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Committees  
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Genie: Mike Farris

Website: [www.smvgs.org](http://www.smvgs.org)  
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Contact Us at the  
SM Public Library

**Member Meetings**  
Jan-Jun, Sep-Nov  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly  
2-4pm  
if no coronavirus quarantine  
Family History Center  
908 Sierra Madre  
Santa Maria

**NEXT MEETING**  
**July Lunch**  
**Maramonte Park**  
**12:00 to 2:00pm**

**Presentation:** Sharing

Next Board Meeting  
To Be Determined  
Contact Sandy for details

Library Docent  
By appointment

## President's Message July 2020



Hello Everyone!

July is here and it feels like I haven't done much for a few months, and yet I've been busy with family, gardening, and more. I hope you've all been healthy and busy with good things.

*We have some exciting news this month!* A lunch in the park is planned, and we hope you'll join us. Keep in mind that we'll be social distancing (staying six feet apart). If you feel the need to wear a mask, please do so, but out of

doors it is not required. Please stay home if you are ill. Please RSVP to [on.line@gte.net](mailto:on.line@gte.net). The announcement and map are on the next page.

In other Society news, our dear, dedicated Secretary, Brenda Brownlee, will soon be moving, and we have appointed a temporary Secretary: Deanna Baker. Thanks goes out to Deanna for accepting this position as it is mandatory that we have each of the officer positions filled at all times.



Now, to honor our dear friend, Brenda, and to recognize her many years of service to our Society and the local community, I hope you'll enjoy reading more about how she quietly served in so many ways.

In 2008, Brenda became a member of the SMVGS. Roughly two years later, she was voted in as the Secretary and has been our Secretary ever since. I believe she has served under about four presidents. We could always count on her knowing the Roberts Rules better than anyone else. Meeting notes written by Brenda were detailed and sent out in a timely fashion. Over the years, she has been a Library Volunteer as well as helped set up our SM Public Library Display several times, plus she was the one who reserved our space at the Library each year. In 2017, she was on the Genealogy Conference committee: handled the registrations and put the syllabus together for that popular event.

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## President's Message

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She's published two genealogy papers. The first is a genealogical proof argument that proved the separate identities of two Revolutionary War patriots from Washington County, PA--both named James Brownlee. A copy of this paper is in Salt Lake [Family History Library] and also at the Washington County, PA, Historical Society. The second paper is a biographical sketch of the abolitionist, Archibald Brownlee. It was published in 2019 in the Ohio Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol 59, No. 4.

Brenda is Treasurer of the Captain Henry Sweetser Chapter DAR (she will still be their treasurer when she moves!). She also helps research and prepare new member applications for DAR. She is Treasurer of the USS Constitution Chapter of the United States Daughters War of 1812. Plus, she was membership chair for the San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Society for three years and a member of their by-laws revision committee and budget committee, and the 2020 Genealogy Conference committee.

A couple of her favorite family history-related memories are: She really enjoyed being a part of the Genealogy Conference committee in 2017 and getting to meet Angie Bush, Nancy Loe and Michael Lacopo. She also enjoyed her short experience helping with FamilySearch indexing.

More of her service in Santa Maria includes being the chair of the SMVGS by-laws revision committee, and she states that she would be happy to provide long-distance help when we're ready to do more revisions.

Overall, you can see that we have been so very blessed to have Brenda in our midst keeping our minutes, by-laws, and other details in order for roughly 12 years! We hope her move goes well and that she will keep in touch with her many friends that she has here in our Society.

All the best to each of you, and hope to see you on July 16<sup>th</sup>!

Sandy Peterson  
SMVGS 2020-2021 President

### SM Valley Genealogical Society • July Lunch Mtg

Date: Thursday, July 16th

Time: 12:00-2:00pm

Place: Maramonte Park,  
620 Sunrise Dr., SM

Bring: Your own sack lunch,  
a story to share

Chairs, Water, & Pizza will be provided  
(Keep in mind that we'll be social distancing)

Oops:

I read the June Genie and the suggested virtual location for webinars did not include the web address of:

[RootsTech.org](http://RootsTech.org)

