



Since 1898

July, Vol. 13, No. 7

July 2019 Announcements



Graphic by TopTenz

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to *dissolve the political bands* which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a *decent respect* to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the *separation*.

-- The Declaration of Independence, signed unanimously July 4, 1776

Happy 243rd Birthday to the Great United States of America Melting Pot

Where did your ancestors originate from? Likely they came because of the words quoted above, and those of the Constitution of the United States. We honor their memories, struggles and the words that inspired them.

No matter how long ago or by what means your ancestors came to the United States of America, the California Genealogical Society has all the tools to help you succeed in your family history quest. We've been helping family historians for 120 years - half the age of the U.S.A.

- Our [research team](#) will tackle your brick walls or help obtain vital documents.
- Our [blog](#) will keep you informed of ongoing events around CGS.
- Our [volunteers](#) are knowledgeable, friendly and passionate about family history.
- Our [library](#) has unique gems that can only be found at CGS.
- Our [online database](#) may reveal new information while you search from home.
- Our [research trips](#) to libraries and archives will bring new discoveries.

Join us and you will find help, expertise and your immigrant ancestors!



Going into effect on June 1st are modest changes to our Membership Rates, so if you have been thinking about joining the society and want to get a good deal - don't wait. Now is the time to join at our current rates.

In June the cost of a Basic Membership will increase from \$40 to \$45 annually and from \$75 to \$85 for a two-year subscription. Still a bargain. Family Memberships will increase by \$20 per year. The Student Membership category was changed to a "Youth Membership" with the cut off for being considered a youth at age 30. The fee for a Youth Membership will increase from \$20 to \$25.

Life Membership has been clarified to be only for one person. But, if a partner in a couple also wants to be a Life Member, the second person can join for an additional \$600 which is half price.

We hope you will agree that the value of your membership is well worth the cost and that you will continue to participate actively in the society so you can take advantage of the many things we offer - great classes, field trips, research trips, membership meetings, and opportunities to work with other members on projects.

Our Mayflower friends across the hall are changing their available hours. Their new hours are Friday and Saturday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM starting May 24th.

Please select the California Genealogical Society as your [Amazon Smile](#) charity. Amazon will give 0.5% of each of your purchases to CGS. It is a simple and effortless way to give to our nonprofit volunteer organization.



Your Account > Change Your Charity > Search Results

Choose from almost a million charities, schools, and other nonprofits. We will reach out to the organization you select to ensure it is ready to accept donations from Amazon.

california genealogy

California Genealogical Society

Oakland CA

About ▾

Historical Societies and Related Activities

Incorporation Year 1966

[Register for Beginner Series](#)

JULY CLASSES

NEED HELP WITH YOUR FAMILY TREE?

Building Skills for Successful Family History Research!

Are you interested in family history but not sure how to get started?

Have you mostly used Ancestry.com but would like to learn about other online resources, especially ones that are free?

Do you want to get off your computer and into the fascinating world of libraries, courthouse, archives and town halls?

Have you searched the censuses, vital and military records but would like to know more about other sources such as land, tax, court, and church records, maps and newspapers?

By the end of the class series, you will be better prepared to:

- Decide what records to look for
- Know where to find these records
- Document the sources of your information
- Assess the reliability of the records you found
- Analyze the results of your research
- Make a solid case for your research conclusions



Instructor Pamela Brett began serious pursuit of her family history in 1999. Most of her ancestors came to America early and moved often, leading to research in 31 states and the District of Columbia. She hopes to share skills acquired from many years of beginner's mistakes to help participants to focus their personal goals and to acquire new understanding of the lives of their ancestors.

Wednesday evenings:

July 10 through July 31 from 6:00 - 8:30 pm.

At the Oakland FamilySearch Library,
4766 Lincoln Ave, Oakland, off of Highway 13



Plenty of free parking.

This 4-class series is available to California Genealogical Society (CGS) Members for \$100 and non-members for \$140; the fee for non-members includes one year membership in CGS. Register at – <https://tinyurl.com/ycggbslp>

CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
2201 Broadway LL2
Oakland, California

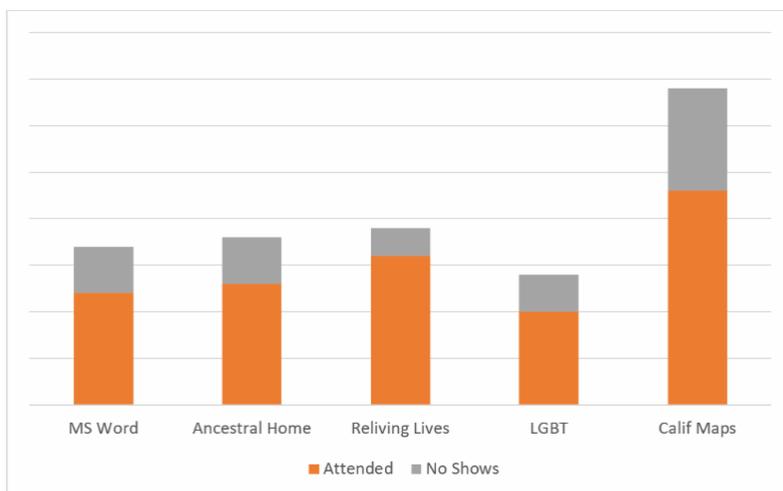
Visit us at:
CaliforniaAncestors.Org



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.

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>Introduction to Genealogy</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, Jul 6, from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m</p>
	<p>Building Skills for Successful Family History Research with Pamela Brett</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>Six key research skills will be included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determining which kinds of records to look for 2. Identifying where to find these records 3. Documenting the sources of your information

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Assessing the reliability of the records you found 5. Analyzing the results of your research 6. Making a solid case for your research conclusions <p>In-class group exercises and optional homework assignments will provide participants practice skills with a wide variety of genealogical records found in a many different places including online websites.</p>
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This class meets at the Oakland Family History Center
 Five Wednesday nights: July 10, 17, 24, 31 from 6 - 8:30 p.m.

	<p>Discovering Your German Roots; The Great Migration, 1815-1914 with Robert Jackson</p> <p>Part 1: July 11th Where did they come from in Germany?</p> <p>Part 2: July 18th Building a family tree from German documents</p> <p>Part 3: July 25th Group discussion and Q&A</p> <p>Three Thursday nights: July 11, 18, 25 from 6:30 - 8 p.m.</p>
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	<p>San Francisco SIG</p> <p>Join the conversation with the CGS San Francisco Special Interest Group (SFSIG). We uncover records, view historical photographs and maps, read historical newspapers, manuscripts and other San Francisco records.</p> <p>Saturday, Jul 20, from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</p>
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	<p>Family Tree Maker SIG</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, Jul 20, from 1 - 4 p.m.</p>
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	<p>Mayflower Descendants - Special Interest Group with Robert Trapp</p> <p>Offered by the California Genealogical Society, held at the The Society of California Mayflower Descendants offices across the Hall from the CGS library. </p> <p>The Mayflower Descendants SIG will focus initially on Mayflower ancestry and how to join The Society of California Mayflower Descendants.</p> <p>Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to Noon</p>
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	<p>Familysearch.org: Beyond the Search Boxes with Jane Knowles Lindsey</p> <p>Familysearch.org has so many tools to help with genealogical research This class will discuss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to utilize the extensive catalog to discover material • Using the WIKI to aid in your research • Discovering ways to utilize the unindexed historical records • Finding assistance for your research questions on the Help tab <p>Saturday July 20, from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Oakland Family Search Library</p> <p>Repeated - Thursday, Aug 29, from 6 - 8 p.m. at CGS</p>
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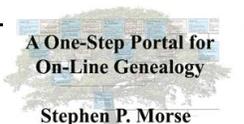
	<p>University of California Bancroft Genealogy Library Field Trip</p>
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The Bancroft Library is the primary special collections library at the University of California, Berkeley. It is one of the largest and most heavily used libraries of manuscripts, rare books, and unique materials in the United States. It's collection of 600,000 print volumes, and millions of manuscripts and photographs is unrivaled in its coverage of the Western America and early California: the Spanish era, Native Americans, maps and atlases, the Mexican War, the Gold Rush, mining, land surveys, and more.

(This is a CGS Members only trip.)
Thursday, July 25, from 10 a.m. to Noon

[One Step Pages and Case Study](#) with Stephen Paul Morse



Steve Morse will present the following two classes

- One-Step Webpages: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools
- Case Study: Genealogy of Renee Kaufman

Saturday, July 27, from 1 - 4 p.m.



[Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Genealogy](#) with Stewart Blandón Traiman

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Queer folk have always been a part of our history and family stories. The confirmed bachelor or spinster aunt in our trees may not have been single. Perhaps they did have partners but there is no legal documentation or family acknowledgment. This class will explore census, newspapers, obituaries, military records, photographs, phone books and archives for clues on our ancestor's sexuality. We will also explore LGBTQ History and many individual stories giving context to the available records. Discovering our LGBTQ ancestor's stories will enrich our entire family history.

Thursday, Aug 1, from 6 - 8 p.m.



[Historic Newspapers](#) with Maureen Hanlon

Come early to California Genealogical Society Library to do your research, and plan to stay for a presentation on researching using Historic Newspapers. For beginners, this class will describe why and how to find fascinating details about your ancestors' lives. Historical newspapers are particularly helpful with filling the gaps for the last decade of the 1800's. They may be the only source of an elusive maiden name. Learn about the growing number of online archives and get tips on saving images and citing them for your records.

Thursday, Aug 8, from 6 - 8 p.m.



[Proud to Be Portuguese](#) with Ralph Severson

Ralph will give a brief account of the Portuguese leadership at sea in the Age of Discovery, inspired by the Portuguese crown prince Henry the Navigator. Then he will launch into a summary of the Portuguese diaspora to Africa, Madeira, Brazil and the Azores.

Ralph will then explain and demonstrate an approach to research in Portugal, the Azores, Madeira, and touching on Brazil. He will share a number of stories of Portuguese ancestors he has discovered along the way.

Saturday, Aug 10, from 1 - 3:30 p.m.



[CGS Day at the Oakland Family Search Library](#)

Come spend the day at the Oakland Family Search Library

- Our day will begin 11:00 with a brief tour & talk about the library
- Learn what subscription databases are available.

- Learn how to contact volunteers with expertise in foreign country research.
- Learn about the enormous amount of digitized material available only at the Family Search Library.
- Review the basics of using FamilySearch. org.

Come for the Day! Bring your lunch.

Wednesday, Aug 14, from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.



[Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors' Birthplace Using US Records](#)
with Maureen Hanlon

Come early to The Oakland Family History Center to do your research, and plan to stay for a seminal Family History presentation by Maureen Hanlon. Maureen will discuss the many records that should be searched in the US that provide clues to find your Ancestor's Birthplace. Although Maureen will share records used from her Irish families, these records can be used for all Immigrant ancestors!

This class is for all skill levels, beginners to veteran genealogists.

Saturday, Aug 17, from 1 - 3:30 p.m. at **The Oakland Family History Center**



[Using Genome Mate Pro to help with DNA Information Management](#) with Keith Montgomery

Keith will discuss using Genome Mate Pro to help with DNA information management. The group will see an overview of the various tabs and screens used by Genome Mate Pro. We will show some examples of how to upload data into the program and then how to read it. Keith will also talk about enrolling for DNA GEDmatch and the use of Pedigree Thief as additional tools to obtain information.

Thursday, Aug 22, from 6:15 - 8 p.m.



[Make a Book - The Easy Way](#) with Chris Pattillo and Theresa Murphy

Are you serious about wanting to share all your great finds from your family history research but are not sure how to tackle what seems like a daunting task? Do you have some computer skills but don't feel creative? If yes, the upcoming workshop by Theresa Murphy and Chris Pattillo is for you. This will be a real workshop where you will actually start your book. The online program from Walgreen's will be used in the class. It is FREE, very easy to use, powerful, flexible and offers a bounty of tools to make your project look fabulous.

Saturday, Aug 24, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



[Eastern European Special Interest Group Quarterly Meetings](#)

A group dedicated to Eastern European genealogy facilitated by Craig Siulinski.

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

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

Volunteers!

Looking for a summer activity?

It's summertime.....kick back, soak up some rays, enjoy an umbrella drink and think about what you can do to keep our 121-year-old organization alive and thriving!

For instance: CGS could use a few more volunteers for several of its committees. If you have been procrastinating about volunteering, this is a good time to jump in and lend us a hand!

Currently, we need some additional help on our Events, Membership, Marketing, Desk Duty and Technology Committees. Most of our volunteer positions involve a commitment of just a few hours a month. In some instances, work can be done offsite (from home). Other jobs take place at the CGS Library - making it a good opportunity to do your own family research at the same time!

If you have been thinking about stepping up to work with our all-volunteer organization, but want a few more details, contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#).



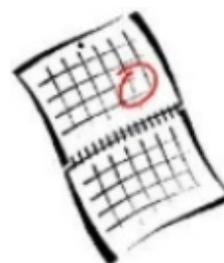
Meetings and More

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

Board Meeting -- July 13 at 10 a.m.

Agenda:

- Officers Reports
- Committee Reports
- Old Business
- New Business



Membership Meeting



Our next [Quarterly Membership Meeting](#) is on July 13.

- The Stories behind Bill O'Neil's Collection of Dolls
- Liz Summerhayes shares her My Heritage DNA Bounty

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: Pennsylvania](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Oregon](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Oklahoma](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: Ohio](#)

[2019 International German Genealogy Conference](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[At the birthplace of the East Bay: Peralta Hacienda Historical Park tour](#) -- by Chris Pattillo



Here are a few interesting blog posts from other sites:

[NY Assembly Passes Bill to Let Adoptees Access Birth Certificates](#)

[Prince Edward Island Government to Open Up Adoption Records in Fall](#) -- by Dick Eastman

[American Ancestors Launches a Database of Men, Women, and Children Sold by the Jesuits of Georgetown College in 1838](#) -- by Dick Eastman

[Using Mortality Schedules: An Overlooked Source for Genealogy](#) -- by Amy Johnson Crow

[Caribbean American Heritage Month: Marcus Garvey](#) -- by Jessiekrazt at the National Archives

[How to Use FamilySearch Person IDs](#) -- by Amie Tennant on FamilySearch

[Ancestry Surpasses 15 Million DNA Customers](#) -- on Ancestry Blog



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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](#).

Local Events

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

San Mateo County Genealogical Society - Fall Seminar 2019

Judy Russell

the Legal Genealogist

presents

The Law, GPS Evidence, and DNA Ethics



Join us for a day of gaining insight about genealogy, more than you may have thought.

Judy Russell is a genealogist with a law degree and is one of the best thinkers and lecturers in the field. Her talks are delivered with good humor, perception, and thoughtful connections. She will address law in our ancestors' time, conducting solid research, and ethics surrounding today's DNA testing.

- Finding the Law
- The Law and Reasonably Exhaustive (Re)Search
- DNA and the Golden Rule: The Law and Ethics of Genetic Genealogy
- No Vitals? No Problem! Building a Family through Circumstantial Evidence

Saturday, November 2, 2019
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

smcgs.org/programs/seminars

Major National and International Conferences:

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

2019		
July 21 - 26	The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)	Atlanta, Georgia
Jun 23 - 28 & Jul 14 - 19	Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Jul 28 - Aug 2	IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy	Cleveland, Ohio
Aug 21 - 24	Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)	Washington, DC
Fall 2019	SLIG Virtual Programs	Online
Sep 6 - 9	My Heritage LIVE	Amsterdam
Sep 19 - 21	APG Professional Management Conference	Salt Lake City, Utah
Oct 24 - 26	RootsTech: London	London
2020		
Jan 17 - 19	Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG) - registration opens 13 July 2019 CGS Member Marisa Louie Lee will be on faculty for SLIG 2020.	Salt Lake City, Utah
Jan 19 - 24	SLIG Academy for Professionals - registration opens 13 July 2019	Salt Lake City, Utah
Feb 26 - 29	RootsTech 2020	Salt Lake City, Utah

May 20 - 23	National Genealogical Society	Salt Lake City, Utah
	International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP)	

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.



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

