Happy New Year!

Dear Friends of CGS,

Happy New Year!

2017 was an exciting year for CGS. The building has been under construction. Despite the dust and noise, patrons continue to enjoy our collection of books, manuscripts, and maps, in addition to our classes, seminars, field trips and events.

2018 looks to be even better. February 12 is our 120th anniversary, but we plan to celebrate all year long. We will kick off the celebratory year at our Annual Meeting on January 13. It's a great time to meet new members and catch up with old friends. There will be a potluck lunch, birthday cake, business meeting, fun photos, and maybe even an auction item or two. We also will have an entertaining program.

Be sure to check our line-up of events. In addition to our Saturday classes, we plan to have two guided research trips, three off-site events and several field trips. The world of genealogy has changed quite a
bit since our founders established the California Genealogical Society in 1898. First there was microfilm, then computers, and now we have DNA. 2018 is going to be a great year to focus on genealogy.

Regards,
Linda Okazaki

The Annual Member Meeting and 120th Birthday Celebration will be held on January 13th in the library at 1 p.m. Join us first for a social gathering and potluck lunch from 11:30 a.m. During the meeting, we will vote on the slate of nominees to the board and the 2018 budget. We will review the 2017 activities at CGS and discuss plans for 2018.

Stay after our Annual Member Meeting for birthday cake. There will be a photo corner with props and you can hear three of our members share wonderful stories about great-grandparents. Nancy Ukai, Stewart Traiman and Mary Caroline Chun will each tell us about their ancestors and events from the decades preceding our 120 years. Covering Nicaragua, San Francisco, Japan, Ireland and more, you will hear about the diversity and the commonality of ancestors' lives, as well as the clues and searches that their descendants followed.

RSVP - Please let us know if you will be joining.

Thank you for supporting the California Genealogical Society and Library. Your donations enable us to continue to provide a high quality resource for genealogical information in California. Membership fees only cover about 40% of our expenses and your donations help us to maintain our standard of excellence.

We need BOOKS! CGS volunteers sell books on eBay to raise money for the Library. If you have nonfiction 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.

Nominations for Board

Nomination Committee Report 2018

Committee Chair: Karen Lemelin
Committee Members: Chris Pattillo and Nancy Cork

- The Nomination Committee is proposing four new board nominees for the 2018-2020 term. The new nominees are James Russell, Chris Pattillo, Nancy Cork and Mansela Meskus.
- Continuing in their first terms are Rich Kehoe and Arlene Miles.
- Continuing in a second term is Kathy Jones.
A member of CGS since 2004, and previously on the Board, **Chris Pattillo** is currently the Chair of the Investment Committee. Chris completed two terms as a commissioner on the Oakland Planning Commission, retired from her landscape architecture practice and is ready to rejoin the Board. During her first term as a Board member, Chris wrote the Investment Policy and helped update all of the job descriptions. She also served as Facilities Chair. In 2015 Chris volunteered to co-chair the first Capital Campaign which will conclude in February 2018. Chris has taught classes for CGS and recently gave a talk about her 2017 Genealogy Journey. She has had articles published in The California Nugget, the CGS blog, the Watagua Genealogy Society magazine, as well as a newspaper in Albany, Texas. Chris has presented her PowerPoint talk, Preserving Your Family History, at local retirement facilities and plans additional presentations throughout the Bay Area to promote the California Genealogical Society.

A box of old family photographs inspired **Nancy Cork** to begin researching her family's history. After 23 years of gathering records, she still has questions about her family, but now at least they are different questions: not so much the who's and the when's, but the why's and the how's. Born in New York and raised in Minnesota, Nancy has been living in the Bay Area for 35 years. A student of history and a lover of books, she has been volunteering for several years in the CGS Library, where she manages the periodicals subscriptions. Nancy served on the Nominations Committee for two years and enjoys helping with the publication of The California Nugget.

**Marisela "Merry" Meskus** became interested in genealogy after a family trip to the Dominican Republic in 2004. Her father was born in the Dominican Republic and her mother’s family originated from Mexico. She enjoys telling people that she is a first-generation American as well as a second-generation, third-generation, and fourth-generation Californian. Marisela was born in Merced and graduated from the University of California, Merced with a BA in History. She moved to the Bay Area to attend San Francisco State University and obtained an MA in Linguistics in 2015. She joined CGS in April 2017 and took advantage of all the classes and SIGs before deciding to volunteer. Planning to become a
professional genealogist, she enjoys coming to the library to learn from members who are as passionate about the subject as she is.

Blaine Bettinger on DNA

Blaine Bettinger's blog, The Genetic Genealogist, was launched on February 12, 2007 as one of the very first blogs to examine the intersection of traditional genealogical techniques and modern genetic research, more commonly known as "genetic genealogy." Genetic genealogists use genetics to learn more about their ancestry, including their ancient roots, and the relatedness of individuals. This relatively new technology represents a powerful tool for the genealogists.

Blaine will presenting 4 lectures during the day:
1. Using Y-DNA and mtDNA to Explore Your Ancestry
2. Introduction to Autosomal DNA
3. Getting the Most Out of Your AncestryDNA Matches

Register Today!

There will also be a special event on Friday, March 2 at the CGS library limited to 25 people who are experienced in genetic genealogy. Suggested prerequisites include either attendance at one or more DNA institutes, participation in a DNA SIG or a solid understanding of genetic genealogy. The Friday lectures include the Genealogical Proof Standard, Ethics, and a 1-hour Q&A. If you are interested, please contact Linda Okazaki or Pam Miller for details.

18th Annual Salt Lake City Research Trip

The California Genealogical Society (CGS) has scheduled its 2018 annual genealogy research trip to the Family History Library from Sunday, April 22nd to Sunday, April 29th. Lisa Gorrell will lead the trip for the third year in a row and she is especially excited to have you come along!

"Why would I want to go to the Family History Library? Isn't it all online now?" Read our Blog post.

Other Advantages:
• Six days of being with others who share your enthusiasm for genealogy research
• Research assistance with Lisa or one of the experts at the library (especially the foreign language floors)
• Six days of distraction-free research
• Six days when you don’t have to do household chores

Register Today for early bird specials.

Classes and SIGs

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

Here is our wonderful line-up of classes and Special Interest Groups for this month.

When registering on Eventbrite you'll need your CGS membership number to complete the registration. If you do not know your membership number send a request to: membership@californiaancestors.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RootMagic Special Interest Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>The RootMagic SIG welcomes all users and would-be users of this popular genealogy software.</td>
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<td>Thursday, January 4, from 2 - 4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Introduction to Genealogy</th>
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<td>A free class on the fundamentals of genealogical research.</td>
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<td>Saturday, January 6, from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m</td>
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<th>San Francisco Special Interest Group</th>
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<td>Join the conversation with the CGS San Francisco Special Interest Group (SF-SIG). We uncover records, view historical photographs and maps, read historical newspapers, manuscripts and other San Francisco records.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 20, from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>This CGS Special Interest Group (FTM-SIG) has been formed devoted exclusively to the popular robust and easy-to-use Family Tree Maker™ Software from Software MacKiev. Join FTM-SIG facilitators Ron Madison and Karen Halfon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 20, from 1 - 4 p.m.</td>
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Pam Miller will be offering 3 classes on "You've Got Your DNA Results, What's Next?", each specific to a leading DNA company.

You've Got Your Ancestry DNA Results, What's Next? Saturday, January 27, from 1 - 4 p.m.
You've Got Your **Family Tree DNA** Results, What's Next?
Saturday, February 3, from 1 - 4 p.m.

You've Got Your **23andMe DNA** Results, What's Next?
Saturday, February 10, from 1 - 4 p.m.

**Field Trip to Sutro Library**

The Sutro Library holds the original collection of Adolph Sutro (1830-1898), California businessman and San Francisco mayor. The library has a large collection of publications and items dating from the 13th to the 21st centuries. It also has a very large genealogy collection.

Thursday, February 8, from 10:30 a.m - 1:30 p.m.

**East European Special Interest Group**

Come, discuss a new Special Interest Group (SIG) focused on Eastern European Genealogy. We are still refining how the group will meet, where, when, and more. Join and help us create this group, together!

Saturday, February 24, from 1 - 3 p.m.

**Building Skills for Successful Family History Research**

This 4 week series with Pamela Brett will be held at the Oakland Family Search Library. This series is for family historians, both beginners and intermediates, who want to build a strong foundation of research skills to avoid wasted time and unreliable family trees.

Wednesdays, March 7 - 28, from 6 - 8:30 p.m.

**Special Evening Event with California Historical Society and Bill Cole**

The California Genealogical Society and the California Historical Society are hosting a special event at the California Historical Society when we will celebrate our shared history and collaborative missions. Access to two of California Historical Society's wonderful exhibits and a special speaker, Bill Cole will be highlights of the evening.

Bill Cole will talk about a fascinating only-in-California event, the 1864 Bullion Bend Stagecoach Robbery. This amazing Wild West caper occurred during the Civil War's final year. It was front-page news that captured the country's attention.

Thursday, March 8, from 5:45 - 8:45 p.m.

[Also visit our Eventbrite profile page](http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1101577126079&ca=38322d4d-b19d-41ab-872d-102c3b57d14d) to see the latest class additions and descriptions.

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**Meetings and More**

**California Genealogical Society & Library**  
**2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland**
If you would like to host a Special Interest Group (i.e. French Canadian, 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 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 have an idea for an article, ongoing series of posts or monthly column, then please contact Blog Editor Shannon Reese to discuss.

Annual Appeal: You Make our Society Amazing by Shannon Reese

Wordless Wednesday: California Genealogical Society Volunteers' Holiday Open House by Shannon Reese

Meet the Board Nominees by Karen Lemelin

Wordless Wednesday: Institute for Genetic Genealogy in San Diego by Shannon Reese

Food and Genealogy: A Remembrance of Things Past by Georgia Lupinsky

A Few Good Volunteers by Linda Okazaki

Happy New Year, Genealogy Fans by Shannon Reese

Putting It All Together by Shannon Reese

Here are a few interesting blog posts from other sites:

Steve Morse Creates a New Online "Applying 2016-2018 Tax Brackets" Calculator by Dick Eastman

Buffalo NY Death Index 1852-1944 is now Online by Dick Eastman

RootsWeb Security Update by Tony Blackham

Who is on Your Family's Ofrenda? by Rachel L Matheus

Other Events & Conferences

There are always many other events happening in the Bay Area and across the nation. For the latest
events, check [Conference Keeper.org](http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1101577126079&ca=38322d4d-b19d-41ab-872d-102e3b57d14d).

**Local Events**

### Major National and International Conferences in 2018

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21-26</td>
<td><strong>Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG)</strong></td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 28 - Mar 3</td>
<td><strong>RootsTech 2018</strong></td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2 - 5</td>
<td><strong>National Genealogical Society</strong></td>
<td>Grand Rapids, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 31 - Jun 2</td>
<td><strong>49th Annual Jamboree 2018</strong></td>
<td>Burbank, California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 2 - 7</td>
<td><strong>The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)</strong></td>
<td>Athens, Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 6 - 10</td>
<td><strong>38th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy</strong></td>
<td>Warsaw, Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 6 - 10</td>
<td><strong>Eastern European Family History Conference</strong></td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 22 - 25</td>
<td><strong>Federation of Genealogical Societies</strong></td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Indiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31 - Sep 2</td>
<td><strong>Secret Lives Conference 2018</strong></td>
<td>Leicestershire, UK</td>
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**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.

E-mail [Stewart Blandón Traiman](#), e-News Editor with any questions.

[Forward this email to a Friend](#)