



# California Genealogical Society

CaliforniaAncestors.org

eNews

Since 1898

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## December 2022 Announcements



Can you believe 2022 has almost come to an end? We hope that the year has brought you connection, warmth, and good memories. We certainly enjoyed spending time with many of you in the CGS library, in our online Zoom events, and at the National Genealogical Society conference. We look forward to seeing even more of you in 2023!

Starting in January, our library will be open on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Please visit our website to

see the latest updates

see the latest updates.

When setting your goals for the next year, be sure to tuck in a couple of genealogy tasks so you can keep building and preserving your family tree. Our board members are setting goals to scan photos, write down memories, and expand our knowledge of genealogical records. As always, feel free to ask [our Research Services team](#) for help if you find yourself a little stuck. We're here for you!

**COVID update:** We are no longer required to disinfect, limit capacity, enforce distancing, or require masking in the library. While the current infection rates are low in Alameda County, the California Genealogical Society still wants to provide the safest conditions for our volunteers and patrons, so we strongly recommend wearing a mask while visiting our library. We may return to requiring masks, if warranted by county or state regulations or by an increase in the case count for Alameda County. Members do not have to register on Fridays. Non-members should visit our web page to register.

Thanks for your cooperation and please visit!

The 2022 Nominating Committee – Joanna Shear, Kathleen Beitiks, and Linda Okazaki – has proposed one new board nominee, **Keith Montgomery**, for the term 2023-2025. The candidate was presented to and accepted by the board at the October meeting. Nominations will be presented at the Annual Business Meeting on 14 January 2023 where the general membership will vote upon the full slate of directors.

**Keith R Montgomery** has been a member of CGS since 2015. He sits on numerous CGS committees, including Technology, Digital Archives, Education and Events, Reopening, and Finance and participates in many CGS SIG groups, especially those involving computer technology. A former editor of the newsletter for Clan Montgomery Society, he helps other members with genealogical records, and has been administrator of the Montgomery Genealogy Facebook page for the past 13 years. He's active with DNA research on family and helps others in their work. Now living in Albany, CA, Keith grew up in New Mexico and attended the University of Colorado. He's a retired Hotel Controller and worked in downtown Oakland for many years. He's passionate about traveling as much as possible and enjoys taking five-mile walks along the bay with friends.



#### Status of other board members:

- Continuing in their first terms are Jacqueline Threet Henderson, Carly Morgan, Roger Prince, Cindy Kim Thomson, Evan Wilson, and Larry Youngman.
- Continuing in their second terms are Grant Din and Joanna Shear.
- Proposed nominations for their second terms are Ron Madson and Adelle Treakle.
- Continuing in her third term is Chris Pattillo.
- Proposed nominations for their third terms are Matt Berry, Jennifer Dix, and James Sorenson.

## Classes and SIGs

We are extremely pleased to continue to offer our ONLINE classes. Register on [Eventbrite](#).

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](mailto:events@californiaancestors.org) and we will be in touch.



## 2022 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, 3 Dec from 10 am - noon**



### Round Table

Facilitated by Jacqueline Henderson and Lisa Gorrell, CG

This group is for CGS Members to connect. It is a venue where attendees can share things they've learned or found. Often this sparks ideas for others on their own research. It is also a great way to brainstorm ideas for new avenues of research when you get stumped.

2nd Wednesday of each month, next on **14 Dec from 6:30 - 8 pm**  
Email [Jacqueline](#) or [Lisa](#) for a link to the Zoom meeting.



### RootsMagic Users Group - SIG

Users of Roots Magic will meet to discuss helpful hints for using the software.

**Wednesday, 28 Dec from 6:30 pm**  
We meet on the 4th Wednesdays



### 2023 CGS Annual Membership Meeting

Please join us for the 2023 CGS Annual Membership Meeting. The meeting will begin at 10 AM, PST. During the meeting we will vote on the slate of nominees to the board and the 2023 budget. We will also review the 2022 activities and plans for 2023.

**Saturday, 14 Jan from 10 am - Noon**



### Organize Your Family History Research

Presented by Linda Harms Okazaki

Researching your family history is a labor of love. But do you sometimes feel like you are drowning under a pile of paper, have no idea what to do with all your findings, or worse, can't find those records on your hard

drive? There are as many ways to organize your data as there are researchers. The only “right” way to organize your genealogy is to do it in a way that you will consistently follow! Genealogist and past CGS president, Linda Harms Okazaki, will help you tackle that growing mountain of data. She will share strategies to help you start your research, keep track of your findings, and establish naming conventions for both digital and paper files.

**Tuesday, 31 Jan at 6 pm**



### Eastern European Special Interest Group

Hosted by Craig Siulinski

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

**Saturday, 25 Feb 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!



### DNA Skills - SIG

The DNA Skills Special Interest Group will continue to develop their understanding of DNA techniques, review new developments in DNA testing and tools, and discuss member's research problems and case studies.

*Prerequisite: Completion of CGS DNA Series or equivalent DNA class / experience. Must have uploaded DNA test results at one of the common DNA websites.*

Please contact Mark McLaren at [greatscot@earthlink.net](mailto:greatscot@earthlink.net).

## San Francisco SIG

The California Genealogical Society is interested in reconstituting the **San Francisco SIG monthly meetings** in person at the library or joining virtually using Zoom.

If you are interested in participating in this group meeting we'd like to hear from you, please send an email to the host at [sfsig@californiaancestors.org](mailto:sfsig@californiaancestors.org) to express your interest in reconvening. If there is sufficient interest, the meeting dates and time will

be scheduled and announced in the CGS eNews, and the websites Eventbrite and the Bay Area Genealogy Calendar.



## Volunteers



Thinking about making a New Year's Resolution to volunteer at CGS? If so, get a jump on volunteering in 2023 - take a look at these current opportunities:

***The CGS Membership Team Needs You!*** - Are you someone with decent organizational skills and enjoys meeting other genealogy enthusiasts? If so, the CGS Membership Committee would love to have you on board! Basically, the Membership Committee is looking for a volunteer to assist them with some office tasks. Ideally, a new volunteer would be available to come into the library a few hours at a time, twice a month - and preferably on weekends (free parking!). However, if such a generous volunteer is only available on weekdays, it can be arranged. Training will be provided. Interested?

### ***Looking for a Manuscript Volunteer***

Do you enjoy discovering a family's treasures? Looking through old photographs and naturalization papers? If so, consider joining the CGS Manuscripts Committee! One of the wonderful things about the CGS Library is that we receive donations of personal genealogical papers. Committee members review and organize these papers. Most of the Committee work is done at the Library. Training will be provided. Committee members spend about 3 hours at the Library, once a week.

Questions? Need more information? Send an email to **Kathleen Beitiks**.

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**We've missed you!**  
**Our holiday volunteer potluck is back!**

Current president, Jim Sorenson, and past president, Linda Okazaki, cordially invite you to an informal holiday gathering of CGS volunteers, past, present, and potential.

Sunday December 4  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
In Lafayette

Come join your friends and meet other volunteers

Please bring a dish to share

Please bring a dish to share  
Fruit, appetizers, bread, dessert, beverage – whatever suits your fancy  
Sign up [HERE](#) or contact [Linda Okazaki](#) for directions

Guests must be vaccinated.  
Bring a sweater as windows will be open; if the weather is nice, we can celebrate outdoors.

## Meetings & More

### CGS Board Meeting - 10 December

The CGS Board will meet online via Zoom. 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
- Old Business
- New Business



If you would like to host a Special Interest Group, please contact [Jacqueline Henderson](#).

## Blogs and Videos

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](#).



### From the California Genealogical Society

- [Protect Yourself Against Email Fraud](#)
- [CGS Committees: Education and Events](#)
- [CGS Committees: Development and Member Services](#)

### Other Genealogy Resources

- [New WorldCat.org connects genealogy enthusiasts, educators, and historians to the world's libraries](#)
- [First Ancestor Pedigree Format Helps Those with Chinese and Korean Ancestry](#) -- by René Hong for FamilySearch Blog
- [Investigative genealogy helped FBI identify Lady of the Dunes](#) -- CBS Boston



Explore the California Genealogical Society Library  
Hosted by Chris Pattillo

## 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).

# *AppGen*

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## INSTITUTE

The Spring 2023 courses for Applied Genealogy Institute have been announced. The window for registration for AppGen Spring 2023 will open 18-24 January 2023. Registration is a random draw, not “first come first served.”

- Applied Genetic Genealogy, Leah Larkin, Ph.D.
- Criminal Records, Michelle Bates
- Just Do It! Self-Publishing Your Family History, Jill Morelli, CG, CGL
- Ontario: Research in the Trillium Province, Kathryn Hogan
- Records After Death: Wills, Probate & the Process, Lisa Gorrell, CG

Don't forget to sign up for the AppGenMailing List to get the latest news and reminders.

## 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. Please check with each event's website prior to making plans to attend.

**2023**

[Salt Lake Genealogical Institute \(SLIG\)](#)  
January 23 - 27

[SLIG Academy for Professionals](#)  
February 9 - April 28

[RootsTech 2023](#)  
March 2 - 4

[Ohio Genealogical Society Conference](#)  
April 26 - 29

[National Genealogical Society](#)  
May 31 - June 3

[Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh \(GRIP\)](#)  
June 18 - 23 (virtual) and July 19 - 24

[Midwest African American Genealogy Institute \(MAAGI\)](#)

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

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

[42nd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy](#)

## California Genealogical Society

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Contact Us Via  
Email



The library is open Wednesday through Friday by [appointment](#). If you are a CGS member, you do not need to make an appointment to visit on Fridays.

*We are no longer required to disinfect, limit capacity, enforce distancing, or require masking in the library. While the current infection rates are low in Alameda County, the California Genealogical Society still wants to provide the safest conditions for our volunteers and patrons, so we strongly recommend wearing a mask while visiting our library. We may return to requiring masks, if warranted by county or state regulations or by an increase in the case count for Alameda County.*



Members do not have to register on Fridays. Non-members should visit our web page to register. We look forward to having you come and access our collections and online subscriptions.

[Join The Society](#)

[Renew Your Membership](#)