



# Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

July 2023

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 39, No.7

## “Who Needed it Anyway? Finding Your Family Without the 1890 Census”

Speaker: Sara Cochran

SBCGS General Meeting, July 15, 2023



The loss of the 1890 Federal census is a source of great frustration for American genealogists, but all hope is not lost! Learn strategies and gather tips for success in locating your family in other records between the 1880 and 1900 Federal censuses.

### About the Speaker

**Sara Cochran** is a full-time professional genealogist with over twenty-eight years of research experience. Her research has taken her into nearly every State in the USA and Ireland, Italy, Austria, and Britain. She especially enjoys breaking down brick walls, discovering the stories of black sheep ancestors, and helping individuals preserve their photographic

legacy.

Sara holds a Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate, a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science, and is an alum of the ProGen Study Group. She is a member of DAR and other lineage societies, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. She also volunteers at the National Archives Riverside office.

You can find her online at <https://theskeletonwhisperer.com/>

### 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 July 15, 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 live via Zoom

Only Zoom attendees are required to register.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkf-quqj8tH9316DgxeNTlm3y-AgBbGrYh0#/registration>

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

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

## July and August Live, 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, July 11, 2023

10:00 am - 11:00 am

### Lunch and Learn

#### In Person Only

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

### Monthly General Meeting

Speaker: Sara Cochran

#### Hybrid

### DNA Lunch & Learn

#### ZOOM ONLY

Presented by George LaPlante

Friday, July 21, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

### Crowdsourced Brick Wall Research

#### Assistance

#### Zoom Only

Presented by Jean Foster

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

### Choosing Genealogy Software Workshop

#### Zoom Only

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

2:00 pm

### NO Monthly General Meeting in August

#### SAVE THE DATES

### Genealogy Jumpstart - Beginners & Refresher Workshop

October 7, 2023; 10:00 am

Sahyun Genealogical Library

### 2023 SBCGS Genealogy Seminar

Featuring Gena Philibert-Ortega

October 14, 2023; 8:00 am

St. Raphael Church

## President's Message

Edward Tazer-Myers



Edward Tazer-Myers

DNA is an incredible genealogical tool, isn't it? I don't pretend to fully understand the science, but, like many of you, my wife, Nancy, and I have vigorously swabbed the inside of our cheeks and dutifully spit into tubes in order to get some amazing insights into our family heritage. To expand our understanding, we uploaded the original autosomal DNA kits from Ancestry.com to MyHeritage.com, Gedmatch.com, Geneanet, and others. We also took the proprietary 23 and Me, which has led to other some interesting health insights. Unlike Nancy's parents, my parents lived long enough so I could send in their DNA samples and manage their kits. This has been really helpful as it has enabled me to reach back farther in the family tree and generate stronger cousin matches. I just love meeting new cousins from all over the world, some of whom have been turned into excellent research collaborators.

Our latest DNA foray is into mtDNA with FamilyTreeDNA. Nancy and I are equally excited to trace our maternal lines back to "Mitochondrial Eve" around 150,000 years ago in East Africa. I will have my traditional genealogical work cut out for me to name all the maternal ancestors in our respective lines, however! Just kidding. Actually, our more realistic goal is for the test results to help resolve some brick wall questions on Nancy's maternal line in Wales. Fingers crossed!

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### Genetic Genealogy and DNA Special Interest Groups

Speaking of genetic genealogy, we have two SIGs that meet monthly on the subject. The first is led by George LaPlante, usually on the third Friday of the month via Zoom, and the second is facilitated by Mary Hall and meets in person at 9:30 a.m. the morning of the General Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara (July 15th, this month). Both meetings have enriched my understanding of the genetic genealogy and I expect the field will steadily increase over the next decade. Please join us at the next SIG meeting if you, too, want to learn more about this exciting field.

### Annual Meeting

The 2023 Annual Meeting was typically consequential with a quorum of our membership voting to approve the 2023-34 Operating Budget as developed by the Finance Committee chaired by Michel Nellis, adopt revised Bylaws thoroughly vetted by the Governance Committee chaired by Karen Ramsdell, thank "retiring" Board members Mary Hall (Development) and Berri Bottomley (At-Large) for their service, and re-elect Mary Jacob (Secretary), Bob Muller, Marie Sue Parsons, and John Woodward (Directors-At-Large) and elect Karen Ramsdell for the new position of Vice-President, Operations. I, along the rest of the Board of Directors, heartily thank all of these wonderful people for the time, energy, and resources they have committed to making SBCGS the fine organization it is!

### Memorial Fund

Over the years, our Society has bidden farewell to some special individuals who have contributed mightily to the continuing realizing of our vision, mission, and values. This year alone, we lost Cari Thomas, Debbie Kaska, and Art Sylvester. While we feel the pain of their absence, we also fondly remember their yeoman's service to the Society and want to do more to honor them. As such, your Board has established an initiative to develop a memorial garden in order to expand our gathering spaces at the Sahyun Library. "Art's Garden," as we are tentatively calling the project, would be the first step in the further development of the Sahyun property to meet our growing needs of our members and the broader community of family history stakeholders. Of course, any initiative requires a team of volunteers to bring the vision to life and Karen Ramsdell and Marie Sue Parsons are heading up an ad hoc committee of some very able and enthusiastic volunteers to develop the Garden and the rest of the Sahyun property. You will be hearing more from them in the very near future.

Ted Tazer-Myers, President



### iGive.com

Do you want to donate a few dollars and cents to our society? We're part of a program called iGive.com which partners with businesses where we all shop; the businesses get advertising and then gives a portion of the sales to our favorite charity. It's easy to sign up, simply go to iGive.com and the site will let you know how to proceed.

### Book Angels

An angel is a supernatural being or spirit often depicted as benevolent who acts as a guardian spirit or a guiding influence. That's an apt description of our Book Angels, who donate funds to help us acquire books on our library's genealogical "wish list."

Click [here](#) for books identified by our Book Acquisition Committee; prices listed here are up to half off the purchase price. Some books may have already been purchased – but your donation still helps! <https://sbgen.org/get-involved/book-angels/#!form/BookAngels>

### 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 Spotlight

by Kate Lima



## NEW MEMBERS IN JUNE:

Susan Cox  
Norma Herrera  
Amy Hagen  
Guy Strickland

**Returning Members**  
Michele Harris-Padron  
Daniel LaPorte

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. Also, we have packets at the library, stop by and pick one up!

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

**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 at [kajcreemen@gmail.com](mailto:kajcreemen@gmail.com) if you need a coach OR wish to become a coach. You can also look at the list from our website, [sbgen.org](http://sbgen.org). Log in and look for "Find a Genealogy Coach" on the list to the left.

## Committee Spotlight: PROPERTY COMMITTEE



The Property Committee needs additional members. This committee looks after the 1.5 acres of society property including the maintenance of buildings, landscaping, outdoor lighting,

perimeter fencing, gates and overall site security.

The committee also oversees the rental of the buildings and storage spaces on our property to provide income to support the operating needs of the society. When possible, maintenance work is performed by the members of the committee, and we hire contractors (or volunteers) to perform work that we cannot perform ourselves.

Currently, we are in urgent need of people to join us who have any experience with site security or security systems or who have construction skills.

Our committee meets monthly on Wednesday mornings. However, volunteers who are able to perform carpentry or electrical repairs but cannot attend the monthly meeting are also most welcome. The amount of volunteer time required is flexible.

Anyone interested in joining this group of volunteers please contact

Fred Marsh at [property@sbgen.org](mailto:property@sbgen.org).

## Genealogy Tip of the Month:

From [genealogytipofthemonth.com](http://genealogytipofthemonth.com)

### Hidden Clues in Non-Kin Documents

- A high school classmate and I were baptized on the same day. I happened to mention it and shared with her a copy of the church bulletin that mentioned our baptism. She didn't have it.
- Remember that others besides your family may have copies of materials related to your family history. County genealogy groups, both in the real world and online can be one way to with these people.
- But your family aren't the only people who may have personal papers that could help your research.

## CONTACT SBCGS

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**\*BOARD MEMBERS**

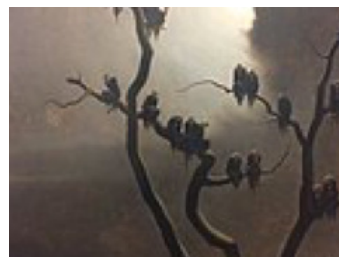
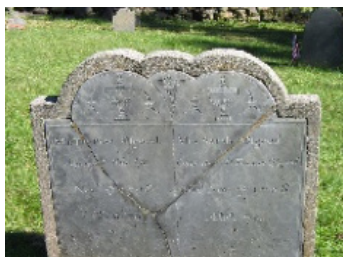
# Ancestors West

by Kristin Ingalls, Editor  
*Winter 2023 Issue*



It will not be long before Halloween decorations will appear in every retail establishment – both in stores and online. Halloween seems to be overtaking all the other fall and winter holidays when it comes to ways to celebrate, and decorate -- indoors, outdoors, and ourselves.

For this next issue of Ancestors West, we thought it would be fun to hear your stories about Witches, Ghosts, Graveyards, Hauntings, Spooky and Scary Stories, and all manner of things that go bump in the night. I know we have a few members who are related to the witches from the terrible events in 1692 Massachusetts. I only recently found that I have both witches and accusers in my family tree. Did you know that there is a witch lineage society? The Associated Daughters of Early American Witches was formed in 1986 and is open to direct descendants.



It is a well-known fact that genealogists often plan their travels to include graveyards. Some have T-shirts or bumper stickers proclaiming: I Brake for Cemeteries or Cemeteries are my Happy Place. Graveyard stories alone could fill several issues of AW. I know this because I have a few dozen of my own. Does your family celebrate Dia de los Muertos? A tradition that began in Mexico is widely celebrated in many places today.

Of course, you may prefer to write about less ghoulish family stories. Stories of survival, redemption, or finding a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

**The deadline will be November 1st.** Guidelines for submissions are on the inside back cover of all Ancestors West editions. Email them to Kristin Ingalls at: [antkap@cox.net](mailto:antkap@cox.net)

*We think this will be a fascinating issue!*



## Old-Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Stow House



We had a blast at the Old-Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July event once again!

See flyer for pictures and a short synopsis of how the event went. Thank you to our volunteers who helped guests search for their ancestors, plus help with set up and clean up. It was such a fun day with you all!

## Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon



Ever wonder how Wikipedia entries are created? Do you have an interest in local history and writing about Santa Barbara residents who have made an impact in our community? Join Santa Barbara Public Library librarians to learn how to share and document local history. You will use the SBPL and SBCGS's local history resources to draft articles and upload them to Wikipedia.

**Dates:** Sunday July 23, 10AM - 12PM, Kick-Off

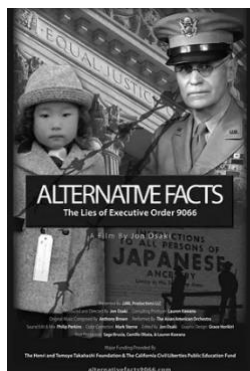
Sunday July 30, 10AM - 12PM, Review & Upload

**Location:** Central Library, 40 East Anapamu Street

See flyer or click the link for more information and to register (must register ahead of time):

[https://calendar.library.santabarbaraca.gov/event/local-history-wikipedia-edit-thon-0?language\\_content\\_entity=en](https://calendar.library.santabarbaraca.gov/event/local-history-wikipedia-edit-thon-0?language_content_entity=en)

## SBTHP Asian American Film Series



Members of SBCGS's Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage exhibit will be promoting their exhibit at the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation's Asian American film series Fridays in July at the Alhecama Theatre starting July 7. Stop by and say hi and see some great films! Click the link for more information and to view the film list:

<https://www.sbthp.org/aafs>

## 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](mailto: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! A request button on our website for a talk and/or tour is coming soon!



# **Old-Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Stow House 2023**

**Thank you to our  
volunteers and visitors!  
It was a beautiful and fun day!**

