



# Sonoma County Genealogical Society Newsletter

# SCGS



March 2003

March. 22<sup>nd</sup>  
SCGS Spring  
Seminar

## Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, CG, FUGA

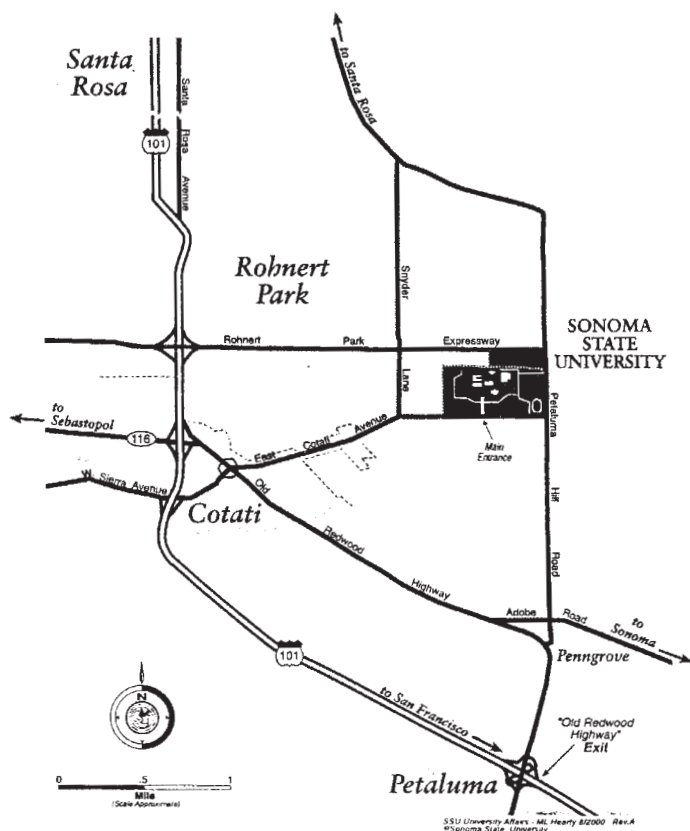
Nationally known genealogical lecturer and writer to give all day seminar, 22 March 2003. The seminar will run from 9am to 4pm. The Sonoma County Genealogical Society will host their eleventh annual Spring Seminar with Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, CG, FUGA at The Cooperidge at Sonoma State University, 1801 E. Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park.



Sharon  
DeBartolo  
Carmack,  
CG,FUGA



**Sonoma State University**  
Local Area



Contact Lois Nimmo,  
at (707) 537-1684 or  
email:  
LoisNim@aol.com

or visit the web site:

[www.rootsweb.com/  
~cascgs/carmack.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/carmack.htm)

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Gives a  
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onskills  
needed for  
Locating &  
Writing about  
our Ancestors

9am-4pm

Non-members: \$25  
admission fee at  
Members: Pre-Reg.  
\$18  
Members at door:  
\$22.

Visit Our Web Site at: <http://www.scgs.org>

## President's Message

by Evelyn Ross

### Officers

President  
Evelyn Ross  
539-0926  
eross930@aol.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Fawn Hill  
544-2380  
fawnhill@compuserve.com

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Annie Conley  
431-2253  
anniec@sonic.net

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President  
Tony Hoskins  
thoskins48@hotmail.com

Recording Sec.  
Audrey Herman  
539-4031  
audreyrae@earthlink.net

Corresponding Sec.  
Audrey Phillips  
763-4492  
phillips@sun.net

Treasurer  
Janice Chamberlain  
542-5862  
janicec@sonic.net

Rep.-at-Large  
Muriel Morrow  
539-4727  
squid@sonic.net

Rep.-at-Large  
Jo Russell  
528-1127  
ljrussell@earthlink.net

Rep.-at-Large  
Ray Owen  
578-0243  
raylowen@yahoo.com

Projects Committee  
Carmen Finley  
544-2072  
finleyc@sonoma.edu

A few weeks ago I had lots of fun teaching a class on Grandparenting. (Like I'm such an expert, but I do descend from a long line of grandmothers.) While preparing for the class two points came into focus because of their overwhelming influence on family relations. Those points were, traditions and collateral family members. Remember, collateral relatives are aunts, uncles, and cousins.

This last Christmas our daughter, Signe created a beautiful book,

The Red Thread, which she dedicated "to the craftswomen of Clan Ross past, present and future. The creativity and love in your handiwork nurtures my soul." This is a reference to the needlework skills that have been preserved and passed down through the women of our family for several generations.

Are there skills in your family that can become a tradition to be passed down to children and grandchildren? Wood-working, bird watching, knitting, reading? Those things that you have found joy in should be shared. We witnessed a favored custom in our family being passed along recently as we watched our son telling a story to his nephew, making it up as he went along, much like the "Mike & John" stories he'd been told as a child.

The other point is the need to stay connected to extended family members. You may have the stories from your family while a cousin, perhaps just a few miles away, has the old pictures. These again are important things that need to be shared. At the Family History Center the other day, a few of us were lamenting the fact that we know the old pioneers in our family better than we know some of our first cousins!

Over the past few months I've had a great deal of pleasure getting to know two cousins as we explore the history of our "Three Behrs" ancestors. The stories are both tender and precious, the pictures have proved to be priceless.

Evelyn says,  
"We need you! Be a volunteer"



## The Historical Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library is OPEN!!!

We are located in our temporary location, 200 E. Berry, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the Renaissance Square building located at the corner of Clinton and Berry Streets.

Our ENTIRE collection is available and ready for use. The new and improved, bigger and better collection has some exciting developments for the family history researcher. Our entire collection is now completely open for browsing, which means all the books are available on the shelves and ready for your perusal. You can search the more than 300,000 printed volumes and 314,000 rolls of microfilm at YOUR leisure.

As always, our professional librarian staff is as ready to offer you the highest level of customer service as possible. We invite researchers to come and visit us in genealogical nirvana!

Susan Kaufman, Librarian

Allen County Public Library Historical Genealogy Department

200 E. Berry St.

PO Box 2270

Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

260-421-1225

<[www.acpl.lib.in.us](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us)>

## It's Tradition

by Fawn Hill

The Board invites your program suggestions. Members are encouraged to help plan the content of future educational meetings. Each spring the membership is given this opportunity to share opinions and ideas for the coming year. We have had great success in the past by utilizing your input so keep up the good work. Help the board choose the best speakers, those with a message most beneficial to us. Now is your chance to let us know what you think. Have you seen or heard about a worthwhile and interesting subject. Do you

know of a speaker with a unique story or 'how to' program who might be available for our schedule of educational meetings. Is there a topic that you want to learn more about? Let us know. Talk to any member of the board or call/e-mail me with your input and many thanks for all the ways you support your hard working leaders.



## Worthwhile Websites

From Family Tree News Service

Overwhelmed by the number of family history-related Web sites popping up? FamilyTreeMagazine.com sorts through them all—whew!—to bring you only the very best. We recommended the following as Sites of the Day during the last week:

\* Genealogy Record Search

Consider hiring a professional to break through the brick walls in your research.

<http://www.genealogyrecordsearch.com>

\* Lower East Side Tenement Museum, 1800s

<http://www.tenement.org>

\* Florida Confederate Pension Application Files Search new online database of Florida's Confederate Pension Collection.

<http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/barm/Pensionfiles.html>

\* History of the Workhouse

<http://www.workhouses.org.uk>

\* Fur Rendezvous

Experience Anchorage, Alaska's Fur Rendezvous.

<http://www.furrondy.net>

\* Antique Jewelry Online

Learn the history of your heirlooms.

<http://www.antiquejewelryonline.com>

\* After the Day of Infamy

Listen to interviews recorded after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/afcphtml/afcphtml.html>

\* Western Australian Convict Ships 1850-1868 How much do you really know about your Aussie ancestors?

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/con-wa.html>

\* Colonial Ancestors

Learn all about your Colonial forebears.

<http://colonialancestors.com>

\* Centropa: Jewish Heritage in Central and Eastern Europe

Discover European Jewish history through family photos and oral histories.

<http://www.centropa.org>

\* Plymouth in the Revolution

Learn about Plymouth, Mass., and the Revolutionary War online.

<http://www.pilgrimhall.org/Rev1.htm>

To view today's Site of the Day, visit

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/specialoffers.asp?FAMWebsite>

and keep checking daily for more top picks! Suggest a site at

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/specialoffers.asp?FAMsitesuggest>

To view today's Site of the Day, visit <http://www.familytreemagazine.com> and keep checking daily for more top picks! Suggest a site at:

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/resources/nominations.html>

## Sonoma County Genealogical Society

Website:

<http://www.scgs.org>

Webmaster:

Spence Burton

[Webmaster@scgs.org](mailto:Webmaster@scgs.org)

Newsletter Editor

Janet Mobley

(707) 763-6317

[janmobley@mac.com](mailto:janmobley@mac.com)

Ass't. Editor

Carol Tisnado

[CarolTis@aol.com](mailto:CarolTis@aol.com)

Final Proof Reader

Karen Hendricks

[kchen@humboldt1.com](mailto:kchen@humboldt1.com)

Searcher Editor

Claire Miller

539-2858

[kermill@aol.com](mailto:kermill@aol.com)

Library Coordinator

Roxanne Wilson

Registrar

George Margeson

528-4614

[margesong@cs.com](mailto:margesong@cs.com)

Publications Sales

Janice Chamberlain

542-5862

[janicec@sonic.net](mailto:janicec@sonic.net)

Publications

Exchange

Virginia Murphree

542-5429

[bumblebee299@netzero.net](mailto:bumblebee299@netzero.net)

Seminar

Lois Nimmo

537-1684

[loisnim@aol.com](mailto:loisnim@aol.com)

# SCGS Projects Progress Report: February 2003

by Carmen J. Finley



## Pueblo de Sonoma Court Records: Expedientes 1841-1849

Twenty-one documents originally written in Spanish have been translated and abstracted by Camelia O'Connor and will soon be ready for limited distribution. These are copies of original documents given to the society by the Office of the Sonoma County Recorder to be made available to the public. They are, for the most part, reaffirmation of ownership of the early ranchos in the North Bay area and predate statehood. Current plans are to print six copies for distribution to the History and Genealogy Library, the Office of the Sonoma County Recorder, and Sonoma State University. They will also be placed online. This is a historical first for SCGS and Camelia O'Connor deserves our appreciation for taking on this demanding task.

## Heritage Books Has Been Acquired by Willow Bend Books

According to Heritage, the reorganization of Heritage with

Willow Bend will have little effect on us. Willow Bend will handle all the housing and distribution and Heritage will continue to do the publishing.

## 1930 School Census

Proofing continues on this project and will soon be completed

## School Attendance Records

Proofing is about 85% complete on this project.

## Vital Data in Newspapers

We are nearing completion of entering and proofing volume V, 1891-1895. Abstracting and entering information for volume VI, 1896-1900 continues.

## Online Indexes

We now have fourteen indexes online. Our SCGS web page and SCGenWeb list all of them. The Library Annex has not been able to list the last four as yet.

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## New at the Library

by Maggi Andrews

385 D Electric Railways around San Francisco Bay / Vol. 1; by Duke

387.155 T California Light Stations and other aids to navigation c. 1950; by Twohy

625.7 C California Highways and Public Works, Centennial Edition 1850-1950

631.5 C Luther Burbank / A scientist in tune with the infinite; by Clampett

631.5 B Why I am an Infidel; by Burbank

631.5 B Luther Burbank's Address / Given at the First Congregational Church, San Francisco / January 31st, 1926; by Burbank

641.5 W When two or more are gathered ... We Eat / A Collection of Recipes

728 B California Plain / Remembering Barns; by Baer

728 C A Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Soda Rock Winery Property; by Chattan

729.2 R Houses from Books; Treatises, Pattern Books, and Catalogs in American Architecture, 1738-1950: A History and Guide; by Reiff

791.4 K Footsteps in the Fog / Alfred Hitchcock's San Francisco; by Kraft & Leventhal

907.2 K The Nearby History Series / Local Businesses; by Kerr, Loveday & Blackford

910.453 H Treasures of the Steamboat Arabia; by Hawley

929.2 B Richard Evans Lewis; 1829-1894; Sonoma County Pioneer; by Pearson & Brown

929.341 N How to Trace Family History in Northern Ireland; by Neill

929.3772 M Marshall County, Indiana 1881 History Combined with 1908 & 1922 Atlases; by McDonald

929.3778 W Death Records of Missouri Men / From Newspapers 1808-1854; by Wilson

929.3778 S Death Records of Pioneer Missouri Women 1808-1853; by Stanley

929.3789 D Genealogical Resources in New Mexico; by Daniel

929.3794 P Burials in some small abandoned California cemeteries; by Pompey

929.379418 N The Thompson Family Cemetery; by Nichols

940.5451 O Wahoo, The Patrols of America's Most Fa-

*Continued on page 5*

## From Jo Russell's Mailbox

by Jo Russell

I think I receive one or more notices about states closing the public records or access to records posted on the internet. Yes, some of these are duplicates re-circulated through various mailing list or forwarded by a genealogy research buddy. However, it is a growing problem and one all genealogist should be aware of.

CA cited identity theft as one reason for closing the indexes to public records. A message from a genealogist indicated that he was considering taking down his home page after receiving a message from a person who believed the information used to steal her identity was taken from the genealogy records on his web page.

The major genealogical organizations, professional genealogist, and many others are encouraging genealogist to not post information about any living person on the internet with out their knowledge and consent. The software designers are providing a means to automatically identify living people and substitute either the word "private" or "living" for the name.

Kimberly Powell's article about record closures on

About.com discusses the problem of public records closures and methods of retaining access for genealogical research. I used the link below to connect with the article.



Freedom of Information vs. Right to Privacy  
Genealogists Fight Back Against Threatened Record Closures

<<http://genealogy.about.com/library/weekly/aa021003a.htm>>

The wonderful part of being an American is that we have the freedom to express our opinions. Your opinion is your own but I encourage you to express your thoughts with others.

Jonelle Ellis Russell

Member at Large, Sonoma County Genealogical Society, 2nd Vice President California State Genealogical Alliance

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### Continued from page 5

mous WWII Submarine; by O'Kane

949.404 B The Age of Gold; The California Gold Rush and the New American Dream; by Brands

970.418 A Another Time / Third Grade Interview Project 1996-2002

979.4 J The California Governmental Seals ... Spanish and Mexican Periods 1769-1846; by Johnson

979.4 G Antepasados ... Anza's return from Alta California ... 1776-1778; by Garate

979.4 C The Argonaut; California Gold Centennial 1848-1948

979.4004 L Abiding Courage; African American Migrant Women and the East Bay Community; by Lemke-Santangelo

979.402 O The Lands of Mission San Miguel; by Ohles

979.412 E Along the Banks of Salt River; by Edeline

979.415 S Eugene Brown / Mendocino Wells Fargo Agent; by Strobridge

979.418 N Who the Heck was Mark West?; by Nichols

979.418 H The Berglund Program Center : Its Human and Natural History [Cazadero]; by Hayes

979.418 T Images of Sports / Sports Memories of Sonoma County; by Torliatt

979.418 W Images of America / The Russian River; by Wilson

979.44 Across the Sierras in Winter [California Historical Society]

979.452 N Solano County History and Government; by Neitzel

979.461 K Cable Car Days in San Francisco; by Kahn

979.462 L The Secret of Drake's Bay; by Leadabrand

979.476 W When the Coast Was Wild and Lonely; Early Settlers of The Sur; by Wall

979.49 C The Cattle on a Thousand Hills; Southern California 1850-1870; by Cleland

Another Time / Third Grade Interview Project : The third-grade students of Harmony School, located in west Sonoma County, interviewed senior citizens to learn what it was like to be a 3rd grader in earlier times.

The Nearby History Series / Local Businesses : Using historical research techniques to explore the past and the world around you; in this case, the investigation of business history.

## CCGS Spring Seminar German Seminar

**John Philip Colletta**

Saturday, March 15, 2003

Washington State School for the Deaf, Grand Blvd., Vancouver, WA  
611 Grand Boulevard

with comfortable seating in the Lloyd Auditorium.

(located 1/2 block south of the CCGS Library!)

Registration: 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Seminar 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- **Breaking Through Brick Walls: Use Your Head!**
- **The County Courthouse: An enormous "Trunk in the Attic" for family historians.**
- **Documentation: How to cite your sources.**
- **Our National Archives: An overview for genealogists.**

A small supply of Dr. Colletta's books will be available for purchase at the seminar. They are: *Only A Few Bones, They Came In Ships, Finding Italian Roots*

Also available will be the Heritage Quest Research Library and Book Store. They will be bringing their Mobile Book Store to the seminar, as our vendor this year.

See the website for details:

<<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org/p3007.htm>>



SGGS presents its Annual Spring Seminar at:

La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael, CA  
**Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G.**

Nationally recognized expert in German genealogy, lecturing on: **'Making Sense of German Records'**

Saturday, April 5, 2003, 9am to 4pm  
Registration will open at 8:00 a.m.

Topics to be presented by Dr. Roger Minert include:

- **Introduction to the content and format of church and civil records**
- **Reading vital records: strategies and mechanics**
- **German names: origins, practices, and patterns**
- **German death and burial customs**

All pre-registrations must be received by March 24, 2003

Pre-registration: for SGGS members: \$20 each or \$25 per couple  
for non-members: \$30 each or \$40 per couple.

On site registration for all: \$35 per person at the door  
Membership included with pre-registration entitles you to member rates. Individual (for new members only) \$20 Couple (for new members only) \$25

Contact: Chuck Knuthson

(916) 782-5704

cknuthson@surewest.net

or: miltkelly@novato.net

See the website for details:

<<http://www.sacramento.german.genealogical.society.org/>>

## Tuolumne County

Tuolumne County Genealogical Society Presents

**George K. Schwetzer, PhD.**

Saturday, April 19, 2003

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

19601 Greenley Road Sonora, CA

- **Rivers to Trails to Roads to Canals to Trains**
- **Obscure Genealogical Sources**
- **Tracing Ancestors Across the Atlantic**

Luncheon is included

Advance Registration is Required  
No Tickets Sold at Door

Fee: \$22.00 Members

\$27.00 Non-Members

For information, contact: Kate 209-536-0574 or Judy 209-532-6056  
Registration Deadline is Monday, April 14, 2002

REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE ONLINE

<[www.tcgsonline.org](http://www.tcgsonline.org)>



## Special Interest Group



### British Group

For information, call Susan Simons, 527-7191 or e-mail to: [suesimons@aol.com](mailto:suesimons@aol.com).



### German Group

The next two meetings of the German Interest Group will be as follows:

Saturday, 1 March 2003, at 10 AM at the home of Dorothy Blake, 7245 Wilton Ave, Sebastopol, phone 823-1993.

Saturday, 3 May 2003, at 10 AM. The location of this meeting has not been determined.

For information about the German Group, contact Jim Cochran at telephone 526-7331, or by e-mail at [<cougars@sonic.net>](mailto:cougars@sonic.net).

### Irish Group:

For information about the Irish Group call Myrtle Keefe at 539-0840, or CAMYRT2 @ [aol.com](mailto:aol.com)



### Jewish and Eastern European Group

No meetings in scheduled. Contact Suzanne S. Waxman, phone 538-4378



### Computer Group

The next meeting will be at the Family History Center on Peterson Lane. For information, call Susan Simons, 527-7191 or e-mail to: [suesimons@aol.com](mailto:suesimons@aol.com).



### Italian Interest Group

The Italian Interest Group meets every other month and our next meeting will be at the home of Ines Williams on March 15th at 10 AM. For more information e-mail me at [inesw@attbi.com](mailto:inesw@attbi.com). Come join us.



## This and That

### From Family Tree News Service

#### Expert Advice: Family Gatherings, Reunions and Funerals

Genealogists have an opportunity to learn new information whenever relatives gather—on holidays and at family reunions, birthday parties, weddings, graduations, anniversaries and funerals. On these occasions, you may well have within arm's reach people you see regularly, some you seldom see and some whom you're meeting for the first time. If you prepare in advance, you may be able to pick up valuable information while you're there.

Whether formally or informally, with or without charts in hand, at these events you often can:

- learn the names of and information about spouses and children of relatives
- compare information and check details with other family members
- hear stories about the honorees, the deceased or ancestors
- see family photographs on display
- get programs or bulletins that contain genealogical information
- exchange addresses and phone numbers with others who are interested in family history or those you would like to contact later for more information
- hear family history from the elders
- meet and talk with relatives who knew ancestors you never knew

Family reunions often draw together the larger extended family.

Because these events are usually planned months in advance, you may have a greater opportunity because you can alert relatives to bring information you need, ask relatives to bring photographs you'd like to see, arrange to interview key people, prepare questions to ask and charts for people to fill out, put together family history exhibits or programs to share what you and others have learned.

Excerpted from "A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors" by Franklin Carter Smith and Emily Anne Croom, \$21.99. Reprinted here with permission from the publisher, Betterway Books. Available in bookstores or online at:

[<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/specialoffers.asp?EMafr021303>](http://www.familytreemagazine.com/specialoffers.asp?EMafr021303)

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### GET A FREE ISSUE OF FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE

Discover, Preserve and Celebrate Your Family History.

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P.O. Box 2273

Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0273

Dues:

\$20 per year individual or family (one household)

\$25 contributing (\$5 to book fund)

\$200 lifetime

## Coming Soon

### March 8, 2003 - Sacramento, CA

Root Cellars, the Genealogical & Historical Council of Sacramento Valley and the California State Archives are hosting their annual **FAMILY HISTORY DAY AT THE ARCHIVES** at California State Archives, 1020 'O' Street, Sacramento. Research, resources, computer demonstrations, preservation techniques, genealogy and historical mini-classes. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free Admission. For more information, contact Iris Jones, email <ijones@accessbee.com> or web site <[www.ss.ca.gov/archives/level3\\_famhistday.html](http://www.ss.ca.gov/archives/level3_famhistday.html)>

<[http://www.ss.ca.gov/archives/level3\\_famhistday.html](http://www.ss.ca.gov/archives/level3_famhistday.html)> .

### March 15, 2003 - San Mateo, CA

The San Mateo County Genealogical Society presents Nora M. Hickey of County Cork, Ireland, who will discuss the following topics: Debunking Myths of Irish Genealogy, Extracting all the Information from Griffith's Valuation, Little Known and Under Used Irish Genealogical Sources, and Discussion of Common Problems in Irish Genealogy. Attendees may submit questions at least two weeks ahead for a specialized Question and Answer session. Send the questions to Cath Trindle at <Catht@aol.com>. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Location: 1st Presbyterian Church, 25th and Hacienda, San Mateo. Cost: Preregistration - \$20 members, \$22 non members, Lunch \$6; At the Door - \$23, Lunch \$7. Mail your registration to: SMCGS Irish Seminar, PO Box 5083, San Mateo, CA 94402-0083. Include name, address, phone and email as well as number of attendees with your check. For more information contact Cath Trindle, phone 650) 572-2929 or email <Catht@aol.com>.

Sonoma County Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 2273  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0273



## General Meeting

March. 22<sup>nd</sup>

9am to 4pm

SCGS Spring Seminar

Sharon DeBartolo

Carmack,

CG, FUGA

Sonoma State University  
Rohnert Park, CA



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