



California Genealogical Society

CaliforniaAncestors.org

eNews

Since 1898

August, Vol. 17, No. 8

Come see us on Saturday!

Hooray! Saturdays are available at the CGS library for research, meetings and more.

As of July 1, we have resumed staffing the CGS library on all Saturdays and also continue to have hours on Thursdays and Fridays. We will not continue having hours on Wednesday.

Hours are on Thursdays and Fridays will be 10 am to 2 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm.

No Eventbrite reservations or emails are needed for research visits. If you are planning to attend an event such as a Special Interest Group, see our calendar and sign up. Also look for social events this fall.

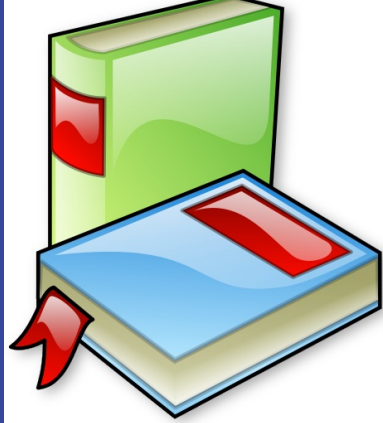
NOTE: The building does not circulate outside air on weekends. We do use a fan and circulate the air inside the library.



We'd like to welcome new members **Sandra Sawyer** and **Serena Knowles** to the California Genealogical Society!

Tips and Talk

Tips and Talk classes at the Oakland Family Search Center are catching on and we hope to see you there soon!



These discussions are free to all! They are one hour long and will be given only at 11:00am for the months of July and August. Each Wednesday will have a different focus.

Come early and stay after for additional hands-on assistance and to take advantage of the amazing resources at OFSC.

- **August 2nd - "Got Questions?"** - Come and get answers to your genealogical questions. Bring your lunch and continue the discussion! Jane Lindsey and others will be there to share information.
- **August 9th - FamilySearch.org topics - "Improbable Connections"** DON'T MISS THIS SPECIAL EVENT! The presenters, one white and one black, began a collaborative research mission to identify a common ancestor in central Virginia. They will discuss the historical context, their findings, and the meaning and value of their story for genealogical research and education. Patricia Smith Jenkins retired from UC Berkeley as a Manager of the Early Childhood Education Program. Martha A. Jessup is a family historian, retired research scientist, and Professor Emeritus of nursing, from the University of California San Francisco.
- **August 16th - Free subscription databases at OFSC- "Fold 3 Military Records"** If you want to find a record of your American or British ancestor's military service, Fold3 is the first place you should go. Owned by Ancestry, Fold3 is a vast online collection of military records and other historical documents and photographs. The site is much more than a fancy search box, however: it allows you to filter by conflict, country, and military branch, and to browse records by military unit and place. These features allow you to deepen your historical understanding and learn what you don't yet know you don't know. Join us for this overview of Fold3 and demonstration of how it can deepen your research or help you break through that brick wall. Evan Wilson is a professional genealogist who specializes in the Southern US, DNA, and brick walls. What he brings to this topic is not an expertise in military research, but rather a love of research and of the tools that help us learn about the past.
- **August 23rd - General Genealogy Topics - "Beginning Your German Genealogy"** Wherever you are in your ancestral journey, your challenges are shared by others. Exchanging and discussing these challenges can open new pathways through your brick wall as well as inspire the voyages of your fellow researchers. Among essential and perennial topics: discovering the villages of origin of your German ancestors and then using those discoveries to access centuries of records in German archives, now increasingly online, to build family trees of astonishing depth and detail. We'll address these and other issues in general and focus as well on your specific challenges. Robert Jackson, Harvard history PhD, has been engaged in German research for decades and looks forward to discussing your questions, ideas, and theories.
- **August 30th -- General Genealogy Topics -- "Beyond Online Resources: Other Places to Look for Your Family"** So much information is online today but there are many other resources that can be useful to advance your research. Join Jane Lindsey as she describes "offline" resources and encourages you to walk away from the computer and discover places that hold a wealth of information that can grow your family tree.

Improbable Connections

The presenters, one white and one black, began a collaborative research mission to identify a common ancestor in central Virginia. Coursing through three generations of slavery, they discovered eight paths of connection. They will discuss the historical context, their findings, and the meaning and value of their story for genealogical research and education.

Patricia Smith Jenkins retired from UC Berkeley as a Manager of the Early Childhood Education Program. Pat spends her free time researching family history and encouraging others to do the same. Pat facilitates monthly research and discussion groups for the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California and the Oakland California FamilySearch Center.

Martha A. Jessup is a family historian, retired research scientist, and Professor Emeritus of nursing, from the University of California San Francisco. A 2017 trip to Virginia led her to an unknown great-aunt who was buried in the cemetery of a Black church and where she found family from the community of Shores, Virginia. Marty conducts research on the people enslaved by her ancestors and her connections to those family lines.

When: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 11 a.m. - 12 noon

Where: Oakland FamilySearch Center – 4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, California [*located just below the Visitors' Center*]



Library Scavenger Hunt

Come to the CGS Library on Saturday, August 12 at 1pm for light refreshments and a library scavenger hunt! Feel free to bring a friend; this event is not just open to CGS members. Attendees are encouraged to come to the library early or stay late to do research. There will be a suggested donation of \$5 to cover refreshments.

Evan Wilson, the organizer of this event, is the Recording Secretary of CGS and a professional genealogist at Ancestry®. He's also helping to lead the CGS research trip to the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City in October.

Contact Evan with any questions at ewilson@californiaancestors.org.

CGS might be turning 125 this year, but we're looking to the future. The CGS board recently approved having John Ralls, chair of the Technology Committee, upgrade our wifi to further improve our hybrid capabilities (i.e. prevent us from losing our internet connection mid-session). We want to make sure we stay as connected with our community as possible so we are not cutting corners with this one. The total anticipated cost is about \$4000, but it's going to be worth it!

Will you help by donating to support these state-of-the-art improvements?



Research Trip - ONLY A FEW SPACES LEFT!!

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 is mostly full - just a few spots left!

[Registration](#) /// [More information](#)

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

Join us on location

Come take a tour of Mountain View Cemetery and get tips for photographing the graves of your ancestors for posterity.

Sunday, 13 Aug from 10 am - 12 pm



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, 5 Aug 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 [9 Aug from 6:30 - 8 pm](#)
Email [Jacqueline](#) or [Lisa](#) for a link to the Zoom meeting.

Photographing Gravestones and a Tour of Mountain View Cemetery



Join us on location for a photo workshop and tour of the Mountain View



Cemetery.

Sunday, 13 Aug from 10 am to 12 pm



Mayflower Descendants Special Interest Group

Hosted by Robert Trapp

The Mayflower Descendants SIG focuses initially on Mayflower ancestry and how to join The Society of California Mayflower Descendants. The group discusses research in New England, parts of Canada and the upper Atlantic seaboard states. If interested, contact Robert Trapp at r1946at@aol.com.

Friday, 18 Aug from 10:30 am to 11:30 am



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, 19 Aug from 1 to 3 pm



San Francisco Special Interest Group

Hosted by Sandra Huber

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 in and around the San Francisco Bay Area, join the conversation with us to uncover information and create a more complete family story. If you are interested in joining the SF SIG, please send an email to SFSIG@californiaancestors.org.

Saturday, 19 Aug at 10 am



RootsMagic Users Group - SIG

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

Wednesday, 23 Aug from 6:30 to 8 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.

This meeting will be hybrid with some time for social activity before the meeting starts.

Saturday, 26 Aug from 1 pm to 3 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.

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**.

We are in need of Desk Duty volunteers! Our wonderful Desk Duty helpers let us keep the library open for visitors and are an important part of what we do here at CGS. Don't worry, we give you all of the training and information you need, so if you'd like to spend a little more time in the library, we'd love to have you!

See something else that looks interesting? Want more information about a particular volunteer position? Contact Volunteers@californiaancestors.org if you have any questions about CGS volunteer opportunities.

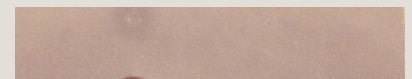
Remember - CGS has been around since 1898 and is operated solely by volunteers. We couldn't do it without you!

WHERE WAS YOUR FAMILY IN 1898?

CGS celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, and we'd like to invite you to share stories of your ancestors from 125 years ago. This is a great opportunity to showcase our diverse histories. Please consider contributing even just a few sentences addressing the who, what, where, and why of your family history.

You might consider:

- Where was my ancestor or ancestors in 1898?
- What were they doing? (in their personal or professional lives)
- What was the context of this moment in your family history?
- i.e., an ancestor was born, married, or died; had recently



immigrated or was getting ready to move; was running a family business; had recently lived through a big event, or would soon face a turn of events that would influence their lives.

We will share these stories in the Fall 2023 issue of *The California Nugget*. To share a story, or for more information, contact nugget@californiaancestors.org



Members only!

Check out the new [Tech Talks](#) on the CGS website, an ongoing set of videos about how to use and benefit from CGS technology, including:

- [Intro to Google Drive](#)
- [Google Drive Files](#)
- [File Sharing](#)

Meetings & More

[CGS Monthly Board Meeting - 12 Aug at 10am](#)

The CGS Board will meet online via Zoom and in-person at the CGS Library 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 CGS Library at 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, CA 94612-3031

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

- [This was the scene at the 2023 Genie Awards](#)
- [More about the “Tips & Talk” at OFSC](#)
- [From the Archives - A Remembrance: Dr. Eugene Peck](#)

Events & Conferences

Applied Genealogy Institute Fall Registration will open August 17-23, 2023.

The registration period is one week and a lottery system is used when courses are over-subscribed.

Five courses are available:

- [Applied Genetic Genealogy](#) -- Leah Larkin, PhD
- [Public Speaking for Genealogists](#) – Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD
- [Transportation Nation: An Exploration of U.S. Routes & Records for Work and Travel in the 19th to Early 20th Centuries](#) – Pamela Vittorio
- [Using Land Records to Solve Genealogical Problems](#) – Lisa S. Gorrell, CG
- [Writing Reports: For Clients, Family Members, Other Researchers, and Yourself](#)– Sara Gredler, CG

[AppGen](#) provides the student with a unique online genealogy education experience with a high degree of instructor-student interaction utilizing a practicum-based approach. The founders believe that “Learn by Doing” is a more effective way to gain knowledge by putting those newly learned skills to use immediately.

Class size is small (15 maximum). All assigned student homework is commented on by the instructor. Courses are 4-5 weeks long which gives time to study and process each week’s information and to do the exercises.

For detailed information about each class and how to register, check out <https://appliedgen.institute/fall-2023-classes/>. Be sure to sign up for the mailing list to get up-to-date information about upcoming courses.

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

National &

[Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh \(GRIP\)](#)

June 18 - 23 (virtual) and July 19 - 24

International Conference Schedule

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

[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 \(SLIG\)](#)

[RootsTech 2024](#)

February 29 - March 2

[Ohio Genealogical Society Conference](#)

[National Genealogical Society](#)

California Genealogical Society

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

Contact Us Via
Email



Our library is open **Thursday and Friday from 10 am to 2 pm** and **Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm**

See **Directions and Parking** for info on Saturday visits, which have different procedures than weekdays.

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.

Join The
Society

Renew Your Membership