



Since 1898

April, Vol. 17, No. 4

April 2023 Announcements

No Reservations Needed!

Starting April 3
Visit the Library during open hours

Email
visit@californiaancestors.org
to let us know you are coming

Welcome back to the library

Given the end of the COVID emergency period and related restrictions, the California Genealogical Society library is returning to most of its pre-pandemic policies and procedures. We're pleased this coincides with our 125th anniversary.

Beginning the week of April 3, Eventbrite **reservations will no longer be needed to visit the library** during its open hours, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 am to 2 pm and on the third Saturday of the month from 10 am to 4 pm. (NOTE: Visits are free for members and non-members can pay the \$5 fee at time of the visit or join and have the fee applied to membership cost.)

To make this work for our dedicated volunteers who come in just for you, we hope those planning to go to the library will let us know by sending an email to visit@californiaancestors.org no later than 7 pm the night before your visit.

We are also returning the computers and small printer that were moved to their spaces and removing the plastic shields at the front desk. Did you know a new scanner has been added with easy to follow instructions?

We hope to see you at the library where there are 38,000 plus books, periodicals, manuscripts, pedigree charts and vertical files awaiting discovery. Many of our county books related to California have been linked to our **California Names Index**. Check to see if you find an ancestor now listed with code BIO2. And, during the pandemic, the library received several donations of new books from different donors. The library committee members are processing and adding to our collections. So, when you come in, be sure to check the stacks for the counties you are interested in. You might find something new has been added



Something New Is Happening at the Oakland FamilySearch Center!

CGS and FamilySearch volunteers have introduced weekly “Tips and Talk” sessions on Wednesdays. ***These discussions are free to all!***

They are one hour long and are given at 11:00am and repeated 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.

- April 5th - "Got Questions?" Questions welcomed to help you with your genealogy projects.
- April 12th - FamilySearch.org topics - *How do you do that in FamilySearch? Some questions and answers.*
- April 19th - Free subscription databases at OFSC - *Tips for using MyHeritage*
- April 26th - General Genealogy Topics - *What you can do with your autosomal DNA results*

SALT LAKE CITY
Research Trip

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, 1 Apr from 10 am to 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 **12 Apr from 6:30 - 8 pm**
Email [Jacqueline](#) or [Lisa](#) for a link to the Zoom meeting.



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, 15 Apr from 1 to 3 pm



RootsMagic Users Group - SIG

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

Wednesday, 26 Apr from 6:30 pm

We meet on the 4th Wednesdays



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 to 11 am



**Excel for Genealogy Workshop
Led by Stewart Traiman**

Laying out genealogy facts in Excel can help researchers see gaps in knowledge or correlations between data points. Breakthroughs can easily happen by visualizing data in spreadsheets. Stewart shows many examples of his use of spreadsheets to track newspaper clippings, a vital records catalog, tracking ancestor addresses over time, and tracking whole families over many censuses. Stewart will teach how to use Excel filter, sort, color code, calculations, and many other functions. Spreadsheets are fun!

Saturday, 13 May from 1 to 4 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, 17 Jun from 10 am to Noon



**Tax Records: More Exciting Than You Might Think
Presented by Annette Burke Lyttle**

Tax records can help us locate our ancestors in place and time. They can tie our ancestors to land or confirm for us that an ancestor did not own land. They can help us follow ancestral migrations and separate same-named persons. Sometimes they can help us pinpoint a death date or timeframe. Tax records can act as censuses between the censuses. The variety of taxes levied by governments at all levels has left a rich record of our ancestors' lives and their sometimes-changing fortunes.

Saturday, 24 Jun from 10 to 11:30 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 - 8 April

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

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

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

SONOMA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

THE ANNUAL SPRING SEMINAR

Join now and the Seminar is FREE!

Saturday, April 15th, 2023 - 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Presented Virtually Via Zoom

PRE-REGISTRATION: **FREE** for SCGS Members
\$30 for Non-Members

For More Information or To Register Online:
<https://www.scgsonline.org/event-5183541>

Four Fabulous Presenters!

- ⇒ Cari A. Taplin, Using Timelines and Tables to Analyze Your Research
- ⇒ Jill Morelli, Finding Dirk: Insanity in the 19th Century
- ⇒ LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, Planning Genealogical Research
- ⇒ Thomas W. Jones, The Jones Jinx: Tracing Common Surnames

National & International Conference Schedule

[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 \(MAAGI\)](#)

All events are subject to cancellation.

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

[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 \(SLIG\)](#)

[RootsTech 2024](#)

February 29 - March 2

California Genealogical Society

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

Contact Us Via Email



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[Join The Society](#)

[Renew Your Membership](#)

California Genealogical Society | 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, CA 94612

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