

California Genealogical Society

CaliforniaAncestors.org

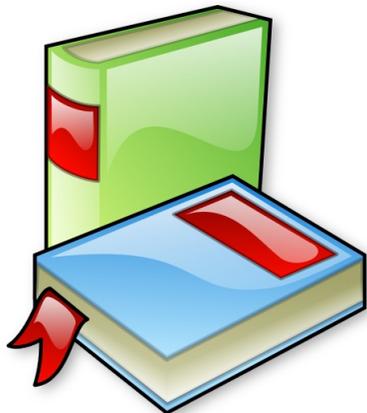
eNews

Since 1898

March, Vol. 17, No. 3

March 2023 Announcements

We're so happy to announce that 2023 has brought us the election of Chris Pattillo as the new President of CGS. She had a special message of thanks for outgoing President Jim Sorenson, who took up his post in Summer 2019. Jim has ably led the society for the past two and a half years through the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges. We owe him a debt of gratitude.



Something New Is Happening at the Oakland FamilySearch Center!

This year CGS and FamilySearch volunteers are introducing weekly "Tips and Talk" sessions on Wednesdays beginning in March. *These discussions will be free to all!*

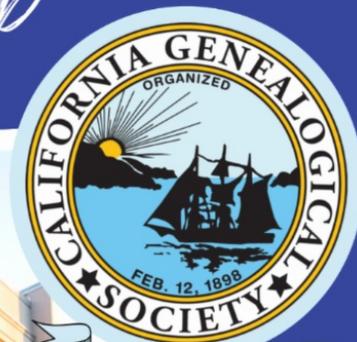
They will be one hour long at 11:00am and repeated again at 7:00 pm. Each Wednesday will have a different focus.

We hope you will come early and stay after the group to have additional hands on assistance to take advantage of the amazing resources at OFSC.

- March 1st - "Got Questions?" Discussion Group led by Jane Lindsey
- March 8th - "Beginning FamilySearch and Recent Changes to FamilySearch" led by Kim Miller
- March 15th - "Overview of AncestryInstitution and Using RecordSeek" led by Kathi Robertson
- March 22nd - "Finding the Homeland of Your Immigrant Ancestors" led by Jane Lindsey
- March 29th - "Intro to Genealogy" led by Lavinia Schwartz and Jennifer Dix

SALT LAKE CITY

Research Trip



125th Anniversary
1898-2023



6 Days

For Just

\$1050 /Person

\$1500 for single occupancy
Airfare not included

More Information at
CaliforniaAncestors.org

We are happy to announce the revival of **our annual society research trip to the FamilySearch Library** (formerly called the Family History Library) in Salt Lake City.

The trip includes:

- five-night stay at the Radisson Hotel
- five days of uninterrupted research at the largest genealogical library in the world
- pre-trip meeting and consultation
- guided tour of the library
- research assistance by [Evan Wilson](#) and [Stewart Traiman](#)
- daily hotel breakfast
- two group dinners at local restaurants

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, 4 Mar 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 **8 Mar from 6:30 - 8 pm**
Email [Jacqueline](#) or [Lisa](#) for a link to the Zoom meeting.



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? 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



San Francisco Irish in the late 1800's: The Story of My Great-Grandparents Presented by Maureen Hanlon

Maureen Hanlon will share her family research as they immigrated from Ireland to San Francisco. In 1880, the population of Irish emigrants in San Francisco was almost a third of the city. Many had come during Gold Rush times and were establishing themselves and helping to transform the village to a city. Three of Maureen's grandparents were Irish and their stories reflect the experience of many others like them. They also parallel the origin in 1898 of CGS.

Thursday, 16 Mar at 1 pm

Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group

Hosted by Ron Madson and Karen Halfon



Hosted by Ron Madsen and Karen Halton

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, 18 Mar from 1-3 pm



RootsMagic Users Group - SIG

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

Wednesday, 22 Mar from 6:30 pm

We meet on the 4th Wednesdays



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 Mar from 10 - Noon



Uncover Your Family's Story Using the Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

Hosted by Allen County Public Librarian Elizabeth Hodges

Learn about the free PERSI index from the Genealogy Center. Recently made free to the public, the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) is the premier subject index for genealogy and local history periodicals, and is produced by the staff of The Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library.

Saturday, 29 Apr from 10 am



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 CGS library or joining online using the Zoom app.

If you are interested in participating in this group meeting, we'd like to hear from you. Please email the host at sfsig@californiaancestors.org to express your interest in reconvening. If there is sufficient interest, the meeting dates and times will be scheduled and announced in the CGS e-News, CGS website (californiaancestors.org), Bay Area Genealogy Calendar, and Eventbrite. Eventbrite registration is required if attending in person.



SF-SIG Meeting Description: Whether you're just starting out researching your family history or have been searching for years and need ideas on how to get past brick walls or are interested in finding your ancestors' records pre and post-1906, including those gold rush pioneers, and ancestors in and around the San Francisco Bay Area, join the conversation with us at the CGS library hybrid meetings where you will be guided in building skills to uncover information that leads to creating a more complete family story.

Lead: Sandra Huber

Meeting Time: To be determined.

Contact: sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.

Swedish SIG

Do you know how to start researching your Swedish ancestors? Do you know how to access Swedish archives? Have you hit a brick wall with your research? Would you like to help others with their research? How about joining a Special Interest Group (SIG) and working with like-minded people researching their Swedish ancestors?

If you are interested in joining a group to help you with your Swedish research, contact Sven-Ovo Westberg at sow@grels.net and let him know of your interest. He has some great ideas and would love to lead a group interested in Swedish genealogy.

Lead: Sven-Ove Westberg

Format: Hybrid (online and in-person)

Meeting Time: To be determined based on interest

Contact: sow@grels.net for more information.

Volunteers

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 [Sheri Fenley](#) if you have any questions about CGS volunteer opportunities.



Remember - CGS has been around since 1898 and is operated solely by volunteers. We couldn't do it without you!



Meetings & More

CGS Monthly Board Meeting - 11 March

The CGS Board will meet online via Zoom and in-person at the PGA Design Building in Downtown Oakland. Members are welcome to attend. Please register in advance and 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 to the online meeting.



In-person location: the Offices of PGAdesign at 444 17th Street, just off Broadway and at the 19th Street BART exit

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

- [Report from the 2023 Annual Membership Meeting](#)
- [CGS Committees: Facilities](#)
- [Mayflower Descendants SIG](#)

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](#)

The Sonoma County Genealogical Society presents
Lisa Gorrell: Fleshing Out Your Family Using City Directories

City directories are a wonderful source to help fill in details of your ancestors' lives. Where they lived in small towns or large cities. Not only did the directories give addresses and, in later years, phone numbers but also occupations and much more. Hear about how to use the directories and where to locate them.

Lisa is a Certified Genealogist®, a graduate of the ProGen program, and an alumnus of many genealogical institutes. She teaches genealogy courses, lectures to societies, and researches for others. She served on the boards of the California and Contra Costa County Genealogical Societies and is currently the Sonoma County Genealogical Society board. She enjoys writing about her family on two blogs: "Mam-ma's Southern Family" and "My Trails into the Past".

Saturday, March 18th
Meeting begins at noon; Presentation at 1:00 p.m.
Free. Everyone is welcome. On Zoom.
Register at <https://www.scgsonline.org>

National & International Conference Schedule

All events are subject to cancellation. Please check with each event's website prior to making plans to attend.

2023

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

Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG)



The library is open Wednesday through Friday (10-2) and the 3rd Saturday (10-4) 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](#)