



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

November 2023

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 39, No.10

SBCGS Holiday Member Share Event



Image generated with AI · December 6, 2023: Bing.com

Please join us on Saturday, 16 December, for our annual “Member Share” gathering where a few of our members will share their stories about exciting discoveries, brick wall breakthroughs, new DNA cousins, travels to ancestral homelands, and/or other interesting genealogical stories!

Members may also share a favorite holiday goodie, family heirloom, scrapbook, or other item of family history. Please include a note with a couple of sentences explaining why this recipe/item is meaningful to you.

We hope to see you for this special meeting!

Would you like to share your story at this meeting? Contact Education Director Elizabeth Swanay O’Neal for more information: programs@sbgen.org.

HYBRID Meeting!

Saturday, December 16, 2023

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

9:30 - 10:25 am

Special Interest Groups will meet in person only 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

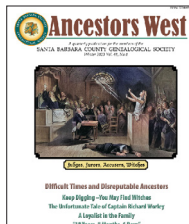
Only Zoom attendees REGISTER HERE:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtfumtqToiGtQFjKakC47XpdTtX-ALq7OT>

The Sahyun Genealogical Library Hours

Tuesdays, Thursdays
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
December 16 — 3rd Saturday
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Library Closed
Sunday, December 17 to
January 1, 2024



Ancestors West

The winter issue of Ancestors West has been posted on the Society Publications page for viewing and downloading.

[\(https://sbgen.org/society-publications/\)](https://sbgen.org/society-publications/)



For those who missed the 2023 Fall Seminar featuring Gena Philibert-Ortega, we’re pleased to offer exclusive access to the complete video records of her talks. This offer expires January 31, 2024.

<https://sbgen.org/sbcgs-fall-seminar-2023/#!-form/SeminarVideos>

President's Message

Edward Tazer-Myers



Edward Tazer-Myers

December 2023

Happy December! 'Tis the season for eating, giving (and receiving), and being with family. Speaking of giving and receiving, the Society counts on your generous tax-deductible contributions to help people knit their ancestral families together and discover what their lives were like in the misty past.

SBCGS is the place to get the help you need to fill in the missing pieces in your extended family puzzle. And it is a happy place. Visitors often tell us how good they feel when they come to the library and hear the happy voices and the joy of people making new discoveries. We will have new opportunities for learning and growing together in 2024, too, such as webinars and small study groups.

But we can't do it without your generous support. Roughly, membership fees only cover a quarter of our operating expenses (25%). The biggest contributor (38%) comes from our rental property income, with unrestricted donations (25%) and fees, sales, and restricted donations making up the remainder (12%). All of these revenue sources provide essential funding for the services that you like best when you come to the Sahyun Library, including the ones I already mentioned above plus the following online subscription sites:

- Ancestry.com Library Edition
- Fold3 (ProQuest)
- FindMyPast
- American Ancestors
- AkiVDigital
- Newspapers.com Library Edition

But it is those unrestricted donations that really keep us going. This is where the Annual Appeal fits in. The Society is able to keep membership fees down because of our creative development of other revenue sources, but the Annual Appeal is the big once-yearly ask to help fill in the operating gaps. Please give generously to the Annual Appeal campaign this year to keep your genealogy society going strong.

Ted Tazer-Myers, President

Jewish Genealogy SIG Meeting

IN PERSON ONLY

Thursday, December 14

If you're interested in tracing Jewish ancestry, come to this meeting to ask questions, learn about research resources and share information and tips. Harriette Hinderstein will be leading this discussion in the John Woodward Room at the Sahyun Genealogical Library.

Please Register at: <https://sbgen.org/meetings-classes/calendar/#!event/2023/12/14/jewish-genealogy-sig-meeting>

Ancestors West

by Kristin Ingalls

Ancestors West translated into hieroglyphics



ANCESTORS WEST SPRING 2024 ISSUE TECHNOLOGY



Visuals generated through Bing.com

I think we can all remember The Olden Days when we did genealogy research The Old-Fashioned Way: letters, phone calls, visits to historic societies, cemeteries, grandma's attic. I sometimes think we old folks should have our own club or badge bragging: "I did it the old way."

When folks new to genealogy visit the library, many think they can fill out an ancestry chart in a few hours because, they know, everything is available online, usually through Ancestry.com. While we know that only a small percentage of historical information is accessible online, there are a number of other websites that are a treasure trove of information.

Our Spring issue will highlight the paid online subscription sites we have available in the library. In addition, some of our members have found other sites that have helped them with their brick walls. One fun site is the one that generated the picture above. Why would you want to use it? You will find out in the upcoming issue.

So...have YOU found new websites, new ways to use technology to enhance research? If so, we want to know about it so we can share it with everyone.

During the Covid shut down, some of our generous paid subscription sites allowed us to use their databases from home, which kept us involved in genealogy. Alas, they no longer available that way – you will need to come to the library to use them.

Now you know that ANY good story will find a good home in Ancestors West. If you have one to share, send that too!

Deadline is February 1st, 2024 sent to me at antkap@cox.net. See the inside back cover of your recently received Ancestors West for guidelines.

Happy Holidays and Happy Researching ! Kristin Ingalls, Editor

Got Old Negatives? Scan Them With Your Phone and These 5 (Mostly) Free Apps!

Wed, Dec 20, 2023: 11:00 am PST

Presented by Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal

Are your old film negatives wasting away in a box in the closet? Let's bring them to life so you can enjoy them! Find out how with these five apps and a few household items!

Register for free at <https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/got-old-negatives-scan-them-with-your-phone-and-these-5-mostly-free-apps/>

Membership Spotlight

by Kate Lima



Hello and
Happy December to all!

A Warm Welcome to new members in December:

Suzy Allen Mary Folsom Deborah Gibson
Michelle Ierardi Yolanda Perez Christine Putinar
Cheri Runge

New Genealogy groups have joined us as well:

Midwest Genealogy Center
Los Angeles Public Library

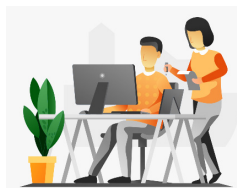
Welcome! We're so happy you've joined!

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.

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?

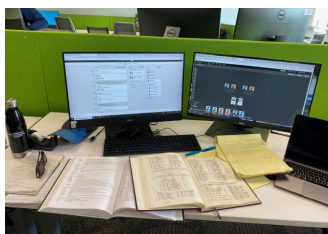
Work with a Coach



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.

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!

Genealogy Tip of the Day

Watch for Data Errors and Impossibilities.



As you work, make sure the data you find makes sense. Were parents born before their children? (And, conversely, were mothers alive when their children were born?) Flag any data that doesn't line up. And, using your social history knowledge, determine if your ancestor's actions make sense given his age and the time and place he lived in. (From Familytreemagazine.com)

Let's Talk About the Survey!

This month we share the results of the question "Which area of study are you most interested in learning?" Here are the top 5 answers, in order of popularity:



- Genetic Genealogy
- Vital Records
- How-To Techniques
- How to Organize Your Research
- Newspaper Research

Do these resonate with you? Would you attend a webinar or in-person seminar? Please let me know at membership@sbgen.org.

Look for **Volunteer Spotlight** and **Thank You to For Membership** in separate articles in this Tree Tips.

In Memory of Alice Veyna

Alice Ruth Veyna (née Porter), age 88, was born in St.



Louis, Missouri, on May 5, 1935, and passed away on Sept. 13, 2023, in Santa Barbara. She was a member of SBCGS and had a passion for genealogy, and enjoyed traveling both domestically and abroad to explore her heritage.

We extend our sincere condolences to her family and friends. Please find her very interesting and beautiful obituary here:

<https://www.noozhawk.com/alice-ruth-veyna-of-santa-barbara-1935-2023/>

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."

Focus on Volunteer Holly Snyder

by Kate Lima



In this publication we are moving from “Committee Spotlight” to “Volunteer Spotlight.” Each month we’ll highlight one of our volunteers; you’ll get to learn more about these wonderful people.

This month, SBCGS recognizes and thanks Holly Snyder, a member since 2016. Holly serves as a Library Volunteer, but most of you know her as the Outreach Director. I’ve had the privilege of working closely with Holly on many SBCGS exhibits like the African American Exhibit and the Asian American Pacific Islander Exhibit. She is an organized and fun leader and I’m pleased to showcase her here.

Holly is from Santa Barbara, but has lived all over California for school and employment. Currently, she is an archival processor at UCSB Library’s Special Research Collections. Holly processes donated and purchased collections and creates finding aids to make them accessible to the public. Anyone can create a free Special Research Collections account and request to view their collections. There are some real gems there!

Prior to working at UCSB, she was a Family Literacy Librarian at the Santa Barbara Public Library. Holly was also an elementary school teacher in different capacities for 15 years, with the last three being an elementary art

teacher within the Santa Barbara Unified School District.

Holly has been doing genealogical research for over 20 years. Her interest in researching family history began when her maternal grandmother passed away and her mother began to research her family. Holly did not know anything about her father’s side of the family so she saw the opportunity to begin her genealogical journey. She started with her dad’s birth certificate and baby book and now has a vast amount of knowledge of her dad’s lineage. She met new-found cousins, gained many old photographs, plus she now has copies of bible pages of her paternal great-great grandmother’s family. Holly has also gone on many genealogical trips with her mother including a journey across the pond visiting the hometowns of their German and Swiss ancestors in 2018. Although there is a lot of planning ahead that is involved for these trips, she loves the serendipitous moments that come along that make the journeys more special—and experiencing these moments with her mother makes it even more special.

Currently, Holly volunteers for the Society as the Outreach Committee Chair and library volunteer. Although challenging while working full-time, she loves to work on the local ethnic and cultural exhibits, planning events for the public, and meeting community members, making new friends, and sharing how great our Society is. Holly appreciates her Outreach team and exhibit committees and all the hard work they put in- all as volunteers! As a library volunteer, she enjoys listening to patrons’ stories and assisting them with their research and hard-to-find records.

Outside of genealogy and work, Holly also enjoys traveling, spending time with her family and friends, and playing games and puzzling.



News from the Sahyun Library

by Laurie Hannah

A REMINDER WHEN USING THE LIBRARY COMPUTERS

The computers in the library are for everyone to use and are not to be treated as your own personal computer. Please observe the following guidelines.

- 1) Please do not store your images and files on them.
Use a flash drive or print out what you need during each session.
- 2) If you download a document, please delete it from the desktop or downloads file after you have saved it to your flash drive. Computers are wiped clean periodically.
- 3) Please do not add any bookmarks to the bookmark toolbar and please do not change the bookmarks that are already there for everyone to use.
- 4) Subscription Databases—With the exception of two databases, you do not need to log in to any of the subscription databases, but can just start searching. Exceptions:
 - a. **Find My Past** — The username is sahyunlibrary@sbgen.org and the password is genealogy20.
 - b. **FamilySearch** — you must log in to your own account, using your username and password. If you don't have an account, you can create a free one.

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
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2nd VP, Membership: *Kate Lima, membership@sbgen.org
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Paul Cochet, 805-566-1036
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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**

Thank You, Members!

by Kate Lima

On behalf of the Society, the Membership Team would especially like to recognize and thank the following members who have given generously to the Society by increasing their membership level above the membership dues. Their generosity allows us to expand our educational programs, enhance our research tools and continue the maintenance of our library. We are all so grateful. Thank you.

Life Members

Sheila Benedict	Charmien Carrier	Mona Chapin
Leland Crawford	Stacey Crawford	Amanda De Lucia
Theresa Ferl	Ann Ferns	Diane Flynn
Jim Friestad	Marjory Friestad	Virginia Gardner
Molly Gleason	Kathryn Glenn	Gail Hamilton
Kay Heltmach	Jane Honikman	Chana Jackson
Gary Jensen	Cheryl Jensen	Judith Johnson
Bernice Joseph	Chris Klukkert	Carol Kosai
Lorraine Laabs	George LaPlante	Nancy Loe
Ruth Loper	Marsha Martin	Louise Matz
Merna McClenathen	Louis Mehaffey	Helen Miller
Thomas Modugno	Julie Moore	Michel Nellis
Walter Orso	Marie Sue Parsons	David Pettitt
Jean Pettitt	Sue Ramsey	Mary Jane Rodgers
Carol Roth	Judy Sahn	Melville Sahyun
Peter Schuyler	Diane Sidon	Martha Siegel
Nancy Snyder	Diane Sylvester	Judy Thompson
Robert Ward	Victoria Ward	Sheri Wechsler
John Woodward		

Patron Level

Cherie Bonazzola	Kathleen Borger	Kathleen Brewster
Robin Cederlof	Charlene Daly	Kathryn Greene
Betty Helton	Katherine Hunter	Kristin Ingalls
Mary Jacob	Pamela Lombardo	Nancy Michaud
Karen Ramsdell	Liz Smith	Grace Thomas
JoAnne Treloar		

Donor Level

Linda Bentz	Mary Brownlee	Lou Dartanner
Janet Deacon	Ann Dwelley	Patricia Ericson
Vivien La France	Kathy Giles	Mary Hall
Mary Hancock	Laurie Hannah	Dennis Holst
Charles Huber	Christine Johnston	Sue Kadner
Daniel LaPorte	Kristin Lewis	Stanley Lopez
Irene Macias	Fermina Murray	Ted Tazer Myers
Lisa O'Reilly	Carolyn Pappas	Deborah Pash
Yolanda Perez	Tim Putz	Cheri Runge
Jerry Shepherd	Patricia Reilly Stark	Margaret Owen Thorpe
Peggy Turrill	Paul Valentich-Scott	Lorraine West
Jim Wilson		

Friend Level

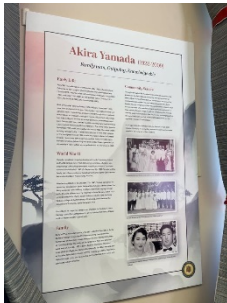
Sheila Argentine	Gretchen Beckert	Alison Brannan
E. onja Brown	Karl Burrelsman	Jim Campos
Richard Closson	Valorie Cole	Marilyn Compton
Susan Rae Davidson	Dave Everett	Kathryn Field
Michelle Fitton	Mary Folsom	Jean Foster
Mary Frink	Kim Fults	Chris Gallery
Joseph Hackett	Richard Harpham	Linda Hicks
John Johnson	Cathy Jordan	Carole Kennedy
Mary Mamalakis	Olivia Mercado	Patricia Montemayor
Bob Muller	Dorothy Oksner	David Plimier
Cynthia Rhodes	Shirley Roby	Fred Schaeffer
Barbara Shaffer	Patricia Thomas	Laura Wilson

Outreach by Holly Snyder



On behalf of the Outreach team, we wish everyone a wonderful holiday season with family and friends! We look forward to the new year making new connections in the community and strengthening our current connections. Happy Holidays!

Last Chance to view the SB Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Exhibit!



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 every month this year. We have spoken to over 200 people out in the community this past year and we look forward to many more in the new year. This month, Dr. Larry Basham will be speaking at the Newcomers Club on December 7th 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. Has your group already had a talk with Larry, but would be interested in a follow up talk or a workshop style activity? We can do that too!

Picnic in the Cemetery 2024



Outreach is beginning their preparations for the next Picnic in the Cemetery! Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 26, 2024. More details coming soon!