Editor's Note

Family History Month

In 2001, the United States Congress designated October as Family History Month (through Senate Resolution 160). The text of that bill underscores the value of what we as individual genealogists do, and what organizations such as the California Genealogical Society provide. If you haven't yet seen S.R. 160, it's worth a look. My favorite statement from it: "...the study of family history gives individuals a sense of their heritage and a sense of responsibility in carrying out a legacy that their ancestors began." What's your favorite statement?

In honor of Family History Month, the California Genealogical Society and Library will be open to the public and the usage fee for non-members will be waived all month long! We invite you to celebrate this special month by coming in for a visit.

See you at the library!

Quarterly Membership Meeting

First Annual Genie Awards

Please join us Saturday, October 11, 2014, for our Fall Membership Meeting. We'll be presenting the First Annual Genie Awards, honoring some of our extra-special volunteers whose "magical" skills have helped CGS in significant ways.

The award ceremony will begin at 12:00 p.m., followed by the membership meeting with a discussion of "Genealogical Blogging." BYO lunch; dessert and beverages will be provided.

September and October Classes

California Genealogical Society & Library
2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland

Saturday, October 4  Beginning Genealogy, with Dick Rees, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 11 Everything Was Not Lost! Digging Deeply to Unearth Your Early San Francisco Ancestor, with Nancy Peterson, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 25 Introduction to Military Records, with Susan Goss Johnston, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 1 Beginning Genealogy, with Pam Miller, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 8 What Became of Aaron Case? An Introduction to the F.A.N. Principle, with Susan Goss Johnston, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 22 Vital Records and the Calendar Act of 1752, with Janice Sellers, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For more October events, check out the San Francisco Bay Genealogy Calendar.
Class Spotlight: Record Set Series -- Introduction to Military Records

California Genealogical Society & Library
2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland

Did any of your ancestors serve in the military? Whether they were your great-great-great-grandfathers or grandmothers -- or even one of their siblings -- more than 35 million people have fought in military conflicts over the course of America's history. The records created during and after their service are invaluable sources for family historians.

Expert Susan Goss Johnston, who has been researching family history for more than 30 years, specializes in military records. Join her Saturday, October 25, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., when she'll discuss the many record types available, where to find them, and how these fascinating documents may help you solve research problems. Class space is limited -- sign up today for Introduction to Military Records!

Free Virtual Genealogy Fair

Learn about Research at the National Archives

The National Archives' Virtual Genealogy Fair will be held October 28 - 30, 2014. This three-day program -- a series of live broadcasts via the Internet -- will highlight tips and techniques for using federal records at the National Archives. Lectures are designed for beginners and experienced genealogists.

The fair is free; no registration required. For more information, visit archives.org.

Special Interest Group Meetings and More

California Genealogical Society & Library
2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland

Saturday, October 11: Stephen Harris City Directory Library, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 14: Book Repair Committee, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friday, October 17: Stephen Harris City Directory Library, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 18: CGS Board of Directors Meeting, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 18: San Francisco Special Interest Group, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

San Mateo County Genealogical Society -- Fall Seminar

Understanding Your Ancestor's Legal Records

Spend "A Day in Court" with Judy Russell, aka "The Legal Genealogist," at the San Mateo County Genealogical Society's fall seminar, Saturday, November 1, 2014, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Ms. Russell will lecture on wills and probate records, chancery courts, tax lists, and the importance of knowing the laws that governed our ancestors' lives.

Registration deadline: October 24th. For more details, visit SMCGS website.

Did You Miss These Posts?

Highlights from the California Genealogical Society Blog

Blog Editor, Ellen Fernandez-Sacco

Here's what was posted in September. If you missed these items, here's your chance to catch up!

Ready, Set, Go: Family History Month's Coming to Town!
Seeking Family Stories from Members

Where's the Ancestor Tribute?

What? No one has an ancestor they'd like to talk about? Any gathering of genealogists always includes discussions about ancestors, so if you're a CGS member, don't be shy -- share your story in our eNews!

Email a photo and 150- to 200-word summary about your ancestor(s) to CGSphototribute@gmail.com. Photos need to be in .jpg format and approximately 200 KB to 1 MB in size. Photos and text may be edited for space.

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