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Contact Us at the
SM Public Library

Member Meetings
Jan-Jun, Sep-Nov
3rd Thursday monthly
2-4pm
if no coronavirus.
Preceded at 12:45pm
by the Board Meeting
Family History Center
908 Sierra Madre
Santa Maria

NEXT MEETING
To Be Determined
Family History Center

Presentation: To Be Determined

Next Board Meeting
To Be Determined
Family History Center

Library Docent
By appointment

May MEETING CANCELLED

President's Message May 2020



Hello SMVGS Members and Friends,

Another month has passed, and our meetings will not resume in May. I truly hope that you are well and healthy. Possibly in June we can meet at the Family History Center or at another location. We'll keep you posted.

As I pondered what to write about this month, I thought of two of my uncles, Uncle Phil and Uncle Dick, plus my father-in-law, Pete. These three men have led quite different lives, with each being interesting in his own way.

Uncle Phil lived his whole life, except for his military service, on the East Coast of the USA. His recent passing, after a couple of years of dementia, made me realize that I didn't know him well enough. His obituary listed events in his life and the service he rendered, but it would have been more meaningful to have heard him tell me himself, along with a few stories. I only visited with him about 4-5 times over the years after he and my Aunt Sophie married. They lived in Massachusetts, but I easily could have, and should have, called him to ask him about his adventures.

My Uncle Dick has always lived near me since he married my mom's sister. He worked at "The Base," Vandenberg Air Force Base, for his whole career. I remember the colorful company stickers he had on his tool box in the garage (maybe they are still there?). They were from the aerospace companies he had worked for over the years. We often celebrated his and my sister's birthdays together on the same day in May. Uncle Dick waxed his mustache tips to make them pointy. Often, he would wear a medium-wide brimmed hat to shade his face. When I was a child, my sister, brother and I, along with my three cousins, would watch *The Wonderful World of Disney* in his family's home on Sunday nights. I think that *Wild Kingdom* was on the television right before *Disney*. I remember my uncle and his family camping with us at Lake San Antonio. We had so much fun! My uncle is getting older now, having some health issues. I want to reach out to him before it's too late to let him know that I'd love to hear about some of his favorite memories.

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GENIE



Volume 3 Issue 5

Newsletter of the Santa Maria Valley Genealogy Society

May 2020

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President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

St. George, Utah, is where my father-in-law, Pete, has lived for several years. Before St. George, he lived in Monroe, Utah, and took care of his father during his final years. Before Monroe, he lived in California three times, with a stint on the East Coast plus New Mexico. While he lived in Santa Maria with his wife and five children, I had the pleasure of meeting him. He's always been most kind and helpful. He's a hard worker. His career brought him to the Central Coast in 1977 to work at "The Base," like my uncle Dick and three other uncles. My husband has many of the good traits of his father. They are both thrifty and like to fix things themselves, when possible. Each will drive miles to save 5¢ on a gallon gas. Pete's college degree is in accounting, and it has served him very well. I'm so grateful to have been a part of his family for the past 36 years. Recently, he's had some tough diagnosis, but he's got the most positive attitude!

All three of these men are good men. I appreciate their dedication to their families. I'm grateful that I've known them and felt a need to honor them this month. I hope you will be inspired to call a loved one and ask him about a favorite adventure of his or to write down what you remember about his life.

Take care, Everyone! I miss you all.

Sandy Peterson
SMVGS President

Genie Says...

I don't know why you are all so worried...everyone should have a corona.

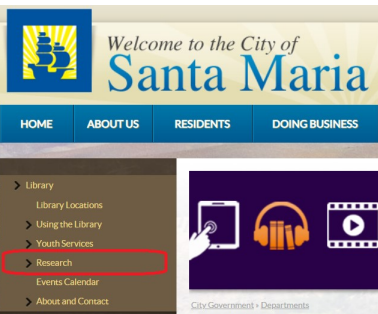


Bulletin Board

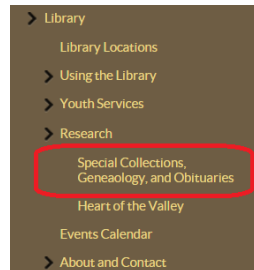
We'd love to help you research your family photos! or scan your photos!
Santa Maria Family History Center
908 Sierra Madre Ave., Santa Maria, CA 93454
805-928-4722
Temporarily closed due to quarantine

Several members of the Board of Directors have pointed out that since the Santa Maria Library is closed due to the quarantine, it is letting you go to Ancestry.com online at home. This is a good opportunity to get some extra in-depth research done from home. Go to: <https://www.cityofsantamaria.org/city-government/departments/library>

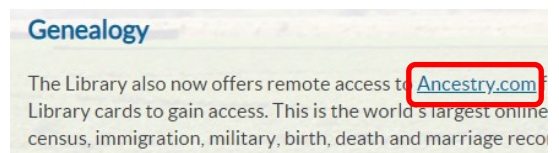
Click "Research"



Click "Special Collections"



Select "Ancestry.com" under "Genealogy" on the right



Your barcode is on the back of your library card. Your default password is your last name, no capital letters.

Please enter your barcode:

Please enter your password: