



## 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: open

Genie: Mike Farris

Website: [www.smvgs.org](http://www.smvgs.org)

eMail: [Roots@smvgs.org](mailto:Roots@smvgs.org)

## Contact us at the

SM Public Library

## Member Meetings

Jan-Jun, Sep-Nov  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly

2-4pm  
ZOOM meeting

## January Meeting:

Thursday, January 21  
2:00pm

## Program:

Vote on bylaw changes,  
standing rules  
Share Family History Stories

## Next Board Meeting:

## Library Docent

By appointment

## President's Message January 2021



Happy New Year, SMVGS Members!

Let's hope that 2021 is a great year for everyone. We have some exciting ideas and news that we're sure you'll welcome to start off the year.

First of all, the Board of Officers has decided to finally jump into virtual meetings this year! Maramonte Park was a good place to meet, so we'll probably go back to meeting there when the weather warms up. For January and February though, we're going to try out Zoom for our general meetings and programs. If you need help setting up the Zoom application on your computer or other device, please let me know as soon as possible. I'm not an expert but can get you the help you need.

Our January General Membership Meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 PM will be very important to (virtually) attend, as we will need input from you by way of a vote for three items of business. If you aren't able to join us with Zoom, you may also vote by sending an email to [on.line@gte.net](mailto:on.line@gte.net) by January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 2:00 PM. Vote "Yes" or "No" for each item below.

- 1) Vote on Article V: Meeting. Section 1a.  
"Membership meeting shall be held monthly except July, August, and December."  
To be amended to read "Membership meeting shall be held monthly except June, July, August and December."
- 2) Vote to waive membership dues being owed by current society members for the 2021 calendar year (donations and new member dues will be accepted).
- 3) Vote to have our 2020 elected officers remain in their current positions until voting takes place in February 2022. Please read paragraph below for explanation.

I will explain the reasons behind the need for these items to be voted on. First, when the Board contemplated discontinuing the June meetings, Covid quarantine had just begun and our general meetings had been suspended. We also neglected to note that this was an item (IIa) in our Standing Rules, as well as Article V: Meeting. Section 1a of our bylaws that needs to be adopted by a majority vote of the general membership. Second, though we couldn't find any objection to it in our bylaws, the board feels that the current Covid quarantine has made it seem appropriate to NOT collect membership dues this year, so a vote is in order. Third, because of the radically reduced number of general meetings last year (because of Covid), and possibly this year, our officers have volunteered to remain in their current positions for another year unless other approved members would like to be added to a slate of nominees. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact me or another officer.

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## President's Message

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Our board has tried to do the best we could during these trying times to keep our Society afloat. One of our favorite pastimes is meeting as a group with you and sharing genealogical breakthroughs and ancestor stories, as well as learning along with you. Promoting genealogical fellowship is one of the primary objectives of our society. We have surely missed each of you!

With all of that being said, let me tell you about our January program. After we vote on the three items above, we plan to have a bit of time left for sharing five-minute family history successes like we have done in the past during our December luncheons. A "Part 2" or second session of Zoom, depending on the information I gather in the next week or two, may be attempted so we can hear all of the stories. I'd like to know in advance if you have something to share, that way I can allow enough time for everyone and create a lineup. This will be a new experience for all of us! I hope for a great turnout and success with the technology. Please RSVP by January 14<sup>th</sup>, if you'd like to share.

As a teaser, I'd like to let you know that on February 18<sup>th</sup> we have planned to present an interview with a local historian. This will also be a Zoom meeting, so I hope that everyone can try out Zoom this month in preparation for February. Both Zoom meetings will be open to the public, so feel free to invite your friends and family. A Zoom invitation with a link will be sent out a few days before our meetings.

Sincerely,

Sandy Peterson  
SMVGS President  
On.line@gte.net



ed. note: This is a family history story that I was interested in hearing. I found a ten-minute video on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8AYq7OMUw>

Family Search has a name search facility. This is what I found:



Here is the link:

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/surname>

Born on January 1

### Paul Revere

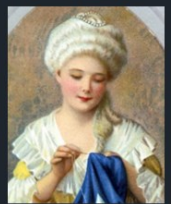
**1735 Paul Revere**, American silversmith and patriot who alerted the colonial militia to the approach of British forces before the battles of Lexington and Concord, born in Boston, Massachusetts (d. 1818)



American Patriot  
Paul Revere

### Betsy Ross

**1752 Betsy Ross** [Elizabeth Griscom], American seamstress widely credited with making the first American flag, born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (d. 1836)



Seamstress Credited with Creating the First American Flag  
Betsy Ross

I'm baaaaack...and the world is a safer place. Neither quarantine nor a new twig on Mike's family tree will stop me from my appointed rounds.



Kris McCullough, one month old