



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



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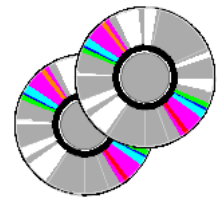
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THIS MONTH – October 17, 2017

**"Workshop: Making a
Family Research Video"**

Presented by: Dr. Jan M. Ahrens



The workshop describes and demonstrates how easy it is to create a video of your family history research that can be shared with others. You will learn how to make your family history come to life with a dynamic and engaging video. You will be able to share your passion for genealogy research with others who often have blank stares and a lack of interest when you talk about ancestors. Old documents and facts don't always pique the interest of family and friends. Make it more interesting by creating a memorable and lasting video! (Note: This is a 2 hour Presentation.)

Dr. Jan M. Ahrens is a genealogy researcher whose personal work has focused on Ohio and Pennsylvania in this country, and on England, Germany, Ireland and Norway outside of the United States. She began researching in 1998 to better understand genealogy customers when she managed the marketing initiatives at Genealogy.com. Before beginning her genealogy career, Jan earned a B.S. in Business, Marketing from Miami University, an MBA, Marketing from Ohio State University and a Doctor of Business Administration from Golden Gate University. She has completed multiple institutes, conferences and other educational credentials in genealogy. ■



From the September Meeting

"Best Tools of the Trade"

Presented by: Dr. Kathryn Marshall

Reported By: Russ Erickson



Dr. Marshall demonstrated a vast knowledge of approaches to genealogy research with her background at Lodi Genealogy Society and working for Familysearch Wiki.

Points: You can use split screen on your computer or use 2 monitors to make research more

efficient. Remember to fidget and move muscles, or stand part time when on your computer for a long time. When you sit quietly, fat breakdown decreases 90%, and good cholesterol and insulin decrease, blood pressure rises, more chance of clots, obesity, diabetes, and even some cancers ►



(Photo by: Carol Satterthwaite)

Kathryn Marshall

are more common. For every 2 hours of quietly sitting life decreases 1/2 hour! Irisin (found in 2012) from muscle exercise burns white fat, decreases stress hormones, and prevents cell toxicity.

Females who sit 7 hours or more daily are 30% more likely to die in any long period than exercisers and fidgeters. The average American spends 7.7 hours sitting at work and 5 on TV! Sitting 11 hours daily vs. 4 hours increases mortality 40%!

Items: Varidesk--a platform fitting your desk or table, allowing one to sit or stand and work with your computer or when reading.

> Digital Recorders for audio files for your genealogy. They can be downloaded to Family Search for long term safe storage.

> OCR--Optical Character Recognition--most scanners have it. Omnipage Ultimatum.

> Dragon Naturally Speaking voice recognition, allows typing automatically from YOUR speech as you dictate.

> Flip Pal mobile scanner allows you ►

to scan pictures, etc. wherever you go. It fits in a large purse or pack and you can scan large pictures, overlapping with soft ware restoration.

> VHS to DVD like Videocapture or Roxio; useful as videotape lasts about 10 years if kept 2 feet or more from TVs, etc. 2 hours of tape takes 1.7 GB. Elgato Video Capture best for MACs and can be used with PCs.

Glorerecords.blm.gov site for land records.

Software that downloads from the web:

> Legacy 9 (current) downloads from FamilySearch.org and My Heritage.com Legacy *Intellishare* makes merging easy. Its research guidance tab is also helpful.

> Roots Magic 7.5 from FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com

> Family Treemaker 2017 from Ancestry.com

> Family Tree Builder from MyHeritage.com Note: My Heritage recently bought Legacy. My Heritage technology is tops; company is in flux buying and selling?

Familysearch owns 2 1/2 server farms and deals with other such to host data. Use Familysearch research Wiki! It has many links and articles

Note that there are many world wide records still not digitalized and even less indexed. Seek specific names, places, and dates, but also use browse to look for data not yet indexed. North America: 30% digitized, 27% indexed; Europe: 28% and 4%; Latin America 19% and 2 %; Africa and Asia-2% and 0 indexed.. ■

German SIG Holds its 12th. Annual Oktoberfest!

Once again our society's German Special Interest Group gathered at the home of Carol Huvane for its annual Oktoberfest feast. Various members prepared traditional German treats, such as assortments of sausages, red cabbage, German potato salad, soup, cheese, bread, beer and cheese cake. A wonderful time was had by all and the group is already looking forward to next year's event.



President's Message

By Ted Shapas



What's in a name? In most cases, lots of changes over time. We all use names (and here I mean surnames) as anchors in our genealogy projects. We place them carefully in family trees, search for them online, and look for them in various publications. The path they've taken, however, can be as interesting as the physical path our ancestors took to arrive in the US and eventually evolved into...us!

Early in my own family history research, I didn't have much to go on, and what I had wasn't very useful. My surname, as I eventually learned, had morphed quite a bit, so searching with the most recent version was quite limiting. One common misconception about immigrants who passed through Ellis Island, like my ancestors did, is that immigration officials changed names to make them simpler or "more American". The truth is that if anyone changed your surname, it was most likely your own ancestor. They did this for a variety of reasons – to fit in better, to appear "less foreign", to improve job prospects, and so on – so it was unlikely they'd ever wear a nametag like the one below! In my grandfather's case, he changed his original Lithuanian name to a Polishized version, and finally to an Americanized version of his original Lithuanian name when he became a naturalized citizen.

Dealing with ancestor names becomes quite challenging, since it's not only necessary to search for name changes you know, but it's also important to consider error versions as well. Scribes who originally recorded names in ship registries, for example, sometimes had to rely on pronounced names, since the passengers were frequently illiterate – this led to many misspellings. Then, in more modern times, indexers had a crack at these names, many



of them handwritten and barely legible. Not surprisingly, this has resulted in many mistakes. In my case, I use a collection of about 20 versions of my surname for searches so as not to miss anything, and I'm still not sure I have them all!

To read more about the many reasons for name changes, see this article: http://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/88_donna.html/.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SRVGS CALENDAR

October 2017

- 3 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting was held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 17 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

November 2017

- 7 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** A Board meeting will be held at the home of Frances Lloyd.
- 21 Tuesday - 10:00 a.m.** The General Meeting will be held at the LDS Church on Stone Valley Road at Smith Road, in Alamo.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

NOTE: For San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society Special Interest Group contact information refer to your Society Handbook. For schedules, visit our web site at: <http://www.srvgensoc.org/sig.html>.

Please **note** some activities take place early in the month, before our newsletter is issued. Be sure to check with the SIG coordinator if you have a particular interest.

Changes to the SIG schedule this month:



Family Tree Maker will be on third Monday from now on.

SRVGS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



FamilySearch - Monday, October 9th (the second Monday) **1:15 pm – 3 pm** at the **Danville Family History Center**. We will cover how to connect to your family in the FamilySearch Family Tree. Bill George is the SIG Leader. williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



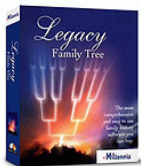
Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday October 11th (the second Wednesday) **10 am – 12pm**, at the home of **Russ and Patty Erickson in Pleasant Hill**. Patty Erickson is SIG Leader. You October contact Patty at: russpat@comcast.net.



Family Tree Maker/Ancestry - Monday October 16th (the third Monday) **1:15 – 3 pm** at the **Danville Family History Center**. FTM 2017 has been released and everyone's curious about how it's being received. Susan Rush is the SIG leader. You October contact Susan at: gen4you@astound.net.



Publishing - Thursday October 19th (the third Thursday) **from 10 am – 12 pm**, at the home of **Francie Lloyd in Danville**. This informal Group shares advice, encouragement, and suggestions to preserve their genealogy project, big or small. Members share their projects as they progress to a hoped for completion. Society members interested in attending should let Francie Lloyd, the SIG Leader, know they plan to attend. Check the Society Handbook for Francie's contact information.



Legacy Family Tree - Monday, October 23rd (the fourth Monday) **from 1:15pm-3pm**. The group discusses how the Legacy genealogy program works and is for beginners as well as experienced Legacy users. Sharon Clay is the SIG Leader and can be contacted at: sharonlclay@comcast.net. ▶



German Research - Wednesday October 25th (the fourth Wednesday) **10 am** at the home of a member. Please contact

Helen at odegardsh@gmail.com if you plan to attend the meeting. ■

EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

It's October and Family History Month with great learning opportunities.



As usual, the month begins with the California Genealogical Society (CGS) www.CaliforniaAncestors.org For all the following activities, register online:

- On Sat., Oct. 7th from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., the **Intro To Genealogy** class meets.
- Later on the 7th from 1 - 3 p.m., the **DNA SIG** meets.
- On Wed., Oct. 18th the **Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War** will meet from 7 - 8:30 p.m.
- On Sat., Oct. 21st the **San Francisco SIG** will meet from 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
- Also on the 21st the **Family Tree Maker SIG** will meet from 1 - 3 p.m.
- November begins on Sat. the 4th with **Intro to Genealogy** and the **DNA SIG**. Both meet at the same times as their September sessions

For more upcoming events from Santa Cruz to Sacramento check the CGS "San Francisco Bay Area General Calendar" at: <http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com>



You can check the Family Search website <https://familysearch.org> for tutorials, wikis, discussion forums, and webinars. ▶

Enjoy learning from home?

The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/overview.html continues to offer free webinars. Register in advance on line. This month it will be presenting:

- On Sat., Oct. 7th from 10 - 11 a.m., Sara Gredler will share **Think Like a Historian: Why Do People Do What They Do?**
- On Wed., Oct. 18th from 6 - 7 p.m., Dr. David R. Dowell will discuss **Family History + Health History Lead to Personalized Healthcare.**
- Wed., Oct. 25th from 6 - 7 p.m., Cyndi Ingle will present **Be Your Own Digital Archivist: Preserve Your Research.**
- On Sat., Nov. 4th from 10 - 11 a.m., Jennifer Alford will present **We're Here in America, Now What?**

SCGS also offers the following webinars at their website for free to the public.

- **Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides National Archives Website** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **Neither Filmed or Scanned: NARA Treasurers Await** by Kerry Bartels
- **Military Records at the National Archives** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **The Many Facets of the National Archives Website** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes.
- **How to Get the Most Out of a Genealogy Conference** by George Morgan.
- **National Archives Website Microfilm Catalog, Archival Databases and Guides** by Kerry Bartels with downloadable notes. ►



The Illinois State Genealogical Society (ilgensoc.org) continues its webinar series. The initial presentation of each webinar is free to the public.

- On Tues., Oct. 10th at 8 p.m. Central Daniel Earl will present **Funeral Homes and Family History: They're Dying to Meet You.** To attend this webinar, register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8619206168660919556>



The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) www.Americanancestors.org/education/online has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. It contains subject guides on a variety of genealogical topics, informative videos, webinars, online courses, and more. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education Coordinator Ginevra Morse at gmorse@nehgs.org.

- On Thurs., Oct. 19th from 3 - 4 EST, Rhonda R. McClure will discuss **City and Rural Directories: More than Just Names.** Register online.

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A recording of the free events will be posted to the NEHGS website the following day.



Ancestry.com has many courses at the Ancestry Academy. Some courses are FREE, while others require a subscription.

- You can READ about it at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy>
- And at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy/courses>
- Also at <https://academy.ancestry.com/academy/courses/skills>



Legacy offers a huge number of free webinars this month. Go to FamilyTreeWebinars.com to register. October's webinars include: ►

- Wed., Oct. 4th at 11a.m., **No Easy Button; Using “Immersion Technology” to Understand Your Ancestors** by Lisa Alzo.
- Fri., Oct. 6th at 8 a.m., **Sweden's Multiple Naming Systems and How They Changed in the 1800s** by Martha Garrett
- Fri., Oct. 6th at 9:15 a.m., **Past Conflict Repatriation: The Role of Genealogists and Methodology in Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise** by Jeanne Bloom,
- Fri., Oct. 6th at 10:30 a.m., **Reasonably Exhaustive Research of African American Families That Came Out of Slavery** by LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson,
- Fri., Oct. 6th at 12:30 p.m., **Using Timelines for Correlation and Analysis** by Jill Morelli.
- Fri., Oct. 6th at 1:45 p.m., **Land, Licenses, Love Gone Wrong, and Other Assorted Courthouse Records** by Ann Staley.
- Fri., Oct. 6th at 3 p.m., **Systematically Using Autosomal DNA Test Results to Help Break Through Genealogical Brick Walls** by Tom Jones.
- Wed., Oct. 11th at 5 p.m., **Southern States Migration Patterns** by Mary Hill.
- Fri., Oct. 13th at 11 a.m., **Is Your Society Growing? Social Media May Be Your Saving Grace** by Dear MYRTLE
- Tues., Oct. 17th at 5 p.m., **Databases, Search Engines, and the Genealogical Proof Standard** by David Ouimette.
- Wed., Oct. 18th at 11 a.m., **The WPA: Sources for Your Genealogy** by Gena Philibert-Ortega
- Wed., Oct. 25th at 11 a.m., **Midwestern & Plains States Level Census Record** by Paula Stuart-Warren.
- Sun., Oct. 29th at 4 a.m., **Filling in ►**

the In-Between of the Jewish BMD by Rose Feldman.

- Sun., Oct. 29th at 6:15 a.m., **Introduction to the Use of Autosomal DNA Testing** by Tim Janzen.
- Sun., Oct. 29th at 7:15 a.m., **Google for Genealogy: Search Tricks to Tease Out Information** by Jessica Taylor.
- Sun., Oct. 29th at 8:15 a.m., **Discover Your Family History with MyHeritage's Unique Technologies** by Daniel Horowitz
- Sun., Oct. 29th at 9:30 a.m., **How to Pass Your Ancestors' Legacy to Your Grandchildren** by Jessica Taylor.
- Sun., Oct. 29th at 10:30 a.m., **Advanced Autosomal DNA Techniques used in Genetic Genealogy** by Tim Janzen
- Sun., Oct. 29th at 4 a.m., **Jewish Family Research Challenges** by Garri Regev.
- Wed., Nov. 1st at 11 a.m., **Is this the End? Taking Your German Brick Walls Down Piece by Piece** by Luana Darby.



From an article by Gena Philibert-Ortega, here are some other webinars and lectures that are online:

- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <http://extremegenes.com/>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast <http://genealogyguys.com/>
- Genealogy Boot Camp http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/fhd/community/en/community/thomas%20jay%20kemp/genealogy_boot_camp/player.htm



The DAR Library at www.dar.org offers two different types of programming. The *Library Lecture Series* features authors discussing their historical work and the *Genealogy 101* series offers presentations on a variety of genealogical topics led by the professional genealogists on staff at the DAR or by other experienced genealogists. Both ►

series are held throughout the month on Saturdays and are free to the public. See the upcoming schedule here: www.dar.org/libraryevents

Save the Date:

- On Sat., Oct. 7th at 11 a.m., the Solano County Genealogical Society will meet at the Moose Lodge at 623 Taylor St., Fairfield. Ronald Cannon will discuss **Documenting and Citing Your Research**. More info at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cascgsi/>
- On Mon., Oct. 9th at 7:30 p.m., the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will meet at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Christine Bell Green will share **Immigration To The United States Before 1820**.
- On Fri., Oct. 20th at 10 a.m., the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society will meet at the Rossmoor Creekside Clubhouse. The program will begin with a mini-presentation, by Kay Speaks entitled **Crafting Your Google Search**. Madeline Yanov will present **Finding Great Grandpa Or How to Locate Lost Ancestors in 1890 Census Substitutes**.
- On Sat. Oct. 14th there will be a **Family History Discovery Day** at the Danville Stake.
- On Sat., Oct 21st from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society will host **Gena Philibert-Ortega** at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Ln, Pleasant Hill, For info email cccgsca@gmail.com
- On Sat., Nov. 4th from 9-3 the San Mateo County Genealogy Society will host Rick and Pamela Boyer Sayre as they present **Federal Records plus Mapping the West**. To register go to <http://www.smgs.org> This Fall Seminar will be held at the Menlo Park LDS Church, 1605 Valparaiso Ave., Menlo Park. ■

HOW TO REACH THE BOARD MEMBERS

President: Ted Shapas
president@srvgensoc.org

1st V.P. Steve Watty

2nd V.P. Programs:
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Karen Olynger
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3rd V.P. Membership:
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Recording Secretary:
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Corresponding Secretary:
Barbara Shapas
svrvg@srvgensoc.org

Treasurer: Mark McLaren
treasurer@srvgensoc.org

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coordinator: Bob Venter
editor@srvgensoc.org

Calendar Coordinator:
Bill George
svrvg@srvgensoc.org

Mailing: Mary Tom

Deadline to put information in the Newsletter is the Last Thursday of the month.

Members are encouraged to submit articles for the Newsletter by mail or email to the Coordinator.

INDIVIDUAL HELP

Do you need individual help in overcoming a "brick wall" in your research? Go to the SRVGS web site at: <http://srvgensoc.org/>, click on RESOURCES, then click on INDIVIDUAL HELP FOR SRVGS MEMBERS.

Danville Family History Center*2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo*

Phone: 925-552-5920

Monday: 1:00pm - 4:00pm**Tuesday:** 7:00pm - 9:00pm**Wednesday:** 10:00am - 4:00pm

and 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Closed on Holidays and the month of August

FHC Director:Teresa Coons coonieclan@sbcglobal.net**Subscription Sites Available For Free at FHC:**

- Ancestry.com
- Fold3.com
- Heritage Quest
- MyHeritage.com
- Origins.net
- Proquest Obituary Listings
- Godfrey Memorial Lib.
- Newspaper Archive
- World Vital Records
- Findmypast (UK)

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
SRVGS CALENDAR	3
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	3
CONTACT INFORMATION	7
EDUCATION	4
GERMAN SIG'S 12 TH . OKTOBERFEST	2
LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER NOTES	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	3

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