



Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society and the Sahyun Genealogical Library

Researching the World

December 2024

Tree Tips Newsletter

Vol. 40, No. 11

December General Meeting

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Location: First Presbyterian Church, State & Constance, SB

Annual Member Share Featuring SBCGS Members



Please join us on Saturday, December 21st, for our annual “Member Share” meeting 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 Event — Live presentation via Zoom

In-person at the First Presbyterian Church, State & Constance

Special Interest Groups meet in person at 9:30 - 10:25

Membership Meeting meets in person and on Zoom: 10:30 - 11:00

Featured Speaker live in person - and via Zoom: ~11:00 - 12:00 Noon

Only Zoom attendees are required to register.

<https://tinyurl.com/2s36wsma>

Saturday, December 21, 2024



December Calendar

Use URL to find links to these events

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

Jewish Genealogy Coaching

In-person Only

Thu Dec 12, 2024, 12:00pm PDT - 01:00pm

DNA Lunch & Learn

Zoom Only

Fri Dec 20, 2024, 12:00pm PDT - 01:30pm

Annual Share Monthly Meeting

Sat Dec. 21, 2024, 10:30am

Library Closures

Winter Holiday Break

Wed Dec 22 2024 to Jan 7, 2025



Scanning Workshop

Wed Jan 8, 2025, 10:00 am

We have added a new flatbed for photos, slides, and negative, a new FastFoto by Epson for stacks of snapshots, and a Kodak slide and negative scanner.

The 2024 Annual Appeal

During this holiday season, we encourage you to consider a gift to support our educational programs, the Sahyun Library, subscription databases and so much more that SBCGS does.



Something to Remember

In the spirit of the season, your book committee, would graciously accept any donations to our book fund. We’re always looking to grow and update our library with new titles, so if you’re feeling the holiday spirit (and have a little extra to spare), please consider helping us continue to expand our collection.



President's Message by Ted Tazer-Myers



Happy Holidays Members and Friends!

I trust your stomachs were filled to the brim at Thanksgiving and now you are shopping 'til you are dropping for the winter holidays. Such fun!

Speaking of giving thanks, the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society held its inaugural major donor appreciation luncheon on November 12th to honor those whose significant financial gifts help sustain and advance the mission of our organization. Nearly 20 people attended the event at the Santa Barbara Club.

I opened with a PowerPoint presentation of the Society's recent accomplishments, highlighting its financial stability, the value of its volunteer core, and the benefits it provides to the community. Besides the annual appeal that provides crucial funding for ongoing operations, donors contributed to special outreach exhibits and events, the Memorial Patio and Garden renovation, upgrading our educational technology and displays, and Tyler Frishknecht's Eagle Scout project of cleaning up the Santa Barbara County Hospital "Potters Field" Cemetery.

Featured speaker Janet Garufis, President and CEO of Montecito Bank and Trust, then shared her philosophy and experience with philanthropy in Santa Barbara. She emphasized how she has witnessed the three core values of sharing one's time, talent and treasures build up our vibrant nonprofit community. Ms. Garufis shared stories about how donors and volunteers have created and sustained cornerstone nonprofit organizations like the Santa Barbara Symphony, the Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara, Sansum Clinic Healthcare, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, and CALM, all of which strengthen the fabric of the abundant community in which we live. Whether serving as board members, assisting at special events, or providing direct services to other members, clients, and guests, our community deeply appreciates your contributions.

But volunteer time is only one side of the coin that sustains a nonprofit Society such as ours; the other is treasure. Ms. Garufis emphasized the importance of donations to ensure our ability to deliver critical services in the near and distant future. She learned the lesson of giving to others as a little girl when she donated the precious pennies she had saved to a special project for the needy at her church. Reflecting on her childhood experience, Ms. Garufis realized that this simple act of giving to others would later become a crucial part of her career at Montecito Bank & Trust where she proudly oversees the Community Dividends program and other charitable initiatives.

As she wrapped up her keynote address, Ms. Garufis told the gathering how impressed she was with our Society calling it "the best kept secret in Santa Barbara." She praised the major donors who attended the luncheon, while also challenging us to double our major donor ranks to 40 by next year's luncheon. That should be doable for, as Development Director Mary Jacob has noted, the SBCGS' major donor threshold is only \$1,000 per fiscal year □.

In gratitude for all you do to support family history at the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society, I wish you a joyful holiday season!

Ted

Announcing Ancestors West Themes for 2025

**Due
February 1, 2025
Survival Stories**



**Due
May 1, 2025
Remarkable
Achievements**



**Due
August 1, 2025
Ancestors
Schooling and
Education**



**Due
October 15, 2025
Family Legends and
Mysteries**



Books at the Sahyun by Chris Klukkert, Book Chair

As this holiday season unfolds, we want to take a moment to wish all of our fellow genealogists a very merry holiday time and a happy New Year! We hope this time of year brings you peace, joy, and perhaps even a bit of downtime to dive into your family research. Our library is here for you, full of books, records, and resources just waiting to help you uncover your family's history. If you haven't visited in a while, now is the perfect time to come in, explore our collection, and discover something new about your ancestors. This month's Member share at the general meeting is also a holiday treat to attend and enjoy.

In the spirit of the season, your book committee, would graciously accept any donations to our book fund. We're always looking to grow and update our library with new titles, so if you're feeling the holiday spirit (and have a little extra to spare), please consider helping us continue to expand our collection. Every little bit helps us ensure our library remains a treasure trove for genealogists like you! You can donate on our website, mail us a check, or drop cash in our Book Angel box on the New in The Library shelf. We would be ever grateful.

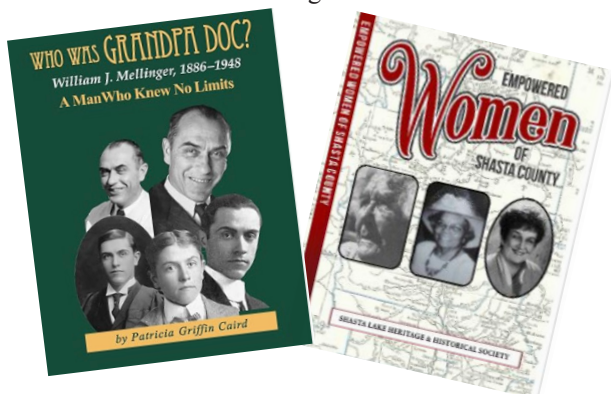
Here's wishing you all a joyful, successful, and genealogically adventurous holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in the new year!

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

- History of Lynn, Essex County, Massachusetts
- Empowered Women of Shasta County, CA
- Tennessee Genealogical Records, Henry County
- Migration to South Carolina, 1850 Census (from 10 countries)
- Blacks Found in the Deeds of Laurens & Newberry Counties, SC 1785-1827
- Who Was Grandpa Doc? William J. Melloinger, 1886-1948: A Man Who Knew No limits
- The Hawkins Families of Maryland
- Woodstock (NY History)
- Columbia Rising (NY History)

We want to thank the following generous donors:

Stephanie Badasci Patricia Griffin Caird Laurie Hannah
Cathy Jordan Shirley Roby Lena Nilsson
The Assistance League of Santa Barbara



The 2024 Annual Appeal



During this holiday season, we encourage you to consider a gift to support our educational programs, the Sahyun Library, subscription databases and so much more that SBCGS does.

Gifts of all sizes are welcome. Your generosity ensures that SBCGS can continue to provide the resources, learning opportunities, and connections that make uncovering your family's history a meaningful experience.

Ways to Make Your Tax-Deductible Gift:

- Online: <https://sbgen.org/donate/#!form/Development>
- By Check: Send your check payable to "SBCGS" with "2024 Annual Appeal" in the memo line.

*To those who have already given—thank you!
Your support fuels our mission and strengthens
our community.*

Norma Ann Eggli March 20, 1958 – November 15, 2024

We are saddened to report the untimely death of SBCGS member Norma Eggli, born in Ukiah California, the fourth child of five. Most of us know her as our go-to teacher for general genealogy, insight on how to use genealogy sites, and technology classes taught through the School of Extended Learning at Santa Barbara City College. She played an essential role in our Family History Month curriculum and in fostering the success of her students.

Norma exhibited a talent for instruction and became a tutor during her high school years. She graduated from Westmont College with a degree in math and science and from Biola University where she earned a teaching credential in secondary education.

We extend our deepest sympathies to her husband, Paul, their children, and their extended family and friends.

Link to obituary and memories:

<https://neptunesociety.com/obituaries/santa-barbara-ca/norma-eggli-12084415>

Membership Spotlight

Kate Lima, Membership Chair



NEW MEMBERS in November:

Karin Ruth Gehlen
Linda Stewart-Oaten
Lisa Lang
Nancy Vierbrock
Cindy Lynn Rossi

Returning Members

Eileen Avery
Dave Greim

New member packets can be found under the Members Area. Once you sign in, a list appears below the words “Members Area,” and the packet is third from the top of that list. Also, we have packets at the library, stop by and pick one up!

Also, we extend a big and enthusiastic thank you to our continuing members who have renewed!

Coaches: This wonderful membership benefit is available to all our members. We have people who can assist in many areas of genealogical research - whether it is translation or research assistance or simply another pair of eyes! Please contact Kathy Cremeen at kajcreemen@gmail.com if you need a coach OR wish to become a coach. You can also look at the list from our website, sbgen.org. Log in and look for “Find a Genealogy Coach” on the list to the left.



Trip to Salt Lake City

Our society will once again visit the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City. We’ll head over for the week of April 27 – May 4, 2025 (Sunday-Sunday). 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 so I can put you on our list. I hope you can join us!

And now, a quote that is apropos for the holidays – and genealogists:

There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One is roots; the other, wings. – Hodding Carter

Volunteer Hours

Each month we collect volunteer hours from people who have worked for the Society. If you worked even one hour, please let us know! Email volunteers@sbgen.org and let us know. Why is this important? We need these numbers when we apply for grants, which support our programs, events and exhibits. Please remember to send them in!

December General Meeting

This month is Members Share Month at our general meeting. This includes food! We invite all members to bring a sweet or savory treat that you enjoyed at some point in your life. Please help make the day special!



Genealogy Tip of the Month:

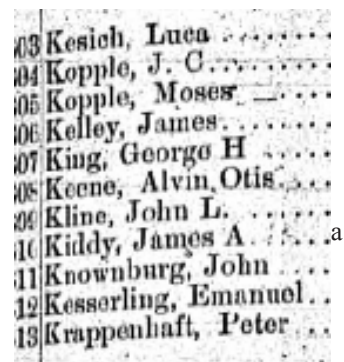
From genealogytipoftheday.com, Dec. 18, 2019 (Michael John Neill)

How Alphabetical is it?

Always check any printed alphabetical list for additions at the end, names out of order and other irregularities. In the days of manual type setting, lists of names (particularly those of post office letters) may not be as alphabet-

ical as a person thinks. There may be omitted names that were placed at the end simply because it was easier than changing all the type.

I include here a short voter registration list from 1871, small portion of “K” names in San Jose, CA:



Spotlight on Tyler Frischknecht by Kate Lima

Finale to Our Cemetery Cleanup with the Boy Scouts

Perhaps some of you remember that the Society collaborated with the Scouts to clean up the overgrown cemetery behind the County building along Cathedral Oaks Road. You can read more about this effort in the current issue of Ancestors West.

This past Saturday, November 30, Holly Snyder (Outreach Chair) and I attended a wonderful ceremony honoring Tyler for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. He was honored for his hard work throughout the years, which culminated in the cemetery project. Holly and I loved seeing how his family and friends – most of whom had helped at the cemetery project – supported Tyler. The work he organized, the rallying cry he gave that brought many a scout to his aid, was a sight to behold. It was thrilling to see how he was commended and applauded for his hard work. Thank you, Tyler, and congratulations!



Important Reminders



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.

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.”

Ralphs Community Donation Program



One of the ways in which Ralph's partners with the neighborhoods in which they serve, is through the Ralph's Community Contribution Program. This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you

have to do is shop at Ralphs and swipe your Shopper's Card. Details here:

<https://www.ralphs.com/i/community/community-contribution-program>

<https://sbgen.org/donate/#!form/Development>

Speaking Engagements in the Community



Upcoming: Carpinteria Valley Museum of History Board Members talk and tour, December 19

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!

Outreach

by Holly Snyder, Chair

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving! While Outreach is taking a break from community events during the holiday season, we have one more Speakers Bureau talk and tour this month, plus we are working on a couple of projects that will take place next year. We look forward to sharing more details in the new year about our upcoming exhibits and events on the 1925 Santa Barbara earthquake centennial in June and next cultural exhibit on Santa Barbara Hispanic Heritage in September! We will also continue working with our community partners and make new partnerships.

Family Day at the Carpinteria Valley Museum of History, November 9

Family Day at the Carpinteria Valley Museum of History was a success! Our table was consistently busy with children creating family trees. There was great enthusiasm in the air with children wanting to participate in our activity and adults interested in their family history. It was also great to see parents helping their children fill out their family trees. We hope it led to further conversations at home. We look forward to participating in this event again next year!



Montecito Bank & Trust, November



We were Business of the Month in November at the Montecito Bank & Trust. We look forward to coming back next year in September to promote our SB Hispanic Heritage exhibit and Family History Month Open House.