do you have stories about how your family may have spent their summer holidays? Going to the beach, sending the kids to grandmas, hiking or biking or camping out, or just staying at home inventing their own summer fun?

If you have any great story to share, we would love to publish it.

**Stories should be between 250 and 2,000 words.
Photos and images need to be high resolution jpegs,
sent separately to....antkap@cox.net**

**The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2021.
We are looking forward to our next issue with YOUR story.
Kristin Ingalls and the Ancestors West Committee.**

ANCESTORS WEST

Here it is, February, nearly a year since we “temporarily” closed the Sahyun Library. More and more, life resembles the movie, Groundhog Day. So, we at Ancestors West would like to add a little spice to your life and invite you to ponder all your genealogy research and contribute an article to our next issue. I have always loved reading the stories we publish, but never so much as now. Other than our zoom sessions, it is the best way to keep in touch with my genealogy friends.

Our next issue will have several themes:

- Who is your oldest ancestor; not the one who lived the longest, but that would be great too, but the farthest back you can trace that ancestor? Well documented, of course. Please, no Adam and Eve ancestors. How did you trace them? Was DNA research involved?
- Did you have any bachelors or spinsters in your family? Have you found any good stories about their lives? Living single was difficult, especially for women. Some joined religious orders; some became mail-order brides.
- On quite another topic, do you have stories about how your family may have spent their summer holidays? Going to the beach, sending the kids to grandmas, hiking or biking or camping out, or just staying at home inventing their own summer fun?

Since the committee decided on our themes, I have read a number of fascinating and informative on-line articles on these subjects!



A Stone Age bachelor enjoying his summer

Remember, if none of these topics moves you, but you have a great story to share, we would love to publish it.

Stories should be between 250 and 2,000 words.

Photos and images need to be high resolution jpegs, sent separately to....antkap@cox.net

The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2021.

We are looking forward to our next issue with YOUR story.

Kristin Ingalls and the Ancestors West Committee.



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Researching the World



Virtual Classes and Meetings: **February** 2021

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.

If the links embedded in this document don't work on your device, copy and paste this URL: <https://sbgen.org/eventListings.php?nm=216> to access the Events Calendar. Ordinarily these events are a benefit of SBCGS membership. Please consider joining [here](#).

Thursday, February 4

The Imperfect Genealogist

11:00 am to 12:15 pm

Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

Presented by: Janine Adams

[Register here!](#)

Perfectionism can get in the way of enjoying your genealogy research (and your life). As important as solid research is, getting hung up in doing everything “the right way” might mean you don’t get much done. In this lecture, she’ll discuss the areas of genealogy where good enough really is good enough and teach attendees some strategies and techniques for letting go of perfectionism so you can enjoy your genealogy research. If worrying about being perfect gets in the way of your research, this lecture is for you.

Tuesday, February 9

Virtual Lunch and Learn Tuesdays

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host: Rosa Avolio

[Register here!](#)

All levels beginner to advanced.

Friday, February 12

RootsMagic (Windows & Mac) User

Group Meeting

11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Zoom Host & Moderator: Elizabeth O’Neal

[Register here!](#)

Elizabeth will continue demonstrating features of the pending RootsMagic 8 program. [Email Elizabeth](#) in advance if you have specific RootsMagic questions (any version) you want her to address.

Thursday, February 18

New Member & Beginning Genealogy

SIG Meeting

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Zoom Host: Elizabeth O’Neal

Moderators: Jean Foster and Norma Johnson lead this discussion group.

[Register here!](#)

Have questions for Jean and Norma? Email sbcgs-education@sbgen.org before Feb 17th.

Thursday, February 18

Researching African American Ancestors: Funeral Programs and Photo Archives

5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

GoToWebinar

In recognition of February being African American History Month and our society’s exhibit for the same, we are pleased to share this live webinar presented by Diane L. Richard, hosted by the **Florida State Genealogical Society** from their monthly Poolside Chat series.

This event is NOT sponsored by Santa Barbara Genealogical Society. If you wish to attend you must [Register Here](#) with the Florida State Genealogical Society to obtain the link to join the webinar.

Friday, February 19

DNA Lunch and Learn (Lunch & Learn)

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy

Moderator: George LaPlante

[Register here!](#)

George will talk about managing your DNA matches and recent changes in some of the tools that are available for analyzing your DNA results. Bring your lunch!

Monday, February 22

Heritage Trip to Germany: Finding

Cousins and More!

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm



Find cousins—even those you didn’t know you had; locate your ancestral home in a village; learn how to prepare for your trip, and more!

Zoom Host: Diane Sylvester

Presenter: Sharon Summer

[Register here!](#)

Tuesday, February 23

Virtual Lunch and Learn Tuesdays

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host & Moderator: Rosa Avolio

[Register here!](#)

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

Saturday, February 20, 2021

Virtual Monthly Meeting

10:30 am to 12:00 pm

“*Finding Calvin: Following My Enslaved Ancestor Through Multiple Owners – A Case Study*”



Speaker: Renate Yarborough-Sanders

Zoom Host: Elizabeth O’Neal

[Advance Registration Required Here](#)

After registering, you will receive the link.

<https://tinyurl.com/y6oanw5w>



If you’ve ever been curious about the huge RootsTech genealogy conference held every year in Salt Lake City but couldn’t afford (or want) to go, now’s your chance. It’s entirely FREE and online!

Thursday, Feb. 25 — Saturday, Feb. 27

RootsTech Connect:

A Free Online Conference

Register here:

<https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

RootsTech Connect 2021 will feature a variety of keynote speakers, dozens of classes in multiple languages and a virtual marketplace. Throughout the three-day online event, attendees will have the ability to interact with presenters, exhibitors and other attendees through live chat and Q&A sessions.

This event is NOT sponsored by Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. Registration and attendance must be done independently.