Update on Reopening of the CGS Library

On March 10, 2021, Alameda County returned to the red tier for COVID-19 restrictions. That change does not allow for the reopening of office spaces, which includes the CGS library. Offices can reopen at 25% capacity in the orange tier if required safety protocols are in place. CGS is following Alameda County announcements and comparing reopening plans with similar organizations. Due to the steps CGS will have to take to comply with safety protocols, our reopening will not occur immediately after the County returns to the orange tier. We will continue to work towards reopening and will keep you updated as to our progress.

As more people are completing their vaccination cycle, it is logical to ask if one’s vaccination status will impact your ability to return to the library. At this point, it is highly unlikely that the County will adjust its restrictions to reflect individual vaccination status in the near term. One reason is that it is unknown if vaccinated individuals can still spread the virus to others. It would also be difficult to administer a system that reflects the haves and have-nots of vaccination.

We know many of you are eager to return to your research at the CGS library. We will do all we can to make sure that happens in an efficient and safe way and look forward to having you visit again.

James Sorenson, CGS President
As a member of the California Genealogical Society, you will receive two issues annually of our peer-reviewed journal - The California Nugget.

**Now The California Nugget is going digital.**

Future Nuggets will now be available in digital format to all members. If you would prefer to stop receiving a paper copy and receive only the electronic version, please click the button below to send us an email.

If you wish to keep receiving your paper copy, there is no need for further action. Members who do not specifically request to switch to digital will continue to receive their Nugget in the mail as usual.

Members, Email us to Go Paperless

Or, Become a Member

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**Expanded Names Search**

Thanks to our wonderful team of CGS indexers, 5000 - 6000 entries have been added to the California Surname Index that was started twenty years ago by member Barbara Close. If you have not checked your family names recently you might want to give it a try and see if we've added someone you're looking for.

Documents that match your search name will appear with a checkbox. Check all the documents you wish then click the ORDER button. Our Research Committee will send you the documents.

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**Classes and SIGs**

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

New in 2021: Live closed captioning and Zoom tutorials. All remote classes will now have live closed captioning. If you feel you need a bit of extra help in either of these areas to have a successful experience with our Zoom events, email events@californiaancestors.org and we will be in touch.

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**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.
Citations: Easier Than You Think
with Stewart Traiman

This class will be based on Tom Jones’ Mastering Genealogical Documentation. Stewart will break down all 17 chapters and provide exercises to improve your citing skills. Attendees will leave with much more confidence in how to craft their own citations for any source.

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!

Family Stories in Cloth
with Jeanie Low

Jeanie Low uses fabrics to create family story quilts. Her talk will focus on how family quilts can start conversations to preserve family legacies. Jeanie will show her family quilts and talk about how she verified the information.

Remembering Our Ancestors in Asian American Cemeteries
with Brandon Wofford-Asuncion

All genealogists will be interested in learning from Brandon Wofford-Asuncion, who has uploaded over 40,000 photos for Find A Grave! His interest in genealogy and cemeteries began when he accompanied his grandmother, Letha Mae Wofford, to a cemetery in her native Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, when he was only seven years old. In the past twenty-one years, he has uploaded tens of thousands of photographs and created virtual cemeteries for Filipino American heroes and pioneers, worked with Chinese American organizations in Stockton and San Francisco to document Chinese cemeteries, found Asian American sections of cemeteries throughout the West Coast, and completely documented multiple cemeteries in California and Oklahoma.

WWII Internment Camps in the U.S.
with Linda Okazaki

After Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941, thousands of Japanese and Japanese Americans were incarcerated in “Internment Camps.” German, Italians, and Latin Americans were also interned. The various sites of confinement and the records created...
will be examined, covering the period of time immediately preceding World War II through resettlement and redress.

**Tuesday, 11 May from 6 - 7:30 pm**

### Eastern European Special Interest Group

**with Craig Siulinski**

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

**Saturday, 15 May from 1 - 3 pm**

### Volunteers

**CGS's Outreach Committee** is searching for volunteers to help us reach people who might not normally be involved with CGS – less-covered communities, people new to genealogy, etc. We meet once a month via Zoom. For more information, please email **Grant Din**.

### Meetings & More

#### CGS Board

10 April - 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 welcome your stories! If you have an idea for a blog post, a family history story you want to share, or would like to be an occasional or even regular guest contributor, please contact Blog Editor **Jennifer Dix**.

- **Reclaim the Records: advocates for genealogy and more** -- by Jennifer Dix
- **Update on Reopening of the CGS Library** -- by Jennifer Dix
Also, every Sunday our blog now offers a weekly preview of upcoming online genealogy events.

- **Limited Seats Open for Virtual Gen-Fed 2021** -- by Gen-Fed Administration
- **Webinar Library: 2021 Joy Reisinger Memorial Lecture Series** -- Six Free Lectures in October
- **Getting Family History Help with Facebook Groups** -- on The Family History Guide Blog
- **The Millennial Generation—Birth Years, Characteristics, and History** -- by David Nielsen on FamilySearch
- **Join Us for the Second Annual 24-Hour Genealogy Webinar Marathon** -- by Talya on MyHeritage Blog
- **How to Find Photos of Any NYC Street Corner With OldNYC** -- by Rikki Schlott-Gibeaux on NYG&B
- **Celebrating Irish Americans: The Fenian Brotherhood** -- by Jkratz at the National Archives
- **Exploring Modern Genealogy with Kenyatta Berry** -- by Amy Johnson Crow

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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](https://www.conferencekeeper.org).

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### Local Events

- **Family History Library Webinar Series**
- **Bay Area Genealogy Calendar**
  maintained by the Sutro Library
All events are subject to cancellation during this global pandemic emergency. Please check with each event’s website prior to making plans to attend.

### 2021

**Ohio Genealogical Society Conference**  
April 14 - 17

**National Genealogical Society**  
May 19 - 20

**Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh** (GRIP)  
June 20 - 25 & July 11 - 16

**Midwest African American Genealogy Institute** (MAAGI)  
July 6 - 8

**2021 International German Genealogy Conference**  
July 17 - 24

**Genealogical Institute on Federal Records** (Gen-Fed)  
July 19 - 24

**The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research** (IGHR)  
July 25 - 30

**41st IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy**  
Aug 2-5

**Texas State Genealogical Society**  
Oct 1-2

### 2022

**Salt Lake Genealogical Institute** (SLIG)  
SLIG Academy for Professionals

**RootsTech 2022**
The library is (usually) open Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Due to concerns over COVID-19, the CGS library is currently closed but we are exploring reopening it as soon as possible.

See our Blog for the latest news.