

SUN CITY VISTOSO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

May 14th, 2019

General Meeting Minutes

- Welcome New Members - None
- Welcome Visitors & Guests - None
- “Wait ‘til you hear what I found.” Be sure to label your photos – your ancestors will thank you.
- Minutes of April meeting, posted, any questions? Motion to approve, seconded and approved.
- Treasurer’s Report – Debra Dirks – April Treasurer’s report posted on the website. Questions? Submit to audit.
- Committee Reports
 1. **Mentoring** - Help Sessions - Holly Gibson – Check calendar for her help day
 2. **Membership** – Debra Dirks (179 at last count) members.
 3. **Library** – Andrea Houston – order new bookcase or commission one from woodworking club and reorganize collections – will begin in fall
 4. **Genealogy Room Photos** - Mary Barr – We are always looking for more pictures. Please include a 4” by 6” copy with information about the person, how related, location and your name.
 5. **SIG’s (Special Interest Groups)**
 - a. **Legacy Family Tree** - Meets 1st Tuesday at 1 pm - WC Conference Room #1. Next meeting in October
 - b. **DAR** - Holly Gibson and Lynne Brooke – email for meeting
 - c. **DNA**- Teri & Art Petty. 3rd Wed, 1 PM Genealogy Library. Teri will post days she is in the library and can answer DNA questions
 - d. **Family Tree** – Karen Haider, no meeting until October.
 - e. **Scandinavian** – Joan Allen, informal meetings
 - f. **Roots Magic** – Sharon Larsen – 3rd Friday of the month from 10:45-12:00 PM, Genealogy Library. Meeting 5/17/19.
 6. **Program Committee** - We are always looking for speaker recommendations, so if you have heard a good one at a conference or meeting you have attended please let us know. Program for 2019-2020 is set. See website or pamphlets for details.
 7. **New Member folders** – if you recently joined, we have made a new member packet for you and would like you to schedule a time to do a brief room tour and website tour with Joan Allen.
 8. **Monitor Training** – Pat Brown – In April, the number of times slots the lab was open was 30 (out of a possible 48 time slots), 18 monitors signed up and 107 people used the lab (all time slots, all monitors, includes multiple visits). If you are a monitor, please sign up for a time at least once a month. If you aren’t a monitor, please consider training to become one. The more our lab is open, the more our members can use the databases our dues pay for. Monitors are NOT required to help, they are there to open and close the room and report computer problems. If a monitor is available to help they will indicate it on the comment line on the club calendar.
 9. **Display Case** – Helen & Bob Jennette – next one in August will feature new officers and our 2019-2020 program.
 10. **Hospitality** – Sharon Held and Suzan Peterson -- 3 dozen cookies. Signup sheet is on the sign-in table or sign up on-line.

11. Marketing – Holly Gibson and Lee Sopwith. Help us think of creative ways to encourage more people to join our club. Turnover rate in the community as a whole is about 50% over the last several years. We need to reach out to new community members and stimulate interest in our organization.

12. Field Trips – Details for other presentations are available either on our website or by following links on our website to the various groups (on right side of home page)

- a. **American Ancestors** (by the New England Historic Genealogical Society) – “It’s in the Genes: Leveraging DNA in Your Family History Research” by NEHGS DNA Experts Christopher C Child and Pam Holland. Saturday, May 18 9AM to 4PM at the Heard Museum 2301 N Central Ave Phoenix. Cost \$125. Details and Registration: <https://www.americanancestors.org/education/events-and-programs/american-ancestors-in-arizona>
- b. **Pima County Genealogy Society** – Saturday, May 18th, 1-3 PM. Truly Nolen Leadership Training Center 436 S. Williams Blvd. Short Program: Rondie Yancey – “You Don’t Have to be a Lumberjack to Love Logs”. Regular Program: Jodi Lynn Strait– “Getting to Know Fold3” See their website for more details: <https://azpimagensoc.org> .
- c. **Saddlebrook Genealogy Club** – First Thursday, 1-3 PM in HOA#1 Coyote Room. Nothing posted for June. See their website for more details <http://www.sb-genealogy.org/>
- d. **Sunflower Genealogy Club** – Next meeting is September 17th. See their website for more details: http://www.sunflowerliving.com/club_pages/sfgs/
- e. **Green Valley Genealogy Society** – Thursday, May 16th, 1-3PM Valley Presbyterian Church, 2800 S. Camino del Sol, Green Valley. Program: a pre-recorded webinar by Diana Elder – “What Do I do Next? 5 Tips for Using FamilySearch Partners” Short Program: Carol Bates-Smith – “You Can Write Your Family History” See their website for more details <https://azgvgs.org/>
- f. **The Southern Arizona Jewish Genealogy Society** – May program was on Mother’s Day. Nothing posted yet for June. See their Facebook page for more details.
- g. **Free Webinars from the Illinois State Genealogical Society**
 - i. Tuesday, May 14th 8-9PM Central Time – Colleen Greene – “An Introduction to Researching Your Mexican Ancestor”. Link to sign-up is on the Green Valley Genealogy Society website. <https://azgvgs.org/>
- h. **Free Webinar from the Southern California Genealogical Society**
 - i. Wednesday, May 15th 6-7PM Pacific Time – Annette Burke Lyttle – “The Marriage of the Waters: the Erie Canal & the Opening of the Midwest”. Link to sign-up is on the Green Valley Genealogy Society website. <https://azgvgs.org/>

- **Classes**

1. **Help for Beginners** – See calendar for details. Love to have some more volunteer mentor monitors. Saturday Shorts will begin again in October.

- **New Business**

1. **Officers for 2019-2020** – election this month.
 - a. President – Lee Sopwith
 - b. Vice-President – Teri Petty
 - c. Treasurer – Debra Dirks
 - d. Secretary – Pat Brown
 - e. Director-at-Large – Art Petty
 - f. Past President – Andrea Houston

Motion was made to accept the slate of officers, seconded and approved.

2. **Thank you to our retiring officers:**
 - a. Secretary – Holly Gibson
 - b. Director-at-Large – Barbara Evans
 3. **Purchases –**
 - a. Grabit for the newer MAC computer and a USP (special Surge Protector) for the one that is causing problems.
 4. **Changing the Club By-laws** – we want to change the by-laws to include the ability for a few outside people to be members. See the attachment below for the proposed changes. The proposed changes will be read at the May Meeting, posted on the bulletin board in the Genealogy Lab, and voted on at the October general meeting. They will also be posted on the website.
 5. **Social for next year** – Sunday, February 16th from 1-5PM (building closes at 6PM). Organization for the social will begin in October.
- **Old Business**
 1. **Software** – reminder that we have the following software installed in the labs. We hope you have had a chance to try them out:
 - a. Highest level of Ancestry – access to Fold3, international records and other specialty items
 - b. Family Search
 - c. Upgrade to Premium Newspapers.com
 - d. MyHeritage.com
 - e. FindMyPast.com
 - f. Archives.com
 - g. A new International “fence” with free links to Irish and Canadian websites
 - h. A new Download “fence” where your images and documents will be downloaded if you choose to do that.
 - i. Link to The Family History Guide – a wonderful educational resource.
 - j. Many other links to Genealogy websites
 2. **Shirt Sale** – there are 3 Genealogy Club Logo shirts for sale. Donated by 2 members, available at a big discount!
 3. **Comment Cards and Suggestion Box** – There is a suggestion box by the sign-in sheet and comment cards are by the computers or on the side of the box. We want to know what software you are using and any problems you had using it. Thank you to those of you who have made some suggestion already!
 4. **Long Range Planning** – I sat in on one and they asked us to prepare a report like the one that the Clay Club and Fused Glass club prepared. Lee and I will work on it over the summer. I would encourage you to read their report (posted under the members only page under committees)
 5. Any others?
 - **May Speaker**
 - Holly Gibson – “Sources”
 - **October Speaker**
 - Nicole Dyer – “PERSI”

Thank you to everyone for a wonderful 2 years. You made it very easy to be president and I really appreciate everything you did to help and support the club. I think this is an outstanding group of people and I really enjoyed my time as your president.

Thank you to all the volunteers... We can't do it without you.

Adjourn for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Gibson
Secretary

Speakers for 2019-2020

1. October 8th – Nicole Dyer – “Persi”
2. November 12th – Katie Gertz – “Comparing Family Tree Maker, Legacy and Roots Magic”
3. December 10th – Lineage Societies Roundtable (DAR, SAR, Mayflower, Jamestown, etc.) Lynne Brooke, Holly Gibson, Teri Petty, Art Petty and perhaps some other people
4. January 14th – Melanie Sturgeon – “Preserving your Pictures and Documents”
5. February 11th – Amy Urman – “Abbreviations and symbols found in genealogical research”
6. March 10th – Sumner Walters – “Courthouse Research”
7. April 14th – Pam Ingermanson – “Searching in the Catalog in FamilySearch” and a little bit about the Wiki
8. May 12th – Bob Black – “The Family History Guide” with a little bit about what is available at his Family History Center (East)