

# Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society



May 2022

Tree Tips Newsletter

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### How to Use eBay, Etsy, and Other Shopping Sites for Family History

Speaker: Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal Saturday, May 21, 2022



Your family treasures could be waiting to be found on popular online sales and auction websites like eBay, Etsy, Craigslist, and others. While many people use sites like these to find collectibles at a reasonable price, they can also be used to enhance your family history research. In this session, you will learn how to locate family heirlooms using effective search strategies, how to work with sellers, and how to make a purchase or participate in an auction. Additionally, you will learn how to use these sites as a family history research tool... without spending a dime!

**Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal** is a professional genealogist, writer, educator, and national genealogical speaker. Her specialties include methodology, technology, and online research resources.

Elizabeth has studied at the National Institute for Genealogical Research in Washington, DC, the Forensic Genealogy Institute in Dallas, Texas, and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is the Programs Director for the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, Director of the NGSQ Study Groups program, and a Genealogy Consultant for the Daughters of the American Revolution.

As a family history lecturer, Elizabeth has given presentations for Legacy Family Tree Webinars,

RootsTech, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the Utah Genealogical Association, and many others. Her professional memberships include the Association of Professional Genealogists, where she serves as president of the Southern California Chapter, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, and she is an active member of the public speaking club Toastmasters International.

For 35 years, Elizabeth has made it her goal to research, preserve, and share her family stories. She is the author of the family history lifestyle website, Heart of the Family<sup>TM</sup> (https://www.thefamilyheart.com) where her mission is to help others "make the past part of their present."

#### **HYBRID General Meeting!**

Location: First Presbyterian Church, State and Constance, Santa Barbara Only the general meeting and speaker portions will be available through Zoom. Special Interest Groups will meet only in person at the church. Details for future virtual SIG sessions are still being worked out. We apologize for the inconvenience.

> 9:30 - 10:25 am PDT on May 21, 2022 Special Interest Groups will meet in person at the church.

#### 10:30 - 11:00am PDT

Business Meeting with President Art Sylvester and Committee Reports In person at the church and on Zoom

#### ~11:00 - 12:00 Noon PDT

**Program** Rosa Avolio: Introduction of Speaker and Zoom Host In person at the church and on Zoom

You must register for the Zoom portion of this meeting. https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcOCtqjMiH9SHa6k0PYVLf7LptNahw9k0

#### The Sahyun Library will be Open

Following the General Meeting on Saturday, May 21st, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and On Sunday, May 22nd, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

#### 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



I would like to provide an update about a matter that concerns many of the Society's members: What is happening with the vacant lot next door to the Society Library?

First, some background. When the Society assumed title to the present buildings and grounds, the corner lot at 328 Montecito Street was occupied by a gas station. A study found that the underground tanks were

leaking and that 8 feet of gasoline had accumulated upon the top of the water table. The gas station was removed and the lot was vacant for many years while the gasoline was removed.

Once the site was remediated to EPA standards, it went up for sale, and the buyer proposed another gas station. The proposal was denied on several grounds by the City, and so the property was sold to a new buyer, who has proposed to build an annex to the hotel for which he has received a permit to build at 302-308 Montecito Street, presently the site of a big two story house at the corner of Bath and Montecito streets.

The application to build that annex reached the City's Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) on April 27. That Commission considers only the aesthetics of the project before sending it on to the City's Planning Commission.

This was the second appearance of the project before the HLC, and all of the commissioners commented favorably on how well the architect complied with the requirements/recommendations that came out of the first meeting. HLC resolved that it wants to see a 3D model of the project before giving approval to send the project to the Planning Commission.

I attended that meeting and indicated my satisfaction with the project as presented but requested that the architect, Noah Greer of the firm On Design LLC, present more information on the structure that will separate the annex property from ours. The original proposal was for a 6 feet high stucco wall. After the meeting the architect agreed to my preference for an 8 feet high wall.

Here are some of the principal facts of the project of concern to the Society and me:

- the two-story annex comprises two separate buildings consisting of nine living units, requiring nine parking places, all of which are above ground;
- ingress and egress to the parking is from Montecito Street well back from the corner traffic light, almost to the market;
- the height of each flat-roofed building is less than allowable in order to accommodate installation of solar panels;
- the project has a landscaped wall, 6 feet high, along Castillo and Montecito streets, both set back from the sidewalk to plant landscaping to hide the wall, at least in part;
- the only way to access the wall between our respective properties from the annex is through a wrought iron gate to its parking area and through its pedestrian gate, both of which open only to annex guests with a guest card key;

- the annex will not be staffed, except by room service personnel during the day;
- the architect assured the HLC that the owner does not plan for the annex to be a dormitory for SBCC students.

I believe the annex as presently proposed will be an asset to the neighborhood and a decided improvement to the corner lot. It has good looking Santa Barbara style buildings that will not overwhelm our library, once the landscaping matures. We may even look forward to housing out-of-town Sahyun Library patrons there.

Art Sylvester, Interim President

Announcement: We are looking for members to join our Speakers' Bureau and share their enthusiasm for genealogy with other non-profits and groups in our community. It's a great way to introduce SB-CGS to potential new members and to have fun, too. More information can be found on page 5 of this newsletter. Contact Holly for more information:outreach@sbgen.org

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*BOARD MEMBERS	

#### Membership Spotlight by Kate Lima, 2nd VP Membership

#### **NEW MEMBERS IN APRIL:**



Lynn Adams Jacque Davis Deni Overton Donna Peterson Nicholas Pierce Lili Walker Diane Wolf

**New member packets** can be found under the Members Area. Once you sign in, a list appears below the words "Members Area," and the packet is third from the top of that list.

Stay tuned for information regarding an upcoming New Member Orientation.

Also, a big and enthusiastic thank you to our continuing members who renewed in April!

**Coaches**: This wonderful membership benefit is available to all our members. We have people who can assist in many areas of genealogical research - whether it is translation or research assistance or simply another pair of eyes! Please contact Kathy Cremeen if you'd like to meet with a coach OR wish to become a coach.

#### **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!**

I want to thank the many volunteers who stepped up to help with our 1950 Census Party. People attended planning meetings; people came to clean the gardens and outdoor furniture; we had people cut and paste many photos onto construction paper; people baked and cooked, and the library was filled with volunteers before, during and after the event.

Also, the Outreach committee really stepped up - thank you so much for your hours of help.

#### **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT** — Cathy Jordan

People might not know that the Santa Barbara Fair and Expo has a section where people exhibit their creative pieces. People can enter their arts and crafts projects, writing, fiber arts, photography, gardening, etc. There is also a section for Genealogy. Entries are judged and ribbons are given.

This year one of our members, Cathy Jordan, created a piece about her grandparents spending their honeymoon at the 1904 Saint Louis World's Fair, after saving up since their marriage in 1898 in northwestern Kansas. How appropriate since the theme of the fair this year was "Meet me at the Fair!," one of the themes of the 1904 event. The display featured items her grandparents brought home from the fair.

Cathy's entry was given the First-Place ribbon, and she even won "Best of Show!" Congratulations Cathy! (Photos on following page)



**New Books** 

The library researchers are coming back into the library and it is exciting to see them among the books. We have gotten quite a few books in during the last two years. It is worth a look in our catalog (on our website) to see if there are any new ones for an area or people of interest for you.

We have been lucky to have been at the beginning of Family Roots Publishing ongoing volume collection of Map Guides to German Parish Register series since its inception in 2004. We just received our last volume and now have all 68 volumes – far more than the expected 40 that they thought they needed to produce. They are a wonderful resource for those looking for their German relatives in the old country church records.

Luckily, Family Roots Publishing didn't stop there and their ongoing project is a 14-volume series titled Map Guide to Swiss Parish Registers, covering Switzerland, and one volume titled Map Guide to Luxembourg Parish Registers. They are all now on our shelves and ready for your use.

#### Here are the books from the New In The Library Shelf:

- Tracing Your Limerick (IRISH) Ancestors
- Deed Abstracts Iredell County, North Carolina, Vol 1 1788-1797
- German Immigrants in American Church Records, VOL 37
- Kentucky (Excluding Louisville City) by Roger P. Minert
- Map Guide to German Parish Registers: Cities of Aachen, Bonn and Cassel
- The Annals of Tennessee to the end of the eighteenth century
- The Destiny of Europe's Gypsies

Please come in to the library and take a look. We encourage and welcome suggestions for other genealogy books for our collection.

We want to thank the following generous donors:

Nancy Synder Susannah Traywick

# To be an Angel and make a donation, click here: <a href="https://sbgen.org/store.php?sid=1">https://sbgen.org/store.php?sid=1</a>

- Choose the book you would like to support and click Add to Cart, you may add more than one book. SCROLL DOWN. There are many books from which to choose.
- When you're ready click Checkout and choose payment method, credit card or send a check.
- A bookplate with your name will be placed inside the front cover of the book you support.

Fair-y Tale Honeymoon First Place Ribbon and Best of Show Santa Barbara County Fair 2022 Congratulations, Cathy Jordan!



# Help Commemorate SBCGS's 50th Anniversary

Do you have a family recipe or two that you would like to share with SBCGS as a part of a cookbook to commemorate our 50th anniversary? The cookbook committe is waiting for your submissions! You can submit a short explanation of the ancestral source of the recipe or the signifiance to your family. Color photos are also welcome.

#### Deadline for Recipe Submissions is June 1, 2022.

#### **Important Reminder:**

The general meeting on Saturday, May 21, is a HYBRID meeting. In will be an in-person event at the First Presbyterian Church, State and Constance, Santa Barbara. The Special Interest Groups will meet only in person at the church. However, both the general meeting and the speaker and program will be available through Zoom. Please register for the Zoom portion of this meeting. <u>SBCGS@sbgen.org</u>

SBCGS is working hard to address the needs of all our members during the next phase of CDC Covid guidelines. We are planning in-person meetings and activities, some hybrid presentations, and some Zoom events for those who are unable to attend in person. Your continued patience is appreciated.

### Outreach by Holly Snyder, Chair

#### **Desperately Seeking Speakers!**

Speaking engagements are a great way to get out in the community and share our passion for genealogy and our Society. Become an SBCGS Speaker's Bureau speaker!

We now have two speaking engagements that need speakersone for the summer and one for the fall.



- 30-minute talk on genealogy
- Meal is included
- You can buddy up- two is better than one!
- Help us spread the word on how great our Society is!

If you have given a talk with the Society in the past that you think would be of interest to the community or you are willing to give a talk on genealogy basics to local organizations, please contact outreach@sbgen.org.

The 1950s Census Bash and Celebration for SBCGS Members and the Community A Roaring Success!



#### Wikipedia Edit-a-thon



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\*\*Santa Barbara Public Library had to postpone this event to later this year. More details to come in the next couple of months once it gets rescheduled.

You're invited! We will be partnering with the Santa Barbara Public Library and Wikipedia! Society members are invited to meet at the downtown SBPL to research and write about Santa Barbara historical figures and upload the information onto Wikipedia.

#### 50th Anniversary Library Displays and Open House

To make our 50th anniversary Open House a success we will need vour help!

#### Ways to help:

- Join the 50th anniversary committee (it will be fun!)
- Help with Society exhibits- Goleta Library & Sahyun Library
- Help Outreach plan for Open House activities If you would like to help, please email outreach@sbgten.org.

Congratulations to Kate Lima and the entire committee who organized, staged, and hosted the 1950s Census Bash. Guests sampled food from the 50s, modeled their 1950 attire, and toured an entire classroom set up as a 1950s museum full of contriubtions from our members. The library was full, too, with people finding themselves and their neighbors in the 1950 US Census. Find an enlarged version of the poster at https://www.sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=352

Be sure not to miss the **Photos from the 1950s** submitted by our members and placed into a wonderful, easy to view, slideshow by Kate, Holly Snyder, and their committee. This "slide show" can be found on our Website here:

https://www.sbgen.org/cpage.php?pt=354



## **Our Members:** Photos from the 1950s





