



Since 1898

October 2015, Vol. 9, No. 10

Special CGS Event: Family History Month 2015

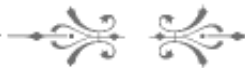
Family History Month at CGS

For Family History Month we will have FREE Thursday Lunch & Learn discussion groups from 11:30 - 1:30. This is a chance to meet other genealogists who may have an answer to your questions. Bring your own lunch - everyone is welcome. CGS Library opens at 10:00 and you can explore the library before and after the discussion group. Longtime CGS member Jane Lindsey and others will facilitate the following topics:



- October 1 General Q&A discussion
- October 8 What's in our library to help you with your research?
- October 15 Sharing useful internet sites to help you in your research
- October 22 Brainstorming to find new approaches to use in your research
- October 29 Why researching in libraries and courthouses is important. It's not all on the internet.

For those who attend these discussions, there may be a few opportunities to have brief, one on one consultations.



CGS Members please look for our MEMBERS SURVEY in your email the first week of October. We're conducting the survey because we value your opinion and want to know how you think we're doing.



Your answers will enable us to become a better genealogy society and library by helping us know why you visit, what resources you want, plus what classes and events would be most valued by you.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey. Remember, your voice is needed to help us continue building a genealogy society for the 21st century!



New Series offered by CGS

The Beginning Genealogy Series

by Maureen Hanlon

The Beginning Genealogy Series is designed to help the new genealogist build a good foundation of knowledge of genealogy research practices and gain understanding and experience with the most commonly used sources of family data. Experienced genealogists are welcome to refresh their knowledge and learn something new. The class fee is \$50.

This Series is being offered twice, in two different locations.

[Register for the CGS location](#) on Saturdays from 10:30 A.M. to Noon

[Register for the Oakland Family Search Library](#) on Wednesdays from 1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.



Vinnie Schwarz will provide an overview that will cover genealogy best practices for reliable and trustworthy family trees and help attendees understand the world of genealogical resources beyond the Internet.



Jeff Vaillant will focus on vital records and how to estimate, calculate and find most basic records of ancestors' lives: birth, marriage and death records and will include cemetery research



Maureen Hanlon will delve into census records, how census data was collected and why that means it's not always easy to find your ancestors' records. Strategies for overcoming spelling, transcription and other barriers will be discussed,



Jane Lindsey will explore the world of secondary sources: those books, maps, societies, libraries and other sources that will provide a fuller picture of ancestor lives, validating and helping to uncover more of the data from primary sources.

Genie Awards 2015

Membership Meeting and Second Annual Genie Awards



Please join us for the 2015 Genie Awards on October 10, presented to volunteers who "make magic happen" at the California Genealogical Society!

Marvel at our ravishing red carpet, mystical master of ceremonies, and deliriously bubbly refreshments for all! BYO lunch; dessert and beverages will be provided.

The awards ceremony will be part of our Fall Membership meeting on **Saturday, October 10 at Noon** and will be held in the **2nd level conference** room upstairs from the library. Join your CGS friends for lunch, conversation, and a celebration our volunteers.

The Genie Awards are not only an opportunity to thank our generous volunteers but also for new and returning members to learn about ways (big and little) to help keep CGS alive and thriving - as it has been since 1898!

Register for the free member event through [EventBrite](#).

Classes

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



As usual we have an outstanding line-up of classes to offer over the next two months.

	<p>Saturday, Oct 3</p>	<p>Intro to Genealogy with Pam Miller, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. FREE</p>
	<p>Saturday, Oct 24</p>	<p>Introduction to State and Federal Land Records with Susan Goss Johnston 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM (PDT) Free for CGS Members</p> <p>Land and property records are often the only records that can be found to prove identity and relationship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What records are included in this category? • Where can I find them? • What do I do with them? <p>This class will answer those questions and will illustrate the importance of these unique records with a few case studies using both county and federal land records. Space is still available.</p>
	<p>See Eventbrite links for dates for each series</p>	<p>The Beginning Genealogy series is designed to help the new genealogist build a good foundation of knowledge of genealogy research practices and gain understanding and experience with the most commonly used sources of family data. Experienced genealogists are welcome to refresh their knowledge and learn something new. See more details in the Blog article above.</p> <p>This class is being offered twice, at two locations:</p> <p>Register for the CGS location on Saturdays from 10:30 A.M. to Noon</p> <p>Register for the Oakland Family Search Library on Wednesdays from 1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.</p> <p>Fee: \$50</p>
	<p>Saturday, Nov 7</p>	<p>Intro to Genealogy with Dick Rees, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. FREE</p> <p>Read more about CGS's free monthly Genealogy Introductions.</p>



Saturday, Nov 14

[Hitting the Mother Lode: Adventures in Discovering Genealogical Gold](#) with Teresa Parham, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For additional events check out the [San Francisco Bay Genealogy Calendar](#). Also [visit our Eventbrite profile page](#) to see the latest class additions and descriptions.

Genealogy Instructors Wanted

by *Maureen Hanlon*



Miss the classroom? CGS is looking for Genealogy Instructors and can offer you the chance to have that back-to-school experience with an opportunity to volunteer and teach one of our genealogy classes.

We're looking for experienced instructors/trainers/teachers to join a team that develops curriculum, conducts the classes and keeps class content current. This fall we have launched a [Beginner Series](#) to include subjects such as Vital Records, Census and Secondary Sources. Next year, we'll add Intermediate and Specialized classes. The specialized series will cover ethnic groups as well as technical skills and other topics where members want to focus.

Not experienced, but interested? We will hold training for would-be instructors. More information coming soon.

Please indicate your interest by sending an email to [Maureen Hanlon](#), CGS In-House Education Coordinator. Include your background and experience, topics you are prepared to teach, and the name(s) of people who can recommend you.

Meetings and More

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



Saturday, October 17: CGS Board of Directors, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Board meetings are open for all CGS members to attend. If you'd like to add items to the Agenda please contact [Linda Okazaki](#).

Saturday, October 17: [San Francisco Special Interest Group](#)
A field trip to San Francisco this month, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

NEW [Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group](#)

Saturday, October 17: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Devoted exclusively to Family Tree Maker™ Software from Ancestry.com. Join us for the first meeting and become a charter member!

Many of us interested in family history have been collecting and storing our information, data, and records of family events in file folders and 3-ring binders. While such systems are fine, with computers there are several software programs that make organizing and finding these materials easy. The popular and flexible Family Tree Maker™ Software from Ancestry.com, available for the PC or Mac, will be the focus of this new SIG. Read more about this event on the [blog posting](#) below.



If you would like to host a Special Interest Group (i.e. French Canadian, RootsMagic, Mayflowers Descendants, Writer of Family History Group, Latinos, Scrapbooking, etc.) through CGS, please contact

[Maureen Hanlon](#). If your Society or Organization would like to use our facility as a meeting space for a nominal fee, please contact [Linda Okazaki](#).

CGS Sponsored Events, Trips and Conferences



Saturday, October 3, 2015

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Program with speakers & performance to begin at 11 a.m.
Where: Immigration Station at Angel Island State Park

Join us for the second annual [Nikkei Angel Island Pilgrimage](#) to rediscover the little-known history of the Japanese and Japanese American legacy at Angel Island, where 85,000 persons of Japanese descent (the second largest immigrant group) landed between 1910 and 1940, before setting foot in America. This year there will be a greater focus on women, particularly Picture Brides. Please contact [Linda Okazaki](#) if you would like to volunteer as a genealogy consultant for the day.



2016 TRIP to the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) A "SHOW OF HANDS" PLEASE!!

Plans are in the works for a trip to NEHGS in 2016. The prices of hotel rooms convenient to NEHGS have been steadily increasing.

For all you adventuresome researchers, during the month of February and including the first week of March, I have the opportunity to get standard rooms (one double bed) for an incredibly good price (Queen size beds are about \$20 more). I have not calculated the total cost of the trip but want "a show of hands" of how many would join me in February or early March. The size of the trip is limited to 15 participants. Boston is a great city even in winter! Having grown up in Massachusetts, I think it would be a great trip!

If you are interested or need more information please email me [Jane Lindsey](#).

CGS Blog

Highlights from the California Genealogical Society Blog and Others

Welcome our new co-editors of the CGS Blog - [Shannon Reese](#) and [Linda Okazaki](#). Please email either of them to publish your contributions to the CGS Blog.



[Tuesday Genealogy Travels](#) by Mary Mettler.

We'd like to give a special Thank You to Mary for her recent Blog contributions



Interesting Blog Posts from other sites:

[How to use Chromecast to bring your family history to the big screen](#) by Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems

[Shortage of Security Paper](#) by Elizabeth O'Neil at the California State Genealogical Alliance

[Genetic Genealogy Links and Resources](#) by Louise Coakly at Genie

People are Talking

Want to know what people found most interesting on Facebook & Twitter?

by Shannon Reese



Top Facebook Post: Need a way to save all those genealogy links that you're constantly finding? Check out [Genealogy Gems ideas for using Dropbox](#).

Talk to CGS on [Facebook](#)



Top Twitter Post: Search the new & largest online collection of U.S. wills & probate records from [@ancestry](#) for FREE

Join the CGS conversation on [Twitter](#)

Ancestor Tribute

by **Ellen Fernandez-Sacco**

Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month

Since I was a little girl, my mother told me of an oval photograph that was in her grandfather's house in Moca, Puerto Rico. It was a woman seated in a long skirt, white blouse, holding a fan. She asked her grandfather who she was - "That's your grandmother". For years I've heard about that photograph, and finally had a chance to get an image of it from my cousin Diana Cardona.

Born in 1863 in Aguadilla, Maria Concepcion Lopez Ramirez died on 3 January 1925 in Barrio Pueblo, Moca, Puerto Rico. She was the daughter of Buenaventura Lopez de Segura y Sosa and Olivia Antonia Ramirez Jimenez of Aguadilla. She married Ambrosio Alicides Babilonia Talavera (1860-1951) about 1878, and had twelve children with him between 1878-1897, eleven of whom survived to adulthood.

In January 1925, Maria Concepcion was ill, rose from her bed and asked to use a commode, which at that time was in a chair. There she died of a massive heart attack, and my grandfather sent for the photographer, knowing it was his only chance



to get an image of his wife. Her hands and dress were carefully arranged. This is why her face is slightly altered, probably to give the impression that she was still alive at the time the photograph was taken that day. Although her specific features are rendered slightly indistinct, I can see her round face, still present across the members of my mother's family.

Left: Maria Concepcion 'Mama Concha' Lopez Ramirez (1863-1925)

Ancestor Tributes are open to all CGS Members. Please share your family photos and stories

A correction from last month. Dick Rees' grandmother, Florence Tuchfarber, was standing on the Right (not the left) in last month's edition.

New Membership Perk!

California Genealogical Society & Library

find my past

[FindMyPast](#) offers more than 1.7 billion international family history records from around the globe, including more than 1,000 exclusive collections that you won't find online anywhere else.

We are excited to announce FindMyPast is now offering a flat **50% off the annual World subscription** (over \$99 off) for all CGS members! You can find the code on our [Welcome](#) page once you log in as a member. Look for the blue "FindMyPast" in the middle of that page.

If you've forgotten your CGS number please [contact the CGS Membership team](#).

Other Events & Conferences

There are always many other events happening in the Bay Area. CGS maintains a [San Francisco Bay Genealogy Calendar](#) that is updated monthly. Below are just a few of the local conferences that may be of interest in your area.

- [Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group](#) and the Los Altos / Santa Clara Family History Centers: **October 10**. The Keynote Speaker will be Rodney De Giulio, the Senior Executive Vice President at FamilySearch, responsible for all record collecting and disposition.
- [36th National Genealogy Conference](#) of the [Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society](#): **October 15 - 17** in Richmond, Virginia at the Richmond Marriott Hotel. This year's theme: "**Virginia, Where African-American Roots Run Deep: Family History and the National Narrative.**"
- [Contra Costa County Genealogical Society](#): **October 17**, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill, Ca.
- [Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz](#): **October 17**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featuring Wendy Elliott, Mary Ann Vincent and Janice Sellers. A **Board meeting** of the California State Genealogical Alliance will also be held during this event.
- Registration for [RootsTech 2016](#) is now OPEN! RootsTech will be held on February 3 - 6, 2016. Early Bird discounts are available now.

Connect with Us

See our [Volunteer](#) page for opportunities or contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for information

Volunteer positions available include:

Proof Readers, Instructors, Clerical Assistance, Library Work, Technology and Others.



CGS Received the 2014 ALL STAR AWARD from Constant Contact for exemplary engagement with our readers.

Stewart Blandón Traiman
eNews Editor [email me](#)

