

ZOOM Only

President's Message

by Ted Tazer-Myers



Hello, dear members and friends! It's hard to believe, but we are almost to the end of the fiscal year. To celebrate the Society's achievements during the past twelve months, our multi-talented Mary Jacob is editing the inaugural Year-in-Review report that will be distributed at our Annual Meeting on June 15th. I won't steal its thunder by listing our accomplishments in this column, but you will be amazed at the

surprising number of valuable initiatives and projects that have been implemented during the past year by our creative, talented, and hardworking volunteers. Many thanks to all the department team leaders and committee chairs who contributed content and to Diane Sylvester for layout and design. It looks fantastic!

With the closing of 2023-24, I am starting to look forward to the new fiscal year. I met with one of our long-term members and recent Santa Barbara Foundation Person of the Year, Peter Schuyler, a few weeks ago for coffee. After Peter enthralled me with the story of his illustrious family history, we started talking about the Society's progress in implementing our current strategic plan. I told him we are right on track and that Karen Ramsdell distributes an updated spreadsheet regarding the progress of each initiative and task to our Operations Leadership Team each month, which has both given us collective feedback and held us accountable. Peter then asked me what I was excited about for the coming year. I said there were two things:

First, I am excited about an education initiative led by Diane Sylvester and Chris Klukkert where we will be delivering family history curriculum to local schools. I believe learning one's genealogy and family history is vitally important for students to fill out their concept of who they are and where they come from. If any of you teachers or former teachers and school administrators and staff would like to support this initiative, please let Diane know.

Second, I told Peter that I am looking forward to working with our membership, library, and outreach teams regarding ways to develop more diversity in our collections and membership. To that end, Peter suggested that I meet with Lauren Trujillo, the young, dynamic executive director of the Santa Barbara Library Foundation. Lauren has become well-known in South County for effectively promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in local nonprofits. She agreed to meet with Laurie Hannah, Mary Jacob, and me last Friday and she shared some excellent, actionable ideas that we look forward to implementing in 2024-25.

So, thank you to Peter for sharing some of your family history and for suggesting that I meet with Lauren, who was quite impressed by her first tour of the Sahyun Library and is now an enthusiastic supporter of our mission. And thank you to all the wonderful members and volunteers who make the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society such an outstanding place to work, learn, and have fun!

Ted Tazer-Myers

The Development Committee

Ted Tazer-Myers, Interim Development Director

The Development Committee is pleased to report on our progress regarding two fundraising efforts that promote the mission of the Society.

Educational Display Systems

The Society has developed a project for replacing outdated educational technology. We want to replace the projector/screen system that we have been using in the Jackson Family Community Room with a smart television with streaming and external audio connection capabilities in our classroom room as well as one in the John Woodward Reading Room. We also plan to purchase a wireless, portable smart board/interactive display board to make presentations clearer, with interactive capabilities that allow us to write on the board and save these ideas digitally. The all-in-one system includes a digital whiteboard, portable stand, an AI camera, microphone, speakers, and innovative styluses.

The funds will also help us replace the Owl video conferencing system with webcams in both the classroom and conference room. These webcams are equipped with microphones and speakers that can tilt, pan the entire room and zoom in when desired, effectively removing the current obstacles we have to communication with our existing, aged system. In addition, two micro-computers, with wireless keyboards and mouse, will be purchased to enable us to maximize the value of the televisions with computer interface from anywhere in the room, significantly enhancing the viewing experience of both streaming online and as an educational tool.

Finally, wall mounts for the televisions, software, display easels, portable monitors and a mobile hotspot (to accommodate up to 32 devices with a 2000 square foot range for events inside the Sahyun Library and outside on our patio) round out the total package of upgraded educational technology.

The entire project is expected to cost \$14,238. We anticipate receiving \$11,000 in support of this project and need to raise an additional \$3,238 more to reach our goal. Please contact Mary Jacob if you would like to contribute to this worthy cause.

(Mary Jacob at maryjjacob8@gmail.com)

Memorial Patio & Garden

After receiving a generous donation of \$50,000 from the Woodward Family Foundation, we have exceeded the Phase 1 fundraising goal of \$100,000 by over \$10,000! With initial funding secured, Fred Marsh, project manager, was given the green light to initiate conceptual design, engineering, and survey work. Phase 1 will give us a realistic project cost estimate. Phase 2 will focus on additional fundraising and preliminary and final design and approvals, with Phase 3 encompassing permits and construction.

Many thanks to John Woodward, the Williams Corbett Foundation, Mary Jacob, Lori Call, Karen Ramsdell, Fred Marsh, Holly Snyder, and Rosa Avolio for devoting their precious time, energy, expertise and treasure to help bring these projects to their current state of realization.

Books at the Sahyun

Chris Klukkert, Book Chair

Summer is soon upon us, and I know that there are some genealogists already on the road to ancestral origins or places. Hopefully, you all have considered checking our library catalog to see what books we might have to help guide you on your research or family trip. My husband and I were in Merced over Memorial Day weekend and made a trip to the nearby historic gold-mining town of Mariposa. Before we left Santa Barbara, I checked the Sahyun catalog on books for Mariposa to give me an idea of places we might want to visit. Helpful to me were our copies of Mariposa Now and Then and also Mariposa County Courthouse, Shrine to Justice. I learned that that courthouse is the oldest court of law in California (1854) and that it allows visitors to view its quaint upstairs courtroom (I felt like I was on the set of To Kill a Mockingbird while walking around up there with its creaky wooden floors, old style wood jury chairs and box, woodstove, and original pane windows.)



During my last library volunteer shift, a visitor to the library asked what books we have on Nebraska. She was going there in late June for a family reunion. She was tasked with preparing some pedigree sheets on her family and was stuck on a few of the family lines.

She was delighted to find we have quite collection of books on Nebraska - including one specifically on one of the counties she was visiting (Family Maps of Thomas County, Nebraska : With Homesteads, Roads, Waterways, Towns, Cemeteries, Railroads, and More.) She mentioned that her ancestors were from Czechoslovakia, and that she wasn't quite sure how to start on her Czech roots, and she asked for any hints I might have. Together we pulled out A Handbook of Czechoslovak Genealogical Research and also The Family Tree Polish, Czech & Slovak Genealogy Guide: How to Trace Your Family Tree in Eastern Europe. She was able to take photos of some of the relevant pages she could start in on and also check the biography in the back for further Czech research resources. The topper for her day was finding our book, Czech Heritage families of Nebraska and Kansas. When I left my volunteer librarian shift, she was still immersed in the Nebraska section of the stacks and had set aside some specific pages from the Czech genealogy research books she was going to scan to take back home.



Hmmn, that reminded me. I am going to my paternal side ancestral home of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England for the second time in September. Last visit was a whirlwind tour of the more touristy sites and to locate some of the homes of my grandfather's family. I needed to look for myself and sure enough, I found in our stacks the book Hallowed Ground: Churchyards of Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds and also a great map, Gloucestershire, the Glory of the Cotswolds. I know what I will be digging into when I head in next week. How about you?

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*:



- *The Adoptee's Guide to DNA Testing : How to Use Genetic Genealogy to Discover Your Long-Lost Family*
- *NGS Research in the States Series: VIRGINIA*
- *Between the Lines: The Catholic Church in Shasta County, California 1853-1977.*

We want to thank the following generous donors:

Ellen Bowers Emma Carver Lindell Morrow
Karen Courville Kathy Allain

Webinar Wednesday:



Uncovering Maternal Mayhem
Opening 'Pandora's Box': A Story of Family Secrets Exposed with DNA Testing
Wed., June 12, 2024
06:00 pm PDT

Part II: Uncovering Maternal Mayhem

"While learning the identity of my biological father, I also uncovered a plethora of other secrets involving my mother, her siblings, her parents, and her grandparents... none of which I expected. Part II explores the extenuating capacity of DNA testing and how the understanding of genetics and mathematics can ascertain biological relationships, despite generations of presumed ancestry."

NOTE: Due to the sensitive nature of this talk, it will NOT be recorded. Please tune in live! Register with QR code or sbgen.org to receive a confirmation email with the Zoom meeting link.

Membership

Kate Lima, Membership Chair



Welcome to our newest members

Judith Ann Arbuckle

Laurie Constable

Dee Finnegan

Lauren Taylor Bryson

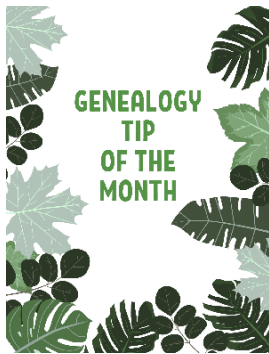
Susan Taylor McEwen Neuman

And our returning members

Mary Carroll

Allyson Mieth-Myers

**Also, a big thank you to our continuing members
who renewed in May.**



Genealogy Tip of the Month

There is my Benjamin Butler and then there are the other ones. Mine was born about 1819 in New York State and is known to have lived in Michigan, Ontario, Iowa, and Missouri (and possibly a few other locations as well). There are other men of that same name who were of about the same age. I'm always

encountering them when I'm looking through records on my Benjamin.

So I made a list of these other Benjamin Butlers and what I have about them – focusing on those who lived reasonably close to my Benjamin and were of about the same age.

I also made a note that there was a Benjamin Butler born in 1818 in New Hampshire who was eventually a governor of Massachusetts. His name comes up in a variety of newspaper searches due to his mention of his political activities. All of that is done so that when I go back to work on my Benjamin after a break, I do not have to start from scratch.

(From "GenealogyTipOfTheDay.com," June 27, 2022)

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



Notes from our Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

What a memorable day we had! After last month's General Meeting we invited volunteers to the Sahyun to show our appreciation. About 40 people came; food and drink were great, a goodie bag was nice, but the highlight of the afternoon was reconnecting with so many of our friends. We had a slideshow of different volunteers throughout the years, which was enjoyed only between conversations.

Our thanks once again to the dedicated and exceptional volunteers who make our society great. Your work is why we function so well.



Website Records Database Update by Robin McCarthy

The Records Database now includes Volume 14 of the Naturalization Petitions from the Santa Barbara County Superior Court Archives, which covers the months of June 1935 through January 1936. Members can request images for \$5 each, while non-members can order images for \$10 each.

Annual Membership Meeting Saturday, June 15

10:30 am

Please attend.

A quorum of our total membership number
is needed for the election.

(Board election held in conjunction with the
business meeting)

The minutes from the Annual Membership Meeting 2023
is included in this Tree Tips.

Outreach

by Holly Snyder, Chair

Happy June! The next few months, Outreach will be busy working with the actors for the upcoming Picnic in the Cemetery, forming a steering committee for the next Santa Barbara heritage exhibit (SB Hispanic Heritage, 1850-1950), plus planning for a display at the Goleta Library (September) and our annual Family History Month Open House (October). Next up for Outreach is Goleta Valley Historical Society's annual Old-Fashioned 4th of July event! See below for more information about our booth and volunteer opportunities.

Introducing Santa Barbara Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Virtual Exhibit!

<https://sbgen.org/in-the-community/exhibits/>



Discover the captivating narratives spanning from the 1870s to the 1970s, showcasing the culture, contributions, and experiences of Chinese, Filipino, and Japanese families who called Santa Barbara County their home. Despite facing restrictions and forced removals, these families persevered, sustaining livelihoods, nurturing businesses, and preserving cultural institutions. Step into the vibrant past of Santa Barbara's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, where tales of resilience and cultural legacy unfold in each family's unique story.

Exhibit articles in the next Ancestors West!

Be on the lookout for a couple of articles and a poem about Santa Barbara Chinatown (written by an exhibit participant) in the next issue of *Ancestors West*. One of the articles will be on some of the AAPI servicemen who bravely served our country through multiple wars. If you do not receive a physical copy of *Ancestors West*, you can access it here once it gets published: <https://sbgen.org/society-publications/ancestors-west/#gsc.tab=0>

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



Thank you to our members who attended our event on May 4th at the Santa Barbara Cemetery. We had about 45 people attend, with about half in attendance who were not members. We sent out a survey and received some great feedback. We will plan on sending out more surveys to get feedback from attendees so we can improve our future events and programs.



Picnic in the Cemetery 2024

Date: Saturday, October 26, 2024 @ 10am, lunch will start around 12:30pm

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

Cemetery residents and actors: Otto Hopkins [Wilbur Hopkins Tate], Julia Frances Williams [Betsy Green], Charles John Valde [Mel Sahyun], Lillian Bailey Beale Child [Helen Wong], Mary and Ethel Richardson [Heather McDaniel McDevitt and Chloe Wilcox], Crimora Coiner Whitcher [Cathy Sahm Garley], and Edwin "EJ" Hayward [Jonathan Smith].

Registration will begin in early September.



Speaking Engagements in the Community

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.

Did your group already have a talk with Larry but would be interested in a follow up talk or a workshop-style activity? We can do that too!



1925 Santa Barbara Earthquake Centennial Exhibit-June 2025 (Gledhill Library Photo, SB Historical Museum)

Keep the stories and photos coming! Did your family live in Santa Barbara during the 1925 earthquake, or maybe 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 if you have anything to contribute or can put us in touch with someone whose family lived in Santa Barbara in 1925.

Volunteer Spotlight On Mary Jacob

This month, SBCGS recognizes and thanks Mary Jacob, a member since 2016. Mary has been a regular volunteer for many years. I first met Mary when we worked on the African American Exhibit. She wasn't on the Outreach committee but she always helped out, whenever asked. She's the Board Secretary and she's on the Ancestors West Editorial Committee. She recently joined the new Marketing Committee and the newly organized Development Committee; she did so with enthusiasm and ideas! One important thing: I know I can call on her for goodies at our events. She is a joy to work with, always smiling and helpful. Thank you, Mary, for everything you do. (by Kate Lima)

Mary's Bio



I grew up in northern Indiana, attended Macalester College (Minnesota) and headed east to Syracuse University in New York to complete my master's and Ph.D. in geography. While in graduate school I met and married Thomas Jacob, an Indian citizen, and did my dissertation research in India. Thereafter, I taught geography and served as a dean at Mount Holyoke College (Massachusetts) prior to moving to Santa Barbara in 1996 where I held various administrative positions

at UC Santa Barbara before retiring in 2016.

The seeds for my interest in genealogy were planted by two of America's foremost historical geographers with whom I was privileged to study. I remember vividly their lectures about the 1870 federal census and its utility in tracing family migration, the maps they drew of trails and settlement patterns, and their observations about the cultural imprint of ethnic groups on the American landscape. I always said to myself that when I retired, I would study my family history. Indeed, several months before my retirement, I took Norma Eggli's course through adult education on creating your genealogy toolbox. I followed her advice and joined SBCGS a few months after my husband's death. I am currently working on a book about my maternal ancestors. I have also become the family historian for the maternal side of my husband's family. My next trip to India will include visits to archives and churches in Calcutta to do genealogical research.

When I was a beginner genealogist, I appreciated the help I received from SBCGS members so much that I looked for volunteer opportunities to give back to the society. I began as a volunteer librarian on the third Sunday of the month which I did until COVID shut the library. I am now a substitute librarian. I have indexed various types of records including coroner reports that proved fascinating and helped me sharpen my skills at reading handwriting from the past.

I am currently Secretary for the Board and a member of the editorial committee of Ancestors West. Though I have never formally joined the Outreach Committee, I volunteered to research and write for the African American exhibit and continue to help with exhibits. While I may not be "officially" involved in an event or activity, I often just pitch in where and when needed. Through my volunteer activities with SBCGS, I have truly enjoyed making friends with people who share similar interests.

In-the-Community Event



Old-Fashioned 4th of July at Stow House Thursday, July 4th 11am-4pm at Stow House

It's that time of year again! Outreach will need volunteers to assist with set up, research help, and take down at this popular event. Please consider volunteering with us this year! This is an event where we bring our laptop or tablet and help visitors find their ancestors. Last year we had a good turnout and had quite a few children stop by interested in learning more about their families. It was a lot of fun!

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/4thJuly-volunteer>



Volunteering feels good! It's rewarding and it's fun! Join these happy volunteers by contacting Kathy at Volunteers@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."

News from the SBCGS Librarian

Laurie Hannah



NEW MEMBER BENEFITS!

You asked and we listened! In our member-wide survey from last year, many people asked if we could continue the remote access we had to Ancestry.com and GenealogyBank during the pandemic when the library was shut down. Unfortunately, Ancestry.com no longer provides remote access and GenealogyBank has changed its product line for libraries.

However, we are pleased to offer our members remote access to two other services, which we hope will enhance your genealogical research. ***Starting July 1, members will have access to MyHeritage and NewspaperArchive, two services that will complement our other suite of subscription databases and provide users with complete access from home.*** You will be able to log into these databases from behind our member wall, so you will need to be a member to use them.

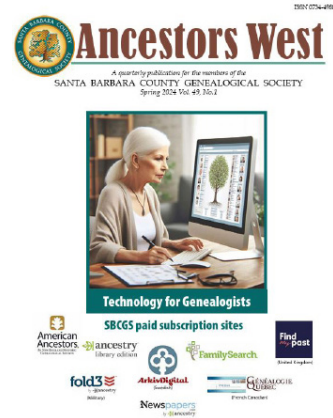
NewspaperArchive will complement Newspapers.com, a service the library already subscribes to. It concentrates on many small town newspapers from around the country with strength in the midwest. However, one of the key reasons we decided to subscribe to NewspaperArchive is that it provides coverage of the Santa Barbara News Press from 2005-2023, which Newspapers.com doesn't have.

MyHeritage is known for its international coverage and includes billions of documents from more than 48 countries. There are over 1,300 collections just for Europe alone. It is especially strong in Jewish records from Eastern Europe and Israel. Though you will have access to many records available from other databases we subscribe to in the library, you will be able to access them at home!

The Society will trial these remote services for a year and see how often they are used. Based on user feedback and use statistics, we will evaluate at the end of the fiscal year whether we will continue. As always, we welcome your feedback about library services and what you want from your genealogy society. Stay tuned for more information next month.

Remember, this is an exclusive member benefit!

REMINDER: The latest issue of Ancestors West is chock-full of tips and explanations of how to use each genealogical database in our library. Many of your questions are answered there, so please give it a read!



Where is This SBCGS Member?

So many of our members are taking off on various excursions—returning to a family hometown, visiting a country of origin, seeking out a court house to research records, looking up cousins, spending a few days in major libraries, or attending a family reunion. Why not publicize your travel adventure, and give Ancestors West a bit of publicity, by snapping a picture with you holding a copy of AW. Your photo could be a feature in Tree Tips! (Remember to take a copy of AW with you. Write a short paragraph describing the reason for your trip, and send to Diane at sylvester.diane@gmail.com.) (Thanks to Westways for the idea.)



Ancestors West News

Charmien Carrier, Editor



Ancestors West

Your latest summer issue of Ancestors West is being printed and should be in your mailbox soon. If you've chosen to go paperless, the digital version will be posted on our website.

Our suggested theme for our fall issue is
"Settlements and Immigrant Trails."



Do you have a relative who helped establish a settlement or town? Do you know how your ancestors traveled? Were they part of a migration?

The fall issue **deadline for stories is August 1, 2024**. Do you want to know ahead of time what themes are in store? Soon, Ancestors West will suggest themes for an entire year giving you some extra time to plan your writing.

As a reminder, AW writing and submission guidelines, including the preferred format for your stories and photos, are on the inside back cover of AW. Please send your stories to Charmien Carrier: charmien2940@gmail.com

To see digital issues of AW, from 1974 to the present, go to our website:

<https://sbgen.org/society-publications/#gsc.tab=0>

Kudos to Our Members

The spotlight today is on Robin McCarthy. On Saturday, June 8th, 2024, at 9:00 am, Robin will be presenting a free webinar for the San Diego Genealogical Society. During this webinar, Robin will share new tips, tools, and strategies she has learned since her previous presentation for the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society in 2020.

To attend this free online event, please register using the QR code or here: <https://casdgs.org/event-5574080/Registration>.



You will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link to join the webinar.

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn from Robin's expertise and enhance your genealogical research skills.

From Our Webmaster

Seeking an Apprentice Webmaster

Dear SBCGS members,

Many of you know I have been involved with SBCGS for quite some time in several capacities, Board member, Programs/Education, IT Chair and now Webmaster. The time has come for me to retire from management positions but I will continue to host Lunch and Learn and maybe get to do some genealogy research. To be able to give up the Webmaster position I'm proposing an apprentice program for 6 months until the end of the year. I will work along with this person to teach and support them in taking over this important position. Below is the job description, as you can see we have a designer, no need to know WordPress just a desire to learn a basic understanding of how the website works. We also have Robin McCarthy who does content editing and manages the record database. Robin is an excellent support member. I look forward to hearing from anyone interested in this position.

Regards,
Rosa Avolio

Job Title: Webmaster

Overview: We are seeking an interested or experienced Webmaster to apprentice with our current webmaster and team to manage our organization's website. The ideal candidate could possess a strong understanding of web technologies or be interested in learning. Troubleshooting skills would be helpful. The Webmaster will be responsible for communicating with the contracted web designer and maintaining a task/trouble ticket system.

Responsibilities:

1. Website Maintenance:

- o Regularly monitor website performance and address any issues or bugs that arise.
- o Maintenance of pug-ins etc. is done by our contracted web designer

2. Technical Support:

- o Provide basic technical support to users experiencing difficulties with the website.
- o Troubleshoot and create trouble ticket for any technical issues related to website functionality.
- o Collaborate with internal teams and external vendors to address complex technical problems.

3. Content Management:

- o Oversee the organization and presentation of website content.
- o Coordinate with content creators and contracted designer to develop new website content as needed.

4. Performance Optimization:

- o Monitor website traffic and performance metrics, could be another volunteer

Qualifications:

- Interest in managing the society's website.
- Problem-solving and troubleshooting skills are very helpful
- Ability to work independently and prioritize tasks effectively.
- Strong communication and collaboration skills.
- Experience or interest in website analytics tools (e.g., Google Analytics) and SEO best practices

**Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society
Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
In-Person and Video Conference Meeting via "Zoom"
June 17, 2023**

Call to Order. President Ted Tazer-Myers called the Annual Membership Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The total membership is currently 501. There were 41 members attending in person and 12 via Zoom for a total of 53. Thus, a quorum (10 percent of membership) was present.

1. Approval of the Annual Membership Meeting Minutes.

Michel Nellis moved to approve the minutes from the Annual Membership Meeting held on June 18, 2022, as written, and was seconded by Bob Goeller. Approved.

2. Restated By-Laws

Karen Ramsdell, Chair of the Governance Committee, reviewed the major changes in the restated by-laws explaining the rationale and impact of each. In response to a question about the change of wording from "Mission and Restrictions" to "Purposes." Karen explained that it is recommended to use the wording in the Article of Incorporation.

Elizabeth Sawney O'Neal moved to approve the proposed changes in the by-laws and was seconded by Rosa Avolio. Approved.

3. Fiscal Year (FY)2023-2024 Budget

Financial Officer Bob Goeller presented the proposed FY2023-2024 budget that was provided to the membership in the June 2023 Tree Tips-Newsletter. On behalf of the Finance Committee, he moved that the budget be approved. Approved.

4. Election of Officers

Karen Ramsdell identified the Nominating Committee Members:

Karen Ramsdell
Kate Lima
Sharon Summers

The committee was tasked to identify nominees for the offices of Secretary and three Director-at-Large positions. The board nominated Karen Ramsdell for the new position of Vice President for Operations. The nominees are:

Mary Jacob (2023-2025)
Karen Ramsdell, Vice President for Operations (2023-2025)
Director-at-Large 2 Year Term (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2025)
Bob Muller
Marie Sue Parsons
John Woodward

Members were asked if there were nominations from the floor. There being none, **Karen Ramsdell moved on behalf of the Nominations Committee that the slate of proposed officers be approved and asked for a vote on each one. All approved.**

Ted Tazer-Myers thanked outgoing Board members, Mary Hall and Berri Bottomley, for their service on the Board.

Ted Tazer-Myers remembered and expressed his gratitude to Art Sylvester who served as president in 2008-11 and 2021-2023. Ted announced that a memorial garden to honor Art has been proposed. With the removal of some of the redwood building to open the patio area, the proposed garden would flow from the patio to the east and south. A fund-raising committee cochaired by Marie Sue Parsons and Karen Ramsdell has been created to raise several hundred thousand dollars. The vision is to honor others as well, such as Kerri Thomas and Debbie Kaska, in the garden area.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jacob
SBCGS Secretary

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Nominating Committee Report June 2024

The Nominating Committee presents its nominees for the following Board of Directors positions: Membership Director, Treasurer, Secretary, and Director-At-Large. Each is proposed for a two-year term, unless otherwise stated, starting July 1, 2023.

These nominations will be voted on by members at the Annual Membership Meeting on June 15, 2024. Nominations from the floor are permitted before the vote, but prior consent from the nominee is required.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Calvin, Bob Goeller, Chris Klukkert, Judy Sahm

Officers



Kate Lima, Membership Director

Kate currently serves on the Board as Membership Director and is a member of the Executive Committee. Kate is nominated Membership Director for a second term. She oversees the Membership Team including the Outreach and Social Committees. She serves on the Finance Committee and is liaison to the Education Committee. She joins the Ancestors West editorial team whenever possible.

Kate is a UCSB graduate and went on to receive a master's degree in interdisciplinary Humanities. She retired from a 28-year career at UCSB where she managed various academic departments including Classics (one of her majors), Economics and Earth Science. She now spends her days with her husband, grandson, and two rambunctious dogs.

A SBCGS member since 2014, Kate discovered genealogy about fourteen years ago, attempting to verify family stories, but kept bumping into brick walls. At the time she was busy with work and raising a grandson. After retiring in 2019 she began working on her genealogy in earnest and also submitting articles to Ancestors West. Kate has traveled to several states where her ancestors lived including last year's "Heritage Trip" to Tennessee and Kentucky. She hopes to continue her genealogy travels as often as possible.



Rhonda McFarlane, Treasurer

Rhonda McFarlane has been nominated Treasurer. The Treasurer serves on the Executive Committee and Chairs the Finance Committee. "I have been attending Genealogical Society since moving to Santa Barbara in 2016. This will be my first opportunity to do more. My strengths include analytical abilities, problem solving and getting along with others. I am a CPA and former Chief Financial Officer and was recognized in 2013 by the Sacramento Business Journal as their Large Public Agency Chief Financial Officer of the Year. As Treasurer I will be able to share my financial skills with the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. In the meantime, I will continue to explore my family tree while being amazed by the rich history they left behind."



Mary Hancock, Secretary (1 year term)

Mary Hancock has been nominated Secretary of the Board. The Secretary serves on the Executive Committee. Mary will fulfill the remainder of the incumbent Secretary, Mary Jacob's term, as Mary transitions into the position of Development Director.

"I joined SBCGS in September 2022, when I retired from a faculty career (Anthropology and History) at UC Santa Barbara and finally had the time to dedicate to genealogy research. I have lived in Santa Barbara since 1994, culminating a westward move across the country that began in Massachusetts, and continued through Maine, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Santa Fe, but also included a few years abroad, for research in southern India. My first project as an SBCGS volunteer was working on the AAPI Exhibit Committee and I am currently a member of the Outreach Committee. My own interests are in immigration (Portuguese, Irish and Canadian) and in New England social and community history. I look forward to continuing to use genealogical research to learn about my own family history as well as the history of Santa Barbara's diverse communities."

Director-At-Large



Heather McDaniel McDevitt, Director-At-Large

Heather currently serves on the Board as Director-At-Large and is nominated for a second term. She chairs the Social Committee and serves on the Memorial Patio and Garden project team.

Heather has been an enthusiastic member of the Society since 2021. Professionally, she is an archaeologist who works in the culture resource management sector. Heather conducted her graduate research on the Chumash Village of Syujtun located in present day Santa Barbara and is the corporate culture resources practice lead for an international engineering and environmental firm. Heather grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago, moved

(Heather McDaniel McDevitt, continued) to California in her mid-20s and has called Goleta/Santa Barbara home since 2014. She has two children, Connor, an Army 2nd Lieutenant currently based in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Chloe, an SBCC student in the cosmetology program. Heather's interest in genealogy stemmed from a mutual interest with her father collecting evidence of family history together and has grown into a love for all aspects of the craft and the friendships she has gained in the community. Heather has served on various BODs for nonprofits and is the current chairwoman of the City of Goleta's Historic Preservation Commission.



Liz Smith, Director-At-Large

Liz currently serves as Director-At-Large and has been nominated for a second term. Liz has been a Society volunteer since 2020 and currently chairs the Marketing Committee. She joined the Society in 2018.

Liz grew up in Stockton, Sacramento, and Marysville/Yuba City, and moved to Santa Barbara in 1997 to attend UCSB. She has worked for the City of Santa Barbara since 2007. She and her husband Casey live in San Roque with their children, Griffin and Isla.



Patti Ottoboni, Director-At-Large

Patti has been nominated Director-At-Large. She joined the Society in 1994 and serves on the Outreach Committee and as a library volunteer.

"I feel fortunate that my parents immigrated to California from the Midwest and relocated to Santa Barbara when I was 2 years old. Santa Barbara was an ideal place to grow up. Attending local schools, I graduated from Santa Barbara High School in 1953, proceeded to nursing school at St. Vincent's Hospital in Los Angeles, married, and, after my husband finished his medical residency, relocated back to Santa Barbara. Raising three children and a stay-at-home wife and mom comprised the next 29 years.

After everyone left home, I was free to follow my own interests, which included adult education classes in watercolor painting, birding, and genealogy. I joined a book club and the Museum League at Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Becoming president of the league and then co-director of ArtWalk for 20 years opened my horizons to the world of art and the many friends I made among the local artist community. My passion for music involved me in CAMA, Community Arts Music Association, Women's Board, and eventually as chair of CAMA events and a seat on the big CAMA board. Loving my city and concerned with preservation and its heritage, I became a charter member of the Pearl Chase Society, which is dedicated to preserving Santa Barbara's historic architecture, landscapes, and heritage. I still serve on the board and am the historian.

In high school and later years, my interest in genealogy had been piqued by the mother of a dear friend who was an early Santa Barbara County Genealogy Society member, Wilberta Finley. I pursued this interest and has now gone down the rabbit hole and I'm hooked."

Development Director (Board appointment)

The following information is provided for the membership:

The Development Director is a board-appointed position with a two-year term. The Nominating Committee recommends that the Board appoint Mary Jacob to this position at its June meeting.



Mary Jacob, Development Director

Mary currently serves as Secretary of the Society Board. She has been nominated for the board-appointed position of Development Director. Mary joined the Society in 2016 and serves on the Development Team, Governance Committee, and the editorial team of Ancestors West.

Mary worked at UC Santa Barbara where she held a number of positions until she retired, including Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services and Acting Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Prior to coming to Santa Barbara, she taught geography at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts where she also served as Dean of International Affairs. She is currently president of Friends of Navdanya, a non-profit organization that supports the work of Navdanya, a sustainable organic demonstration farm, seed bank

network and research & farmer training center in India.

Mary's interest in genealogy was sparked when she took courses in American historical geography as an undergraduate and graduate student. She often wondered how her great-grandparents (who hailed from England, Ireland, Luxembourg, Michigan and What Cheer, Iowa) all ended up in rural Indiana and what routes they took to get there. However, that spark did not fully ignite until several months before she retired in 2016 when she took Norma Egli's intermediate genealogy class through Adult Education which, as it turned out, the SBCGS helped to subsidize. Per Norma's advice, Mary joined the Society which she found to be an absolute gem of an organization. She has used the Mentor Program and broke through one of her brick walls by participating in the "Brick Walls" learn-at-lunch meetings.

Proposed Amendments to the Society's Restated Bylaws

Recommendation: The Board of Directors recommends that the membership approve the proposed amendments to Articles 1, 3, 4, and 14 of the Society's Restated Bylaws (Bylaws) dated June 17, 2023.

The Society's Bylaws, adopted on June 17, 2023, are being amended to align with the Society's Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, approved by the State of California on October 17, 2023.

The Society has navigated Santa Barbara County's reassessment of our property tax status over the past several years. This issue was resolved in October 2023 with the State's approval of the Amended Articles, resulting in a more favorable property tax classification.

When the Society's Bylaws were amended in June 2023, Articles 1, 3, 4, and 14 contained language from the Society's 1986 Articles because the State's approval of the updated Articles was uncertain at the time.

With the State's approval of the Amended and Restated Articles, it is essential to update the Bylaws to reflect the current language, ensuring consistency and alignment between our governing documents and legal standing.

Following are the proposed changes to Articles 1, 3, 4, and 14 (pages 1, 2, and 11) of the 2023 Bylaws.

RESTATED BYLAWS OF

Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, Incorporated

A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

ARTICLE 1

CORPORATE NAME

The name of this corporation is SANTA BARBARA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED (Society).

This corporation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for charitable purposes.

~~The Society is a non-profit organization incorporated under the Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation Laws of the State of California.~~

ARTICLE 3

PURPOSES

The specific purpose of the corporation is to engage in genealogical and family historical research; to maintain and preserve genealogical resources, information, and records; and to distribute studies of relevant information to the general public.

~~This Corporation is organized exclusively for providing public education on matters relating to genealogical science within the meaning of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law.~~

Section 4.2

Prohibited Activities

The property owned by this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable and educational purposes meeting the requirements of the Revenue and Taxation Code section 214, and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer, or member thereof, or to the benefit of any private person.

~~All corporate property is irrevocably dedicated to the purposes set forth in Article 2 of the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation. No part of the net earnings of this Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any of its directors, trustees, officers, private shareholders, or members, or individuals.~~

ARTICLE 14

DISSOLUTION

Upon the liquidation, dissolution or abandonment of this corporation, its assets, remaining after payment or provision of payment of all debts and liabilities of this corporation, shall be distributed to an organization organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes meeting the requirements of Revenue and Taxation Code section 214 and which has established its tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)3.

~~On the dissolution of this Corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts, obligations, and liabilities of the Corporation, the remaining assets of the corporation shall be distributed to such organization or organizations organized exclusively for providing public education on matters relating to genealogical science which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 23701(d) of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.~~