What will you do this year? What will you learn? How will you grow? Whatever your goals are for your family history, CGS is here to support you!

Starting in January, our library is open on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Please visit our website to see the latest updates.

Annual Membership Meeting

Join us on Saturday, January 14th, at 10 A.M. for the CGS Annual Membership Meeting.
We'll be talking about our anniversary events and programming, as well as other exciting things happening this year. A limited number of attendees are welcome to join us in person in the CGS library in Oakland or you can join us on Zoom from the comfort of your home.

Register for the meeting here.

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.

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!
Classes and SIGs

We are pleased to continue to offer our classes and special interest groups. We have online classes available as well as some opportunities to meet in-person. Please visit our Events and Education page to learn more.

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.

2023 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, 7 Jan 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 11 Jan from 6:30 - 8 pm
Email Jacqueline or Lisa for a link to the Zoom meeting.

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

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 Jan at 12 pm
Users of Roots Magic will meet to discuss helpful hints for using the software.

**Wednesday, 25 Jan from 6:30 pm**
We meet on the 4th Wednesdays

---

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**

---

Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist  
Presented by Annette Burke Lyttle

How do we know if the facts we’ve uncovered about our ancestors are correct? How do we avoid attaching somebody else’s ancestors to our family tree? The Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) is our guide to producing reliable research results. This introduction to the Genealogical Proof Standard will get your research moving in the right direction and help you avoid errors and frustration.

**Saturday, 25 Feb at 10 am**

---

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**

---

Why They Left, Where They Went, and What Their Journeys Can Reveal  
Presented by Pam Vestal

Why did our ancestors leave their homes? Why did they settle where they did? Why was it important for them to make that journey? The motivations for leaving their homes can be as varied as the people themselves, and analyzing their journey can reveal much about their lives and circumstances before, during, and after the move. In this session, we will discuss various ways to research the reasons behind the move of your ancestors and interpret the evidence to gain a fuller understanding of their lives.

**Saturday, 25 Feb from 10 - Noon**
did? Using unexpected records, social history, the law, and more, we'll discover the secrets our ancestors' migrations can reveal as we track them from place to place, across the ocean, across the country, even across town!

Saturday, 11 Mar at 1 pm

### 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.

### 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 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

It seems hard to believe that the beginning of 2023 is upon us. January is a good time for CGS members to start thinking about adding "volunteer at CGS" to their New Year's resolution list. If you have been thinking about contributing some of your time and talent to our 125-year-old organization, take a look at our list of Volunteer Opportunities.

See something that looks interesting? Want more information about a particular volunteer position? Contact Kathleen Beitiks if you have any questions about CGS volunteer opportunities.

Remember - CGS has been around since 1898 and is operated solely by volunteers!
Meetings & More

CGS Annual Membership Meeting - 14 January

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.

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.

- 2022 Annual Appeal
- CGS Committees: Manuscripts, Vertical Files, Special Projects
- Photos from the Volunteer Holiday Potluck

From the California Genealogical Society

- 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

Other Genealogy Resources
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.

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

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

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.