



# Tree Tips Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

Researching the World  
June 2011

Vol. 27, No. 6



## With Their Eyes Turned Skyward

### Santa Barbara's Fallen Aviators of World War II"

Michel Nellis, local historian and SBCGS member, will give history a nudge so it stays relevant to the Santa Barbara and Goleta communities when she presents the June 18th program on local military aviators—49 local men and one woman—who perished during World War II. You might recognize the names of some of these local heroes: David Love, Wm. L. Moffett, Norman Firestone, Clarence Ward, Frederick Lopez, James Fowler, for these names are carried on busy streets near the airport. All of the local aviators are also memorialized on a black obelisk installed in May 2009 at the Santa Barbara Airport.

Michel and Karen Ramsdale, Santa Barbara Municipal Airport Director, spent the past two years researching the lives of the aviators. They spoke with living relatives of the aviators, collected photographs, and now are writing a book detailing the lives of the heroes. We have a wonderful opportunity to hear first hand from Michel about her search and about these people who are now part of our own local history.

Michel has always had a love of local history. She earned a bachelor's degree in history from UCLA and a master's degree in Public Historical Studies at UCSB with an emphasis in business history. Her thesis, Profile of Downtown Isla Vista, is a definitive study of the growth of the commercial area of this small enclave adjacent to UC's Santa Barbara campus. She has researched and written about several areas of

Santa Barbara County including the commercial area of Guadalupe, the rural areas of Lompoc Valley and Foxen Canyon, Santa Barbara's Mission Canyon district, the hedgerows of Montecito, and the tiny communities of Casmalia, Garey, and Sisquoc. Besides history, Michel enjoys genealogy, travel adventures, and supporting a girls' school in Ghana, West Africa, through her non-profit, Women to Women International.



*A black granite obelisk now stands near the eastern edge of the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, an austere memorial to the local aviators who lost their lives and the Marine squadrons that trained at the airport during World War II.*

**Announcement:** The Sahyun Library is now closed for final stages of construction. Go to <http://sbcgsconstruction.blogspot.com/> for updates.

- Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Meeting
- Saturday, June 18
- 9:30 A.M. — Noon;  
Program at 10:30 A.M.
- First Presbyterian Church at 21 E. Constance at State Street

*There is ample free parking in the church's lot and the facility is handicapped accessible*

### Special Interest Groups

You are welcome to the open specialty groups (SIGS) that meet prior to the general meeting:

- 9:30 AM **Beginning Genealogy Group** meets under the leadership of Arlene Doty.
- 9:30 AM **DNA Group** is for those interested in DNA as a genealogical tool. Look for the DNA sign.
- 9:30 AM **German Ancestry Group** will meet this month under the leadership of Cari Thomas.
- 9:30 AM **Computer Genealogy Interest Group** meets under the leadership of Merna McClenathen.
- 9:30 AM **JewishGen Special Interest Group** will meet for the first time, Saturday, June 18. The first meeting will focus on finding out who is interested in this SIG



section, and determining topics that will be of interest to members. Please contact Jane Honikman if you have questions (967-9757).

- 10:00 AM **Coffee and Refreshments** will be served. Check out the Book-Nook with new publications and creative gift ideas.

## From the President's Desk: Mary Hall

June marks the end of SBCGS' year, and a very good year it has been!

The SBCGS experienced a year of well-attended and highly sociable General Meetings every 3rd Saturday of each month, with interesting and informative speakers, thanks to 1st Vice President Programs, Marie Sue Parsons. Special interest groups (German, Computers, Beginning Genealogy, and DNA) continue to be popular. Book sales have been super-charged under Kristin Ingalls passionate leadership; mouth-watering refreshments amazingly appear for our enjoyment, thanks to Judy Powell and her gracious refreshment hosts.

In August, the SBCGS Board voted to accept Madera Construction's bid and on October 4th, the backhoe arrived to officially start the library expansion process. The amazing remodeling project is wonderfully chronicled and captured by Art Sylvester at <http://sbcgsconstruction.blogspot.com/>. If keeping us informed of progress with a blog isn't enough, Art also manages the construction project for SBCGS, along with assistance from Jim Friestad (the rocket scientist). Art also builds shelves (see below)

SBCGS launched Family History Month on October 2nd by honoring the SBCGS "Pioneers:" 17 current members who joined the SBCGS in the first 10 years its formation, and provided this organization such a firm foundation. These remarkable ladies were feted at the La Cumbre Country Club's renowned brunch, organized by special events chair extraordinaire Joan Jacobs, and graciously complemented by Emily Aasted, Jean Pettitt, and Lily Rossi.

Even as ground was breaking and destruction was all around the Sahyun Library, SBCGS held a community Open House, workshops & mini-classes to celebrate October as Family History Month. The popularity of these events certainly inforced the need for larger workshop and classroom space (as if we really needed the reminder!).

The start of 2011 was heralded with the achievement of reaching the Phase I Campaign fundraising goal of \$920,000! Huge appreciative nods go to Jan Cloud and Michol Colgan for their tireless & inspiring efforts, as well as to many of you for your generous support.

As if Jim Friestad didn't already have

enough to occupy his time, in February he began marshalling resources to custom-build bookcases and shelving for the HUGE new wing! To date over 1200 volunteer hours have been generously donated to build our stacks, the results of which look fantastic! Besides Jim, the dynamic Matz duo – Gary & Louise – are warranted very appreciative acknowledgments for their efforts, along with several other shelving stalwarts (identified in the blog).

In April we were treated to another incredible annual Genealogy Seminar, this time with two nationally known experts – Roger P Minert (German Genealogy) and Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck (nearly everything Genealogy). Over 200 attendees enjoyed the day long event, expertly managed by seminar co-chairs Diane Sylvester & Cari Thomas, and supported by a large group of volunteers. Especially fun was the reconfigured "Book Nook" and a very successful seminar raffle, with over 20 prizes gathered by Kathy Stark and Anna Rae Zalatel.

The 2011 Members Interest Survey to help us know your genealogy interests, led by Bob Lynn, arrived in your email boxes, in April. "Members Connect," launched by 2nd VP Membership, Sue Ramsey, seeks to match members' needs with those who have expertise. We anticipate these connections will really accelerate with the launch of our new & improved SBCGS website, with a "member only" page, a project led under the direction of current IT Committee chair, Rosa Avolio, and current webmaster guru Dorothy Oksner.

Throughout the year, Marsha Martin, Kathie Morgan and Jim Friestad kept the library staffed and humming along, despite all the construction "displacements", disruptions and librarian retirements. New library items continued to be accessioned by the team of Louise Matz, Gary Matz, Don Gill, Ruth Scollin, Mary Marsh and King Straus. Even with abbreviated hours, the library has experienced an increasing number of visitors from not only outside the SBCGS member ranks, but outside the Santa Barbara area, as well. The 30+ volunteer librarians who greet them and allow us to keep the doors to our wonderful library open, and enable "magic" to happen when records and genealogists are mixed together.

Operating under the radar is the tre-

mendous effort led by our 1st year Finance Officer, Jim R. Wilson (with financial expertise amply supplied by Michel Nellis and Charles Walworth), to keep the SBCGS' intricate, complicated, and not-insignificant financial matters, all in order.

During the year, first-rate publications and communications were provided to SBCGS members—consistently, completely, and with unique flair – by Diane Sylvester and Dorothy Oksner. Helen Rydell not only generously manages the physical mailing of all the above (no small feat), but also edits Ancestors West. Helen also volunteers her time and expert research skills to perform Santa Barbara area "lookups" for people who contact SBCGS for help finding their ancestors.

No doubt I've accidentally omitted a significant event this year or failed to cite by name someone who, either this year and/or consistently year over year, offers their time & talents to make the SBCGS such an active and rich organization. I hope each of the nearly 100 volunteers who, this year alone, have given to the SBCGS a combined total of approximately 7,500 hours of their time, know that I appreciate your generosity greatly.

On behalf of the other 15 members of the SBCGS Board of Directors (acknowledged elsewhere in this issue), thank you for all you do to make the SBCGS a most outstanding organization, this year and in the future.

## Membership Renewals

For the majority of our members, it's renewal time. Historically, we have based our membership on the fiscal year beginning July 1st. With the recent change to a new online database, we now have the capability to base our memberships on an annual basis—much like a magazine subscription. Consequently, anyone joining the society after July 2010, will have an annual subscription. For example, if you joined in October 2010, your renewal will be due October 2011. For the majority of the membership, our renewal month will continue to be July. Those notices have been mailed.

This is a very exciting time for the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society. Our library expansion project is nearing completion and plans are underway for improved education & resources for our members. You won't want to miss a minute of it!! Please renew today.

Sue Ramsey, VP - Membership

## Membership

Welcome to our new member!

### Individual:

Holly Jennings  
Santa Barbara

## Library Hours

- SBCGS Sahyun Library Hours  
316 Castillo Street  
Phone: 805-884-1000  
Sunday: 1-4  
Tuesday: 10 AM-5 PM  
Thursday: 10 AM-5 PM  
Friday: 10 AM-5 PM

**Closed until  
about  
August 1**

- LDS Library Hours  
2107 Santa Barbara St.  
Phone: 805-682-2092  
Wednesday: 10 AM-6 PM  
Thursday: 10 AM-6 PM  
Friday: 9 AM-3 PM  
Saturday: 9 AM-12 Noon

## Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society: Board of Directors 2010-11

Per SBCGS bylaws, elected Officers serve 2 year terms with an option for a 2nd 2 year term (except President who, in addition to the option of two (2) two year terms, serves one year as President-Elect and another as Past-President). Officer election years are staggered. As elected officials of the SBCGS members, all Officers are members of the SBCGS Board of Directors.

### SBCGS Officers (end year of current term)

Arthur Sylvester, Past President (2011)  
Mary E Hall, President (2012)  
Marie Sue Parsons, 1st VP, Programs (2011)  
Sue Ramsey, 2nd Vice President (2012)  
Kristin Ingalls, Secretary (2011)  
Jim R Wilson, Finance Officer (2012)

### Directors at Large serve a 1 year term that may be renewed each year, with no term-limit. (years of mostly consecutive service (estimated))

Emily Aasted (18)  
Janice G Cloud (20+)  
Michol Colgan (8)  
Ronald (Jim) Friestad (11)  
Joan Jacobs (20+)  
Kathie Morgan (2)  
Jean Pettitt (3)  
Diane Sylvester (12)  
John Woodward (20+)  
Michelle Woodhouse (3)

With grateful appreciation to the 2010-11 SBCGS Board of Directors for their dedicated service! Thank you!!!

## Half and Half Book Buy Program

**Marriage Records of the Geat Synagogue London 1791-1885**, by Lewin. These records were transcribed from LDS films from English & Hebrew. Both Bride & Groom lists include all parents' names, patronymics, addresses, marriage date & notes. Cost: \$84; 1/2 cost: \$42. Needed: \$42.00.

**Marriage Notices from Richmond, VA. Newspapers 1821-1840**, VGS, Taken from seven papers, these abstracts list names dates, place of residence, paper reference. Indexed. Cost: \$22; 1/2 cost: \$11. Needed: \$11.00.

**Marriage & Death Notices from the Charleston, SC, Mercury 1822-1832**, Holcomb. Marriage licenses were not required until 1877 in Charleston (1911 for the rest of the state), so these abstracts will help fill a time void. Death records, obits and funeral notices included. Indexed. Cost: \$28; 1/2 cost: \$14. Needed: \$14.00.

**Selected Vital Records from the Jamaican Daily Gleaner, Vol 1, 1865-1915**, by Mitchell. Author's view of life on the island of Jamaica as seen through these newspaper extracts. BMD events with a bias towards St. Ann Parish & Brown's Town, all island events are included. Indexed. Cost: \$18; 1/2 cost: \$9. Needed: \$9.00.

**New Mexico Marriages, San Felipe de Neri Church, Albuquerque, 1726-1855**, by Windham. Short history of the area churches. Data give B/G names, parents', residences & witnesses. Map. Spanish abbreviations, terms & phrases. Several indexes. Cost: \$36; 1/2 cost: \$18. Needed: \$18.00.

**Charlotte Co., VA 1816-1850, Marriage Bonds & Ministers' Returns**, by Nance. Over 1650 marriages are listed alpha by grooms w/bride cross-index. Index for 1800 sureties & witnesses, & guardians. Cost: \$22; 1/2 cost: \$11. Needed: \$11.00.

**Unstoppable Force, The Scottish Exodus to Canada**, by Campey. This major study looks at causes of the Scots' departure & the attraction of Canada! Ship listings with some names & description of port of departure & Canadian arrival. Cost: \$34; 1/2 cost: \$17. Needed: \$17.00.

### Members pay 1/2 – Book Fund pays 1/2.

Please send contributions to:



SBCGS, c/o Louise Matz,  
P.O. Box 6103, SB 93160



Suggestions welcomed!  
Email: Lmgen2@cox.net

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS WHO MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 1/2 & 1/2 BOOK BUY PROGRAM!**

Margaret Marble    Wreta Mondok

Kathy Jordan        Kris Klukkert

Carmen Sandoval    Rex Saint Ongé

**Announcement: The Library will be closed for research until further notice for final stages of construction. Watch here for information or go to our construction blog to follow the progress. It is updated weekly. (<http://sbcgsconstruction.blogspot.com/>)**

## Cool websites to help in your research:

**1930 Mexican Census** has been added to family search.  
[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

### Railroad Retirement Board Records

[www.archives.gov/southeast/public/railroad-retirement-board-records.html](http://www.archives.gov/southeast/public/railroad-retirement-board-records.html)



**Civil War Resources by state.** Click on the download listed in the middle of the screen. [www.internet-genealogy.com](http://www.internet-genealogy.com)

**German and Austrian indexes to parish and civil records.**  
[www.genteam.at](http://www.genteam.at)

**Emigration from Southwest Germany, Baden-Wurtemberg.**

[www.auswanderer-bw.de/auswanderer/index1.php?PHPSESSID=ca3865291c31c21f](http://www.auswanderer-bw.de/auswanderer/index1.php?PHPSESSID=ca3865291c31c21f)

### Show dates of Civil Registration in Germany

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wggerman/civilreg.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wggerman/civilreg.htm)

Enjoy!! Please remember to send your favorite websites to Sharon Wilson at [swilsonsb@cox.net](mailto:swilsonsb@cox.net). We need your input to keep this column interesting. Thanks!!

## Keep in Touch

**SB County Genealogical Society Web Page:** [www.sbgen.org](http://www.sbgen.org)

**SBCGS Blog:** <http://sbcgs.blogspot.com/>

**Library e-mail address:** [info@sbgen.org](mailto:info@sbgen.org)

**Updates on Library Expansion:** <http://sbcgsconstruction.blogspot.com/>

## Calendar

**Board Meeting: open to members**

Friday, June 17, 8:30 a.m., at Goleta Presbyterian Church

**General Meeting** Saturday, June 18, 9:30 - Noon, First Presbyterian Church, Constance at State

## For Information, Call:

**President:** Mary Hall, 687-7403

**Library Director:** Kathie Morgan, 682-4456

**Librarian Scheduling:** Marsha Martin, 967-1146

**Newsletter Address Corrections:** Sue Ramsey, 967-1670

**Book Buy:** Louise Matz, 967-7353

**Vice President, Membership:** Sue Ramsey, 967-1670

**Ancestors West:** Dorothy Oksner, 684-3048,  
[ox@silcom.com](mailto:ox@silcom.com)

**Adult Ed Genealogy Classes:** Jan Cloud, 965-7423, Louise Matz, 967-7353, Cari Thomas, 964-5523

**Sales Table:** Kristin Ingalls, 682-3499

**Vice President, Programs:** Marie Sue Parsons, 964-9176

**Tree Tips:** [fjordhest@cox.net](mailto:fjordhest@cox.net); Deadline: 3rd Sat. of mon.

NON-PROFIT  
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U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 1303  
Goleta, CA 93116-1303





# Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Campaign June 2011

WOW, just got an email from our fearless leader, and she happened to be at the library and reported that the first of the book shelves are going in!! When all is said and done we will have a total of 112 Book Shelf modules in the stack area each hoping to have a name on it.

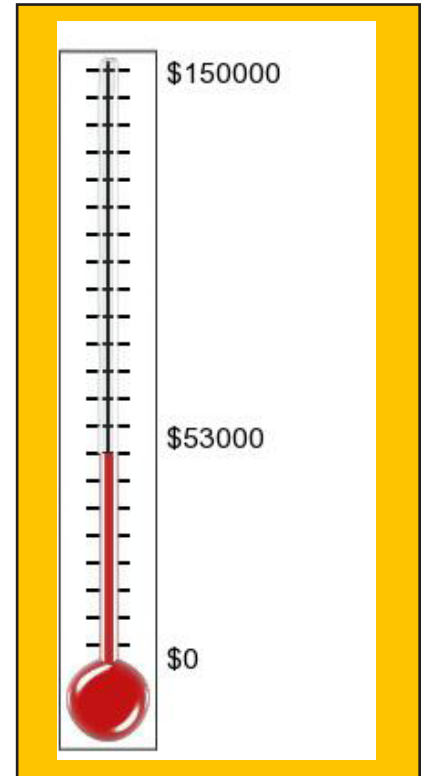
Please consider donating and/or naming 1 or 2 of these modules. You can put your name or the name of an ancestor on one for only \$500. You would not only be helping us pay for the modules but memorializing that special ancestor as well.

And, if you have been keeping up with Art's Construction Blog <http://sbcgsconstruction.blogspot.com/> you know that the lighting fixtures are in — and aren't they beautiful!

All of this means that we will be moving into the new portion of the library before long and the time has come to add some furniture. Now, so far, through your generosity, we have raised over \$50,000 toward our \$150,000 goal, but we still have a lot more to go. We have sent out our next mailing which included the Naming Opportunities Brochure. It would be wonderful if you were to decide to honor an ancestor by placing their name on a plaque and attaching it to one of the items that will furnish the library – book stacks, an atlas case for our over sized map books or computer chairs.

So far these are the items that have been claimed for naming: DAR (Mission Canyon Chapter) and The Mayflower Society (Santa Barbara Colony) have each claimed a Library Table; and Martha Siegel claimed the Book Sales Area. Virginia Paddock, Diane Sidon, Marjorie Wilser, Diane & John Flynn and Gerry Shepherd have each taken a Class/Meeting Room table; and Judy Sahm took a Book Stack Module. How about you?

Thanks to the following people for their generous (use as needed) donations to the Furnishings Campaign for the month of May! (Michol Colgan, Volunteer Campaign Chair)



Ryan Lindsey, Janine Tressler, Edith Ogella,  
Robert & Bonnie Sivers, Evelyn Houdek,  
Cleo Melendez,  
Adolph & Margaret May, Elizabeth Tilton,  
Michael Pruitt, Carrie Pardo, Sue West,  
Joyce Mooberry, Nick Nichols,  
Nancy Alexander, Silvio DiLoreto,

**Overhead fixtures in the stack room.**  
More information on the expansion can be found at:  
<http://sbcgsconstruction.blogspot.com/>