



President
Sandy Peterson

Vice President
Stephanie Bishop

Secretary
Deanna Baker

Treasurer/Membership
Shirley Brady

Publicity
Marilyn Riesbol/Deanna Baker

Program Director
Stephanie Bishop

Committees
Website: Bryce Peterson
Genie: Mike Farris

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

Contact us at the
SM Public Library

Member Meetings
Jan-May, Sep-Nov
3rd Thursday monthly
2-4pm
ZOOM meeting

June: No Meeting
(in accordance with the bylaws)

Program:
N/A

Next Board Meeting:

Library Docent
By appointment

President's Message June 2021

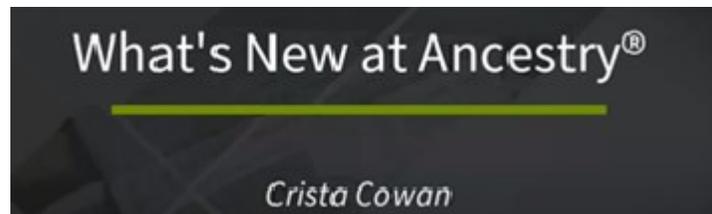


Hello SMVGS Members & Friends,

We have exciting news! Our website has been updated after nearly a year of inactivity [and COVID]. It looks very similar to our old website that was created by Dan Ardoin back in 2016. Dan also did a great job creating our logo, for which we're very grateful. To visit our site, type www.smvgs.org into an internet search engine, such as Google. Calendar items, past newsletters, contact information, research links, and more can be found on our website. Special thanks go to Bryce Peterson who has volunteered to be our new webmaster.



Our May virtual meeting kept us guessing! We actually weren't able to show the 30-minute video titled "What's New at Ancestry" by Crista Cowan as we had planned because we ran out of time. We'll add the instructions on how to view that video below. Voting on the amendment to our Standing Rules took place and the amendment was passed to reflect that our society will not be meeting in June any longer, as well as the fact that our meetings may be held electronically, if warranted. The Standing Rules, now, also reflect that the board may change the regular meeting day, time, and place, if needed, as long as the society members are contacted via the newsletter and/or by email. See last month's newsletter, if you'd like to read the past version along side the revision.



To access the video mentioned above, try these steps:

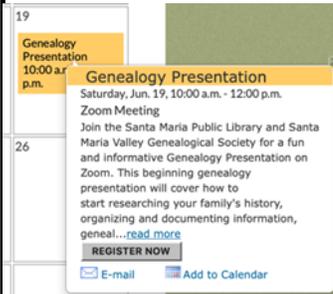
- 1) Once you are signed in to RootsTech Connect (<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/rtc2021/home>), click on **Expo Hall** near the top right side of the screen.
- 2) Scroll down a bit and find the **Ancestry Virtual Booth** box. Click on it.
- 3) Once you're on the Ancestry page, scroll down to the 3rd row and you will see the "What's New at Ancestry" class by Crista Cowan.
- 4) Click the class box and you will be able to view it via RootsTech website or, there's an option to watch it via YouTube.



President's Message (continued from page 1)

The Santa Maria Family History Center hours are:
Tuesday – Thursday, 10:00am – 2:00pm
Tuesday & Wednesday, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
908 Sierra Madre, Santa Maria, CA
ca_santamaria@familyhistorymail.org
805-928-4722

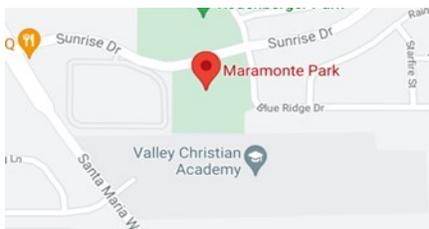
The FHC is free and open to the public.



On June 19th at 10:00am, the Santa Maria Public Library and our society are co-sponsoring a free, virtual **Beginning Genealogy** presentation. Deanna Baker and Sandy Peterson will be speaking about why people are drawn to do family history research,

as well as how to start and where some of the best resources can be found. Toward the end of the presentation, we'll be answering questions from the audience. Participants will need to register through the public library in advance. A packet of handouts and research forms will be available for pick-up at the library to those whose are registered. Let your friends and family know. Contact the SMPL at 805-925-0994.

About one month to go - Our July lunch gathering is scheduled for Thursday, July 8th at 11:30am at



Maramonte Park, 620 Sunrise Dr., Santa Maria. Please bring your lunch and a short genealogy experience to share. We'll have a sweet treat to share with everyone! It's always nice to see everyone at these informal gatherings – and especially since we've only been meeting virtually for many months.

FYI: In July we will not be holding an SMVGS Board meeting (nor a general meeting). We'll have the board meeting in August to prepare for the fall and winter programs. Watch for the date and time in the July newsletter.

Hope to see you in July!

Sandy Peterson
SMVGS President
On.line@gte.net

A couple of interesting web sites.

<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/>

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



By Tom Dreyer
Genealogist

[Introduction](#) | [The Biology](#) | [The Tests](#) | [Your Test Results](#) | [Leading Test Companies and Prices](#) | [Third-Party Websites](#) | [More About DNA](#) | [Sources and Resources](#) | [Glossary](#) | [Need Help?](#) |

Introduction

DNA has become an important tool in genealogical research, and as more people take the test, the number of matches increases, making it even more useful. Unfortunately, when many people receive the results of their test, they are unsure what they mean or what to do with them. The goal of this subject guide is to explain the tests and to show what tools are available for research and how to use them to identify ancestors and previously unknown relatives.

<https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2016/12/17/the-dna-era-of-genealogy/>

[The Genetic Genealogist](#)

Adding DNA to the Genealogist's Toolbox

The DNA Era of Genealogy

[Blaine Bettinger](#)

When does DNA prove a relationship? When is a triangulation group sufficiently large enough to prove descent from an ancestral couple? When is a shared DNA segment large enough to prove someone is your first (or second/third/fourth, etc.) cousin? At what point does the DNA prove that I am descended from Samuel Snell? When does the DNA prove that you've found your great-grandmother's biological parents?

NEVER.

And this is, perhaps, one of the greatest misconceptions in the post-DNA era of genealogy.