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Deanna Baker
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Publicity
Marilyn Riesbol/Deanna Baker
Program Director
Stephanie Bishop
Committees
Website: open
Genie: Mike Farris

Website: www.smvgs.org
eMail: Roots@smvgs.org

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

**October Meeting
CANCELLED**

Topic:

Next Board Meeting:

Library Docent
By appointment

President's Message October 2020



Hello SMVGS Members!

I am very sorry to report that our **OCTOBER** general meeting for next Thursday has been CANCELED! See the last paragraph of this newsletter for ideas to continue your genealogy education this month. In addition, you can visit the Family History Guide at thefhguide.com, as well as BYU webinars at <https://fh.lib.byu.edu/classes-and-webinars/online-webinars/>.

Update: Our Society's military-themed display at the Santa Maria



Public Library for the month of October has been postponed until October 2021. The reason for the postponement is that the library will not be opening up to the public as they had planned.

We had a wonderful meeting on September 17th at Maramonte Park. The weather was beautiful with a bit of a breeze at the start. Seven members and one guest attended to hear the program titled "What Have You Done to Preserve Your



Family Memorabilia?" Nancy Converse gave a very interesting presentation about parts of her father's life with memorabilia from his military time while stationed in China in the 1920s. A few ideas for where she could share and preserve some of his less personal items were for

her to locate a Marine Corps museum or scan and share the paper documents on-line at FamilySearch.org or at Ancestry.com, as well as with other family members. Dave Nelson brought a book created by his cousin which preserved much of one of his family lines. Stephanie Bishop brought a few books with ideas on how to preserve beloved family items. Thank you to all who contributed to our meeting!



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GENIE



Volume 3 Issue 10

Newsletter of the Santa Maria Valley Genealogy Society

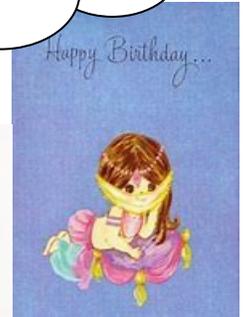
October 2020

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ed note: *This is Genie's third birthday.* Anyone who wants to celebrate with her should send congratulations to me at mikesoftware1@gmail.com, and I will put it here next month. Tell her what you like about the newsletter, about the Society, and about genealogy. Tell her what you have been doing during these times.

In the spirit of the above, I want to tell you something that was found recently at the Historical Museum. We found Patrick Foxen, a grandson of William Benjamin Foxen, was the third of five husbands of Margie Felicity Sweeney. Foxen and the fourth husband both committed suicide. The fifth marriage ended in divorce. We are still trying to run down what happened to the first two marriages and where Margie is buried.



President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)



For **NOVEMBER**, our Society has been invited to join the SLOCGS (San Luis Obispo County Genealogy Society) for their virtual meeting on **Saturday, 7 Nov 2020, at 10:00am and at 11:30am**. The presenter will be Michael Strauss, and his two topics are: 1) **Women's Suffrage: Their Rights, Roles, and Limitations**, and 2) **Influenza: The Twentieth Century's Deadliest Pandemic**. These presentations will be held via Zoom. The Zoom invitation/link will be sent out within a day or two of the class. We will not meet on the 3rd Thursday like we usually do.

Some of you may have heard that RootsTech 2021, aka "RootsTech Connect," will be completely virtual and FREE! I've read that there will be excellent speakers in addition to the high-quality and numerous classes and presentations. The dates will be 25 – 27 Feb 2021. For more information, click on this link: <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>.



25 - 27 FEBRUARY, 2021

Introducing RootsTech Connect: A Free Online Conference Experience

For the first time ever, the world's largest family celebration event will be entirely virtual and completely free. Get ready to celebrate shared connections with people from around the world. Connect with friends, your family, your past, and your heritage and homelands—all from the comfort of your home and in your browser.

Two quick announcements: 1) Sadly, the Santa Maria Family History Center is still closed until further notice. 2) We are looking for ideas for our **DECEMBER** luncheon. Though December on the Central Coast has been known to have perfectly beautiful weather, we may not be able to meet at Maramonte Park. The SMVGS Board are interested in your ideas that we may consider.



One last item! If interested, please review this website carefully for free webinars that may be exactly what you need to break down a genealogy brick wall: <http://www.scsgenealogy.com>. The Southern California Genealogy Society always offers a webinar for FREE when you watch it live. After that, you'll need to be a member to view the webinar via their archive.

Hopefully, I'll be seeing you via Zoom during the November 7th presentations. Have a great month!

Sincerely,

Sandy Peterson
SMVGS President



From Mike:

I have to confess, sometimes I get confused. For example, from some recent research I was doing, Jewell Wyckoff died in 2000 in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas. Her husband William Wyckoff died three years earlier in Dallas, Collin County, Texas.

I did my homework. This is what I found in wikipedia: Dallas is a city in the U.S. state of Texas and the largest city and seat of Dallas County, with portions extending into Collin, Denton, Kaufman and Rockwall counties.

Mystery solved. Send me your minor mysteries/headaches and how you resolved them...or if you need help with them.

That said, I have a question. Is anyone out there familiar with the political jurisdictions of Virginia? In the research that I am doing on the Blankenship family, I find people born in: 1) Franklin County; 2) Franklin City; 3) Franklin, Franklin City; 4) Franklin, Franklin County; and 5) last night, I came across Franklin, Franklin City, Franklin County. Can anyone enlighten me about this?

Our Treasurer, Shirley, has offered up this idea: On an individual basis, in lieu of our October meeting, you might want to attend this webinar.

Free Webinar on Bank Records

<https://hubs.americanancestors.org/bankrecordswebinar>

Go to the link to learn more about the webinar and to register for it.

Some Family Search links:

3 Ways to Unravel the Mysteries of Women in Your Family Tree:

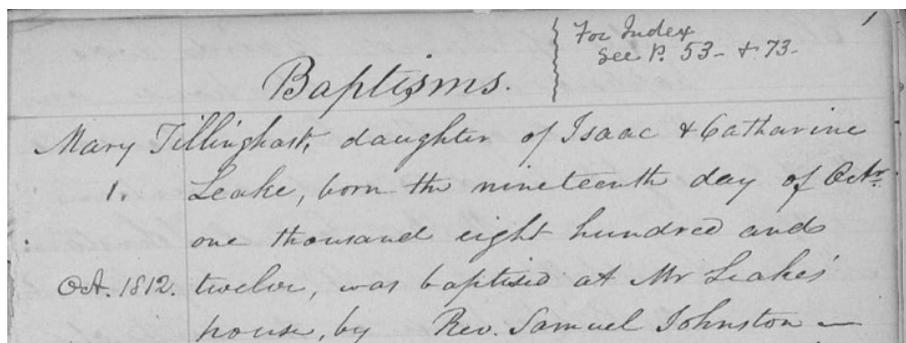
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/3-ways-unravel-mysteries-women-family-tree>

Monthly Record Update for August 2020

<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/record-collection-august-2020>

Finding Your Ancestors in United States Church Records

<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/ancestors-united-states-church-records>





GENIE



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More Picture from the September Meeting

