March 2016 Announcements

Happy March to everyone

March is packed with many events that include the coming of Spring (though we're still hoping for more rain), Easter, St. Patrick's Day and Dr. Seuss's Birthday.

March is also Women's History Month -- “The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of women whose commitment to nature and the planet have proved invaluable to society.” We also remember and honor the women in our own ancestral trees.

Board Elections
The California Genealogical Society is pleased to announce the installation of the following officers who were re-elected at the January 23 Board meeting:

- President - Linda Okazaki
- Vice President - Diana Edwards
- Recording Secretary - Lisa Gorrell
- Treasurer - Kathie Jones
- Corresponding Secretary - Karen Lemelin

Members of the 2016 Board of Directors include:

- Felicia Addison
- Todd Armstrong
- Stewart Blandón Traiman
- Ellen Fernandez-Sacco (Past President)
- Maureen Hanlon
- Therese Hart-Pignotti
- Vicky Kolakowski
- Shannon Reese
- Nicka Smith
- Jim Sorenson
- Henry Snyder
The California Nugget
Do you enjoy reading our biennial publication, The California Nugget? The past few issues have had some very interesting content, with authors far and wide. Our upcoming Spring issue will have intriguing San Francisco stories. For the Fall 2016 edition, editor Jane Hufft would like to include some articles about DNA. Have you proven a line with DNA? Have you tested with multiple companies and are ready to share a "how to" piece for us? Would you like to write an article about the technical aspects of DNA testing? Please send your submissions to Jane Hufft.

East Bay Gives 2016  CGS will participate in East Bay Gives 2016. "The East Bay Community Foundation supports the transformational work of hundreds of nonprofits in the Alameda and Contra Costa county region. East Bay Gives is our chance to bring 360 local nonprofit organizations together with hundreds of donors who want to help fund their vital work in our communities. On Tuesday, May 3, 2016 get ready to give where you live for 24 hours, to benefit our local nonprofits."

We need BOOKS!
CGS volunteers sell books on eBay to raise money for the Library. If you have non-fiction historical or genealogical books in good condition that you no longer need, please consider donating some or all of your collection to our library. All proceeds from these sales keep the Library running and available for your use. Email Arlene Miles with questions.

Events, Trips and Conferences

San Francisco History Days, formerly SF History Expo, will be held March 4-6 at "The Old Mint" in San Francisco. This is a FREE community event and you can find all the details, schedules and volunteer opportunities on our CGS Blog.

California Genealogical Society 16th Annual Salt Lake City Research Trip

Trip dates: April 24 - May 1, 2016
Trip cost: $805 for double occupancy
$1165 for single occupancy  
*(these prices are LOWER than last year)*

Must be paid in full (no deposit) by March 21. This event is open to all.

Join experienced genealogists, Lisa Gorrell and Jim Sorenson, on our 16th annual research trip to Salt Lake City and the Family History Library, the top genealogy library in the nation!

Prior to the trip there will be a *"Getting More from FamilySearch.org"* class on March 5, 2016 in preparation for a trip to the Family History Library. There will also be an optional meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 from Noon to 2 p.m. Please contact Lisa Gorrell for questions and more information. We'd love to have you join us on this magical genealogy trip! [Register today.](#)

## Classes

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

As usual, here’s our wonderful line-up of classes for this month.

**Effective April 1st, Eventbrite registration will be changing. When registering for a class or event you will now need to enter your CGS membership number to complete registration for all listings on Eventbrite. If you don't know your number send an email request to membership@californiaancestors.org**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 5</td>
<td>10 to 12 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Getting More from FamilySearch.org</strong></td>
<td>Lisa Gorrell</td>
<td>This class was envisioned as a preparation for a trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but it will be helpful to anyone who wants to get the most research bang out of the FamilySearch.org website. The presentation consists of lecture slides and live demonstrations on FamilySearch.org.</td>
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<td>Saturday, March 5</td>
<td>1 to 3 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Genealogy</strong></td>
<td>Ron Madson</td>
<td>with Ron Madson</td>
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<td>Saturday, March 12</td>
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<td><strong>Crowd Sourcing Your Irish Research Questions</strong></td>
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<td>Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, this session is for beginning to intermediate researchers of Irish ancestors. Participants will share strategies, resources, tips, and problems in an informal setting and begin to build a network of Irish researchers within the CGS community. Maureen Hanlon and Laura Manion will facilitate discussion, provide resources, and share their own experiences in locating townland, church, and other records.</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, March 19</strong></td>
<td>Attendees are encouraged to participate by bringing their questions and any helpful resources to share, such as websites and books. 1 to 3 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Angel Island Genealogical Resources</strong></td>
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<td>More than one million people from over eighty countries were processed by officials on the island, and as a result there are quite a lot of genealogical resources available to the researcher. Learn from examples of case studies of Chinese, Jewish, South Asian and Japanese immigrants and find out about the National Archives and other resources that might be available for your own research. Instructor: Grant Din 1 to 3 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, March 26</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spreadsheets: The Wonderful Tool Genealogists Seldom Use</strong></td>
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<td>This class by Susan Goss Johnston is being offered AGAIN after being sold out last year. It will be held at the Oakland Family Search Library.</td>
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<td>Would a chart help you analyze those chicken-scratch censuses? Do you have a list of documents from a pension file that you simply can't understand? Would a timeline graph make your family story come to life? You need a spreadsheet! Attend this workshop and learn the tricks of the trade. All you need is a computer, a spreadsheet program, and an imagination. This class is a hands-on workshop limited to 12 people. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, April 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Genealogy</strong></td>
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<td>with Pam Miller 1 to 3 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, April 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>What is Forensic Genealogy Really?</strong></td>
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<td>The term &quot;forensic genealogy&quot; is used by many people, but what does it actually mean? Learn the definition of forensic, how it applies to genealogy, and who is using (and misusing) the term. Instructor: Janice Sellers 1 to 3 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, April 23</strong></td>
<td><strong>Create Your Own Genealogy Blog Site?</strong></td>
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<td>A genealogy blog can broaden your research network, help the community, provide a secondary source of income, or even serve as a net cast onto the web for attracting long lost family. This class is limited to 12 participants and you will need to bring your own laptop. Instructor: Katie Welka 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.</td>
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Location, Location, Location

The more you know about your ancestor’s place of residence, the more research problems you can solve, adding to a richer understanding of your family history. We will discuss which records to look for, where to find them and how to interpret them.

Instructor: Pam Brett
1 to 4 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.

Meetings and More

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

Saturday, March 12: CGS Board meetings are open for all CGS members to attend. If you’d like to add items to the Agenda please contact Linda Okazaki, 10 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, March 19: Family Tree Maker SIG, 1 - 4 p.m. Devoted exclusively to Family Tree Maker™ Software from Ancestry.com. Please register for this event. This month’s topic is Toolbars.

Saturday, March 19: San Francisco SIG, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

If you would like to host a Special Interest Group (i.e. French Canadian, RootsMagic, Mayflower Descendants, Family History Writers, Latinos, Scrapbooking, etc.) 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 Volunteers

Several volunteer positions are vacant:

Brown Bag Tuesday - March 8

Are you curious about the jobs that keep our volunteers coming back year after year? If you have been toying with idea of volunteering, pack yourself a lunch and come on down (yes, we are in the basement!) to the CGS Library for Brown Bag Tuesday on March 8 at noon. This is a great opportunity to informally sit and chat with some of our current volunteers about the work they do. Big jobs, little jobs….we have them all!

Fill our volunteer slots!

Chair of the Technology and Website Committees, Kathy Watson, has retired. We are looking for several individuals to assist with our tech needs, including Monday Maintenance, trouble shooting, and website development. We also will establish a steering committee to address our technology needs. Please contact Linda Okazaki if you would like to participate.
Grant Research. We are seeking individuals who can identify potential grants for our organization. Fortunately, we have a volunteer who has offered to assist with grant writing, once those grants have been identified. If you can assist, please contact Arlene Miles.

Events Organizer - Do you have some great ideas about 1-2 offsite events? Get to know big name speakers, arrange venues, and work with a committee of volunteers to put on fun educational events for our members.

EventBrite and Event Registration Volunteer - Volunteer needed to manage the CGS EventBrite registration listings and reports. This position also supports in-house classes and events by posting the classroom door calendar and scheduling and training event assistants. Training on EventBrite will be provided.

C is for Cataloger - Are you a member of CGS and a librarian? Do you know Library of Congress call numbers? Does cataloging excite you? CGS needs you to join our library team!

Assistant E-News Editor - to help in collecting monthly e-News articles and prepare the e-News for publication. It is helpful to know a little about HTML, but not required. All training will be provided.

Contact Kathleen Beitiks for more information,

CGS Blog

Highlights from the California Genealogical Society Blog and Others

Please subscribe to the CGS Blog. It is a great source of information about classes, events, volunteers and members. If you would like to publish in our blog please contact Shannon Reese, the blog Editor.

Researching Irish Ancestors? New Opportunities for Members by Maureen Hanlon

Saturday Genealogy Field Trip: San Francisco Public Library Amazing History Center by Shannon Reese

Genealogy: Education Matters by Linda Okazaki

A Remembrance: Dr. Eugene Peck by Linda Okazaki

Meet a Genealogy Trip Leader & Volunteer: Jim Sorenson by Jim Sorenson

Interesting Blog Posts from other sites:

Here are three helpful videos on how to search the WorldCat library.
People are Talking

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

*by Shannon Reese*

**Top Facebook Post for February:**
"*San Francisco, Then and Now*" by David Levene from The Guardian

Talk to CGS on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)
Top Twitter Post for February:

"Last survivor of Treblinka, final destination for up to 925,000 people, has died"
by Erin Blakemore from Smithsonianmag.com

Join the CGS conversation on Twitter

Ancestor Tribute

Conley Grandparents

by Lynn Skelton

This photo is of my grandfather and grandmother, Hugh Conley and Blanche Wilson Conley, taken in Bisbee, Arizona, possibly on their wedding day in 1912. Bisbee was their residence while Hugh worked for the railroad.

In 1924, the year my mother, Ruth Conley, was born, they moved to Southern California. Like many others, the family was hit hard by the Depression of the 1930s. Among other types of work, Hugh was an inventor. Unfortunately, paying for a patent was beyond reach in those days, so he wasn't able to hold onto, nor profit from his creation. Eventually they lost their home.

Hugh later tried his hand at gold mining near the Sierra foothills town of Grass Valley to support the family. In his final years he returned to railroad work and lived in Santa Clara, California. To help family finances, my grandmother, my mom and her younger brother picked fruit in the Santa Clara Valley. When my grandfather died in '41, they moved back to Los Angeles, to be near family.
Recent researching by my cousin, Gale Meyer Rutt, has traced our family tree back to Ireland. She found g-g-g-g grandfather, John Connelly, was born in Armagh, Northern Ireland, in 1744. He came to Virginia in 1763 and married Sarah Wilson. My Conley/Connelly line moved via North Carolina, Indiana and Nebraska over the generations before arriving in the west.

Ancestor Tributes are open to all CGS Members to share their family photos and stories. Please contact Lorna Wallace with your contribution.

**New Membership Perk!**

**California Genealogical Society & Library**

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. For the latest events, check out member Kathryn Doyle's 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.

- The Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society will meet on Friday, March 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fairway Room of the Creekside Clubhouse, 1010 Stanley Dollar Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Noted lecturer Kay Speaks' featured talk is entitled "U.S. Passenger Lists and Manifest Annotations & Markings".

- Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree 2016 held from June 3 to 5 at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel. On Thursday, June 2, 2016, there will be a special symposium, The Future of the Past: Genetic Genealogy 2016. This year Jamboree will have two special program tracks: German & Eastern European and African American genealogy. Registration is now open. Early bird discount ends on April 23.


**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.

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Stewart Blandón Traiman
eNews Editor  email me