



## February 2021 Announcements



### Representation, Identity, and Diversity

#### Black History Month 2021 Theme is Representation, Identity, and Diversity

This year's theme looks at the black family.

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. You can read more about the origins of this month at [History.com](https://www.history.com).

**Feb 6** - join speakers **Alvis Ward Jr.** and **Felicia Addison**, both of the **African-American Genealogical Society of Northern California** (AAGSNC) for a fascinating primer on the particular joys and challenges of researching African-American family histories. **Hosted by Hayward Area Historical Society**

#### Other sites

- [African American History Month](#)
- [United States Census](#)
- [Association for the Study of African American Life and History](#)



## 2021 is the Year of the Ox

February 16 marks the Lunar New Year in most of Asia.

"The Ox is the second of all zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived to his party. The Ox was about to be the first to arrive, but Rat tricked Ox into giving him a ride. Then, just as they arrived, Rat jumped down and landed ahead of Ox. Thus, Ox became the second animal." -- <https://chinesenewyear.net/zodiac/ox/>

- [Cyndi's List - China, Hong Kong & Taiwan](#)
- [Cyndi's List - Asia & the Pacific](#)
- [FamilySearch - Chinese Genealogy](#)

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### 2021 Board of Directors



- Jim Sorenson - President
- Maureen Hanlon - Vice President
- Matt Berry - Treasurer
- Joanna Shear - Corresponding Secretary
- Stewart Traiman - Recording Secretary
- Linda Okazaki - Past President
- Grant Din
- Jennifer Dix
- Richard Kehoe
- Ron Madson
- Theresa Murphy
- Chris Pattillo
- Adell Treakle

We give a big THANK YOU to departing board members - Arlene Miles and Stacy Hoover Haines

## 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.



### Finding, Reading, and Platting Deeds with Metes and Bounds Workshop with Lisa Gorrell

In this four-session workshop, Lisa Gorrell will feature interactive exploration of websites and records with exercises that will cover the types of deeds found in the original thirteen states including those that were part of Virginia and North Carolina (Tennessee & Kentucky), and those that were independent republics before joining the union (Hawaii and Texas). Attendees will learn the terminology, the components, and the key information to extract. Also, there will be practice in platting a deed.

**Saturday, 2, 9, 16, 23 Feb from 6 - 8:30 pm**



### 2021 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 on the FIRST SATURDAY of every month.

**Saturday, 6 Feb from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm**



### Eastern European Special Interest Group with Craig Siulinski

Come, to a Special Interest Group (SIG) discussion, focused on Eastern European Genealogy. Our group is open to all.

**Saturday, 20 Feb from 1 - 3 pm**



### 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, 20 Feb from 1 - 3 pm**



### 19th Century Irish Records Series with Maureen Hanlon

These five individual sessions will cover Irish research, focusing on records for Irish ancestors who were born in the 19th century and were part of the great migration in its latter half. Each talk will cover where to find particular archives and databases, how to search them, what land designations need to be known, and examples of what can be gleaned. The classes will be most useful for those who know at least the Irish county of origin.

**Saturday, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Mar from 6 - 7:30 pm**



## Volunteers



### Bring bios into the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Do you like books? Do you find family histories fascinating? If so, we have a great pandemic-work-at-home-project for you! We are looking for volunteers to help us tackle some books in the CGS Library that were published prior to 1900.

Individual volunteers are needed to transfer biographical data from the books to a spreadsheet. The information will be added to an online CGS database available to members. Because the CGS Library remains closed (due to the Covid-19 situation), we will personally deliver one of the Library books to your home for indexing. Questions?

Send an email to [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for some answers!

## Meetings & More

### CGS Board

13 February - 10 - 11:30 am

The CGS Board will continue meeting online via Zoom for the duration of the pandemic. Everyone is welcome to attend 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

- [A Comment on comments](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- [In Memoriam: John Bedecarré, 1922-2021](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- [Latest issue of The California Nugget](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- [Recap of the Annual CGS Membership Meeting](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- [Annual Membership Meeting, Saturday, January 9: Live on Zoom](#) -- by Jennifer Dix
- Also, every Sunday our blog now offers a weekly preview of upcoming online genealogy events.

## Other Genealogy Blogs

Last year we started what I hope to make an annual event -- thanking our members by featuring their blogs. This month's "Other Genealogy Blogs" space is dedicated to our member posts over the past three months.

- [26 Black Americans You Don't Know But Should](#) -- by Michelle Darrisaw on Oprah Magazine
- [Tagging and Transcribing the Chinese Exclusion Act Case Files](#) -- National Archives
- [Last thoughts: Planning a genealogy legacy](#) -- by Linda Yip
- [Craft a Citation for your Family History Photos](#) -- by Melissa Corn Finlay
- [How to Search the U.S. National Archives Online Catalog for Genealogy](#) -- by Lisa Cooke
- [6 Tips for Organizing Digital Genealogy Files](#) -- by Rick Crume on *familytree*
- [Who Were the Victims of the 1918 Pandemic?](#) -- by Alison Ensign of FamilySearch
- [Introducing Color Restoration on MyHeritage](#) -- on Ester on MyHeritage News
- [Ancestry deepens focus on Family History; will discontinue AncestryHealth](#) -- on Ancestry.com Blog



Improving Your Genealogical Research Skills  
by James Tanner  
on BYU Family History Library

## 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

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

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

## National & International Conference Schedule

**2021**

[RootsTech 2021](#)

Feb 25 - 27, Salt Lake City, Utah

[Ohio Genealogical Society Conference](#)

April 14 - 17, virtual

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

**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

**41st IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy**

Aug 2-5, Philadelphia

APG Professional Management Conference

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Annual Conference

**Texas State Genealogical Society**

Oct 1-2

**2022**

**Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG)**

**SLIG Academy for Professionals**

**California Genealogical Society**

2201 Broadway, Suite LL2  
Oakland, CA 94612-3031  
(510) 663-1358

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