



Member Share & Special Interest Groups

Speakers: SBCGS Members
Saturday, December 18, 2021



Come hear our members share their stories about exciting discoveries, brick wall breakthroughs, new DNA cousins, travels to ancestral homelands, and more.

Saturday, December 18, 2021

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

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

9:30 - 10:25 am PST

Special Interest Groups will meet prior to the general meeting using the same Zoom link.

10:30 - 11:00am

Business Meeting with President Art Sylvester and Committee Reports

~11:00 - 12:00 Noon

Program

Elizabeth O'Neal, VP, Introduction of Speaker and Zoom Host

The Next Issue of
Ancestors West
Kristin Ingalls, AW Editor



Suggestions for several themes you may want to write about for our next issue:

- Odd or unusual occupations of our ancestors
- Ancestors and relatives who changed professions
- What were some of the odd tools of the trade most of us would not recognize?
- Did any of your ancestors work in dangerous trades?
- How about writing about family myths? What stories you were told and how have you researched them to find the truth?
- How fun to share your family's long-established traditions they brought from "the old country." A member just shared with me concept of the Danish "Hygge." What were these customs and are they still observed?
- None of the above, but I have a great story to share.

What better way to get to know each other than sharing our stories? **The deadline for your submissions is February 1st, 2022.** Be sure to read the Guidelines printed in all Ancestors West issues.

Send those stories to Kristin Ingalls at
antkap@cox.net

Land Acknowledgment Statement

"The land on which many of us live and where our library is located is part of the ancient homeland and traditional territory of the Chumash people. We recognize and respect the Chumash Peoples past, present, and future and their continuing presence in their homeland as we join in stewarding this land which we all cherish."



Presidents' Message

Arthur Sylvester, President
Robert Bason, President-Elect



One of the lengthiest discussions in the November Board meeting centered around the difficulty in finding volunteers for various committees, for vacancies on the Board of Directors, for impending officer vacancies, including the offices of President and President-Elect, and especially for librarians.



Since its founding nearly 50 years ago, the Society has prided itself on the fact that it is a volunteer society. We have always had a critical mass of members that finding volunteers was not a major problem. Talented, able, and interested people usually came to the fore. Oh, now and then Jan Cloud had to twist an arm or two. It was impossible to say no to Jan.

The world and our Society are experiencing challenging times, given how COVID-19 has imposed a new normal on us, especially given the demographic of the Society. The justifiable COVID-19 fears and necessary safety protocols have especially impacted the operations of our Sahyun Library by limiting its opening hours because of the lack of volunteer librarians, in spite of the anti-COVID-19 measures library director Kathie Morgan has put in place. These include two amazing air cleaners that are capable of straining 99% of dust, bugs, and viruses from the entire interior of the library, so that we may breathe in confidence and comfort.

Hollering at, pleading, inviting, waiting, and hoping for volunteers to come forward just isn't working right now. So watch for and expect your presidents pro tem, Art and Bob, to begin arm twisting as an alternative to trying to having the Society membership come up with \$80,000 or more annually to pay the salary of an executive director, and another \$100,000 for a secretary and treasurer. Giving up and resorting to paid executives has put more than one nonprofit organization deeply in the red and out of business. That should not and must not happen to our Society.

None of the vacancies is more pressing than another, and in fact every committee needs additional members. It's true some of the current officers may be amenable to reup, but right now a partial list would include: Society President and President-Elect to replace Art Sylvester and Bob Bason, respectively; Vice President of Programs to replace Elizabeth O'Neal; Director of Sahyun Library to replace Kathie Morgan; Chair of the IT committee to replace Rosa Avolio; three currently vacant positions and three impending vacancies on the Board of Directors; and a bunch of volunteer librarians.

We're going to need a lot of help in 2022 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Society. So once again, friends, please answer one of the various calls for volunteer help to support your society with your time and talent before a committee chair, officer, or president pro tem rings your telephone or twists your arm.

I close this last President's letter of the year with best wishes to all for a safe and happy holiday season. Let's look forward to times when all of us can get together in person once again without masks to trade genealogy stories, tips, and recollections.

Art Sylvester
President pro tem



Finding Your Roots returns to TV — and to NEHGS

The eighth season of the PBS *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* will premier January 2022 on PBS. NEHGS staff experts collaborate with the series in a verification process for all research and through a careful review of each episode's script. The new season features Anita Hill, Tony Danza, Raúl Esparza, Erin Burnett, and many more.



Deborah H. Winant, SBCGS Life Member

Date of Birth: June 15, 1919
Date of Death: November 5, 2021
City of Death: Santa Barbara

De' was born in Amsterdam, arriving in the US as a Jewish refugee in 1939. She met and married Karl Weininger (later Charles Winant) in 1943 at the University of Minnesota. She is survived by two children: Howard (a retired UCSB professor) and Terry (professor at CSU Fresno). She has three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. SBCGS extends deepest condolences to De's family and friends.

December Zoom Calendar



Tuesday, December 7 The History of Zeppelins 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Presenter: Norman Bambridge
Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy
This interesting presentation showing the links Germany and America had from the Civil War period regarding the military use of observation balloons leading to the development and use of powered airships for both civil and military purposes. [Register Here.](#)

Tuesday, December 14 Virtual Lunch and Learn Tuesdays 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Zoom Host & Moderator: Rosa Avolio
Come join us for our Tuesday Lunch & Learn. All levels from beginner to advanced are welcome. [Register Here](#)

Friday, December 17 DNA Lunch and Learn 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Moderator: George LaPlante
Zoom Host: Robin McCarthy
George will discuss recent DNA news and answer your DNA questions. [Register Here](#)

Saturday, December 18 Member Share & Special Interest Groups 9:30 am to 12:00 pm [Register Here](#)

OUTREACH NEEDS YOU!

We need help with:

- researching
- Outreach Ideas
- Community contacts
- Exhibit planning and prep
- Event planning
- Speaker's Bureau

Join us at our January meeting and check out what our committee is all about!

Email Outreach@sbgen.org for more details

WE APPRECIATE EVERY HELPING HAND WE CAN GET!

New Books by Chris Klukkert



As the Holiday Season approaches, and the year (and library) prepares for a brief pause before re-opening in January, we invite you to come in and peruse the latest books to arrive.

- *Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors*
- *A Benshoof Family's History of the United States*
- *Shelby County, Iowa: Cemetery Records from W.P.A. Readings of Cemetery Graves Registration*
- *Westfall Cemetery, Knox County, Illinois – Cemetery lay-out & Family Plot details.*

We want to thank the following generous donors:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| John Wurzel | Robert Bason |
| Debby Pash | Julie Moore |

1950 Census Release April 2022 — Let's party, Daddy-o!

The 1950 census release is right around the corner! In preparation we'd like to ask members to send memories of the 1950s, from you, a parent, a grandparent, an uncle, etc. What are some memories you have?

For example, I was talking to a member about what she remembers, and the first thing that came to mind was the waiting for a polio vaccination. She thought of this while waiting to get a booster for Covid. (The annual number of polio cases fell from 35,000 in 1953 to 5,600 by 1957; by 1961 only 161 cases were recorded in the United States.)

Can you send me a memory or two? Or three? A number of members were emailing back and forth about their poodle skirts! We'd love to collect stories of a decade long gone, and unknown to so many people nowadays.

So come on, razz my berries!
 Kate Lima: imakate@yahoo.com



Here are some things that might spark a memory from your time in the 1950s:

- Comic Books
- Football games
- Cars, bicycles
- The 5 and 10
- Clothes
- Favorite songs
- Juke Box
- Going to the movies
- Favorite recipes



Membership Spotlight by Kate Lima, 2nd VP Membership

However you celebrate the holidays, I hope it is happy and full of family stories and memories, and get-togethers whenever safe.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

George and Barbara Armstrong
Richard Dow
Nancy Michaud
Marcy Ruona

Please pick up your New Member Packets online or when you visit the library.

And a bountiful thank you to our continuing members who renewed in November!

END OF YEAR

As we close another year, I think back on all we have done this year, despite the pandemic. We saw the reopening of the library! We had two very wonderful in-person events, the Family History Month Open House and the Picnic in the Cemetery. We've put on the unforgettable African American Exhibit, which was displayed at the Goleta Library and later was up in our library for viewing. This exhibit, as well as others, are found in all their virtual splendor on our website, in the Outreach section. Also, we have a new native plant area that everyone can see when they walk from the parking lot to the library. What a gorgeous addition, thank you to the Garden Committee!

THANK YOU

At this time, the end of this roller coaster year, I would like to thank our members who join or renew above the Individual and Family levels of membership. It is your generosity that allows us to continue our programs, the maintenance of our beautiful facilities, and the ability to provide the tools with which to do family research. We therefore want to particularly recognize the following generous members:

LIFE: Sheila Benedict, Sheila Block, Shirly Carter, Doris Crawford, Leland Crawford, Amanda De Luca, Theresa Ferl, Ann Ferns, Diane Flynn, Virginia Gardner, Margaret Gleason, Kathryn Glenn, Gail Hamilton, Kay Heltmach, Jane Honikman, Cheryl Jensen, Gary Jensen, Judith Johnson, Bernice Joseph, Kristine Klukkert, Carol Kosai, Lorraine Laabs, George LaPlante, Nancy Loe, Ruth Loper, Marsha Martin, Louise Matz, Merna McClenathen, Helen Miller, Tom Modugno, Julie Moore, Michel Nellis, Walter Orso, Marie Sue Parsons, Sue Ramsey, Ida Rickborn, Mary Jane Rodgers, Carol Roth, Judy Sahm, Peter Schuyler, Diane Sidon, Martha Siegel, Nancy Snyder, Arthur Sylvester, Diane Sylvester, Judy Thompson, Victoria Ward, Sheri Wechsler, Deborah Winant, and John Woodward.

LIFE FAMILY: Mona Chapin, William Chapin, Jim Friestad, Marjory Friestad, Chana Jackson, James Jackson, John Mehaffey, Louis Mehaffey, David Pettit, Jean Pettit, Irene Sahyun, Melville Sahyun, Robert Ward

PATRON: Kathleen Brewster, Judy Cardinal, Kathryn Greene, Betty Helton, Mary Jacob, Karen Peterson, Karen Ramsdell, Christine Riesenfeld, Grace Thomas, and Gary Villalba

DONOR: Lynn Ashcraft, Robert Bason, Hattie Beresford, Cherie Bonazzola, Ann Dwelley, Patricia Ericson, Mary Hall, Alice Henry, Dennis Holst, Charles Huber, Kristin Ingalls, Vivien La France, Irene Macias, Betty Noling, Carolyn Pappas, Deborah Pash, Tim Putz, Patricia Reilly Stark, JoAnne Treloar, Janet Uribe, and Lorraine West

FRIEND: Nancy Alexander, Antoinette Amorteguy, Dennis Bales, Marilyn Compton, Marianne Corradi, Dena Groters, Matthew Hall, Richard Harpham, Harold Hill, Michael Imwalle, Kristin Lewis, Mary Mamalakis, Olivia Mercado, Dorothy Oksner, Bonnie Raskin, Shirley Roby, Fred Schaeffer, Barbara Shaffer, Susan Stone, Peggy Turrill, Robert Weber, Edith Wells, and Marjorie Wilser

Need help? Work with a Coach. The Society has over thirty volunteer coaches who are ready to share their extensive expertise in several areas of genealogical research with our members. Please contact our Coach Coordinator, Kathy Cremeen, kajcremeen@gmail.com, if you would like help – or would like to become a coach. To view a list of our coaches and their contact information, click on Members Area, sign in, then click on Coaches for Members. You may also contact the volunteers directly.

Please don't hesitate to contact me, Kate, at membership@sbgen.org with your questions, comments, and suggestions.



Contact SBCGS

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