



**Since 1898**

**February, Vol. 13, No. 2**

February 2019 Announcements



**February is Black History Month.**

Our local African-American Genealogical Society of Northern California ([AAGSNC](#)) will host an annual [Black History Day](#) - Sunday, Feb 10, 1 p.m. @ 4766 Lincoln Ave., Oakland.

The national [African American History Month](#) has many events paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society.

CGS is pleased to provide a word-searchable PDF of [The Colored Directory of Leading Cities in Northern California 1916-1917](#) thanks to the generous efforts of Lorna Jones and Electra Kimble Price. The directory lists nearly 10,000 African Americans in Northern California along with churches, lodges, and organizations. The directory is free to all and resides on our [Databases page](#).

Other resources:

- [Cyndi's List](#)
- [FamilySearch](#)



**February is also Lunar New Year in most of Asia.  
This year we celebrate the Year of the Pig.**



Learn about Chinese New Year at [chinesenewyear.net](http://chinesenewyear.net).

Locally there will be celebrations in [Oakland](#) and [San Francisco](#).

Other Resources:

- [Cyndi's List - China](#)
- [Cyndi's List - Asia](#)
- [FamilySearch - Chinese Genealogical Word List](#)



### **New CGS Board for 2019 Congratulations to ALL!**

Vicky Kolakowski	President	2nd Term
Jim Sorenson	Vice President	1st Term
Matt Berry	Treasurer	1st Term
Nancy Cork	Corresponding Secretary	1st Term
Stewart Traiman	Recording Secretary	2nd Term
James Russell	Chief Investment Officer	1st Term
Felicia Addison	Director	3rd Term
Richard Kehoe	Director	2nd Term
Arlene Miles	Director	2nd Term
Jennifer Dix	Director	1st Term

Stacey Hoover	Director	1st Term
Marisela Meskus	Director	1st Term
Chris Pattillo	Director	1st Term
Jeffery Vaillant	Director	1st Term
Linda Okazaki	Past President	

**Classes and SIGs**


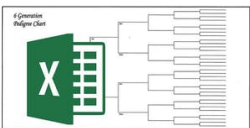

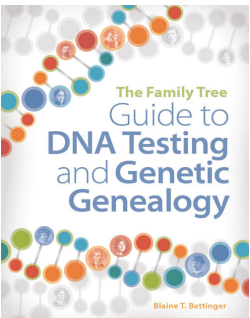


**California Genealogical Society & Library**  
**2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland**



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](#).

	<p><a href="#">Introduction to Genealogy</a></p> <p>Due to popular demand, we have expanded our first-Saturday "Intro to Genealogy" class to a four-session series. The first class offers an overview of genealogy. Each of the next three sessions will begin with a quick review of the overview, followed by a more in-depth focus on the following topics: Census, Vital Records, and Organization. The classes may be taken in any order, and participation in one class is not required to attend others in the series. The entire series will be repeated two more times in 2019.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 2, from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m</p>
	<p><a href="#">Using German Documents to Build a Family Tree</a></p> <p>Once you've solved the mystery of where your immigrant ancestors came from in Germany, a whole world opens to you. It's not just the immense family trees that can be constructed and documented from official records that are increasingly available on line. It's also the rich details of your ancestors' lives that can be derived from those records and from the contacts that you can make with local historians -- often your distant cousins -- in Germany.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 9, from 1 - 3:30 p.m. <b>** wait list only **</b></p>
	<p><a href="#">Introduction to FindMyPast</a></p> <p>Come to The Oakland Family History Center to do your research, and plan stay for a presentation on CGS's library's subscription website, Findmypast.com. Maureen Hanlon will share what's unique, especially for British and Irish researchers, the data you can get without a subscription, and basics of navigation and search techniques.</p> <p>A CGS event held at The Oakland Family History Center          Saturday, February 16, from 1 - 3:30 p.m.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Family Tree Maker SIG</a></p> <p>Devoted exclusively to the popular, robust and easy-to-use Family Tree Maker™ software from Software MacKiev. Join FTM-SIG facilitators Ron Madson and Karen Halfon n the third Saturday of each month</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 16, from 1 - 4 p.m.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Eastern European Special Interest Group Quarterly Meetings</a></p>

	<p>A group dedicated to Eastern European genealogy facilitated by Craig Siulinski and Vicky Kolakowski.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 23, from 1 - 3 p.m.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Excel for Genealogists</a></p> <p>Stewart loves spreadsheets! He is an expert in Microsoft Excel using spreadsheets in genealogy quite frequently. Laying out all the data in Excel can help researchers see gaps in knowledge or correlations between data points. Breakthroughs can easily happen by visualizing data in spreadsheets. Stewart shows many examples of his use of spreadsheets to track newspaper clippings, a vital records catalog, tracking ancestor addresses over time, and tracking whole families over many censuses. Stewart will teach how to use Excel filter, sorting, color coding, calculations and many other functions.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 23, from 1 - 4 p.m. <b>** wait list only **</b></p>
	<p><a href="#">Building Skills for Successful Family History Research</a></p> <p>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.</p> <p>This course will be held at the Oakland Family Search Library in four Wednesday evening sessions.</p> <p>In-class group exercises and optional homework assignments will provide participants to practice skills with a wide variety of genealogical records found in a many different places including online websites.</p> <p>A CGS event held at The Oakland Family History Center Wednesdays, Mar 6 to 27, from 6 - 8:30 p.m.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Introduction to DNA and Genetic Genealogy, with Mark McLaren</a></p> <p>The class is designed to be an introduction to DNA as an exciting new tool for genealogists. It is intended for individuals who either are new to DNA or looking to improve their ability to use it in their research. The objective of the class is to provide a basic understanding of all DNA tests and concepts. It will examine the available tools and strategies to more effectively manage DNA matches. It will also create a solid foundation for those interested in taking classes in more advanced skills.</p> <p>A CGS event held at The Oakland Family History Center Thursday, from 11 a.m to 1 p.m. on the following dates March 07, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11</p>
	<p><a href="#">Hispanic Genealogy: Spanish Records with Lucy Jennings Sweeney</a></p> <p>Discover how to search for your Hispanic ancestors, using records such as baptism and marriage. You don't need to know how to read Spanish. You will receive a resource list of online and print material.</p> <p>Saturday, March 9, from 1 - 3:30 p.m.</p>
	<p><a href="#">Irish Ancestry Network Meetup</a></p> <p>CGS will host the fourth annual meeting for members studying Irish Ancestors. In addition to networking and updates on Irish genealogy websites, Linda Darby, Maureen Hanlon and Victoria Kolakowski will share what they learned at the August 2018 Celtic Connections Conference in</p>



Boston. There will be a Potluck lunch so bring your soda bread or scones or maybe even some corned beef.

Sunday, March 17, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



### [Finding Your Japanese Roots in the U.S. and in Japan](#)

Join us for this encore presentation: Researching Japanese Ancestry.

The first half of the seminar will focus on background and research in the United States:

- The political climate and pertinent U.S. laws
- Internment camps and prefectures
- Repatriation and redress

The second half of the seminar will focus on research in Japan:

- Finding your koseki
- Understanding ohaka and kakocho
- Visiting relatives, cemeteries and temples

The seminar is suitable for both beginners and experienced researchers.

Sunday, March 10, from 1 - 4 p.m.



### [Hard Drive Organization: Managing Images and Your Computer File Folders - with Tim Cox](#)

Every genealogist has a collection of photographs, scanned images of paper documents, and images downloaded from online sources. What is the best way to organize them on our hard drive? How do we identify each image?

Quickly learn how to:

- \* Name files for easy identification
- \* Organize folders that make it easy to find the files
- \* Properly identify scanned photographs with multiple people.

Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to Noon



### **You Got Your DNA Results, What's Next?**

Three classes, each focusing on one of the larger DNA testing companies. Each class is for those who have already submitted a DNA sample and want to know the next steps and strategies to make family connections from the results. Completing any of one of these classes is a prerequisite to join the ongoing DNA study group.

#### [Ancestry DNA Results](#)

Saturday, March 23, from 1 - 4 p.m.

#### [Family Tree DNA Results](#)

Saturday, March 30, from 1 - 4 p.m.

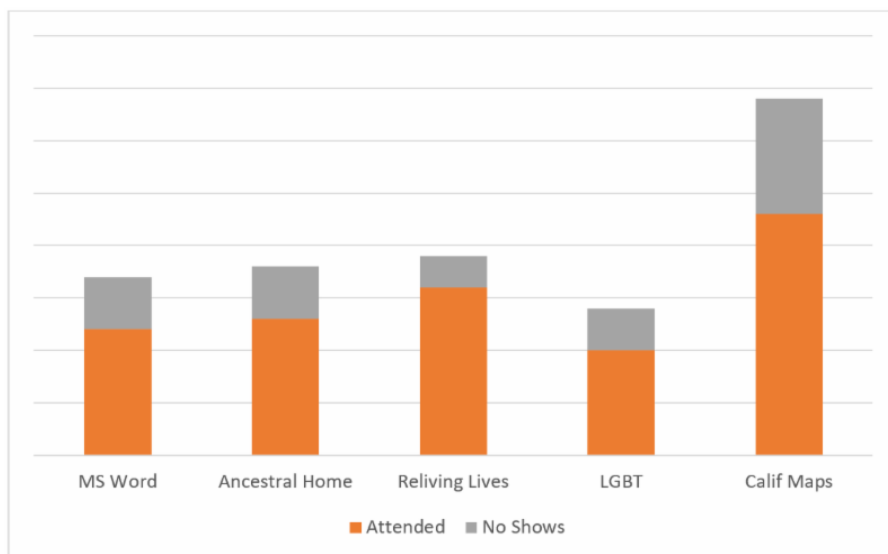
#### [23andMe DNA Results](#)

Saturday, April 6, from 1 - 4 p.m.

Also [visit our Eventbrite profile page](#) to see the latest class additions and descriptions.

### **Growing No-show Trend for CGS Classes: Nominal Class Fees in 2019**

Free classes are a wonderful privilege of CGS membership that many enjoy. With our limited classroom space, classes are often full. This year, there's been a trend of registered members not showing up and not cancelling their reservation. The rate of no-shows has been running close to one-third of registered attendees. Examples below.



Why does this matter? First of all, it means those on the waiting list have no chance to get notification and fill in those spots. Also our speakers can't help but be aware of the empty chairs and fewer folks to benefit from all the work they put into sharing their expertise.

In 2019, consistent with recommendations in the strategic plan and approval by the Board, some classes for members will have a small fee. This will be phased in over the year. Many classes, including our Introduction to Genealogy and a new series on the third Saturday of each month at the Oakland FamilyHistory Library, will be free. We also provide links with your class reservation and reminder to make it easier to notify us of a cancellation. We hope this will address the problem above and provide some much-needed funding for even more and better offerings.

Question? Please contact [Maureen Hanlon](#)

**Volunteers**

**Genealogy Saturdays Need You!**

Are you a CGS member who loves attending our Saturday genealogy classes, and would love to volunteer with our 121-year-old organization if it didn't involve a weekday commitment? If so, we have the job for you - become one of our Events Assistants!

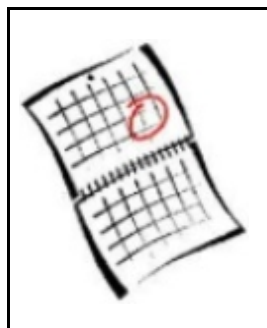
Here's a chance to donate about an hour of your time (once a month) and attend one of our popular Saturday classes - all at the same time.

Feel free to submit the CGS [Volunteer Form](#) or contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for more details.



**Meetings and More**

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



**Board Meeting -- February 9 at 10 a.m.**

Agenda:

- Officers Reports
- Committee Reports
- New Business
  - Nikkei Pilgrimage
- Old Business
  - Job Descriptions, Policies & Procedures

- o Implementing Strategic Plan
- o Educational Program

## Annual Membership Meeting - April

If you would like to host a Special Interest Group 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 [Vicky Kolakowski](#).

### 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 [Jennifer Dix](#) to discuss.



#### A State by State Series by Chris Pattillo

- [CGS Library Collections: Maryland](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Maine](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Louisiana](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Kentucky](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Kansas](#)

[2019 Annual Membership Meeting](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[Check it Out: Gigantic Model of 1940 San Francisco now viewable online](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[January 12, 2019: Annual Meeting & Program](#) -- by Chris Pattillo

[2018 Annual Appeal: Thank You to our Amazing Members!](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[Join the Genealogy Saturdays Team](#) -- Jennifer Dix



#### Here are a few interesting blog posts from other sites:

[New York vital records timeline: Key dates that impact your research](#) -- by Frederick Wertz

[The First Transcontinental Railroad: Did Your Chinese Ancestors Help Build It?](#) -- by Sunny Morton

[How Did We Get the First U.S. Census?](#) -- by Legacy Tree

[New Scottish Records Available To Search this FindMyPast Friday](#) -- by Dick Eastman  
Include database on Jacobite Rebellion for you Outlander fans. 20 hits for "James Fraser"

[Sisters Reunited Through DNA](#) -- MyHeritage Blog

[How Much Was Your Ancestor Worth?](#) -- by Amy Johnson Crow

**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://Conference Keeper.org).

**Local Events**

[Bay Area Genealogy Calendar](#) maintained by the Sutro Library

**Santa Rosa Family History Conference**  
**Linking Generations**

**Saturday, February 2, 2019**  
 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
 Sign-in 8:00 - 8:45

Over 20 Classes for Beginners and Seasoned Genealogists

Keynote Speakers  
**Crista Cowan** "The Barefoot Genealogist" Ancestry.com  
**Merrill White** FamilySearch International

**Free Admission**  
 Bring a Sack Lunch or Pre-order Box Lunch by January 25<sup>th</sup>

**Register Online**  
[eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) or [scgsonline.org](http://scgsonline.org)

Online registration until January 31<sup>st</sup>. Doors will be opened to pre-registered guests at 8 am, with seating provided on a first come, first served basis. Individuals who register at the event will be invited to fill open seats at 8:50 am.

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**  
 1725 Peterson Lane • Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Sponsored By:  
 Santa Rosa Family History Center • Sonoma County Genealogical Society

**Major National and International Conferences:**

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

<b>2019</b>		
Feb 27 - Mar 2	<a href="#">RootsTech 2019</a> Now offering a <a href="#">Virtual Pass</a>	Salt Lake City, Utah
Jun 15 - 17	<a href="#">International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP)</a>	Sacramento, California
May 8 - 11	<a href="#">National Genealogical Society</a>	St. Charles, Missouri
May 30 - Jun 2	<a href="#">50th Annual Jamboree 2018</a>	Burbank, California



July 21 - 26	<a href="#">The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)</a>	Atlanta, Georgia
Jun, Jul	<a href="#">Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)</a>	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Jul 28 - Aug 2	<a href="#">IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy</a>	Cleveland, Ohio
Aug 21 - 24	<a href="#">Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)</a>	Washington, DC
Sep 19 - 21	<a href="#">APG Professional Management Conference</a>	Salt Lake City, Utah
<b>2020</b>		
Jan	<a href="#">Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG)</a>	Salt Lake City, Utah

### Connect with Us

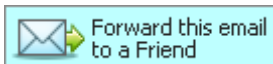
See our [Volunteer](#) page for opportunities or contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#)

## Become a member of CGS



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

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



Forward this email  
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Email [Stewart Blandón Traiman](#), eNews  
Editor with any questions.



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