



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

October 2023

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 39, No.9



Don't Miss Out GENEALOGY JUMPSTART Saturday, October 7

REGISTER HERE

<https://tinyurl.com/52d6k57f>

- Four classes
- Up close and personal tour of the Sahyun Genealogical Library
- “Ask a Genealogist” — one-on-one consultations
- Computer and library time following the classes
- FREE

Are you a beginner genealogist? Or have you been away from your research for a while and need a refresher to get you going again? Join us at the Sahyun Library for a FREE Genealogy Jumpstart workshop to help you get a jump on your family history research!

Celebrate Family History Month with FIVE FREE Genealogy Classes Presented by Nancy Loe and Norma Egli

Successful Genealogy Sources and Citations (N. Loe)
Oct 5, 2023 @ 10:00am | ZOOM ONLY!

What's New at Ancestry.com (N. Egli)
Oct 5, 2023 @ 1:00pm | Sahyun Library & Zoom

Finding Scottish Ancestors Online (N. Loe)
Oct 19, 2023 @ 1:00pm | ZOOM ONLY!

Exploring FamilySearch.org (N. Egli)
Oct 25, 2023 @ 1:00pm | Sahyun Library & Zoom

Fold3 - Military Records and More (N. Egli)
Oct 27, 2023 @ 1:00pm | Sahyun Library & Zoom



More Information and Register for ZOOM Classes Here

<https://sbgen.org/in-the-community/family-history-month/>

Mark These Dates On Your Calendar

Lunch & Learn – Oct 10, 2023 @ 12:00pm | Sahyun Genealogical Library
Jewish Genealogy SIG Meeting – Oct 12, 2023 @ 12:00pm | Sahyun Library
Genealogy Seminar – October 14, St. Raphael Catholic Church & ZOOM
Irish Genealogy SIG Meeting – Oct 17, 2023 @ 9:00am | ZOOM ONLY!
Scanning Workshop with Rosa Avolio – Oct 18, 2023 @ 10:00am | Sahyun
DNA Lunch & Learn – Oct 20, 2023 @ 12:00pm | ZOOM ONLY!
Ancestors West Deadline – October 31

<https://sbgen.org/in-the-community/family-history-month/>

President's Message Edward Tazer-Myers



Edward Tazer-Myers

The Society kicked off October with our annual Open House on the 1st. Almost seventy people attended the festive and welcoming event. The Outreach Committee did a terrific job collaborating with our partners like Daughters of the American Revolution, War of 1812, and Sons of Union Veterans, Daughters of Union Veterans, FamilySearch Center of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo Genealogical Social, Santa Maria History Society, Chinese Historical Society, Los Californianos, NikkeiGen, and Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, among others. Our very own DNA Special Interest Group had a table. Thank you to all the volunteers who greeted visitors and worked so hard behind the scenes to make this event such a success!

Upcoming Events and Classes

Family History Month events continue full steam ahead with many interesting workshops given by our very own skilled and knowledgeable presenters, including Genealogy Jump Start at the Sahyun Library on October 7th and the Seminar, as the high point of the Education and Program year will be held all day on October 14th at St. Raphael's Church in Santa Barbara. Gena Philibert-Ortega will be our keynote speaker—and she is excellent! Due to the all-hands-on-deck effort that the Seminar requires, the Board decided to cancel to the October General Meeting. We will reconvene in November.

Board News

The Board made a number of policy decisions at the September meeting. The first was to approve a revised Library Facilities Use Agreement and Fee Schedule. The rate for outside groups with up to ten attendees went up to \$35; the rate for groups with eleven to thirty-five increased to \$50. Both rates are still well below market rate and designed to encourage our valued partners to use our wonderful Library.

The Board also approved a motion from the Property Committee to terminate our relationship with Spectrum Realty and enter into a new contract with William Noack for to manage our rental units. The rentals are expected to gross over \$85,000, which is helps fund the high-quality programs and services that our Society provides its members.

The President and Secretary Mary Jacob, upon review and approval of Karen Ramsdell as Chair of the Governance Committee, proposed a new standing rule for the Secretary to post the most recent approved Board of Directors' meeting minutes on the member's only welcome page of the SBCGS website. The Board encourages anyone who is interested in being "in the know" to check them out!

Finally, the Board will be appointing a Nominating Committee on October 19th. The Committee will be looking for a few good

women and men to play leading roles in our Society! Please consider if you or someone else you know would like to ensure our organization remains the leading hub for conducting family research in our County.

Ted Tazer-Myers, President

SBCGS
FALL SEMINAR
FROM BIRTH TO DEATH
AND IN BETWEEN
SATURDAY
14 OCTOBER
8 AM - 5 PM
IN-PERSON ONLY
Early-Bird Registration
Ends 30 September
REGISTRATION
QR CODE
HTTPS://SBGEN.ORG
FEATURING
GENA PHILIBERT-ORTEGA
WITH 4 GREAT PROGRAMS!

SBCGS Fall Genealogical Seminar

"From Birth to Death and In Between"

Saturday, October 14, 2023

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

This is a hybrid event with recordings available to registered attendees for a limited time.

*St. Rafael Catholic Church, 5444 Hollister Ave,
Santa Barbara, CA 93111*

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW](#)

Or copy and paste: <https://tinyurl.com/2w5wt28k>

**Congratulations to
Elizabeth Swaney
O'Neal,
SBCGS Education
Director.**



Legacy Family Tree just announced that Elizabeth's LFT webinar from September 2023 (*10 Places to Search for An Ancestor's Death Date . . . Without a Death Certificate*) made #11 on the list of the most popular webinars of September!

New Resources Added to SBCGS Website

by Robin McCarthy

Ken Kettler has joined the team for reformatting and preparing spreadsheets to upload content into the database. Ken is truly a whiz at automating the process. He is currently working on cemetery indexes. Welcome, Ken!

Last month SB City Returns of Death and burial permits from the SB County and Calvary Cemetery were added to the database. Returns of Death are similar to death certificates. They are handwritten forms submitted by the attending physician, or informant, to the City of Santa Barbara for recording the death. The returns were loaned by the Santa Barbara County Recorder's Office in the Courthouse to the SBCGS for digitizing by the Records Preservation Team headed by Dorothy Oksner and Helen Rydell.

Sample record images and background information for these records and other collections in the database can be found on the [Database Record Collection Descriptions](#) page. This link is also located in the description paragraph of the database search page.

(<https://sbgen.org/start-your-search/database-record-collection-descriptions/>)

Graveyard Finds, Haunted Houses, Ghost Stories, Witches in the Family, Family Scandals, the Misfits and Misunderstood



Halloween is approaching! My favorite holiday. Haunted houses and ghost stories, and of course, Halloween candy.

Someday we must take a poll of our members to see how many have either planned their vacations around, or fit into their trips, visits to graveyards to find their ancestors. Perhaps a prize for which of us visited the most graveyards?? Many of you have told me how

meaningful these visits were.

Let's share what you found with our readers. Most families have stories of misfits. Their stories can be fascinating – or sad. I have renewed my interest in my ancestors who lived during the Salem Witchcraft Trials and have found some previously overlooked tragedies – and a few close escapes. I am sure I am not the only one with this kind of story hiding in the past. How many of us remember visiting great-grandma's old house and scaring our siblings with ghost stories or stories of haunted houses? Were any of them real?

So, friends, get out your pens and paper and let's fill our next issue with your family histories. If you only have happy, well-adjusted family stories, you can send those as well.

The deadline is October 31

Send those along to me: Kristin Ingalls, antkap@cox.net

Details about submission guidelines are on the inside back cover of all *Ancestor West* copies.

News from the Sahyun Library

by Laurie Hannah

Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month September 15, 2023 to October 15, 2023

This month we honor the cultures and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans.

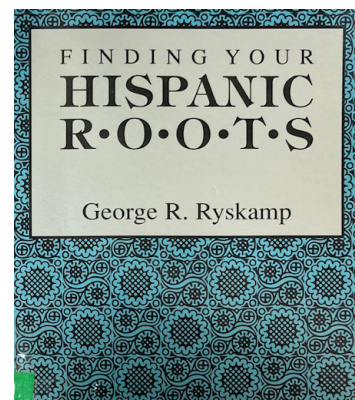
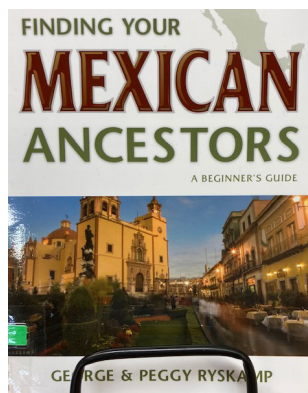
Hispanic generally refers to a person who is from, or a descendant of someone who is from, a Spanish-speaking country.

Latino, Latina, Latine, or Latinx, generally refers to a person who is from, or a descendant of someone who is from, a country in Latin America.

Check out our display of books in the Sahyun Library on Hispanic and Latino genealogy and family history. We have many resources on Mexico, New Mexico, the Caribbean, and early California before statehood. Library volunteers can also help you research your Hispanic ancestors through various specialized websites such as the *Early California Population Project* at the Huntington Library and *FamilySearch*, or try them on your own!

Two books recommended by the Book Committee are:
Finding Your Mexican Ancestors, A Beginner's Guide, by George and Peggy Ryskamp

Finding Your Hispanic Roots, by George Ryskamp



The Book Committee wants to thank the following generous donors:

R.J. Hansen
(DANA Adobe & Cultural Center Director/Curator)
Cathy Jordan
Shelia Benedict

WEBSITE TIP

Do you know that you can find the Society's bylaws, organizational chart, current operating budget, and current Board meeting minutes on the Members Resource page after logging in?

Membership Spotlight

by Kate Lima



Hello and Happy October to all!

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS IN SEPTEMBER

Kathleen Borger

Alison Brannen David Plimier

We're so happy you've joined!

You can check out the New Member Packet online. Click on Members to sign in, then New Member Packet directly under the word "Welcome." The packet includes helpful information to get started in your genealogy research, and information about the library.

I hope you can attend the "Jump Start Genealogy" course on October 7 at the Sahyun. It's 9am-3pm and will be chock full of valuable information.

Also, a big Thank You to all returning members! Our society is built with your contributions, both your membership dues and your volunteer time. Thank you for your continued support.

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

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

Committee Spotlight

This month I wanted to spotlight my own committee: **the Membership Committee**. We are a small but mighty group, hell bent on making the Society a fantastic organization. We wear many hats and have many chores, but our main goal... our main purpose... is to celebrate our members. We like to figure out what members might need help then steer them toward their goal. We make sure we have name tags at the General Meetings, and we greet you when you come in! We maintain the database, updating memberships and helping members if there's a glitch when signing up or renewing. We even send out a thank you card or two.

In a nutshell, we try to make all of our members happy and we try to help whenever we can. Here's the team:

**Charmien Carrier Kathy Cremeen Kristin Lewis
Gretchen Murray Dorothy Oksner ... and me, Kate!**



**FamilySearch
Library
Salt Lake City
March 19-26, 2024**

Our society will once again visit the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City. We'll head over for the week of March 19-26, 2024. You can stay longer or shorter than this, depending on your schedule. The rate will be the same regardless of how many days you stay: \$108 for a standard room and \$118 for a deluxe.

If you're interested please contact Rich Williams at the Plaza Hotel to secure a room, 801-521-0130. And don't forget to email me at membership@sbgen.org. I hope you can join us!

Enjoy the Fall season, there's already a nip in the air!

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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Directors at Large: Marilyn Compton, Bob Muller, Marie Sue Parsons, John Woodward, Heather McDaniel McDevitt,
***BOARD MEMBERS**

Outreach

Asian American Neighborhood Festival, October 15



Join us at Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation's Asian American Neighborhood Festival! There will be cultural performances featuring dancing, drumming, and more, plus local Asian American artisan booths, cultural arts and crafts, and learn about Santa Barbara's Asian American history at educational booths.

Visit SBCGS' booth and say hi!



Speaking Engagements in the Community

Any group can now request a talk and/or tour on our website! They can request a visit and/or tour here: <https://sbgen.org/in-the-community/reservation-request/> Please share the link to anyone who may be interested.

Japanese Consul General Visit

We were very honored and excited to have the Japanese Consul General visit our SB Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage exhibit last month. The Consul General also posted their visit with us on their social media.



Family History Month Open House

by Kate Lima

On Sunday, October 1, the society's annual Family History Month's Open House took place at the Sahyun. The weather, once again, cooperated and gave us just a slight breeze and a temperature that kept us all comfortable. The courtyard's perimeter was lined with tables that held information on various organizations. We had eight organizations represented! These organizations, in alphabetical order, were:

Californios / Los Californianos
Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
Daughters of Union Veterans (DUV)
FamilySearch Center of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara Trust for Historical Preservation
Sons of Union Veterans (SUV)
United States Daughters of 1812 (USD 1812)

People picked up brochures, learned about the groups and heard many interesting tidbits about the organizations. Listening to the people at these tables gave us all a sense of history and we all felt the enthusiasm for their societies. The curiosity, excitement, and camaraderie created a feeling of elevated delight.

Inside, the library was buzzing. Some people with a new interest in genealogy got information from our Special Interest Group (SIG) leaders. New and old timers got information from Jim Friestad who showed how to get periodicals on-line. We had volunteers give tours of the book collections, help with computer subscriptions, and answer questions about our society.

Jean Foster was the first person people saw going into the library. She sat at the tall desk, directed people to different areas in the library depending on their question, and she helped with beginning genealogists. For most of the day she had someone at her table; she was patient and she reached into her cavernous arsenal of ideas to help people get started.

Larry Basham and Terry Marks helped people navigate the fun tools of FamilySearch. People had their fan charts printed out, and they learned about the new app for recording your family history. They also helped answer visitors' questions about the FamilySearch website.

Visitors also enjoyed viewing the Santa Barbara Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage exhibit and Sahyun Library's 25th anniversary display.

Everyone who came to the event could feel that the world was alive again, as it was before Covid. People interacted, smiled, hugged, and we were all happy to be out and about with friends new and old. We met so many new people, with their interesting genealogy stories and that very familiar gleam in their eyes.

Our next Open House will be here before you know it! A year goes by in the blink of an eye.

Thank you to all our volunteers- without you our event would not be possible...or fun!



2023 Genealogy Seminar

“From Birth to Death and In Between”

featuring Gena Philibert-Ortega

Saturday, October 14, 2023



Gena Philibert-Ortega is an author, researcher, and instructor specializing in the use of social history and material culture to tell the story of historical women’s lives. She holds two Master’s degrees: Interdisciplinary Studies (Psychology and Women’s Studies) and Religion. As an author, Gena has published two books, *Cemeteries of the Eastern Sierra* (Arcadia Publishing) and *From the Family Kitchen* (F+W Media), and hundreds of articles in print magazines and online publications. Her writings can also be found on her two blogs, *Gena’s Genealogy* and *Food.Family.Ephemera*, as well as the GenealogyBank and Legacy Family Tree Webinars blogs. A highly sought-after instructor, Gena has taught material culture and social history at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and is a frequent presenter throughout the United States and Canada. Gena has conducted research for PBS, HGTV, and the Travel Channel and has collaborated on research for the Genealogical Institute of America. Gena’s current research projects focus on American cemeteries, cookbooks, signature quilts, and 20th-century women’s lives.

Seminar Schedule

- 8:00 Doors Open; Registration; Refreshments; Book Sales
- 9:00 Welcome: Edward Tazer-Myers, President
- 9:30 **1st Lecture:** *Tracing Roots: The Evolution and Historical Significance of Birth Certificates.*
- 10:30 Break (Refreshments, Book Sales)
- 11:00 **2nd Lecture:** *Beyond the Grave: Unveiling the Material Culture of Death*
- 12:00 **Lunch**
- 1:00 **Door Prize Drawing**
- 1:30 **3rd Lecture:** *Uncovering Herstory: Exploring Unconventional Sources for Tracing Female Ancestors*
- 2:30 Break (Refreshments, Book Sales)
- 3:00 **4th Lecture:** *Visual Ancestral Stories: Harnessing the Power of Images in Genealogy*
- 4:30 - 5:00 Book Sales, Refreshments, Adjournment

Seminar Location

The seminar will be live and in person at: Saint Rafael Catholic Church, 5444 Hollister Ave, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 (Ample free parking in the church’s lot; the facility is accessible for all.)

Registration Information

SBCGS Members

Early Registration Before September 30 \$40
Registration after September 30 \$50

Non-Members

Early Registration before September 30 \$50
Registration after September 30 \$60

Optional Box Lunch from Jersey Mike’s \$15

Choices: (each served with chips, cookie, and water)

- #7 Turkey and Provolone
- #13 The Original Italian with provolone, ham, prosciuttini, cappacuolo, salami, and pepperoni
- #14 The Veggie with Swiss, provolone, green bell peppers

Following SB County COVID-19 guidelines, we will prioritize attendee health. We will ensure good ventilation, provide hand sanitizing stations, and offer optional masks. Please avoid attending with illness symptoms.

Register Online Here:

<https://tinyurl.com/56skb8s2>



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

316 Castillo Street, Santa Barbara 93101

805-884-9909

www.sbgen.org

Email: programs@sbgen.org

Family History Month Open House 2023

October 1, 2023



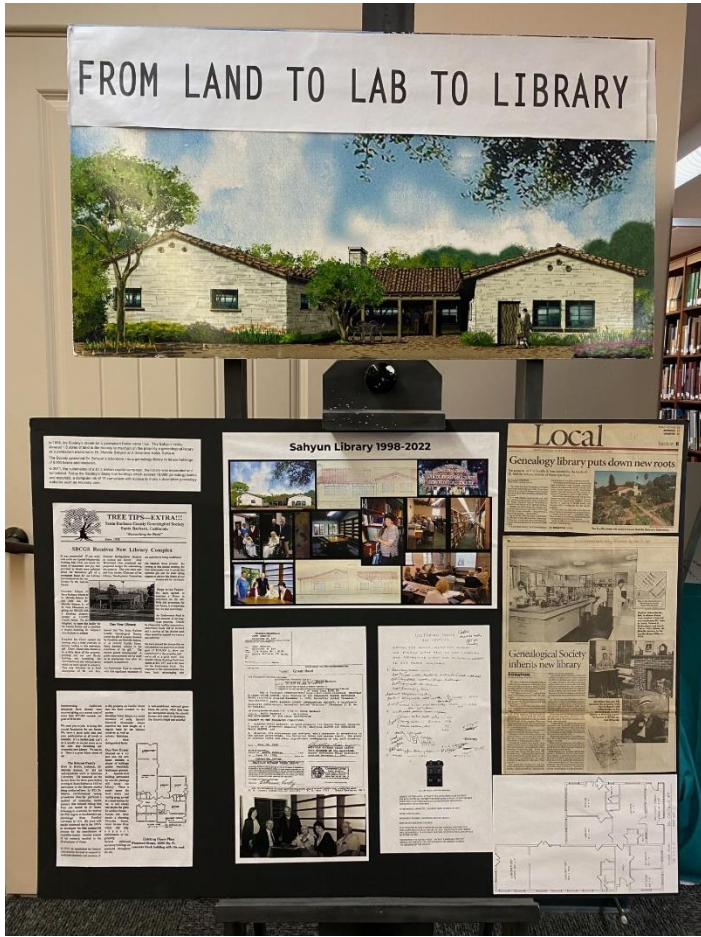
Outside Booths/Activities





Inside happenings...





Sahyun Library's 25th Anniversary

