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Shirley Brady

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Marilyn Riesbol/Deanna Baker

Program Director
Stephanie Bishop

Committees
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Genie: Mike Farris

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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 quarantine
Family History Center
908 Sierra Madre
Santa Maria

NEXT MEETING
2:00pm, September 17, 2020
Maramonte Park
620 E. Sunrise Drive, Santa Maria

**Topic: What Have You Done to
Preserve Your Family Memorabilia?**

Next Board Meeting
September 16, 2:00pm
Sandy's House
See page 3 for details

Library Docent
By appointment

President's Message September 2020



Hello SMVGS Members!

Once again, I hope you are all healthy and doing well. With another month of summer ahead on our beautiful central coast, I hope you're able to take advantage of the amazing weather we've been having.

There are a few things that I'd like to mention in this month's newsletter. First of all, even though we thought that our annual display at the Santa Maria Public Library would be postponed, we recently found out that we are to move ahead. Who knows if the public will be able to view it, but we will be pulling together a military themed display with items from

some of our SMVGS Board members. Here's hoping that the public library will open in time for us to advertise our Society, and for us to share some historical military memorabilia. The display will run for the whole month of October, which is often referred to as "Family History Month." Let one of us know if you'd like to help with set up on October 1st.



The next subject seems appropriate to be presented this "quarantine" year, since it is in regard to the number of months that we meet annually. Last year, the Board had been contemplating holding fewer monthly meetings in the future, especially since June is often a month of graduations and weddings for many families, plus summer-time traveling begins. Can you believe that this year, we have only met three times (Jan, Feb, and July)? The Board has voted to meet, starting in 2021, only in the months of January through May and September through November; eight meetings in total. Two casual lunch meetings, one in the summer and one in December, will continue to be options. We always have a good time at our lunches sharing stories and socializing.

In **SEPTEMBER**, we plan to meet on the 17th at Maramonte Park, 620 E. Sunrise Dr., Santa Maria at 2:00pm. Again, we will be outside, and we feel that the weather will probably be superb, but just watch the weather as we approach the third Thursday of the month. Our topic, which was suggested by Nancy Converse, will be



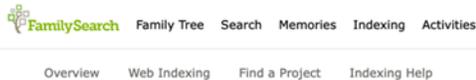
"What Have You Done to Preserve Your Family Memorabilia?" Please bring your ideas and questions to share. It would be fantastic if you brought an example of a preserved item to share with our group. If bad weather is predicted, I'll send out a notice of cancellation to everyone. While you're waiting, here's a link to an article about preservation of memorabilia: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/08/smarter-living/how-to-preserve-your-family-memories-letters-and-trinkets.html>



President's Message

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The program topics for October and November have not been decided yet. Normally, these topics would have at least been set a few months in advance, but because of the effects of the quarantine, it has been difficult to arrange a decent venue to have any type of electronics to show a presentation, etc. Unfortunately, the Santa Maria Family History Center is still closed. The dates for those two meetings are October 15th and November 19th. We are contemplating setting up Zoom meetings for those dates. How do you feel about Zoom meetings?



At the end of the last Board meeting, an idea popped into my head that might be fun and unifying for our Society. Would anyone be interested in working on an Indexing Project from FamilySearch.org over the course of a few months? It would not be the same set up that we had a couple of years ago for our 50th anniversary, where we worked on the projects in person, as a group, at the Family History Center. We would need to work in our homes, individually, or in small groups, if any of you are comfortable with that. I thought it might still be a nice way to unite our Society,

even though we can't meet together in large groups yet. Contact me by email with your ideas and comments. This might be a worthwhile activity for our Society to engage in this fall. For those who didn't participate along with us two years ago, Indexing is the process of making records searchable on-line. You can watch the two videos at the link below to learn more about the value of Indexing records: <https://www.familysearch.org/indexing/about>.

That's the news for the month! I sure hope to see you at Maramonte Park on the 17th, if you're able. Last month, we definitely had room for more people to attend, so bring a friend (and your mask, if you feel the need). We'll be sitting under the shade structure at the picnic tables, if they're available, or under the shade trees to the west of the picnic tables.

Sincerely,

Sandy Peterson

ed note: I received an additional email from Sandy that I decided to attach here.

Hi Everyone!

Last night I received a very nice in invitation from SLOGGS program director, Susan Cox, inviting all of our membership to watch their virtual Zoom meeting this Saturday, as well as their November meeting. I think we need to get this information out to our Society asap, possibly today, BEFORE the newsletter goes out. She included handouts for this Saturday, as well. What do you all think?

September 5th Zoom info, flyer, and handouts:

Topic: SLOGGS Zoom General Meeting Sept 5

Time: Sep 5, 2020 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89965156150?pwd=dmFpZThEUFMyaUFrcGd6YzZSdDlMQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 6515 6150; Passcode: 736840

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,89965156150#,,,,,0#,,736840# US (San Jose)
+12532158782,,89965156150#,,,,,0#,,736840# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose), +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston), +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown), +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 899 6515 6150

Passcode: 736840

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keafTRgnvr>

ed note: the **November** flyer, which is for Michael Strauss, is attached. He offered to do a Zoom program in November (the original date for the Conference at the SMPL) for half the price, so Susan took him up on it. There were four attachments to Sandy's email. I have attached all of them to this emailing.



Here is a submission from our Treasurer:

Ancestral Mathematics

In order to be born, you needed:

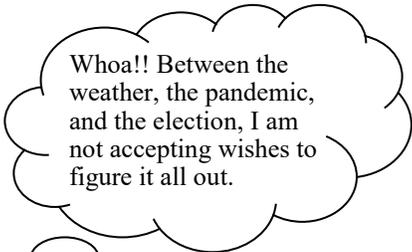
- 2 parents
- 4 grandparents
- 8 great-grandparents
- 16 second great-grandparents
- 32 third great-grandparents
- 64 fourth great-grandparents
- 128 fifth great-grandparents
- 256 sixth great-grandparents
- 512 seventh great-grandparents
- 1024 eighth great-grandparents
- 2048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 12 previous generations, You needed a total of 8,190 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment – How many struggles? How many battles? How many difficulties? How much sadness? How much happiness? How many love stories? How many expressions of hope for the future? – did your ancestors have to undergo for you exist in this present moment...

Board Meeting Details

Wednesday, 16 Sep 2020 at 2pm, at 1166 Patterson Rd, and via Zoom, for anyone who'd like to join us that way. The Zoom invitation will be sent out later."



Whoa!! Between the weather, the pandemic, and the election, I am not accepting wishes to figure it all out.



Websites to visit while you are locked up:

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/wellness/catching-up-on-genealogy-work-during-covid-19-tracing-your-roots/ar-BB12a6bU>

There is an interesting article on things you should be doing.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-07-23/family-history-research-booming-amidst-coronavirus/12483170>

Another somewhat interesting article with some good tips for beginners.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/armed-with-massive-data-pools-genealogy-companies-ancestry-23andme-begin-covid-19-research/ar-BB14CUnF>

An article about how DNA data is being leveraged to help understand the spread of COVID-19.

<https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2020/03/24/free-at-home-education-resources-from-ancestry-and-access-to-nearly-500m-national-archives-records/>

Free use of ancestry.com and National Archives resources.

<https://www.ancestryacademy.com/browse>

A whole mess of videos from the Ancestry Academy