



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

November 2023

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 39, No.10

Finding Your Roots in Mexico

FREE

Featuring Guest Speaker

John P. Schmal

Saturday

18 Nov 2023
11:00 AM

In-Person and Hybrid:

First Presbyterian Church
21 E. Constance Ave.
Santa Barbara, California

Special Interest Groups @ 9:30 AM

Business meeting @ 10:30 AM



Finding Your Roots in Mexico Speaker: John P. Schmal

If your ancestors came from Mexico, you have a unique opportunity that is not available to many other ethnic groups. Many Mexican church records going back over 300 years are filled with details that are lacking in many other countries. And most of the records are available online and can be accessed from the comfort of your home! In addition to discussing how to locate a point of origin in Mexico, John will do sample searches in the FamilySearch.org catalog.

Veteran genealogist John Schmal will show attendees how to access the records of their Mexican ancestors online and give them pointers about how to use that information once they have located it. Using a 45-page PowerPoint, John will point out some of the potential problems that arise with Mexican research and how to navigate those problems to get the results you need.

About the Speaker:

John P. Schmal is an historian, genealogist, and lecturer. After graduating from a Los Angeles high school, John attended Loyola-Marymount University in Los Angeles and St. Cloud State

University in Minnesota, where he studied Geography, History and Earth Sciences and received two BA degrees.

Since the early 1990s, John has specialized in the genealogical research and Indigenous history of several Mexican states, especially Aguascalientes, Zacatecas, Jalisco, and Guanajuato. In recent years, he has also developed a skill in tracing the lineages of the California Mission Indians. He is a recipient of the 2018 Conference of California Historical Societies Award of Merit in the Scholarship Award. He was recognized for his "proliferate historic studies in the area of Mexican, Mexican-American and indigenous research." He periodically gives presentations about Mexican Genealogy, Indigenous Mexico, and German Genealogy.

He is a lifetime honorary member of GSHA-SC and a board member of the Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research (SHHAR). John manages IndigenousMexico.org, a one-stop resource for historical and census information about the Indigenous people of Mexico, including presentations and historical articles about 31 of Mexico's 32 states.

HYBRID Meeting!

In-person at the First Presbyterian Church (State and Constance, SB), and on Zoom.

Special Interest Groups will meet only in person.

9:30 - 10:25 am

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 live via Zoom

Only Zoom attendees REGISTER HERE:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtfumtqToiGtOFjKakC47XpdTtX-ALq7OT>

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

President's Message

Edward Tazer-Myers



Edward Tazer-Myers

We have just concluded another wonderful series of Family History Month classes, several workshops and a seminar. It was terrific to see the seminar team put on such a fun event with generous prizes, tasty food, and great books for sale at St. Raphael's Church. The speaker, Gena Philibert-Ortega was skilled, knowledgeable and inspirational. Just

what we needed! A million thanks and kudos to Rosa Avolio and Marie Sue Parsons whose team of talented volunteers worked so hard behind the scenes to make the seminar a shining success. Isn't it good to be back after our COVID-induced hiatus?

But the seminar wasn't the only educational offering we had this month. I heard great things about the classes led by Norma Egli (Ancestry, Fold 3 and FamilySearch), Jean Foster (Beginning Genealogy and Outsourced Brick Wall Research Assistance), George LaPlante (DNA Lunch & Learn), Nancy Loe (Successful Genealogy Source Citations and Finding Scottish Ancestors Online), Rosa Avolio (Scanning Workshop), and Elizabeth O'Neal's team that put on our kickoff event, Genealogy JumpStart. Thanks to all of these skilled teachers and support folks for volunteering your time. We are better genealogists because of you!

Other News

Laurie Hannah reports that there has been an uptick in outside groups using the Sahyun Library. We love to have partners like the Pearl Chase Society, Daughters of Union Veterans, Daughters of 1812, the Santa Barbara Earthquake Centennial Committee, and many others take advantage of our Community Room, Woodward Reading Room, and patio and garden areas.

Membership is also steadily increasing. Our ranks have swelled to 532 and, according to Kate Lima, our new members are uniformly enthusiastic about researching their ancestors with us and grateful to have such a great local resource like the Sahyun Library to hang out with helpful, like-minded people.

On the "possibly boring but still important" front, Marilyn Compton has announced her retirement as Treasurer/Bookkeeper for the Society. Her last day is scheduled for December 31st. Since Marilyn was doing the work of at least two people, the Board has decided to contract with Balance Financial Management for bookkeeping and accounting services. BFM is led by Jaime Kuczkowski, CPA, who served as Treasurer for the Goleta Valley Historical Society for six years. Her firm also provides bookkeeping services for Family Services Agency, Hutton Parker Foundation, Starr King Parent-Child Workshop, and many other local non-profits. The Board and I are extremely grateful for Marilyn's outstanding service these past six years, but we know she won't be far.

Finally, the Board appointed a Nominating Committee chaired by

Karen Ramsdell on October 19th. There are some really important roles that the Committee is seeking to fill. Please consider whether it is time for you to take a turn at one of these wheels to keep our Society growing and serving the community.

Ted Tazer-Myers, President

In Loving Memory

TERESA MARIE FANUCCHI

October 30, 1968 - August 30, 2023



It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of member Teresa Fanucchi. Teresa was born in Bakersfield, CA to parents Carl Fanucchi and Barbara Oscars Fanucchi. Teresa's education continued at UC Santa Barbara. Teresa had a lifelong love of cooking and nurturing people through food. She was head chef at the Immaculate Heart Center for Spiritual Renewal in Montecito for nine

years and published *A Place at the Table*, a cookbook featuring her own creations as well as favorite family recipes. Family heritage was particularly important to Teresa. She spent hours researching at the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. Several articles written by Teresa were published by *Ancestors West*. Her complete obituary can be found here: <https://www.independent.com/obits/2023/10/30/teresa-marie-fanucchi/>

TIS THE SEASON TO BE GIVING

by Kristin Ingalls



Dear Friends

It is officially *Holiday Season*. Time to take off your Halloween mask and give some thought to gift giving.

In this troubled world we live in, my thoughts of giving are leaning towards those who may need it most. A favorite charity, a friend in need, a stranger in need.

And so, I'll not do a silly poetic ditty to entice you into the library to buy books – just a gentle reminder that if you do need a special gift of reading for a special person in your life, do come visit us.

I will bring some nice books to the November and December meetings. I do hope they will find a good home.

~~ Peace

New Resources Added to SBCGS Website

by Robin McCarthy

In the past month, 16,691 records from the Goleta and Carpinteria cemetery indexes were added to the database. These entries, which list more information than is typically available on Find-a-Grave.com, were obtained from the cemeteries' records. No corresponding record images are available for purchase.

Members are reminded to log onto the website before searching and ordering records from the database to save time and effort. This will prevent you from having to repeat your search and instantly activate your member discount.

Website News

by Rosa Avolio

We will be updating our Website calendar as of Wednesday, November 1, 2023. Please spend some time getting acquainted with it. It has color coding for several kinds of meetings. You can see the event's date and time by hovering your cursor over the listing. When you click on the event, more information displays. Take note of the location—virtual, hybrid, library (which room), etc.

Registration is required for in-person seminars so that we can estimate the number of attendees.

There will be a Zoom registration link if it's virtual.

Viewing business/committee meetings will require logging in as a member of the society.

HELP WANTED

Several years ago, the Society adopted Santa Barbara County's pauper cemetery near the county schools building and the fire department off Cathedral Oaks.

In past years, members have volunteered to keep it tidy, but alas it has been neglected and desperately needs cleaning up.

A work party is scheduled for Saturday, December 2 at 1:00 pm. Are you willing to offer your time and tools to freshen it? If so, contact Michel Nellis at michelnellis21@gmail.com or 805-252-4444. See you in the weeds!



All About Our Books at the Sahyun

by Chris Klukkert



I hope many of you attended the October seminar with Gena Philibert Ortega. I enjoyed it immensely. Even when I thought I had some familiarity with the topic, Gina would mention something I had not considered before or a whole new approach to something that I couldn't wait to try. It was very inspiring, and now I look forward this Fall to working on some of my own family puzzles utilizing some of the methods and resources that Gina talked about. I was also quite impressed with our many volunteer members at the seminar. There are so many talented people who work hard to make events like this one a success, and they will not go unnoticed. It was so fun to have Kristin Ingalls fabulous book sales there, too, and she was quite busy with books sales between sessions. It was a really fun and fulfilling day.

I am happy to say after a two-year hiatus, Roger Minert has released another volume of his German Immigrants in American Church Records series that is so helpful to you many German ancestor researchers. Come on into the Sahyun and have a look at it, and all the other wonderful treasures held in our collection

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

- *German Immigrants in American Church Records, Vol 38, Central Southern States* by Roger Minert. (Covers Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Tennessee)
- *Trailways to Albany (Illinois) 2000*
- *Richland Center Wisconsin, A History*
- *Richland County, Wisconsin, People and Places*
- *Richland County, Wisconsin pictorial book of soldiers who served in the Great War 1917-1918-1919*
- *Early Virginia Families Along the James River: The Deep and Tangled Branches of Henrico-Goochland County, Virginia*

Please come in and have a look at our newly purchased books and all the other resources awaiting you at the Sahyun.

We want to thank the following generous donors:

Janet Cox
Judy Thompson
Richard Tyler

Nancy Loe
Eve Savage

Membership Spotlight

by Kate Lima



Hello and Happy November to all!

A Warm Welcome to new members who joined in October. We're so happy to welcome you!

Gail Benton Susan Ruth Butler Carolyn Cogan
Michael Diehl Susan Kay Gentry Cynthia Beth Hofmann
Barbara LaClair Shirley and Larry Macintosh Nancy Michaud

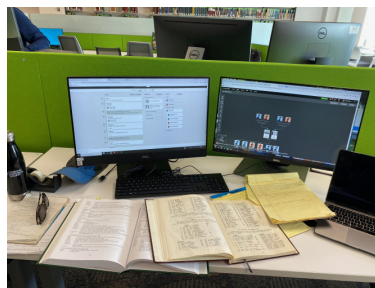
We also welcome our returning members!

Janet Deacon Lila Wilbarger Laura Wilson

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.

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.

Trip to Salt Lake City — March 19-26



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!

Let's Talk About the Survey!

A big shout out to all the people who took the time to fill the survey we sent out last month. Thank you! For the next few months we're going to post some results in Tree Tips.

We had 148 people fill out the survey and quite a few volunteered to participate in focus groups after that. The majority of respondents lived in Santa Barbara and Goleta, probably not a surprise, and the majority of our respondents fell into the 75-84 age group.

One question with multiple people answering the same way was this: "What in the library would you like to see added or improved?" One of the top answers was "access subscription sites from home, like we did during Covid."

Our response, unfortunately, is not what people will want to hear.

The subscription sites like Ancestry.com and Newspapers.com allowed genealogy societies with library editions to offer their sites to their members. This was only during Covid, and they were indeed gracious to allow us to access their sites for free. The companies stopped this about a year ago, around the time when people were going back into the libraries. The sites are free if you are at the Sahyun, though I know this doesn't help those who live far away.

Stay tuned for more information from the survey!

Please don't hesitate to contact me at membership@sbgen.org with your questions, comments, and suggestions. And I hope you enjoy the beginning of Fall!

**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.

Committee Spotlight

This month we highlight the Education Committee. This group plans the Society's education programs, including classes, webinars, seminars, Family History Month, Specialist Interest Groups, and more. We just had an interesting and fun-filled seminar that brought people together to hear a vibrant and talented speaker.

For more information about the Education Committee, please send a note to Programs@sbgen.org.

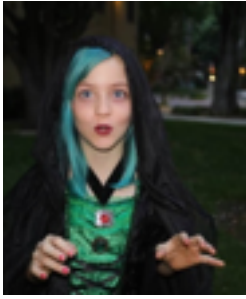


**Read About the Results
of the SBCGS Survey!**

We learned so much and want to share some of our findings with you.

Ancestors West

by Kristin Ingalls

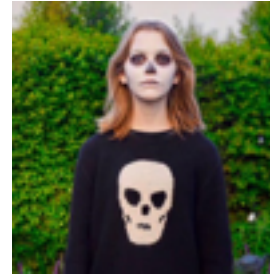


Booooooooooooo!!!

It seems that my wild idea of collecting our stories of witches, ghosts, haunted houses, wayward family members and all-around mayhem appealed to fewer people than I had imagined. That leaves me thinking that our members only have normal, boring ancestors! We do have a few great reads, but perhaps not enough to print an entire issue. That is, unless some of you want to “fess up” about your family skeletons – in the next week.

Our next issue will take a sharp turn from witches – to TECHNOLOGY. Many of our members who do not come to the library regularly may not know that there are a number of paid subscription sites for them to use in the library. They are listed on our website, and we are sure you will find some of interest in your research.

In addition to those sites, some of our very creative members have found other websites and some magical things to do with them. If YOU have discovered a great website or application or other magic, send that along and we will include that in the next issue. It does not have to be a long article: Just the Facts will do! Deadline: February 1, 2024
Questions and submissions to: Kristin at antkap@cox.net



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805.884.9909
[@sbgenealogy](https://sbgenealogy)



<https://sbgen.org>

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

www.sbgen.org

info@sbgen.org

806-884-9909

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Vice President, Operations: Karen Ramsdell
Library Director: *Laurie Hannah, SahyunLibrary@sbgen.org
Governance: *Karen Ramsdell, Governance@sbgen.org
2nd VP, Membership: *Kate Lima, membership@sbgen.org
Newsletter Address Corrections: membership@sbgen.org
1st VP., Education&Programs: *Elizabeth O’Neal, programs@sbgen.org
Ancestors West: Kristin Ingalls, antkap@cox.net
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Library Facilities Manager: *William Noack, (805) 403-9197
Exterior Facilities Manager: Cheryl Jensen, cfitzjen@cox.net
Records Preservation: Dorothy Oksner, oksner66@gmail.com
Book Buy: *Christine Klukkert, ordway2@aol.com
IT Chair: *Molly Gleason
Publicity: *Liz Smith
Development Comm.: Mary Hall, development@sbgen.org
Directors at Large: Marilyn Compton, Bob Muller, Marie Sue Parsons, John Woodward, Heather McDaniel McDevitt,
***BOARD MEMBERS**

Memorial Garden

Join Us in Creating a Legacy: A Memorial Garden that will Honor Our Champions and Enhance Gatherings for Members and the Community!

In September, the Society launched a campaign to raise \$100,000 to construct a Memorial Garden to honor and remember past champions of the Society whose vision and dedication of their talents, time, and energy created a legacy we all benefit from today and, at the same time, provide adequate outdoor space for the Society's popular events and social gatherings.



This past year, Art Sylvester, Cari Thomas, and Debbie Kaska passed away. The time seemed right to honor and remember their legacies as well as past champions of the Society that preceded them. Current Society champions continue the tradition.

The Sahyun Library is a place for research, learning, meetings, and events. During events and social gatherings, the learning, collaboration, sharing, and comradery inside the library seamlessly extends to the small patio outside the library's front door. The

patio becomes a crowded hubbub of people, activity, food, entertainment, conversation, social interaction, and participation by partner organizations such as DUV, DAR, SUV, and Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, to name a few, sheltered under tent canopies.

The idea for a Memorial Garden is envisioned to serve two purposes; honor past champions who made an indelible mark on the Society and, at the same time, provide a beautiful outdoor space to accommodate events and social gatherings adequately and comfortably for our members and the community. When the garden space is not used by the Society, it could be rented to other organizations and individuals for events, thus raising revenue for Society genealogy operations.

In the coming weeks, the Society will launch its Annual Appeal. We recognize that two simultaneous fundraising efforts may require a choice between making a donation to the Memorial Garden or the Appeal. In that case, we recommend donating to the Annual Appeal. If you are able, please consider donating to both. Regardless of the donation you make or the amount, your donation and support of the Society are sincerely appreciated.

Outreach

I have a lot to be thankful for— not only during this season of giving thanks, but all year long. I am thankful for all our new and returning members, new community partnerships, the Asian American Pacific Islander families who graciously shared their stories with us for the exhibit, and especially our volunteers. We could not put on our displays/exhibits, events, or talks and tours without our volunteers! I want to give a special shout out to my Outreach team and exhibit committee. Thank you for your dedication and all your hard work! If you would like to be part of a fun team, please consider joining Outreach! Please email Outreach@sbgen.org to volunteer to help and/or if you have any ideas/connections for future outreach in the community. Thank you all!

~Holly Snyder, Chair

Asian American Neighborhood Festival

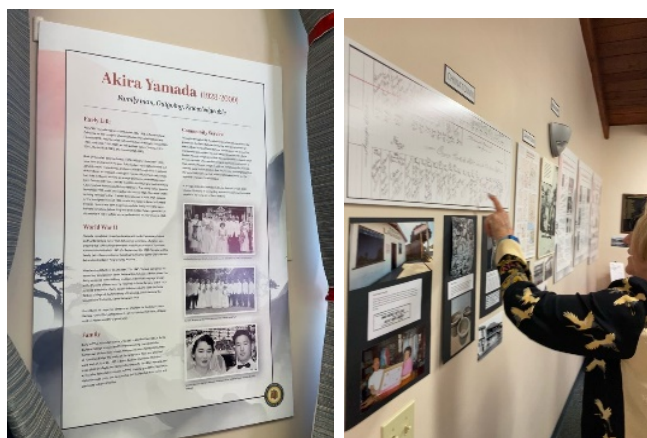
It was a great day at the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation's Asian American Neighborhood Festival on October 15. About 45 people came by our table wanting to know more about the Society, our library, and the exhibit. Our exhibit was promoted as well as the Society and the remaining FHM



classes/activities. We handed out exhibit flyers, blank pedigree charts, and a flyer on genealogy resources; as well as about 30 membership brochures. A lot of interest— young and old!

Photos L-R: Holly Snyder at the Outreach table; Susan Ohashi Kuroda [exhibit participant], Holly Snyder, & Melinda Yamane Crawford

SB Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Exhibit still open!



Our Santa Barbara Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage exhibit remains up until December 16. It will be transformed into a virtual exhibit soon. If you or you know someone who has not seen the exhibit yet, stop by during Sahyun Library's open hours to check it out!

Speaking Engagements in the Community



Speaker's Bureau has been busy providing talks and library tours to community organizations. In October, Dr. Larry Basham presented to the Santa Barbara Cosmopolitan Club that had 46 attendees. This month, he will be speaking at the Carpinteria Rotary Club on November 16 in Carpinteria and the Santa Barbara Social Club on November 30 at Sahyun.

Outside groups 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.

Montecito Bank & Trust Display



We had a display at Montecito Bank & Trust in Goleta during the month of October. Gary Schumaker went back and changed up the display to keep the interest going. Thanks Gary!



SAHYUN GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY

**Discover Excellence:
An Outstanding Library with Exceptional Holdings**

Computer Lab: 13 Workstations; 8 Scanners; 1 Air Printer; 1 Printer/Photocopier

Books and Periodicals: Over 16,000 volumes; Large collection of directories, yearbooks, local history; 700 Periodicals from US and around the world; Over 225 digitized periodicals; Over 100 digital books accessible from the library computers

Digital Records: Over 200,000 scanned and indexed local names from SB County records

Online Databases: Ancestry.com Library Edition; ArkivDigital; Newspapers.com; American Ancestors; Fold3; FindMyPast; FamilySearch (a Research Affiliate Library); PRDH (Quebec's Catholic records)

Vertical Files: Surname files and locality files with family group sheets pedigrees, articles, photographs and other unbound materials.

Maps: Several hundred individual maps; Ordinance Survey maps from Great Britain; Atlases of all kinds.

Services: Use of library and computers free to members; Record lookup and image request available through online request form; Reference questions answered by staff on duty every shift; Translation assistance and referrals to specialists.

- Computer Lab

- Books and Periodicals

- Digital Records

- Online Databases

- Vertical Files

- Maps

- Services

HOURS:

Tuesday, Thursday 10 - 4

Sunday 1 - 4

3rd Saturday of Month 1-4

SAHYUN LIBRARY

316 Castillo Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

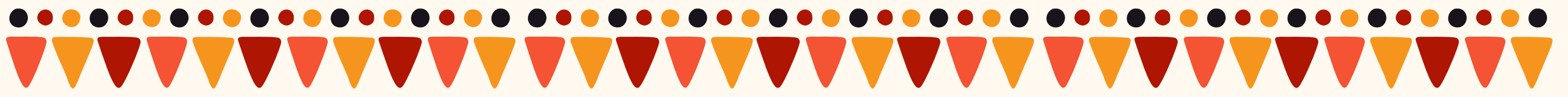
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Laurie Hannah,
Library Director

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sahyunlibrary@sbgen.org



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