



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

March 2023

Tree Tips Newsletter

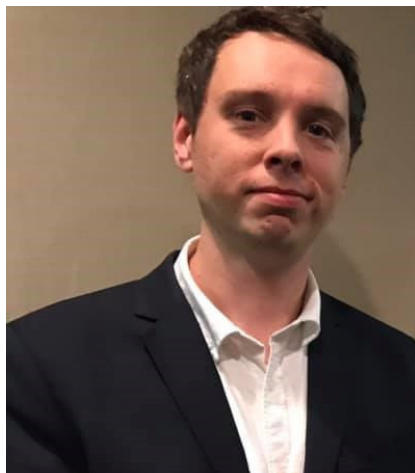
Vol. 39, No.3

"From the Ashes: The 1922 Irish Public Record Office Fire"

Speaker: David Ryan

SBCGS General Meeting

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 9:30 - 12 Noon



The destruction of the Public Records Office in June 1922 at the outset of the Irish Civil War has cast a long shadow over Irish genealogical research. Anyone who has sought their Irish ancestors has likely encountered frustration at the gaps in available records caused by this disaster. But how much do we really know about the events that caused the fire and were all our records really lost? *This talk will explore the background of the Public Record Office fire and address some of the myths that have grown up around it.* It will also examine how recent advances in conservation techniques and modern technology are allowing the recovery of some

records previously believed lost.

About the Speaker:

David Ryan (MA DIPGEN) is a professional genealogist and oral historian based just outside of Cork city, Ireland. David is a graduate of University College Cork. He holds an MA in Medieval History and a Diploma in Genealogy and is currently studying a Masters in Public History with the University of Limerick. He has worked as a professional genealogist for the past eight years.

HYBRID Meeting!

This meeting is in person at the First Presbyterian Church (State and Constance, Santa Barbara), and on Zoom.

Special Interest Groups will meet only in person.

9:30 - 10:25 am on March 18, 2023

Special Interest Groups will meet in person at the church.

10:30 - 11:00am

Business Meeting will be in person and on Zoom.

~11:00 - 12:00 Noon

Program featuring SBCGS Members

Only Zoom attendees are required to register.

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZYkd0uuuqjlsHNRdiwovY_Z842snFy5L9bPu

Problems with links? Go to Calendar at <https://sbgen.org/>

The library will be OPEN from 1-4:00 pm following this meeting.



March Zoom and Hybrid Meetings

Find links to all Zoom events here:

<https://sbgen.org/meetings-classes/calendar/>

Lunch and Learn

HYBRID: Sahyun Library & Zoom

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

DNA Lunch & Learn

ZOOM ONLY

Presented by George LaPlante

Friday, March 17, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Society Monthly Meeting

HYBRID: First Presbyterian Church and Zoom

Saturday, March 18, 2023

10:30am - 12:00pm

Irish Genealogy SIG Meeting

ZOOM ONLY

Presented by Sheila Benedict

Tuesday, March 21 2023

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Crowdsourced Brick Wall Research Assistance

HYBRID: Sahyun Library & Zoom

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Friday, March 24, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Beginning Genealogy SIG Meeting -

ZOOM ONLY

Presented by Jean Foster

Thursday, April 6, 2023

11:00 am - 12:30 pm

The Opening of the Santa Barbara FamilySearch Center.

Address: 2107 Santa Barbara St.

Wednesdays: 10 am to 4 pm

1st Saturday of the Month: 1 pm to 4 pm

Classes: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10 to 11 am.

Contact: Larry Basham for more information:

805 680-9572

(Please note this is not a
SBCGS sponsored event)

Presidents' Messages

Arthur Sylvester and Ted Tazer-Myers



Art Sylvester



Ted Tazer-Myers

Art's Message

Almost three years ago exactly COVID 19 arose forcing us to hunker down individually and as a Society. We are still assessing its short and long term effects.

The effects on our Society were profound yet could have been much worse were it not for the herculean efforts of our IT committee in wasting no time in setting up the Zoom communication system right away. Other committees adjusted in kind so that the Society functioned rather well. Now we are getting back to in-person activities and interacting face to face again. What a welcome restart and resurgence.

One recent in-person meeting was the Board of Directors' daylong retreat to consider the topic "How can Genealogy be put back into the Genealogical Society?" The agenda format followed SWOT, which acronym signifies Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. Conclusions included: We have many strengths, a few weaknesses that we would do well to remedy soon, a long list of Opportunities—especially to attract new members; and a glaring threat to our library being the ease of accessing and widespread use of computerized on-line records instead of books. The Board will be challenged in the coming year to tackle these conclusions.

The Board conducted one piece of business at the retreat: it accepted my resignation as Society president and appointed president-elect Ted Tazer-Myers to assume the chair. My resignation was not unexpected. In 2021, I stepped as co-president with Bob Bason for a one-year commitment. When Bob had to resign, I took on an additional voluntary year hoping a president-elect could be found in the meantime. Providentially Ted came to the fore in 2022. Ted and I decided that it would be better to make the switch now and not wait four more months until the end of my second voluntary year. The Society will be in good hands with Ted. He has the experience, capabilities, talent, and enthusiastic energy to revitalize and guide the Society. Be sure to meet and greet him at your next mutual opportunity to see what I mean.

Lastly, friends, it was an honor and pleasure serve you in those uncertain and challenging COVID times. Now let us all step up, step out, move forward, and follow Ted's leadership.

Ted's Message

It is a great honor to follow Art Sylvester as president of this Society. He has done a remarkable job gently but confidently steering the ship during challenging times. I have deeply appreciated his

mentorship while I've been "learning the ropes" as president-elect. Art has pledged to continue his support of me, the Board, and the mission of this wonderful organization.

As Art indicated, the Board has been reflecting on how best to serve our members as we navigate the changing world of genealogy. Virtual tools and resources seem to be expanding exponentially, yet technological advances don't solve all genealogical problems! For one thing, the vast majority of genealogical records remain undigitized. For another, the online systems can be expensive and difficult to navigate, especially for beginners. Our Society is blessed with subscriptions to many of the best genealogy websites—all for the minimal cost of membership. We also have a dedicated corps of volunteers to assist members in constructing their family tree, exploring special areas of interest (like DNA), finding records in our ancestors' native lands, and so much more! Best of all, the Society is a wonderful place for people to come together who have a passion for family history and share stories of discovery with each other.

I feel blessed to be part of such a meaningful enterprise and look forward to helping our Society meet its challenges and help realize the inspired ideas people have to better fulfill the mission we embarked upon fifty years ago. See you at the Sahyun Library, online, and at the General Meeting and other events. It will be fun!

Ancestors West

by Kristin Ingalls, Editor



Do you have love stories about your family to share? Engagements? Heartbreaks? Huge elaborate weddings? Hasty elopements? Secret marriages? Polygamist marriages? Surprise marriages? Maybe-it-never-happened marriages? Arranged marriages? Marriages discouraged by family members? Happy-ever-after marriages?

With all that to chose from, I expect a deluge of fun, happy, sad, poignant stories to fill my inbox.

After the presentation by the Model A Club at our general meeting, there was quite a lot of buzz going around with our own stories involving these (and similar) cars. I would like to invite you to submit a story and photos about your own family's story surrounding these beautiful cars. Whether your family had Model As, Ts, or another make during that time period, send in your stories and photos to be included in our next Ancestors.

I eagerly await what you have to share, so send me:

Between 500 - 2,500 words in a Word document. Send photos separately as high resolution (300+dpi) Jpeg files. Also, after writing the story, wait a few days to see if you want to edit it. If it involves other family members, get their input and then send me the FINAL version! Kristin at antkap@cox.net. The deadline is May 1, 2023.



Thank You



Membership

by Kate Lima



NEW MEMBER IN FEBRUARY:

Maya Adams

New member packets can be found on our website; after you sign in you'll see a link below "Welcome Maya Adams."

Also, a big, happy thank you to our continuing members who renewed in February!

Need help? Work with a Coach!

We have many people you can contact, check out the list of Coaches after you sign in. You'll see a list under "Members Area" called "Coaches for Members." This kind of research will take off to a whole new level!

Trip to Salt Lake City!

It's scheduled! Our society will visit the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City. We have rooms at a discounted rate available at The Plaza Hotel. Contact Rich Williams to secure a room, 801-521-0130. And don't forget to email me at membership@sbgen.org so I can include you on our group emails! We have a wonderful group already signed up and planning their visit. Please join us!

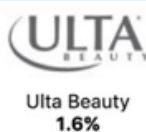
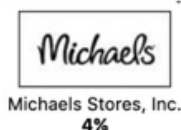
Genealogy Tip: Make A Plan!

For efficient, methodical research, sit down and consider your goals. Rather than jumping down a random research rabbit hole, consider what questions about your ancestry you'd most like to answer.

iGive.com

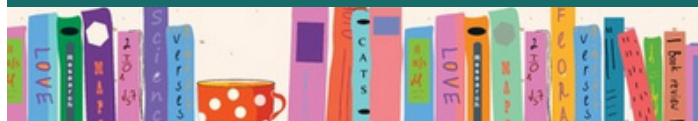
Amazon's "smile" program has gone the way of the dodo bird. I already miss being able to donate a % of my purchases without paying extra. The money seamlessly went to my charity without any expense on my part.

Take heart! There are other ways to give without any out-of-pocket expense! The program is called **iGive**, and many are taking advantage of donating dollars and cents to their favorite organizations. For example, if you're going to shop at Kohls, or Chewy's, or many other businesses, check with iGive to see if they have them at their site. Go to iGive.com, create an account, choose SBCGS as your charity, and shop!



All About Our Books at the Sahyun

by Chris Klukkert



I have the privilege of often being the first one to see the books arrive into our library – whether it is donation or a new purchase coming in. It is very easy for me to get sidetracked and find myself drawn into a particular book that I might not have ever looked at were it not my duty to do so. So many times while I am perusing through a book, I will come upon a reference that is about one of my family lines that I would never have expected to be in that book at all. Imagine how sidelined I am when a book comes across my desk that IS particularly linked to my family or area of research? Those kinds of discoveries are what the Sahyun book library is full of for everyone, and ***I encourage all of you to come in and walk PAST the computers sometime, and go to the book shelves and discovery for yourself what has been there all along and waiting for your discovery.***

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

Toward a More Perfect Union: The Settlement of Union Township, Clay County, Kansas
Planning a Future for Your Families Past
Searching For Your Danish Ancestors
Mystery of the Marie – (written by an upcoming speaker)
Teresa Newton-Terres (with James H. Pence)

We look forward to your library visit and we encourage and welcome suggestions for other genealogy books for our collection.

We want to thank the following generous donors:

Diane Tuttle Michol Colgan Diane Sylvester
Ann M. Dually Teresa Newton-Terres Karen Ramsdell

Book Angels

To be an Angel and make a donation, click here:

<https://sbgen.org/get-involved/book-angels>

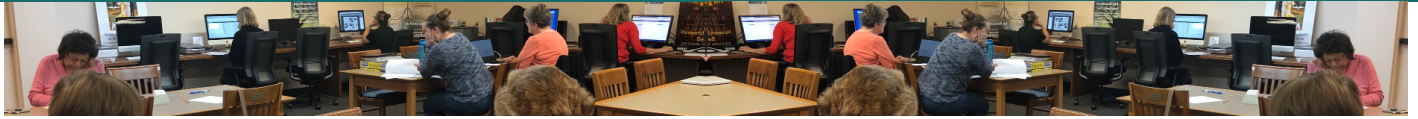
New Content on Our Website

Robin McCarthy

- The Coroner's Inquest records have been added to the database.
- Some record collections can include dates and locations in the search criteria. Date searches are limited to only the year or a range of years. Locations must be selected from the dropdown list in the Location field. Location searches can be done for the country; state and country; county, state, and country; or city, county, state, and country.
- Don't forget that the Keyword field is also searchable for alternate names.
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and click Clear All to start a new search.

Library News

by Laura Hannah



New Recycling Program

The Sahyun Library is beginning a new effort to collect recyclable FILM plastic to prevent it from being thrown into a landfill through regular trash pickups. Film plastic is often labeled with a #2 and #4 recycling symbol, but also includes many plastics we use every day, such as produce bags, packaging materials, and mailing materials. Film plastic is stretchy; it doesn't break cleanly. For several years, Ablitt's Fine Cleaners has spearheaded an effort to get local citizens, known as "Planet Protectors," to bring film plastic to Ablitt's. They then send huge bales of this unwanted plastic waste to Trex, a company that turns that plastic into decking and siding for the building trade.

In Santa Barbara we can no longer recycle film plastic through our local blue bins; instead, that plastic ends up in the landfill. Here is how YOU can help this effort!

- At the library, sort the recyclable film plastic that the Society receives. Don't throw it in the trash or the blue bins. We now have **a green recycling can in the library office** that you can use for small amounts of film plastic.
- Bring your film plastic from home in a bag or box to the library, and Laurie Hannah will take it to Ablitt's on regular drop-off days.

Here are the types of plastics that you can put in our new green bin:

Plastic films labeled with #2 or #4 recycling symbol (polyethylene films) and those listed below.

ALL PLASTIC MUST BE CLEAN, DRY, AND FREE OF FOOD RESIDUE

Newspaper sleeves
Bread bags (turn inside out)
Cereal box liners
Ziploc food bags
Produce bags (NOT compostable ones)
Grocery bags, retail shopping bags
Case overwrap, pallet stretch wrapping
Mailing envelopes (any color)
Air pillows in packaging
Bubble wrap
Dry cleaning bags



Outreach

by Holly Snyder

Speaking Engagements in the Community



Are you part of a group who has a speaker series or know of a great place to give a talk? Please contact Outreach@sbgen.org. Our speakers can go to your group's meeting location, or your group is welcome to come to Sahyun Library for the presentation. We can also arrange group tours of Sahyun Library if interested!

Santa Barbara Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Exhibit



Save the Date!

Exhibit Opening Event: **May 7 from 12-4pm, Sahyun Library**
Exhibit will run May 7 through December. Additional activities will be scheduled in May and June to complement the exhibit.

Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities!

Backpage Reminders

Find links to all Zoom events here:
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11:00 am - 12:30 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."

CONTACT SBCGS

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806-884-9909

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Past-President: *Art Sylvester
Library Director: *Laurie Hannah, SahyunLibrary@sbgen.org
Past-President: *Karen Ramsdell, Governance@sbgen.org
2nd VP, Membership: *Kate Lima, membership@sbgen.org
Newsletter Address Corrections: membership@sbgen.org
1st VP, Education & Programs: *Elizabeth O'Neal, programs@sbgen.org
Ancestors West: Kristin Ingalls, antkap@cox.net
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Exterior Facilities Manager: Cheryl Jensen, cftzjen@cox.net
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