



## September 2016 Announcements

**National Hispanic Heritage Month** is from September 15 to October 15 and celebrate the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period. See the [Library of Congress](#) for more.

**CELEBRATE**  
**Hispanic Heritage Month**



To research your Hispanic Roots this month start with these links.

- FamilySearch Wiki on [Central America](#)
- FamilySearch Wiki on [South America](#)
- Cyndi's List on [Spain and the Basque Country](#)



- **Annual Nikkei Angel Island Pilgrimage.** Join us for the third Nikkei Angel Island Pilgrimage to honor our immigrant ancestors and 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 detained on the island - landed between 1910 to 1940, before setting foot in America. Volunteers from the California Genealogical Society can help you trace your family history. October 1st, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Immigration Station at Angel Island State Park. [Click here](#) for more.
- **Are you Ready for a "Lifetime" Commitment?** Did you know that the California Genealogical Society will be 120 years old in February 2018? With a nod to our fast approaching 120th anniversary, beginning in 2017 we are planning special events classes & fundraising activities for our members to celebrate. [Click here](#) to read more.
- **Capital Campaign** - Chris Pattilo (chair), Jane Lindsey, and Sandy Fryer have agreed to serve on a Capital Campaign Committee. The first phase of the public campaign which starts this fall will involve encouraging members to upgrade their memberships to Life. [See the Blog article on this subject.](#) Other special programs will be launched throughout 2017. Learn about upcoming

programs in the eNews and the Blog.



- **Find my Past** is now available at the Library. Find My Past has an ever-expanding collection of over 2 billion historical records from around the world, including the largest collection of Irish records anywhere online, US military records from the Revolutionary War, and millions of newspaper pages from as long ago as 1710. Exclusive collections only found on Find My Past include:
  - British Newspaper Archives from England, Wales and Scotland
  - Parish records from England and Wales back to 1538
  - Passenger list of ships leaving the UK between 1890-1960
  - British Army Records from 1760-1915
  - Irish Court Records

**Come to the Library to access and explore this unique resource.**

- **Smile** - Be sure to [sign up for Amazon Smile](#). Every time you place an order, Amazon donates 0.5% to CGS. It's easy, it's free and it benefits our library.
- **October is Family History Month** and the Library will be open to the public at no charge for the entire month.

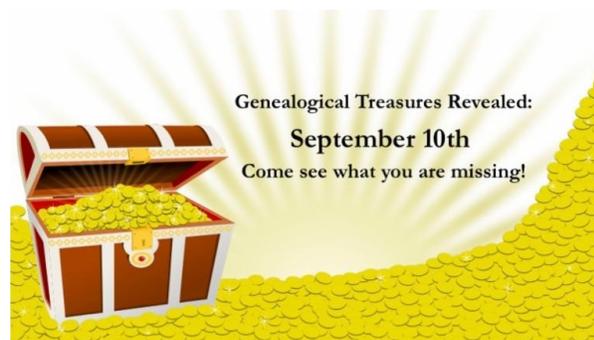
## Genealogical Treasures Revealed September 10th

*by Linda Darby*

Come to the Library to check out our Vertical Files Grand Opening hosted by Pat Bonderud and Linda Darby, **September 10, from 12pm to 12:30pm**. Light refreshments will be served.

Our 2,000 files include newspaper clippings, newsletters, correspondence, reproduced records, compiled family charts, research notes and other interesting items. You never know what you'll find in this eclectic collection. The contents of these files have been contributed by members and non-members over our 100 year history. To make your search easier, we have an online Vertical File database index that includes: a title (usually a surname), brief description of the contents, time-frame, and geographic location for each file. A few examples include:

- 1856 Ogle County, Illinois marriage certificate for Philo Wood and Almira McKinnery.
- 1925 Iowa Adjutant General's Certificate regarding James Strain's (of Crawfordville, Iowa) military service in the Civil War.
- 1911 statement by Mrs. E. J. Grady of New Jersey regarding Alexander Desnoyers, her grandfather, who had resided in Quebec.
- Miller family Bible records, includes Samuel Miller born 1801.
- The History of the Bibber Family at Harpswell, Maine by Rev. Chas. N. Sinnett, Fayette, Iowa [1913].



Please [Register](#) for this FREE Event.

## The 2016 Genie Awards



Please join us on Saturday, **October 8 at noon**, for the 2016 Genie Awards. Volunteers who "make magic happen" at the California Genealogical Society (CGS) will be recognized for their ongoing commitment to our almost 120-year-old organization.

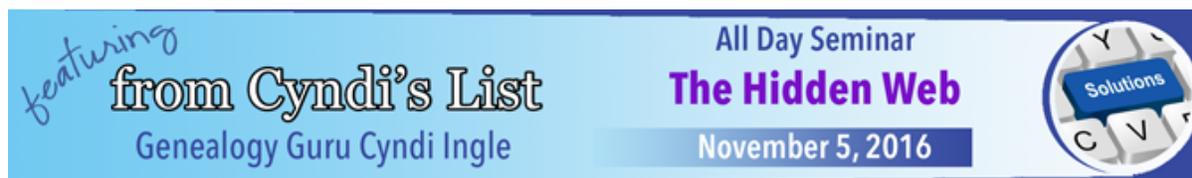
The awards ceremony will be part of our noontime Fall Membership meeting in the CGS Library. Join your CGS friends for lunch, conversation, and a celebration our volunteers.

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.

The red carpet will be unrolled, our mystical master of ceremonies will be there with her gold lame' turban and magic lamps will be available for your three wishes! Bring your own lunch; dessert and beverages will be provided.

Contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for more information.

## All-Day Seminar with Cyndi Ingle



**Only 47 seats left** for Cyndi's wonderful day-long seminar! Want to learn how to dig deeper to improve your online genealogy research? You've used her award-winning genealogy indexing site, [Cyndislist.com](#), but did you know that she's a nationally-recognized genealogy lecturer & author?

On November 5, 2016 the California Genealogical Society will have the honor of hosting a full day seminar at Preservation Park in Oakland with Cyndi Ingle. [Registration is now open for this very special event.](#) Come discover what you've been missing through her four lectures and let Cyndi's 35 years of genealogical experience help you unlock hidden doors to your family history research.

Cyndi Ingle is the owner and creator of [Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites](#), an award-winning categorized index to over 335,000 online genealogy resources, which helps millions of visitors worldwide. Cyndi, a genealogist for more than 35 years, is a past-member of the board of directors for the National Genealogical Society and is the author of three books for genealogical research.

The seminar is at historic Preservation Park in downtown Oakland. Free parking for participants is located across the street at City Center West garage on the day of the event. Coffee and lunch are included with your admission. Early Bird registration ends October 1st.

We're looking for sponsors to help us defray the cost of this wonderful event. If you or your organization are able to donate to this event please contact [Therese Hart-Pignotti](#)

A silent auction is also planned for the day with a fun grab-bag experience. If you would like to

contribute to the silent auction, please contact [Diana Wild](#).

## Classes

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



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

**As a friendly reminder, when registering for a class or event on Eventbrite you'll need your CGS membership number to complete the registration (effective April 1, 2016).**

**Forgot your number? No problem, just send us a request at [membership@californiaancestors.org](mailto:membership@californiaancestors.org).**

A logo for '1st Sat FREE' with '1st' in pink, 'Sat' in blue, and 'FREE' in green, all on a yellow background.	Saturday, Sep 3	<a href="#">Introduction to Genealogy</a> with Vinnie Schwarz 1 to 3 p.m.
A pink cherry blossom flower with five petals and a yellow center.	Saturday, Sep 10	<a href="#">Finding Your Japanese Roots in the U.S. and Japan</a> Join us for this encore presentation in our ongoing ethnic research series: Researching Japanese Ancestry. The first half of the seminar will focus on background and research in the United States and the second will focus on research in Japan.  Linda Okazaki 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
A portrait of a woman with dark hair, smiling, wearing a red top.	Saturday, Sep 24	<a href="#">Colonial Handwriting</a> Learn how to decipher those early American colonial documents from the 1600's through the 1800's. Learn how letters were formed differently, spellings were inconsistent, common name abbreviations and more.  Janice Sellers 10:30 a.m. to Noon
A logo for '1st Sat FREE' with '1st' in pink, 'Sat' in blue, and 'FREE' in green, all on a yellow background.	Saturday, Oct 1	<a href="#">Introduction to Genealogy</a> with Pam Miller 1 to 3 p.m.
The logo for the California Historical Society, featuring a stylized orange sun icon and the text 'CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY since 1871'.	Tuesday, Oct 25	<a href="#">California Historical Society Tour</a> Join us for a visit to the California Historical Society



(CHS). Founded in 1871, CHS represents a rich resource for family history research. Of particular interest to genealogists are early newspapers and periodicals, their Gold Rush and Immigration collections, including diaries, photographs, journals, letters and much more.

10:30 a.m. to Noon

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.

## CGS Irish Ancestry Network

by Maureen Hanlon



[The CGS Irish Ancestry Network](#) was started in March of this year as an online Special Interest Group. We now have over 50 members who share their successes, quandaries, resources and more on our group's Facebook page or by email. Those who do not want to join Facebook get a weekly update.

While members express some interest in meeting in person, over half of members report finding help with their research through the online group.

Posts to the site include Tip Tuesday where focus is on research and Website Wednesday which includes a link to an Irish Genealogy site. Arlene Miles found her great great grandparents on the "Missing Friends site" and said "I kinda knew about this site but never tried it until today" Kathleen Courtney says "The Calendar of Wills and Administration is my new favorite site! Thank you to THIS FB page for leading me toward it!"

It's easy to join. If you're a Facebook member, search Facebook for the [CGS Irish Research Network](#) and request an invitation. If you're not a Facebook member or want the email updates instead, send an email to [Maureen Hanlon](#)

Want to start your own CGS-affiliated online SIG for another ethnic group or genealogy topic? Let's talk!

## Meetings and More

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



**Saturday September 10:** Board Meeting. 10 - Noon.

**Saturday, Sept 17:** [Family Tree Maker SIG](#), 1 - 4 p.m.  
Devoted exclusively to Family Tree Maker™ Software from Ancestry.com. Please register for this event.



**Saturday, September 17:** [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.), then 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

### Want to be a BTSV?

CGS is looking for a team of "Behind the Scenes Volunteers (BTSVs)!" We need volunteers to help with the following jobs: **Events Assistant, Post-Event Survey Manager** (can be done from home), **Offsite Events Assistant** and **Marketing Maven**. As always, training is provided!

### Cyndi's coming to town!

...And we need volunteers to make our upcoming November 5 event, [Cyndi Ingle Seminar at Preservation Park](#), a success! If you would like more information about helping with this popular genealogy event, please contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for details.

### Be a Genealogy Angel for Angel Island

Volunteers are needed to help with the Nikkei Pilgrimage to Angel Island on October 1.

- **Be a volunteer genealogist** - Participate as a genealogy consultant at this fun cultural event in one of the most beautiful state parks in the Bay Area.
- **Be a volunteer assistant** - Help our fearless leader (Linda Okazaki) to make this event run smoothly!

Note: Orientation will be provided before the event. Prospective volunteers need to bring a laptop computer and travel to the island on their own. A bento lunch is included.

Read about last year's successful pilgrimage: [Pilgrimage sheds light on JA immigration history, honors those who preserved it.](#)

**CGS Research Committee** Occasionally, the CGS Research Committee receives requests which require access to non-English records. If you have experience reading non-English records or have successfully researched the online records of non-English speaking countries - and you would be willing to act as a consultant to the Research Committee - let them know! For more details or questions, contact the [Research Committee](#).

Contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for more information about any of these great opportunities

## CGS Trip to Washington D.C.



Our inaugural Washington, D.C. Research Trip is scheduled for November 12 - 20.

**This event is SOLD OUT, but please join the [waiting list](#).**

Read more about your guides and this inaugural journey in our [blog](#).

## CGS Blog

### Highlights from the California Genealogical Society Blog and Others

Please subscribe to the [CGS Blog](#). If you haven't been receiving our blog posts on a regular basis, be sure to re-subscribe. It is a great source of information about classes, events, volunteers and members.

We want and need your stories! If you would like to publish in our blog please contact [Shannon Reese](#), the Blog Editor.

[Ready for the Board?](#) by Karen Lemelin

[Genealogical Treasures Revealed Sept 10th: Come see what you've been missing](#) by Linda Darby

[Cyndi Ingle \(of Cyndi's List Fame\) is coming to town!](#) by Shannon Reese

[Are You Ready for a "Lifetime" Commitment?](#) by Chris Pattillo, Jane Lindsey and Sandy Fryer

[Wordless Wednesday: PICA \(Pacifica Islander Cultural Assoc.\) Aloha Festival](#) by Shannon Reese



### What does the genealogy community have to say?

Here's a few interesting blog posts from other sites:

[Use WorldCat to Find the Nearest Repository for a Book](#) by Randall J Seaver on Genea-Musings

[Writing Ancestor Articles in 12 Easy Steps](#) on DNAExplained

[Do I Really Have African and Native American Ancestry?](#) by Henry Louis Gates Jr. on The Root

[Back to Basics: YDNA](#) by Judy G. Russell on The Legal Genealogist

[My Ancestor the Indian Princess](#) by Meaghan E.H. Siekman on Vita Brevis

## People are Talking

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

by Shannon Reese



### Top Facebook Post for August:

[Why Your AncestryDNA Matches Aren't Responding](#)

by Amy Johnson Crow, amyjohnsoncrow.com

Talk to CGS on [Facebook](#)



### Top Twitter Post for June:

[Why Learning Your Family's Story Matters](#)

by Miryelle Resek, FamilySearch blog

Join the CGS conversation on [Twitter](#)

## Continuing Membership Perk

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. For the latest events, check out member Kathryn Doyle's [San Francisco Bay Genealogy Calendar](#) that is updated monthly.

Below are a few local and national conferences:

- [Federation of Genealogical Societies](#) (FGS) August 31 - September 3, in Springfield, Illinois. 40th Annual Conference
- [New York State Family History Conference](#) September 15- 17 in Syracuse, NY
- [Contra Costa County Genealogical Society](#) Fall Seminar with John Philip Colletta, October 15.
- [Great Canadian Genealogy Summit](#) October 21-23 in Ontario, Canada.
- [San Mateo County Genealogical Society](#) Fall Seminar with Paula Stuart-Warren. October 22

## Connect with Us

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



Tel (510) 663-1358 - Fax (510) 663-1596

Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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