



October 2020 Announcements

October is Family History Month

The concept was introduced by Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) in 2001. Given our quarantine and new normal this is good month to revisit our what we know about our ancestors. As you review your collection of documents and facts - what questions are still unanswered? Take this month to resolve those holes, take up a new branch of research, explore new record groups, attend online classes, and so much more.



- [German-American Day](#) - Oct 6
- [Italian-American Heritage Month](#)
- [Polish-American Heritage Month](#)
- [Indigenous Peoples' Day](#) - Oct 14



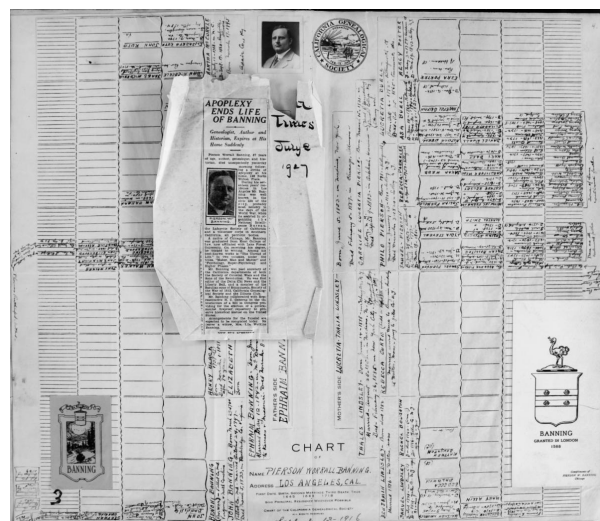
National Hispanic Heritage Month continues through to October 15. During the four weeks, celebrations honor the heritage and contributions made by members of the Hispanic community. Festivities begin on September 15, marking the anniversary of independence for the Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. With great fanfare, celebrations sweep across Latin America, Central American and on into Mexico and Chili commemorating each country's independence from week to week!

This is a good month to learn about Latin American and Hispanic genealogical resources.

- [Cyndi's List - Spain & Basque](#)
- [Cyndi's List - Mexico](#)
- [12 Hispanic and Latino Genealogy Websites and Resources](#)

1920s Pedigree Charts Now Online

CGS volunteers have finished digitizing and indexing a set of pedigree charts that were created in the 1920s by CGS members. These have been published on our website under "[New Online Resources](#)" on the Databases page under the Research tab. The names and birth years of every individual are listed with links to the original charts.





CGS will be happy to receive donations of any genealogical books you no longer need. Please contact [Arlene Miles](#) for more information.

Classes and SIGs

Register on [Eventbrite](#).

We are extremely pleased to offer our ONLINE classes while our meeting place is closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic



Intro to Genealogy - 1st Saturday Free! Overview and Focused Topics

Not sure how to get started with your family research? Interested in refreshing your skills? Join us for a FREE Introduction to Genealogy class the FIRST SATURDAY of every month

[via Zoom on Saturday, 3 Oct from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm](#)



Exploring Military Records Series presented by Susan Goss Johnston

The term "military records" is a very nondescript name for a vast and varied group of records whose coverage encompasses most of the men, and many women, throughout this country's history. To use these records effectively, a family historian must understand their creation, organization, and access, not just extract specific content. There are overarching patterns in these records. Recognizing these patterns, and their exceptions, will help researchers navigate this treasure trove.

[via Zoom](#)

[Four Sessions on every other Saturday Morning](#)

- 19 Sep - Pension and Bounty Land Applications
- [3 Oct - Service Records](#)
- [17 Oct - Before and After Records](#)
- [31 Oct - Seldom Used Records](#)

[from 10 am - noon](#)



Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group

Hosted by Ron Madson and Karen Halfon

This Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group is perfect for new FTM users, people who are just FTM curious, and experienced FTM veterans. All Welcome!

[via Zoom on Saturday, 17 Oct from 1 - 3 pm](#)

The Naughty and Notorious of Mountain View Cemetery hosted by Michael Colbruno



Docent Michael Colbruno will take us on a virtual tour of his most popular tour (formerly known as Headline Makers), including stories about the suicide of a Hall of Fame baseball player, a famous San Francisco madam, a corrupt judge, a scam artist who fascinated Mark Twain, a buried heart, a Hollywood director accused of bigamy and others who pushed the boundaries of acceptable behavior.

Saturday, 24 Oct from 1 - 2:30 p.m.



The Company They Kept: Enrich Your Family History Thru Cluster Studies presented by Anne Brenneis

A cluster study is a deep dive into the physical and documentary remains of a particular place or group, in a particular time period, that can provide rich context and surprising details about the lives of our ancestors. This presentation offers ideas for types of clusters to consider, ways to plan and organize your study, and suggestions for networking and fishing for hidden documentation. A recent study of a frontier cemetery in Ohio is used as a model.

Saturday, 21 Nov from 10 - noon



Finding Your Civil War Ancestors presented by Jeff Vaillant

Join Jeff Vaillant in a session where he will share stories and strategies he used in finding his Civil War ancestors. Jeff will provide websites and other sources for you to be successful in locating military and pension and other resources both online and offline. Jeff's ancestor is a Union soldier from the 10th Iowa. Jeff continues to learn and teach as a member of Sons of Union Veterans of California and Pacific. He will also be giving the steps to find information from the National Archives Civil War Pension Files.

Saturday, 19 Dec from 10 - noon

Volunteers

Join us for the Genies!

For the past several years, CGS has honored individual volunteers who have gone "above and beyond" with their time and talents to keep our organization thriving. The "**Genie Awards**" are presented to a few volunteers who "make magic happen" - especially in the previous year. We try to honor all volunteers in the month of April (National Volunteers Month), but as we all know, nothing is normal in 2020 - the year of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the CGS Library and classroom were unexpectedly closed in March (to conform with public health guidelines) the Genie Awards were postponed. However, in the spirit of "we can do it!," we have decided to have a small online presentation during the October CGS Board Meeting. Please join us on **Saturday, October 10, 10 a.m.**, for the 2020 Genie Awards. All members are invited to attend by registering on [Eventbrite](#).



If you are interested in volunteering or want more details, please send an email to [Kathleen Beitiks](#).

Meetings & More

CGS Board

October 10th at 10 - 11:30 a.m.

The CGS Board will continue meeting online via Zoom for the duration of the

pandemic. Anyone can attend this meeting by [registering on Eventbrite](#).

Please sign in early to make sure you are able to see the program. We will send joining instructions the night before which will give you access.

Agenda

- Officer Reports
- Committee Reports
- New Business
- Old Business



If you would like to host a Special Interest Group then please contact [Maureen Hanlon](#).

Blogs

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.

CGS Blog

- [New Online Resources: 100-year Old Pedigree Charts](#) -- by Chris Pattillo
- [Recap: The California Nugget, Spring 2020 Issue](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- Also, every Sunday our blog now offers a weekly preview of upcoming online genealogy events.

Other Genealogy Blogs

- [Navigating the Law: The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the Trials of a Journey Home](#) - by Jessiekrazt at the National Archives
- [Newspapers and their images](#) - by The Legal Genealogist
- [Chester County \(Pennsylvania\) Unveils Interactive Tool to Trace Property](#) - by Dick Eastman
- [Drawing strength from our ancestors' resilience—from the Spanish Flu to today](#) - on Ancestry Blog
- [Why Your Latest Results Could Include More Scotland In Your Ethnicity Estimates](#) - on Ancestry Blog
- [Update to Theory of Family Relativity](#) - by Ester on MyHeritage Blog
- [7 Genealogy Activities You Can Do With Kids](#) - by Sunny Jane Morton and Cheryl Felix McClellan on FamilyTree Magazine

Newspaper Gems Events Involving Your Ancestors



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://ConferenceKeeper.org).

Local Events

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

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

National & International Conference Schedule

All events are subject to cancellation during this global pandemic emergency. Please check with each event's website prior to making plans to attend.

2020

[Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Annual Conference](#)
Oct 14 - 17, Virtual

[Texas State Genealogical Society](#)
Nov 13 - 15, Irving, Texas

2021

[Salt Lake Genealogical Institute \(SLIG\)](#)
Jan 10 - 15 and Jan 24 - 29, virtual

[SLIG Academy for Professionals](#)
Jan 17 - 22, virtual

[RootsTech 2021](#)
Feb 3 - 6, Salt Lake City, Utah

[Ohio Genealogical Society Conference](#)
April 14 - 17, virtual

[National Genealogical Society](#)
May 19 - 22, Richmond, VA

[Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh \(GRIP\)](#)
June 20 - 25 & July 11 - 16

[Midwest African American Genealogy Institute \(MAAGI\)](#)
July 6 - 8

[Genealogical Institute on Federal Records \(Gen-Fed\)](#)

[The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research \(IGHR\)](#)

The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)

July 25 - 30

[Celtic Connections Conference](#)

[IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy](#)

[New York State Family History Conference](#)

[APG Professional Management Conference](#)

[MyHeritage LIVE](#)

California Genealogical Society

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Contact Us Via
Email



The library is (usually) open Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Due to concerns about COVID 19, the CGS library is closed through at least mid-summer. This closure may be extended, so please check here before visiting our library. See our [Blog](#) for latest news.

Join The
Society

Renew Your Membership