



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

“Resources Available for Japanese and Chinese American Genealogists and Teaching Pioneers’ Stories to the Next Generation”

Speakers: Rosalyn Tonai and Grant Din
SBCGS General Meeting, June 17, 2023



Married couple Rosalyn Tonai and Grant Din will talk about materials researchers can find about Japanese and Chinese immigration, settlement in the U.S., World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans, what they have found in their ancestral homes, and more. They also created a Zoom game (and mailed out clues on paper) about Rosalyn’s grandfather’s World War II incarceration by the Department of Justice, to teach the fourth generation about what he went through. It was a fun and educational way for her young relatives to learn about the family’s wartime experiences, especially during the pandemic.

About the Speakers:

Rosalyn Tonai has been executive director of the National Japanese American Historical Society for over

thirty years. In this role, she has organized many local and traveling exhibits about Japanese American history and art and trained teachers around the country. She was a key figure in the development of the Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center, located at the Presidio’s Crissy Field in San Francisco, which tells the Japanese American wartime story. Her husband, **Grant Din**, has worked with Bay Area nonprofit organizations including the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation for many years and has conducted extensive research about Angel Island, its immigrants from 80 countries and World War II Japanese immigrant detainees, and Chinese American history since the Gold Rush. He was part of the research team for *The Six*, a film about the Chinese seamen who survived the wreck of the Titanic and enjoys speaking about Asian American genealogy and history.

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 June 17, 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 will be in person and on Zoom

Only Zoom attendees are required to register.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrcOiqrjorEtwFz7AHM-jAt4SfSO7zm5d4q#/registration>

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

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

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Are you not receiving the Society’s newsletter and emails about upcoming events and meetings? Maybe you accidentally removed your name from our mailing list. Enter your name and email address in the boxes marked “Join Our Mailing List” at the bottom of the home page at sbgen.org to resubscribe, (We cannot do this for you.) or get in touch with Membership if you’re unsure.

Join Our Mailing List!

President's Message

Ted Tazer-Myers



Ted Tazer-Myers

Have you ever done a heritage trip? I love them! Nancy and I are taking one right now in the Boston area where my Irish 2nd great-grandparents married. You get a special feeling of connection when you walk the same paths as your ancestors.

The first heritage trip that Nancy and I undertook was in 1996 to tiny Canmore near Banff west of Calgary, Alberta where her mother grew up. Lois MacKinnon, like her two elder sisters, Eunice and Nan, became a nurse, probably influenced, at least in part, by growing up as a “coal miner’s daughter.” Lois’s father, Hugh Gillis MacKinnon, developed black lung laboring in the Bow Valley coal mines in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains.

Lois’ Roman Catholic family originally hailed from Nova Scotia, Scotland and Wales. They were, and are, tight knit and very much devoted to genealogy and family reunions. Our family attended a big reunion at Calgary in 1996 and visited the old MacKinnon homestead in Canmore and the schoolhouse (now closed) where she matriculated. We also took in the Calgary Stampede and communed with the dinosaurs at the Royal Tyrell Museum in Drumheller. There is no reason not to mix in some fun during a heritage trip!

Salt Lake City

Speaking of family history fun, Kate Lima led a lively group of twenty-one SBCGS members in May on our annual weeklong expedition to the Family Search Library at Salt Lake City, Utah that finally resumed after the COVID-19 pandemic. I couldn’t stay all week, but most members did—and, boy, did we accomplish a lot! The library has been beautifully remodeled and is equipped with the latest technology designed to make your ancestry searches as easy and successful as possible. Kate will share more about the trip in this issue, but suffice it to say, we had a great time under her leadership and Jim and Marj Friestad’s experienced and enthusiastic mentoring. Be sure to sign up early next year to join the fun!

Kudos

The Santa Barbara Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Exhibit event on May 7th was a smashing success with approximately two hundred attending. The weather was perfect, the Property Committee had the landscape looking pretty, and newscasters from KEYT-TV were enchanted with some of our special guests and the professional quality of our graphics. Congratulations to Holly Snyder and the Outreach Committee for putting on such a outstanding event in partnership with an impressive variety of local history and heritage organizations. Now, even more people know what an important role that SBCGS plays in bringing diverse communities as well as families together!

Upcoming Decisions

The next General Meeting is set for June. As we do every year, the

assembled members will vote on a slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors and the proposed 2023-24 budget, which I am happy to say, is projected to be balanced again next year. In addition, the Governance Committee led by Karen Ramsdell is proposing a significant revision of the Bylaws and related organizational changes. You can read more about these changes elsewhere in this issue, but suffice it to say, the Board has reviewed and unanimously endorsed the recommendations of the Finance and Governance committees.

Ted Tazer-Myers, President

Check Here for Zoom and Hybrid Meetings

Find links to all Zoom events here:

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

Irish Genealogy SIG Meeting

ZOOM ONLY

Presented by Sheila Benedict

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Wednesday Zoom Lunch and Learn

Zoom Only

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Tuesday Lunch and Learn

In-Person Only

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Presented by Rosa Avolio

12:00 - 1:30pm

DNA Lunch & Learn

ZOOM ONLY

Presented by George LaPlante

Friday, June 16, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Society Monthly Meeting

HYBRID

Saturday, June 17, 2023

10:30am - 12:00pm

Crowdsourced Brick Wall Research

Assistance

Zoom Only

Presented by Jean Foster

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

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.”

Membership

by Kate Lima



Hello and Happy June to all!

Summer is officially here, and so is the May Gray and June Gloom. We do have those brief but cheery moments of sun, and soon we'll bask in that warm glow all day.

A Warm Welcome to new members as of the last Tree Tips Newsletter:

Lavita Bosma Kail	Lizbeth Medina
Brianna Bruce	Janet Mitchell
Stephanie Carnes Olsen	Patricia Montemayor
Barbara Chung	Patricia Pharris
Susan Clack	Beverly Thaxton
Valorie Jean Cole	Christine Williams
Amber Marirae Smith	

13 new members this month! We hope to see you in person very soon.

For now, please check out the **New Member Packet** online.

- Go to our new website and click "Members" button to log in.
- Click on the "Members" again and look for "Member Resources;"
- In the center of the page you'll find a link to the New Member Packet. Click!

The packet includes helpful information about the library. It also 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. **A big Thank You to all returning members! Thank you for your continued support.**

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHT

We will highlight a different committee each month so all members can learn about what they do, what they need, what's special about them. **This month we highlight the Outreach Committee.** Holly Snyder, Chair, shared this information:

OUTREACH COMMITTEE: Holly Snyder (Chair), Cheri Bonazzola, Kate Lima, Patti Ottoboni, Gary Shumaker, Larry Basham (Speakers Bureau Coordinator), Liz Smith (Public Relations Coordinator), and Marie Sue Parsons (backup speaker/community liaison).

Tell us briefly about your committee's goals.

The Outreach Committee strives to raise community awareness about the Society and its genealogical resources, and encourage new member recruitment. An ongoing goal is to partner with community organizations through talks, events, and exhibits to raise awareness of our wonderful Society and put an end to hearing that people had no idea we were around or that we are "Santa Barbara's best kept secret."

A goal for this year is to purchase a hanging system for our classroom so we can continue showcasing our exhibits while also preserving the walls. We look forward to hanging future exhibit panels with ease!

What are some things that you do.

We do public events such as Family History Month Open House, Picnic in the Cemetery, exhibit events, and tabling opportunities with other organizations. We also create Society exhibits for local libraries (*photo below*), local cultural exhibits at libraries and Sahyun Library, and a table display at the Montecito Bank & Trust in Goleta.



We just had a successful exhibit opening for our latest cultural exhibit, Santa Barbara Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage, 1870s-1970s. Four Outreach Committee members plus a few other Society members formed the exhibit committee (photo of AAMPIH committee). The exhibit committee researched potential participants, met with community organizations and expert individuals in the community, interviewed families and wrote their family stories, and planned the opening event. We even gained three new

Society members along the way who joined our exhibit committee! The committee is now working on providing full biographies to our web designer for an online exhibit. These exhibits pave a way to partner with many different community organizations, as well as raise awareness of our Society among their members and our participants and their families.

We also oversee the Speakers Bureau with Dr. Larry Basham at the helm. He provides talks to outside organizations about the Society and genealogy basics, and often ends the talk with doing lookups in the 1950s census. We offer the talks at the organization's meeting

Continued on next page

place or at Sahyun Library, as well as a tour of our library.

Liz Smith also helps Outreach with social media posts. If you are on Facebook or Instagram- follow us!

Do you meet regularly?

We usually meet once a month and now on Zoom since I work fulltime.

How can people help?



We can use a couple more Outreach Committee members! We will be planning our next Family History Month Open House soon, plus we will start scouting out cemetery residents for our next Picnic in the Cemetery (fall of 2024) later this year, as well as participating in some events this summer with the SB Trust for Historic Preservation promoting our Society and our current exhibit. We also need new committee members with fresh ideas!

Liz can use some help with social media posts. We need volunteers who are either already comfortable with using social media or willing to learn how to use social media and post about our Society's classes and events, as well as any other genealogical-themed topics with some interaction with commenters. This can be done at home and you can pick a day or two to post things and have them scheduled to go out throughout the week.

Have you been, or are you, a Sahyun Library volunteer? We could use more tour guides and research assistants to help during our tours. Even if you don't have a lot of experience at our library, we can train you and provide the information to be a tour guide or research assistant. We will also have short-term volunteer opportunities for the Open House this October and will share these as it gets closer.

GENEALOGY TIP

Are you planning a vacation around your ancestors? Are you visiting gravesites?

A friend sent me a great website with tips to take the right pictures.

Amyjohnsoncrow.com posted this article, "5 photos you Should Take at the Cemetery."



1) The cemetery sign.

Take that picture to remind you of which cemetery you're entering. Not all cemeteries have a sign, though. In those cases, make your own. Write down the name (or the location if you don't know the name) and take a picture of that.

2) The entire tombstone.

I like to get a picture of the entire tombstone, even if I can't read all of the details. You wouldn't photocopy just one paragraph of an ancestor's will. Treat the tombstone the same way: as a document. Get a photo showing the whole thing. Make sure you get photos of the back and sides of the stone, too!

3) Close up details.

There are often details that aren't legible in the photo of the entire tombstone. That's when you want to take close-up shots. Take photos of the name and dates, the epitaph, symbols, and other details. (Take them from several angles to improve your odds of reading them later.)

4) The wider shot.

If you want to have some hope of finding that tombstone again, take several steps back and get a photo of the tombstone and the stones around it. This helps give you landmarks for finding it again.

5) The neighbors.

Our ancestors are often buried near other relatives. Get photos of the surrounding tombstones (including closeups of the inscriptions). Even if you don't know how (or even if) those people are related now, you'll have the information for when you do more research on the family later.

It's so easy to take tons of photos at the cemetery. Getting into the habit of taking these 5 photos will help you be less frustrated when you're looking at them later.

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

Wishing you all a fun and research-filled summer!



Tips From Our Webmaster

by Rosa Avolio

We're making improvements to the website to help members find things more easily. Please check out the following pages:

New Book Angels page: <https://sbgen.org/get-involved/book-angels/#!form/BookAngels>

New PDF viewing for our digital collection items, all text searchable: <https://sbgen.org/start-your-search/other-society-materials/>

New google site search to find names and info in PDFs on our site, look for it on the publications page: <https://sbgen.org/society-publications/#gsc.tab=0>

We've also added the search bar to the Ancestors West page in the members section (you must be logged in to view these) <https://sbgen.org/membership-welcome-page/ancestors-west-members/#gsc.tab=0>

New in the Library

by Laurie Hannah

We received a very interesting gift this past month.

Royal Genealogies : or, The Genealogical Tables of Emperors, Kings and Princes, from Adam to These Times; in Two Parts by James Anderson, D.D. is a genealogical wonder and a beautiful book to browse. Published in 1732, at 812 pages, this hefty folio contains over 400 tables of royal families from around the globe, going back to "the beginning of time," that is, beginning with Adam of the Bible, and progressing to the 1700s, with a little Greek and Roman mythology thrown in.

The gift was from Society member and antiquarian book collector William Noack who chose it from his collection of about 40,000 books. "When I was 12 years old in 1964 this was one of the books that got me interested in genealogy when going to the Los Angeles Library Genealogy Room. I always wanted a copy of it for my own library and finally found one in England [in 1985]."

William recalls, "As a kid I was thrilled that I was descended from the various ancient rulers as well as a sea nymph who mated with a human in ancient times! For Saint Patrick's Day I figured out that I was the 55th generation descended from King Niallus Naoighiallach, 126th Monarch of Ireland (379-405)."

Besides family relationships and ancestry, you can explore the chronologies and key events in the lives of many of these rulers. Come take a look to see if you might be related to one of these royal lines. Whether the pedigree charts are correct and complete, well, you will have to do your research to find out! Happy Researching!

Laurie Hannah
Library Director

Ancestors West

by Kristin Ingalls, Editor

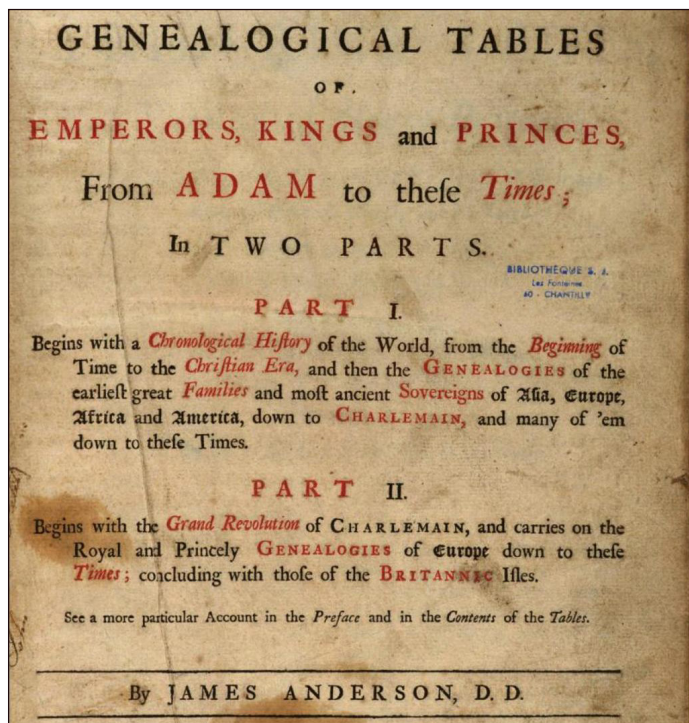


Here are three themes that might spur you into action and share what your research about your family has revealed:

- Birthing customs and birth stories. Have you discovered family secrets or surprises surrounding the birth of any of your ancestors? Did any impact future generations?
- Naming traditions or naming idiosyncrasies in your family or culture. Who got named what and why? Did any family members change their names and why? Did names help or hinder your research?
- Farming stories. Historically, most people at one time were farmers. Why did they leave farming and what did they do afterwards? This theme could also involve homesteading land. Many homesteads failed; but not all. Small towns grew up around homesteaded land; perhaps your ancestors quit farming and became merchants, store owners, doctors, lawyers.

The Ancestors West editors are eagerly awaiting your family stories. See the back cover of your Ancestors West issue for guidelines or contact your Editor: Kristin Ingalls antkap@cox.net

The deadline is August 1, 2023



June 2023 Tree Tips
Continues on the next page
with

OUTREACH
&
THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING DOCUMENTS

June 2023

Dear Members,
The Society's members participate in the organization's governance by electing Board members and approving changes to the Bylaws. The Board election and member voting on other matters generally occurs at the Society's Annual Membership Meeting. Please attend the meeting as we need a quorum of 10% of the membership (50 members) to convene the meeting.

Annual Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting will take place Saturday, June 17, 10:30am at the First Presbyterian Church conjunction with the business portion of the general meeting.

This issue of Tree Tips includes, for your review, the items that will be presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting: 1) June 2022 Draft Annual Meeting Minutes; 2) Slate of Nominees for Board Officers and Directors-At-Large; 3) Proposed Restated Bylaws; and 4) Proposed FY2023-2024 Budget.

Karen Ramsdell
Governance Committee Chair

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IT Chair: *Molly Gleason
Publicity: *Liz Smith
Development Committee: *Mary Hall, development@sbgen.org
Directors at Large: Marilyn Compton, Bob Muller, Marie Sue
Parsons, John Woodward, Heather McDaniel McDevitt, Berri
Bottomley
***BOARD MEMBERS**

Outreach

Thank you all who attended and volunteered at our *Santa Barbara Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage, 1870s-1970s* exhibit event on May 7! It was a great success! Here is a short recap:



The exhibit committee wrote 25 family biographies, three historical panels on early Chinese and Japanese churches, plus, they included a section on military servicemen and history of Asians in the military, and different industries including early Chinese fishermen and early maps of Santa Barbara Chinatown and Japantown.

[Exhibit committee: L-R back row- Holly Snyder, Melinda Crawford, Cheri Bonazzola, Susanne Mori, Kate Lima, Mary Hancock, Brianna Bruce, Linda Bentz; front row- Mary Jacob, Patti Ottoboni]



We had about 200 attendees and it was consistently busy between 11:45am to 3:45pm. There were eleven organizations participating at the event who also provided treats, artifacts and/or activities to share with guests: SB Trust for Historic Preservation, SB Chinese American Association, Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, Nikkei Genealogical Society, Toba Sister City Association, Weihai Sister City Association, Bethany Congregational Church, SBTHP Asian American Affinity Group, Asian American Association of Santa Barbara County, Chinese Family History Group of Southern California, and the Bonsai Club.

We are also thankful to partnering organizations and individuals who also provided us with equipment, an extra parking lot, historical photographs, artifacts, and knowledge; funding, artwork, extra volunteer time, and more.

Mina Wahab from KEYT News came for an interview and ended up staying for three hours interviewing different people. She did a great job editing the interviews and showing different elements of the event in multiple segments.

We had over 20 Society volunteers helping with exhibit setup, event set up and clean up, lending us supplies, equipment, and exhibit display materials. The exhibit committee, volunteers, and organizations will be acknowledged at the June general meeting.

The exhibit will be on display at Sahyun Library through to the end of the year.



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!

June 2023

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Karen Ramsdell
Governance Committee Chair

**Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society
Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
In-Person and Video Conference Meeting via “Zoom”
June 18, 2022**

Call to Order. President Art Sylvester called the Annual Membership Meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. The total membership is currently 499. There were 57 members attending in person and 17 via Zoom for a total of 74. Thus, a quorum (10 percent of membership) was present.

1. Approval of the Annual Membership Meeting Minutes.

Elizabeth Swanay O’Neal moved to approve the minutes from the Annual Membership Meeting held on June 19, 2021 as written and was seconded by Karen Ramsdell. Approved with one abstention.

2. Fiscal Year (FY)2022-2023 Budget

Financial Officer Bob Goeller presented the proposed FY2022-2023 budget that was provided to the membership in the May 2022 Tree Tips-Newsletter. On behalf of the Finance Committee he moved that the budget be approved. Unanimous approval.

3. Election of Officers

Karen Ramsdell identified the Nominating Committee Members:

Rosa Avolio	Chris Klukkert
Mary Hall	Marie Sue Parsons
Mary Jacob	Karen Ramsdell

The committee was tasked to identify select nominations for the offices of President, President-Elect, and six Director-at-Large positions. The nominees are:

Art Sylvester, President (2022-2023)

Edward “Ted” Tazer-Myers, President Elect (2022-2023)

Director-at-Large 2 Year Term (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2024)

Berri Lynn Bottomley
Heather McDaniel McDevitt
Liz Smith

Director-at-Large 3 Year Term (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025)

Marilyn Compton
Chris Klukkert
William Noack

Members were asked if there were nominations from the floor. There being none, **Karen Ramsdell moved on behalf of the Nominations Committee that the slate of proposed officers be approved. Unanimous approval.**

Karen Ramsdell announced the Board appointment of Mary Hall as the Development Director, Elizabeth Swanay O’Neal as Education and Program Director and Laurie Hannah as Library Director.

Karen thanked outgoing Board members Rosa Avolio (Director-at-Large and Interim IT Director), Kathie Morgan (Library Director), Nancy Loe (Director-at-Large and Development Director) and Karen Ramsdell (Two terms as President and a year as Past President) for their service on the Board.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jacob
SBCGS Secretary

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society
Nominating Committee Report
May 2023

The Nominating Committee nominates the following slate for Secretary, Directors-At-Large, and Vice President, Operations each for a two (2) year term beginning July 1, 2023.

During the June 17, 2023, Annual Membership Meeting, members will vote on the following slate of nominees. Nominations may be made from the floor prior to the vote but *please obtain permission of the nominee beforehand.*



Mary Jacob, Secretary

Mary Jacob currently serves as Secretary, a Board Officer position. She is nominated to serve a second two-year term. Mary is a member of the Governance Committee and the Outreach Exhibit Subcommittee and is a records preservation indexer and library volunteer. Mary joined the Society in 2016.

Before retiring in 2016, Mary held a number of positions at UC Santa Barbara, including Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services and Acting Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. She taught geography at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and also served as Dean of International Affairs. She is currently president of Friends of Navdanya, a non-profit organization that supports a sustainable organic demonstration farm.

Mary's interest in genealogy was sparked while she was in college. However, that spark did not fully ignite until just before she retired in 2016 when she took Norma Egli's intermediate genealogy class through Adult Education.

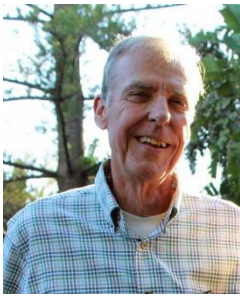


Karen Ramsdell, Vice President, Operations

Karen Ramsdell is nominated for a new Board Officer position, Vice President, Operations for a two-year term. Karen joined the Society in 2000 and, from 2016-2021 served on the Board as President and Director-At-Large. She is Chair of the Governance Committee and serves on the Finance and Outreach committees.

A native Californian, Karen lived in southern California and attended UCSB where she earned her bachelor's degree in history. In 2013, she retired as City of Santa Barbara Airport Director. As Director she was responsible for the operations, maintenance, fiscal management, and long-term capital planning at the airport. Karen served on the Board of the Goleta Valley Historical Society, including a term as President.

Karen's interest in genealogy peaked twenty-three years ago when, for the first time, saw grandmother's name at age 14 on the 1900 Como, Colorado census. Since then, she has travelled with her daughter, Holly Snyder, also a Society member, to many ancestral towns in the U.S., Germany, and Switzerland.



Bob Muller, Director-At-Large

Bob Muller serves on the Board as a Director-At-Large. He is nominated to serve another two-year term. Bob is a member of the Landscape Committee and the Property Team. He joined the Society in 2012.

Bob was born and raised in Santa Barbara but his life during graduate school and most of his career was spent east of the Mississippi River including 24 years at the University of Kentucky. Bob and his family returned to Santa Barbara in 2000. He completed his career at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, retiring in 2012. He then pursued old passions and new – outdoors, horses, grandchildren, and of course genealogy. Bob served on the Board of the Goleta Valley Historical Society including a term as President.

Bob's first dabbled in family history research in the 1990s when he typed in his grandfather's name and his hometown into the computer and produced a brief story about his grandfather and his mother. He was hooked.



Marie Sue Parsons, Director-At-Large

Marie Sue Parsons currently serves on the Board as Director-At-Large. She is nominated for a two-year term. She was first joined the Board in 2005 when she was elected Secretary and then was elected 1st VP, Programs and President (2014-2016). She is a library volunteer and has served as Seminar Chair. Marie Sue joined the Society in 2003 and is a Life Member

Marie Sue recently was honored as the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Women Business Owners for her work as a longtime Realtor. She currently partners with her daughter, Stephanie Young at the boutique Berkshire Hathaway office in the Fairview Shopping Center.

Marie Sue is currently researching Raymond's from Connecticut, Erskine's, Bromley's, Wells, Frenchicks and her brick wall, Kate Mattingly, her third great grandmother.



John Woodward, Director-At-Large

John Woodward serves on the Board as Director-At-Large and has been nominated for a two-year term. He joined the Society in 1990 and has served on the Board since 1997. Currently, he is a member of the Property Team. John was instrumental in the negotiations for the Sahyun family's gift of property to the Society. He is a Life Member and has participated in every facet of the Society's planning and development. In 2004 and 2017, the Society honored John for his many outstanding contributions to the development of the Society.

Born in Morristown, New Jersey, John completed college and law school in Denver, and came to Santa Barbara in the late 1960's. He served as the executive director of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation from 1972 to 1979. John served on the boards of the Santa Barbara Historical Museum, the Santa Barbara Mission Archive-Library, and was Chair of both City and County Historic Landmarks Commissions.

John's grandfather and father were disciplined genealogists, so it is not surprising that John has continued in their passion and can trace his family for many generations.

Summary of the Proposed Changes to SBCGS Bylaws

The Bylaws serve as the Society's operating manual and provide the basic rules for its governance, the Board's structure, how certain Society decisions are made, and other key provisions. The current Bylaws were approved by the membership in June 2018. Due to proposed changes to the Board's structure and needed changes to other provisions, revisions to the Bylaws are needed. The following is a summary of the proposed changes.

Organization Structure Changes

This year, the Board approved changes to its structure to clearly define and separate the Board's dual roles of governance and operations, to improve the Board's effectiveness and its focus on governance.

The proposed structure changes are described below and illustrated on the 2023 Organization Chart:

1. Eliminate the Vice President, Programs position; merge the Programs function with Education under the Education Director.
2. Add Vice President, Operations. This is an elected Board Officer position. This position oversees the Society's day-to-day operations, keeping the President advised of activities and issues allowing the President to focus on Board operations, governance, policy, finance, fundraising, and the Society's strategic needs.
3. Change term for elected Officers and Directors - from 3 years to 2 years.
4. Add 1 Titled Director (Technology Director). This is a Board-appointed position with a two-year term, no term limitations.
5. Directors-At-Large - reduce the number from 10 to 9 to accommodate the addition of the Titled Director.
6. Add Board Committee – Executive Committee

Summary of proposed changes to the Bylaws

1. Incorporate the changes to the Society's organization structure (noted above).
2. Replace current language under "Purposes", "Limitations", and "Dissolution" with the provisions stated in the Society's Articles of Incorporation.
3. In accordance with the California Corporations Code:
 - a. Add provisions to allow the Membership and Board to attend meetings conducted by electronic communications equipment (telephone or video conference) if certain measures are implemented. Note: the membership meetings apply to the Annual Meeting or special meetings where members vote, or other actions are taken.
 - b. Add a provision to allow the Board to act without a meeting (vote by email) if certain measures are implemented.
4. Clarify the procedure for filling a permanent or short-term vacancy in the office of President and other offices.

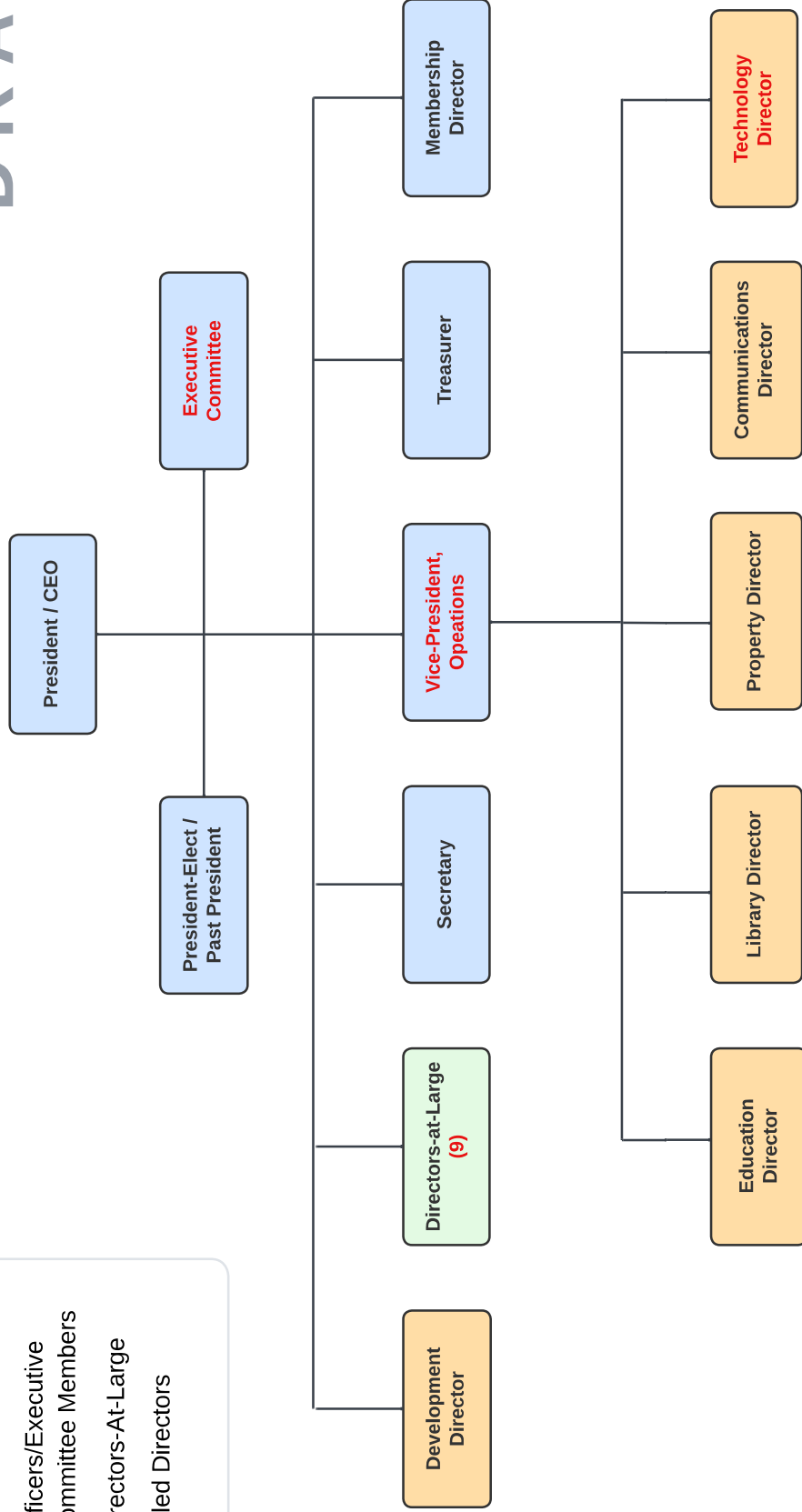
5. Clarify the role of the Governance Committee and Nominating Committee in regard to Board nominations and elections.
6. Revision regarding fiscal matters.
 - a. Budget approval – change requirement for budget approval from Board and Membership to Board approval only. The approved budget to be published for the membership's information in July of each year.
7. Add Corporate Records and Reports provision – requires that a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and the current Bylaws will be maintained at the principal office (Sahyun Library) open to inspection by the members during office hours.



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Organization Chart

July 1, 2023

DRAFT



RESTATED BYLAWS OF
Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, Incorporated
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

ARTICLE 1

CORPORATE NAME

The name of this corporation is SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED (Society). The Society is a non-profit organization incorporated under the Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation Laws of the State of California.

~~It is resolved that the following become the complete and current revised Bylaws of the Society, superseding, and replacing any and all previous revisions of the Bylaws.~~

ARTICLE 2

PRINCIPAL OFFICE ~~AND OTHER OFFICES~~

The Principal Office for the transaction of the business of the Society in California is hereby fixed and located in Santa Barbara County, California.

~~Branch of subordinate offices may, at any time, be established at any place or places where the Society is qualified to do business.~~

ARTICLE 3

PURPOSES ~~MISSION AND RESTRICTIONS~~

This Corporation is organized exclusively for providing public education on matters relating to genealogical science within the meaning of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law.

~~The mission of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society is to foster the interest in the study of family history through educational programs, operation of a genealogical research library, and preservation of local genealogical records to enhance understanding of ourselves and our heritage.~~

~~Restrictions~~

- ~~a) The Society shall be non-political, and non-discriminatory.~~
- ~~b) The Society shall not disburse any gains, profits, or dividends to any of its members.~~
- ~~c) The Society shall not engage in the practice of lobbying.~~

ARTICLE 4

Section 4.1

LIMITATIONS

Political Activities

No substantial part of the activities of this Corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise to influence legislation, and this Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

- Section 4.2 [Prohibited Activities](#)
All corporate property is irrevocably dedicated to the purposes set forth in Article 2 of the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation. No part of the net earnings of this Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any of its directors, trustees, officers, private shareholders, or members, or individuals.
- ARTICLE 5** **MEMBERSHIP**
- Section 5.1 [Eligibility](#)
Any person interested in the purposes of the Society shall be eligible for membership in the Society. Applicants for membership must remit the annual dues with their application.
- Section 5.2 [Classifications of Membership](#)
Memberships shall be classified into six categories: 1) Individual; 2) Family, defined as two (2) persons in one household; 3) Friend; 4) Donor; 5) Patron; 6) Life. Dues shall be paid annually for membership in any category except Life.
- Section 5.3 [Membership Dues](#)
The Board of Directors shall set the amount of the annual dues payable subject to the approval by the membership.
- Membership dues are to be paid annually. Memberships not renewed when they become due shall automatically expire sixty (60) days after the due date.
- Section 5.4 [Honorary Memberships](#)
Honorary memberships may be issued at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- Section 5.5 [Non-transferability of Memberships](#)
Membership in the Society is not transferable or assignable.
- Section 5.6 [Suspension, Termination, Expulsion of Member](#)
In addition to the provisions of Section 5.3(b) of this Article, a member may be suspended for cause at any time, without advance notice, by the Board of Directors, if that body shall deem such suspension to be in the best interest of the Society. The Board of Directors shall immediately notify a member so suspended, in writing, of the suspension. A suspended member shall thereafter be entitled to a reasonable opportunity to be heard, either in person or in writing, by the Board of Directors, or a committee appointed by it concerning the misconduct of which the member is accused. The Board of Directors may thereafter continue for a definite term or terminate the suspension, or it may expel the member. The Board of Directors' decision shall be final.

ARTICLE 6

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 6.1

Regular Meetings: Regular meetings of the Society's membership shall be held monthly with the exception of August.

Section 6.2

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting of the membership shall be set by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors, who shall designate time, place, and other arrangements regarding the annual meeting.

Section 6.3

Special Meetings: There may be such special meetings as the President or the Board of Directors may deem necessary, or by a signed petition of not less than five (5) percent of the membership. All members shall be notified of the time, place, and purpose for which the meeting is being called.

Section 6.4

Quorum: A quorum of the membership for the transaction of business shall be ten (10) percent of the membership of the Society including at least one (1) elected officer.

Section 6.5

Meetings Conducted by Electronic Communications Equipment

The annual meeting or special meetings of the members may be conducted, in whole or in part, by electronic transmission by and to the corporation, electronic video screen communication, conference telephone, or other remote communication if the following measures are implemented: (1) members are provided a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting and to vote on matters submitted to the members, including an opportunity to read or hear the proceedings of the meeting, (2) if members vote or other actions are taken at the meeting by means of electronic transmission to the corporation, a record of the vote or action shall be in the Society's books and records, and (3) to verify that each person participating remotely is a member.

The Society shall not conduct annual meeting of members solely by electronic transmission by and to the corporation, electronic video screen communication, conference telephone, or other means of remote communication unless one or more of the following conditions apply: (A) all of the members' consent; or (B) the board determines it is necessary and appropriate because of an emergency. Corp Code § 5510(f)).

Section 6.6

Parliamentary Procedures

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or other special rules of the Society.

ARTICLE 7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 7.1

Powers

Subject to the provisions of Articles of Incorporation of the Society, California Nonprofit Corporation Law and any other applicable laws, the business and affairs of the Society shall be managed, and all corporate powers shall be exercised, by or exercised under the direction of the Board of Directors.

Section 7.2

Delegation of Management Activities

The Board may delegate the management of activities of the Society to any person or persons, management company or committee however composed, provided that the activities and affairs of the Society shall be managed, and all corporate powers shall be exercised under the ultimate control of the Board.

The Board shall be directly responsible at all times to the membership of the Society and shall keep the membership fully informed of all activities of the Board of Directors.

Section 7.3

Composition

The number of Directors shall be no fewer than fifteen (15) nor more than twenty-one (21) members.

- a) The Board of Directors shall consist of six (6) elected Officers, ~~up to ten (10)~~ ~~nine (9)~~ elected Directors-At-Large, and ~~five (5)~~ ~~six (6)~~ appointed Titled Directors.

Section 7.4

Terms of Office

The term for each elected Officer and Director will be ~~three (3)~~ two (2) years. No officer will serve for more than two consecutive terms.

- a) The limitation of terms for Officers may be modified for specific individuals to provide a continuity of leadership.
- b) Regular terms for elected Officers and Directors will begin July 1 and terminate on June 30.
- c) The term of office for elected board members shall be staggered such that approximately ~~one-third (1/3)~~ ~~one-half (1/2)~~ shall be elected each year to a ~~two-year~~ term by the membership.
- d) All members of the Board of Directors will stand in a legal and fiduciary relation to the Society.

Section 7.5

Meetings

7.5.1

Regular Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet monthly as required.

7.5.2 Meetings by Telephone or Similar Communication Equipment

Any meeting may be held by conference telephone or other communications equipment permitted by California Nonprofit Corporation Law, as long as all Directors participating in the meeting can communicate with one another concurrently and all other requirements of California Nonprofit Corporation Law are satisfied. All such Directors shall be deemed to be present in person at such meeting. (Corp. Code, § 5211(a)).

7.5.3 Quorum and Actions of the Board

7.5.3.1 Quorum

A quorum of the Board of Directors for the transaction of business shall consist of a majority of Directors then in office, including at least three (3) elected officers.

7.5.3.2 Majority Action

Except as otherwise provided herein, all actions of the Board of Directors shall be by simple majority of those present.

7.5.3.3 Action Without Meeting

An action required or permitted to be taken by the Board may be taken without a meeting (such as by email) if all directors consent in writing to that action and if the number of Directors, then in office, constitutes a quorum. Such written consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of the Board taken at a meeting. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board. (Corp. Code, § 5211(b)).

7.5.3.4 Parliamentary Procedures

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or other special rules of the Society.

Section 7.6 Vacancies

~~a) If the office of the President becomes vacant, then the President-Elect shall assume the office of President for the remainder of the unexpired term. If there is no President-Elect, then the Board of Directors shall appoint an interim President until the next election.~~

~~b) Permanent vacancy of other offices of the Society shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by appointment of the Board of Directors.~~

~~c) If the Governance Committee is unable to fill an elected officer's position before the election, the Board of Directors shall appoint an interim officer until such time as a permanent officer has been nominated and elected by the membership.~~

7.6.1 Office of the President - Permanent Vacancy
If the office of President becomes vacant due to the disability or absence of the President, then the President Elect or Past President, then serving on the Board of Directors, shall assume the office of the President for the remainder of the unexpired term, and shall perform all duties of, have the powers of, and be subject to restrictions upon, the President.

If the office of the President is so filled by the Past President, the Board may appoint the most recent preceding Past President willing and able to assume the office of Past President.

If the President Elect or Past President are unable or unwilling to assume the office of President, the Board of Directors may appoint an interim President until the next election.

7.6.2 Office of the President - Short Term Absence
In the short-term absence or disability of the President, the President shall appoint another Officer to assume the President's duties.

7.6.3 Other Offices
Permanent vacancies in other offices of the Society shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by appointment of the Board of Directors.

7.6.4 Unfilled Officer Position
If the Nominating Committee is unable to fill an elected officer's position before the election, the Board of Directors shall appoint an interim officer until such time as a permanent officer has been nominated and elected by the membership.

ARTICLE 8
Section 8.1

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE, TITLED DIRECTORS

Officers

The elected officers of the Society shall be President, President Elect or Past President, ~~Vice President/Programs~~, Vice President/~~Operations~~, ~~Vice President~~/Membership Director, Secretary, and ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer.

8.1.1 The PRESIDENT shall be the chief executive officer of the Society ~~and subject to the approval of the Board of Directors~~, have general authority, supervision, direction, and control of the business and affairs of the Society. The President shall perform such other duties as may be required by the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of the Society.

8.1.2 The PRESIDENT ELECT or PAST PRESIDENT shall serve as an Officer of the Board of Directors and as a member of the Executive Committee.

- 8.1.3 ~~The VICE PRESIDENT/PROGRAMS shall arrange for the monthly meetings of the Society.~~
The VICE PRESIDENT/OPERATIONS shall oversee the day-to-day operations of the Society.
- 8.1.4 The ~~VICE PRESIDENT~~/MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR shall oversee all membership activities of the Society.
- 8.1.5 The SECRETARY shall record the business, keep the corporate records, and manage the correspondence of the Society and advise the Board on matters of parliamentary procedure.
- 8.1.6 The ~~FINANCIAL OFFICER~~ TREASURER shall manage the finances of the Society, including investments, and keep, or cause to be kept, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of the Society. The Treasurer may delegate certain tasks to other Society volunteers.

In addition to the general powers and duties provided above, the elected officers shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 8.2

Directors-At-Large

The elected directors of the Society shall serve in an at-large capacity. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may assign specific duties to one or more of the Directors-At-Large.

Section 8.3

Titled Directors

The Board of Directors shall establish committees and appoint committee chairs, from which the Board shall appoint up to ~~five (5)~~ six (6) to serve as Titled Directors.

Section 8.4

Terms of Office

- a) The President shall be elected to serve the following term: one (1) year as President Elect; ~~three (3) years~~ two (2) years as President; and one (1) year as Past President. The President shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- b) The ~~Vice President/Programs~~ Vice President/Operations, ~~Vice President~~/Membership Director, Secretary, and ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer shall each be elected for a ~~three year (3)~~ two-year (2) term. These Officers shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.
- c) The Directors-At-Large shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years and shall be eligible for re-election without term limitations.
- d) The Titled Directors shall be appointed by the Board to serve a term of two (2) years and, at the Board's discretion, may be re-appointed without term limitation.

Section 8.5

Election of Officers and Directors-At-Large

~~The Governance Committee shall consist of board members and Society members at large. The committee's size, composition, and member terms shall be established by policy of the Board of Directors.~~

8.5.1

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee is responsible for ensuring overall good governance practices of the Board of Directors including board member recruitment and nomination, board performance self-assessments, organization structure, bylaws, and policy review, board education, and strategic planning. The Committee's duties, size, composition, and member terms shall be established by policy of the Board of Directors.

8.5.2

Nominating Committee

8.5.2.1

Committee Appointments & Composition

Annually, the Governance Committee shall appoint, with the Board's approval, a Nominating Committee to oversee the nomination and election of Board officers and directors.

The Nominating Committee shall be composed of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) members. If the Committee is composed of less than five (5) members, one (1) member shall be a member of the Board of Directors and the remainder of the members shall be Society members. If the Committee is composed of five (5) members, two (2) shall be members of the Board of Directors and three (3) members shall be Society members. The Committee members shall not currently serve on the Governance Committee. No person shall serve more than two (2) consecutive years as a member of the Nominating Committee.

8.5.2.2

Nominations

The slate of officers and directors proposed by the Nominating Committee shall be made known to the members prior to the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the person nominated.

8.5.2.3

Eligibility to Vote

Only members of the Society in good standing shall be entitled to vote. Such vote may be by voice or by ballot upon request by any member. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.

8.5.2.4

Special Elections

The Board of Directors may call special elections at any time.

Section 8.6 Non-Liability of Directors
The Directors shall not personally be liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the Society.

ARTICLE 9 COMMITTEES

Section 9.1 Establishing Committees
The Board of Directors shall establish committees to maintain Society operations and appoint a chair for each committee.

Section 9.2 Board Committees
The Board may also, by majority of the Directors then in office, create one or more Board Committees, including an executive committee. Board Committees consist of one or more Directors, to serve at the discretion of the Board. The purpose, authority, and duties of the Committees shall be established by written policy of the Board.

9.2.1 Executive Committee

9.2.1.1 Members
The Executive Committee shall be a Board committee and its members shall be Officers.

9.2.1.2 Purpose
The Executive Committee may make decisions and take actions on behalf of the Board, subject to Board direction or policy. The Executive Committee is empowered to act in the case of emergency on all matters.

9.2.1.3 Meetings
The Executive Committee shall hold regular monthly meetings and such special meetings as are called by the Committee. The Executive Committee at its discretion may conduct meetings in person, by telephone, electronic or other means of communication (in whole or in part). The Committee may take action without a meeting subject to the unanimous consent of its members. Such meetings are closed to the public and are held to discuss confidential business such as to:
a) Consider the appointment or dismissal of Directors or hearing complaints brought against Directors or Members of the Society.
b) Consult, discuss, and deliberate with Society attorneys about pending litigation that may affect the Society or any of its Officers or Directors.

9.2.1.4 Quorum
The presence of a majority of Executive Committee members constitutes a quorum.

9.2.1.5 Decisions
The Executive Committee makes decisions by majority vote of a quorum, though consensus is preferred. The Executive Committee at its

discretion may conduct a vote by telephone electronic or other means, subject to ratification at the next meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE 10

FISCAL

Section 10.1

Treasurer

10.1.1

Annual Budget

The ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer shall submit a budget for the fiscal year to the Board of Directors. Upon approval of the Board ~~and more than ten (10) percent of the members~~, the ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer may execute the budget without further approval. No monies except as identified in the budget shall be disbursed without formal Board approval. ~~The Board shall approve all non-budgeted expenditures unless it delegates such authority and level of expenditure.~~ The approved budget shall be made known to the members in July of each year.

10.1.2

Internal Controls

The Treasurer shall ensure that internal controls are in place to safeguard the Society's receipts, disbursements, and financial assets.

10.1.3

Books of Accounts

- a) The books of accounts shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any member in good standing.
- b) Review at End of Term

The ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer shall maintain or cause to be maintained the books of accounts. The books of accounts shall undergo a review by a qualified, independent individual appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors ~~at the end of the Treasurer's term of office or contract of other persons delegated the responsibility of maintaining the books of accounts.~~ The books of accounts shall also be reviewed if a change in the ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer takes place other than at the end of the fiscal year. ~~The individual shall submit a written report to the President detailing the findings and recommendations.~~ At the end of the review a written report shall be submitted to the President detailing the findings of the review and recommendations.

10.1.4

Year-End Financial Statements

The ~~Financial Officer~~ Treasurer shall present, ~~or cause to be presented, a written report to~~ a year-end financial statement to the Board of Directors at the end of the fiscal year.

Section 10.2

Fiscal Year

The fiscal year for the Society shall begin July 1st of each year and end June 30th of the next calendar year.

ARTICLE 11

CORPORATE RECORDS AND REPORTS

Public Inspection

The Society shall keep at its principal office a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as amended to date, which shall be open to inspection by members of the Society at all reasonable times during office hours.

ARTICLE 12

LIMIT OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Society shall not be responsible for obligations incurred without the prior approval of the Board of Directors, Board Officer, or Titled Director.

ARTICLE 13

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Society by a majority of those members present, provided that the membership has been notified of the proposed changes prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE 14

DISSOLUTION

~~Upon the dissolution of the Society, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation, or corporation which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and the related provisions of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.~~

On the dissolution of this Corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts, obligations, and liabilities of the Corporation, the remaining assets of the corporation shall be distributed to such organization or organizations organized exclusively for providing public education on matters relating to genealogical science which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 23701(d) of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify that I am the duly elected and acting Secretary of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, Incorporated, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation; that these Bylaws, consisting of [##] pages, are the Bylaws of this Corporation as adopted at the Annual Meeting of Membership the Board of Directors on June 17, 2023; and that these Bylaws have not been amended or modified since that date.

Executed on at Santa Barbara, California.

Mary Jacob, Secretary

2023-2024 SBCGS Society Operating Budgets

5/31/23

Property Operating Budget

Society Operating Budget

2023-24 Budget

2023-24 Budget

Property Revenue

Operating Revenue

Rental Income - Buildings	64,140
Rental Income - Parking	21,600
Property Revenue	\$ 85,740

Restricted Donations	2,000
Annual Appeal & General Donations	25,077
Membership Dues	19,000
Booknook Sales & Other Revenue	9,780
Life Membership Earnings	2,280
Operating Revenue	\$ 58,137

Property Expenses

Operating Expenditures

Accounting	120
Gardening, Grounds Maintenance & Repairs	22,550
Property Insurance	3,600
Property Mgmt. Fee	3,900
Property Taxes	10,000
Rental Repairs and Maint.	1,000
Water & Trash	8,700
Property Expenses	\$ 49,870

Administration & Liab. Insurance	10,589
Development	3,700
Education & Programs	13,495
Library Operations & Information Technology	33,475
Membership	2,100
Communications & Publications	28,398
Library Book Purchases	2,250
Operating Expenses	\$ 94,007

Property Net Operating Income \$ 35,870

Society Net Operating Loss \$ (35,870)

Transfer to Operating Income \$ (35,870)



Transferred From Property Operating Income \$ 35,870

Net Balanced Budget \$ -