



# Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

April 2024

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 40, No.4

## “Don’t Let Your Memories Fade”

Speaker: Rick Voight

Saturday, April 20, 2024



Rick Voight of VIVID-PIX will share a talk about the importance of scanning and digitizing your previous photos, films, and memories, and how VIVID-PIX can help you.

After the meeting, head over to the Sahyun Library, where Rick will guide you through the process of starting your genealogy journey, initiating photo organization, scanning and revitalizing your cherished photographs, and mastering the art of sharing significant family narratives.

### About the Speaker

*“Do Well Doing Good.*

*Don’t let your memories fade.*

*You click the mouse – We do the rest.”*

Rick Voight, CEO and Co-Founder, Vivid-Pix and Publisher, Reunions magazine, is a lifelong photography and imaging visionary with leading photography companies, such as Hewlett-Packard and Kodak. Whether by inventing software to restore decades-old photos, bringing back precious memories that were thought to be long gone due to the passage of time or cognitive decline, sharing stories, or helping to bring families and friends together at reunions, “Rick, Randy, and a few excellent people” created Vivid-Pix over a decade ago with a focus to make it simple and affordable for consumers and organizations to relive memories.

An innovative marketer at Hewlett-Packard, Voight was instrumental in creating the Retail Publishing Solutions Division, connecting home, store, and online to deliver photos and gifts in minutes, an hour, or a few days. While at Kodak, Rick was instrumental at the dawn of digital, working with just about every class of trade, developing relations and promotions with local, regional, national, and international sporting teams, theme parks, and organizations, creating new technologies and revenue for the company and its partners.

His favorite personal achievements are raising a daughter, who is a storyteller at Microsoft and Major in the U.S. Air Force, with his wife of over 35 years and working as a volunteer and board member in multiple non-profit organizations. Rick holds multiple degrees in Applied Science, Business Management, Business Administration, and Finance from the Rochester Institute of Technology and University of South Florida.

### HYBRID Event! — Live Presentation

This program will be on Zoom and in person at the  
First Presbyterian Church

Only Zoom attendees are required to register.

<https://tinyurl.com/my6na2kt>

Saturday, April 20 2024

## April Meetings

Find links to all Zoom events here:

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

### Memorial Patio & Garden

#### Progress Meeting

Saturday, April 6, 2024, 10:00 am

Venue: Sahyun Library

### Tuesday Lunch and Learn

#### In-Person Only

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Tuesday, April 9, 2024; 12:00pm - 1:30pm

### Beginning(and Intermediate) Genealogy SIG Meeting ZOOM ONLY

Presented by Jean Foster

Thursday, April 11, 2024; 11:00 am-12:30pm

### Jewish Genealogy SIG Meeting

#### In-Person Only

Presented by Harriette Hinderstein

Thursday, April 11, 2024; 12:00pm - 1:30pm

### Zoom Lunch and Learn

#### ZOOM Only

Presented by Rosa Avolio

Wednesday, April 17, 2024; 12:00pm - 1:30pm

### DNA Lunch & Learn

#### In-Person Only

Presented by George LaPlante

Friday, April 19, 2024; 12:00pm -1:30pm

### Scanning Saturday with Rick Voight of VIVID-PIX! with Rick Voight,

Free and Open to the Public

Saturday, April 20, 2024; 1:00 pm

Venue: Sahyun Genealogical Library

### Crowdsourcing to Break Down Your Brick Wall

Moderator: Jean Foster

Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 12:00 pm

#### ZOOM Only

## More Information:

Special Interest Groups will meet in person at the church.

9:30 - 10:25 am

Business Meeting will be in person and on Zoom.

10:30 - 11:00am

Featured Speaker (live via Zoom)

~11:00 - 12:00 Noon

## Presidents' Message

by Ted Tazer-Myers



As President of SBCGS, one of my responsibilities is to lead the Board and its officers in stewarding the financial health of the organization. In this month's column, I thought I would take the opportunity to give you (our members and stakeholders) a brief overview of our financial condition and introduce you to some of the folks who ensure that we responsibly operate the Society.

For my part, I actively participate on the Finance, Investment, and Development Committees. I also work closely with our contracted financial management service, Balance Financial Management, and Bob Goeller, Treasurer, and Marilyn Compton, Assistant Treasurer.

Each month, the Finance Committee and Board of Directors review the financial statements prepared by BFM. The chair of the Finance Committee, Michel Nellis, also appoints an ad hoc Budget subcommittee to evaluate mid-year adherence to the current year's budget. Our current financial statements reveal that the Society is on track to complete the current fiscal year ending June 30th in the black.

Michel also chairs a Budget Committee to prepare the 2024-25 budget. Besides Michel, the members are Bob Goeller, Marilyn Compton, Karen Ramsdell, and me. In February, the committee laid out a budget development timeline and process with the committee chairs and titled directors at the Operations Leadership Team (OLT). After soliciting and receiving input from all of the Society's committee chairs, the Budget Committee drafted a balanced budget that the OLT and the Board will be discussing this month. We expect the 2024-25 budget to be finalized by the Board either this month or next.

In some respects, budgeting for nonprofits is quite straightforward: every year, we seek to have sufficient revenue to cover expenses, plus maintain an operating reserve for contingencies and a longer-term reserve (aka "quasi-endowment") for capital needs and larger budget shortfalls. Fortunately, thanks to prudent oversight by Mary Hall and the Investment Committee, we have healthy operating and long-term reserves. Fred Marsh, chair of the Property Committee, also ensures that the Board abides by a property maintenance reserve study that ensures we have the funds to keep the Library, Society rental units, and overall property in excellent condition.

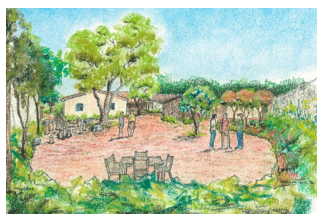
The Society is in terrific financial condition. Thanks to steadily growing membership, generous donors, rental property fees, and other fund-generating activities (book sales, webinars, etc.), are revenue picture is sound. Best of all, our conscientious volunteers dedicate hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of labor to keep the Society thriving. As we have been learning from sister organizations, not all genealogical societies in North America are doing as well as SBCGS. But I can assure you that without exception, our leadership and corps of volunteers are dedicated to living with-

in our means to provide our membership and our community with high-quality, cutting-edge family history products and services.

By the way, if you haven't heard already, our financial administration team, as well as the Finance Committee itself will be undergoing some changes starting July 1st. Besides the changes instituted by contracting out bookkeeping and accounting to Balance Financial Management, the Treasurer (Bob Goeller) is terming out and Marilyn Compton and Michel Nellis are retiring from their roles. The Nominating Committee is seeking a Treasurer; but more than that, we need members who are finance professionals to participate on the Finance Committee. Please contact Karen Ramsdell if you think this could be a good opportunity for you to help keep the Society in good financial order. We need you!

Ted Tazer-Myers, President

### You Are Invited



You are invited to a meeting for those interested in the progress of the Memorial Patio & Garden project. This meeting will serve as a "check-in" to keep everyone informed about the project's progress as well as to give people a chance to

share thoughts and ideas regarding its future scope, design, and usability. We will also provide a summary of the funds raised and any future needs.

The meeting will take place on Saturday, April 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the Jackson Family Community Room at the Sahyun Genealogical Library. The President and Board look forward to seeing you there!

### WELCOME

TO OUR

# blog!

Be sure to check our **new blog**, and then subscribe so you can receive notification of our latest blog posts related to genealogy in Santa Barbara County and beyond. Our goal is to provide valuable insights, resources, and support to help you in your genealogical journey. The blog is found here:

<https://sbgen.org/start-your-search/sahyun-library-updates/>

### Looking Ahead — Save the Dates

#### Writing your Family History Using Pages

Instructor: Sharon Summers

Monday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m.

ZOOM only.

#### "Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist" Webinar

Presented by Annette Burke Lyttle

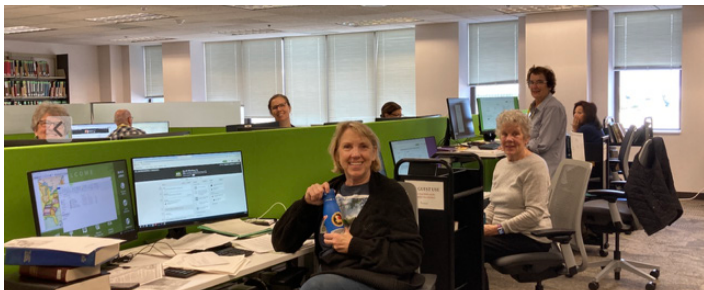
May 8, 5:00 pm; REGISTER NOW at [SBCGS@sbgen.org](mailto:SBCGS@sbgen.org)



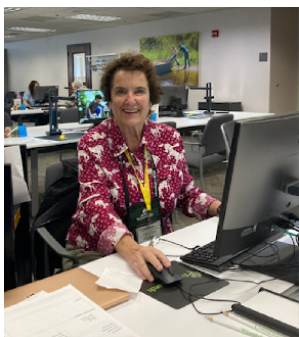
## Books at the Sahyun

Chris Klukkert, Book Chair

The group from our society just returned from a week of research at the Salt Lake City Family Search Library. I was one of the lucky ones along on that trip. It might come as no surprise to anyone to know that the bulk of my time in that library was spent on the third floor where the US books are held.



On just my second day in the library, I broke through one of my maternal line genealogy brick walls! “Who were the parents of George Lyman (1780 – 1869) of Middlesex County, Massachusetts?” How did I do it? By looking at an original record, and not just relying on a transcription (which had never bothered to list the parents). It was so gratifying. Not only that, but instead of having to scroll through page after page of a digital version of any Weston and Watertown, Massachusetts books on my computer screen, I had the actual book IN HAND, and easily used the index in the back, turned to the page I wanted to look at. When I found something I was interested in (and I did many times) I used one of the many book scanners in the library to scan and upload the page to my tree. It was researcher’s heaven.



It was also a week of comraderies, sharing of genealogy “wins” and frustrations, and some fun outings and meal breaks together. Make sure to look into going with us next year!

So, while I made a breakthrough with my Lyman family brick wall, I now have the two new parents’ names to research and follow. George’s mother is, as usual, only named by her first name, and the father, being from England, takes me over the pond and to a whole other area of research. So, now that I am home, I wanted to see which books in our Sahyun collection might help me further my genealogy investigation. **Bond’s Genealogies and History of Watertown, Massachusetts** is going to be one of my first shelf pulls this week. I also see we have the **County Atlas of Middlesex, Massachusetts, 1875**. Is George’s farm on there? How far was his wife’s family farm from there? Did George move from Watertown to Weston, or did the town lines grow and change as they often did back then? The catalog reveals we have **Early Vital Records of Middlesex County, Massachusetts** to about 1850, which is a wonderful resource, but I about wore out the copy that the Salt Lake library had (it is so popular – they even keep a duplicate set on their shelves).

I will want to pull **Genealogy in America, Massachusetts, Con-**

**necticut, and Maine** to determine where else I might be researching for George Lyman’s mother. Didn’t I note that her family may have moved to Massachusetts from Connecticut?

Best yet, in our **Surname file drawers** (you all have looked in there, yes?) there is a LYMAN file! Kristin Ingalls took a quick look for me when I called in last week and said

there was some interesting looking articles and even a large family pedigree chart in that file titled “Lyman’s from England.” I will make a beeline to those files when I come in this week. While I am there, I will peruse the **LOCALITY file drawer** to see what maps of New England I might want to use and possibly scan in our scanning area. Last, but not least, is a brand-new addition to our library – a book that was graciously donated by a society member, and it is **Genealogy of the Lyman Family in Great Britain and America** (originally published 1872).

So, don’t be surprised to see me often at the Sahyun these next few weeks, walking the stacks, and with a big pile of books on my table!

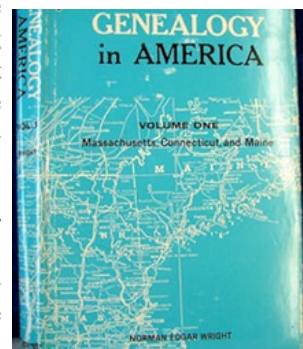
What books on your family awaits your search? Come into the Sahyun and see for yourself. We look forward to your library visit and we encourage and welcome suggestions for other genealogy books for our collection.

Here are the books from the **New In The Library** shelf:

- *Cemeteries of Scott County, Arkansas* (2 volumes)
- *Virginia Land Patents of the Counties of Norfolk, Princess Anne & Warwick from Patent Books “O” & “6” 1666-1679*
- *Colonial Delaware Wills and Estates to 1800: An Index*
- *Chester County Marriages 1778-1879 Implied in Chester County, S.C. Probate and Equity Records*
- *Origins of French-Canadian Families*
- *Pioneers, a book for The Terrebonne Genealogical Society (Louisiana)*
- *The Annals & History of Henrick Parish, Diocese of Virginia and St. John’s P.E. Church*
- *Twenty-four Hundred Tennessee Pensioners: Revolution War of 1812*
- *Trailways to Albany: A look at the People and Events that shaped the townships of Garden Plain, Newton and Albany in Illinois*

We want to thank the following generous donors:

**Sharon (Knickrehm) Summer**  
**Karen Linn**  
**Edward S. Robbins**



## Membership

Kate Lima, Membership Chair

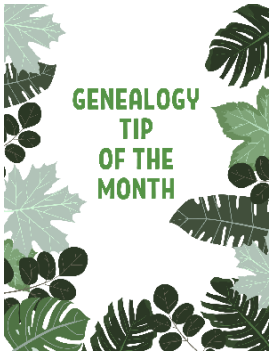
### Welcome to Our Newest Members



**Tara Ball, Laurie Keeler  
Charles Springer, Marjorie Lee Wilser**

*Also, a big thank you to our continuing members who renewed in March. Thank you, we're so glad you're here!*

### Genealogy Tip of the Month



#### *Simple Ways...Maybe*

Really getting into these things takes some time, but here are some general things to remember when you are "stuck."

- Money and work motivate people to move, and people are sometimes more mobile than we think - especially if opportunities were limited in the area where the person was living.
- Create a timeline of all events in your ancestor's life. Gaps of more than a few

years are opportunities for research. Lots of things can happen in two or three years.

- Do you really know what you think you know? How do you know it? Did you assume when you should not have?
- Do you know where that source came from?
- Could you be wrong?
- Are you familiar with all sources in the area—civil (all levels of government) and private records?

(From "GenealogyTipOfTheDay.com," April 23, 2022)

### Let's Talk About the Survey!



Over the past five months I've written about our survey: I wrote the popular answers to a number of questions such as "How should we grow?" "What changes would you like to see in our facilities?" "What would you like to see added to our website?" and other questions.

I've also written how people and committees are listening to you! Now, with this last report, I'm going to take this opportunity to say that we continue to work toward making the society a better place for everyone.

This past month we offered an early evening webinar, something that we haven't done in quite a while. Our next webinar will be on May 8 at 5pm, and the title is "Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist." I hope to see you there!

The Board and Committees have paid attention to your input, so thank you so much for participating. If you have additional ideas or suggestions, please let me or someone in the library know!

### Trip to Salt Lake City

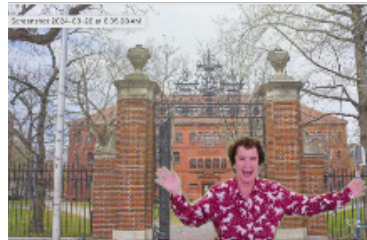


What a wonderful trip we had! We were a hearty and affable group of 12, here are a few of our highlights; these and more will be in the next issue of *Ancestors West*.

**From Laurie Hannah:** My favorite memory was the snow. I much prefer being here when it's colder than in the heat of May and June. But that won't stop me from coming during other months!

**From Holly Snyder:** I loved the social aspect of the trip. Hanging out with the group made the week so much fun! Everyone was in good spirits, got along with each other very well, and were helpful to each other. As someone who works full-time, I appreciate having a week to devote to my own genealogy without any other responsibilities. I have a blast on these trips whether I find any genealogy gems or not. I can't wait to go again next year!

**From Chris Klukkert:** A fun and silly memory is that I had a lot



I explored Massachusetts

of fun with the camera and green screen area on the first floor of the Family Search Library. I was like a five-year-old with that thing—and took at least one photo a day there, sometimes mugging for the camera or choosing obscure and un-relatable backgrounds, as well as high-

lighting accurate photographic backgrounds (i.e., Massachusetts, in honor of my LYMAN line). (Kate's note: you should have seen her running with the elephants in Africa!)



I explored Utah

### Need help? Work with a Coach!



We have many people you can contact, so check out the list of Coaches after you sign in. You'll see a list under "Members Area" called "Coaches for Members." This kind of research will take off to a whole new level!

Or email Kathy Cremeen for information:

[kajcremeen@gmail.com](mailto:kajcremeen@gmail.com).



## Outreach

by Holly Snyder, Chair

Happy Spring! Here is information on upcoming events we are hosting in the community as well as genealogical happenings in the community.

### Event: Honoring the Ancestors: Santa Barbara's Traditional Chinese Burial Customs



Photo courtesy of Gledhill Library, Santa Barbara Historical Museum

**May 4, 10:30am-noon, Santa Barbara Cemetery**

**Free! Registration [Here](https://tinyurl.com/SBCGS-Chinese-Burial-Customs)**

(or copy and paste URL:

<https://tinyurl.com/SBCGS-Chinese-Burial-Customs>)

Did you know there was a Chinese cemetery in Santa Barbara? Join us to learn about Santa Barbara's early Chinese residents, their funeral practices, and burial history in the Santa Barbara Cemetery. Eugene Moy, past president of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, will describe Santa Barbara's Chinese community circa 1860s to 1930. Elaborate Chinese funeral processions, secondary burial practices, along with specific individual histories, will also be discussed. Author and researcher (and Society member), David Petry, will talk about the history of the Santa Barbara Cemetery and provide details about the establishment of a Chinese section and the building of structures to accommodate ancient Chinese death rituals.

### 1925 Santa Barbara Earthquake Centennial



Photo courtesy of Gledhill Library, Santa Barbara Historical Museum

Did your family live in Santa Barbara during the 1925 earthquake, or do you know of a family who lived here during this time? If so, we would like to hear from you! Maybe you have a diary with written accounts or remember stories your parents or other family members told. We would like to share these recollections during the centennial commemoration in 2025. Please contact [Outreach@sbgen.org](mailto:Outreach@sbgen.org) if you have anything to contribute or can put us in touch with someone whose family lived in Santa Barbara in 1925.

### Picnic in the Cemetery 2024



**Date: Saturday, October 26, 2024 @ 10am; Lunch will start about 12:30 pm**

**Locations:** Santa Barbara Cemetery and then lunch will be at the LDS Church/FamilySearch Center of Santa Barbara.

**Actors:** Wilbur Hopkins Tate, Betsy Green, Mel Sahyun, Helen Wong, Heather McDaniel

McDevitt, and Jonathan Smith.

Registration information will be provided soon! We will also need volunteers for group leaders, check-ins, set up, and clean up. We will be putting out an official call out in the summer months.

### Santa Barbara Fair & Expo- Genealogy Entries



**April 25- May 5, 2024, Adult Exhibit**

The Santa Barbara Fair & Expo is accepting entries for genealogy!

**Entries are due April 15.** Let Outreach know of your entry and we will share it with our members. Want to attend and see the great exhibits? Pre-sale tickets are on

sale from April 1-24. Purchase tickets at [earlwarren.com](http://earlwarren.com) or at their office.

**DIVISION 65 – GENEALOGY DIVISION**

(In the Literature division)

1. Family Pedigree/Descendants Charts
2. Family Genealogy in Original Writings (family history, stories etc.)
3. California/Santa Barbara Genealogy
4. Family Heirloom 75 years or older
5. Family Portrait/Photo 75 years or older
6. Any Other Genealogy

For more information, see their entry rules: <https://earlwarren.com/s/2024-Adult-Division-Catalogue-and-Information.pdf>

### Speaking Engagements in the Community



**Upcoming talks: May 9 at Maravilla**

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!

## Volunteer Spotlight

This month, SBCGS recognizes and thanks Fred Marsh, a member since 2002. Fred has been our Property Director for many years, spearheading many efforts; one of the latest was making our Victorian house ready for occupancy. He oversees volunteer work cleaning the property, and this past year he kept us up-to-speed on our thankfully short-lived homeless problem. Maybe it didn't feel very short-lived to Fred! We're so happy to share Fred's story this month. Thank you, Fred, for all your hard work.

### A Strong Belief in the Potential for Volunteers, — and a Love for Genealogy by Fred Marsh



I was born in Berkeley, California during WWII but grew up in Los Angeles through high school. I attended Oregon State University and graduated with an engineering degree in 1965. During my summer breaks while in college and immediately following graduation I worked for SCE in LA mostly helping with the design, construction and testing of new power stations around the LA basin. I met my future wife, Mary, while in college and we were married in 1966. Little did I know at that time that she was interested in genealogy and that it was contagious!

I joined Bechtel Corporation in 1969 and continued my involvement in the design of power stations, but now the projects were being built across the country and overseas. Soon Bechtel had me fully engaged in new nuclear power plants and then began their practice of moving our growing family around. First, we moved from LA to Orange County, then to Houston, TX, then back to Orange County, then the Augusta, GA and then back to Orange County. In 1994 Bechtel transferred Mary and me to Hong Kong and in 1998 we were moved to Singapore. During all of these moves my work increasingly involved the recruiting and management of engineers and designers rather than doing design work myself.

Finally, Bechtel transferred us from Singapore to Richland, Washington state in 2001 where my job was to recruit and build a large team of engineers to design a processing facility for the nuclear waste remaining from the Manhattan Project that started during WWII and expanded during the Cold War but shut down in about 1989. Our job was to build a facility to separate the radioactive waste materials and mix them with molten glass. While I was in Richland, we built that team and began construction of a \$20 billion nuclear waste treatment plant along the Columbia River in eastern Washington. I retired in 2003 and we chose to

live in Santa Barbara.

Since my retirement, I have become active in SBCGS as well as serving as an Elder in our church and on the boards of other non-profit organizations in Santa Barbara. The genealogy bug has grown in me from Mary and the classes I have attended at the Sahyun. Robin McCarthy recruited me to stand for election to the SBCGS board in 2019. Michel Nellis recruited me to join the Finance Committee soon thereafter. As my involvement increased, Connie Burns helped me recognize a need to strengthen the maintenance of our facilities and I could not resist the challenge. I have been leading the Property Committee since 2020. Fortunately, the veterans on our committee who have skills that I do not have continue to do the demanding work of keeping our property in good condition.

I believe strongly in the potential for volunteers (especially those who have retired from career jobs) to make a significant difference in their communities by contributing their time, talents, and money to worthwhile non-profits that serve needs that we are enthusiastic about. Santa Barbara is a wonderful place to apply these efforts!



### Ancestors West News

Our next issue's deadline for articles is MAY 1st. We suggest you write about your **FAVORITE GENEALOGY STORY OR EXPERIENCE**. We always welcome any story you wish to submit. If you have suggestions for future topics, please let us know. We'd love to have your input.

Please send your stories to Charmien Carrier, editor:  
[charmien2940@gmail.com](mailto:charmien2940@gmail.com)

As a reminder, Ancestors West writing and submission guidelines are on the inside back cover of AW.

To see digital issues of AW,  
from 1974–Current, go to our website:  
<https://sbgen.org/society-publications/#gsc.tab=0>



### 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.”