



Since 1898

November, Vol. 14, No. 11

November 2020 Announcements



November is [Native American Heritage Month](#).

"The month is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. Heritage Month is also an opportune time to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges." -- [National Congress of American Indians](#)

For genealogists it's a time to do deeper research into our Native American roots.

- [Native American Genealogy: Reconnecting With Your American Indian Heritage](#)
- [Tracing Native American Family Roots](#) - at National Indian Law Library
- [FamilySearch Wiki - American Indian Genealogy](#)
- [American Indian Records in the National Archives](#)

ANNUAL APPEAL

With your help the future looks bright!



CGS Annual Appeal 2020

Every year about this time, CGS kicks off an appeal for donations. Letters have already been sent to all CGS members. If a member can't find their letter or if a non-member wishes to make a donation, it can be done using our website. Go to [CaliforniaAncestors.org](#), click on "members" on the tool bar, on the dropdown menu, click on "Support CGS/Donate". At the bottom of that page is a form to be filed out for making a donation. You can print the form and mail it to us with a check or you can use Paypal.

James Sorenson, President

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

Saturday, 7 Nov from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm



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



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!

Saturday, 21 Nov from 1 - 3 pm



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

2020 CGS Genie Awards announced

The CGS Genie Awards went “virtual” this year! Ordinarily, our annual volunteer recognition event is held in the CGS Library, accompanied by food, drink, merriment and a program related to genealogical research.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, however, the Genie Awards were held online on October 10.

The “Genies” honor individual volunteers (with a magic lamp!) who have gone "above and beyond" with their time and talents to keep our organization thriving. They are presented to volunteers who "make magic happen" - especially in the previous year.



This year we recognized several volunteers who began to revamp the CGS website last year, bringing it into the modern era. (The new website was launched in February.) The task was monumental and involved many hours of discussion, research, preparation, etc. Today, CGS has a fabulous, robust website that offers a wealth of information to our members and the public.

Congratulations and a "tip of the hat" to: **Stewart Traiman, Rich Kehoe, Arlene Miles, Theresa Murphy, Chris Pattillo, John Ralls** and **Shannon Reese**.

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

Meetings & More

CGS Board

November 14th 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

- [Hale Collection Now Available on Our Website](#) -- by Chris Pattillo
- [2020 Genie Awards](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- [Weigh In By October 23 On Proposed NYC Public Records Fee Hikes](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- [Profiles of the Signers of the 1849 California Constitution](#) -- by Chris Pattillo
- Also, every Sunday our blog now offers a weekly preview of upcoming online genealogy events.

Other Genealogy Blogs

- [Update: DORIS Licensing Fees](#) - from NYG&B
- [Ancestry® Debuts World's Largest, Searchable Digital Archive of Newspaper Published Historical Wedding Announcements](#) - by Ancestry Blog
- [Our Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion](#) - by Ancestry Blog
- [RootsTech Connect: What It Is and How You Can Participate](#) - on Ancestry Blog
- [MyHeritage Releases Three Historical Record Collections from Wales](#) - by Talya on MyHeritage Blog
- [BCG modifies DNA privacy rules](#) - by Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist
- [Decoding Grave Symbols – An Interview with Joy Neighbors: \[Podcast\] Episode 142](#) - on FamilyTree Magazine

A family given a Texas island in 1759, sold later, seeks royalties never paid | Nightline

An interesting story on how Genealogy can change lives.



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](#).

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

[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 \(IGHR\)](#)
July 25 - 30

[Celtic Connections Conference](#)

[IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy](#)

[New York State Family History Conference](#)

[APG Professional Management Conference](#)

[MyHeritage LIVE](#)

[Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Annual Conference](#)

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 currently closed but we are exploring reopening it as soon as possible.

See our [Blog](#) for latest news.

Join The
Society

Renew Your Membership