Thank you for celebrating with us!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our 125th Anniversary Celebration! We feel very lucky to be part of an organization with such a rich history and vibrant community of friends.

We had a number of CGS Presidents in attendance, past and present. Left to right: Chris Pattillo, Jim Sorenson, Vicky Kolakowski, Linda Okazaki, Jeff Vaillant, Steve Harris, Jane Lindsey

We'd like to welcome new members to the California Genealogical Society!
NOVEMBER

NOTE: OFSC will be closed Nov 19th-25th for Thanksgiving Week

**Wednesday November 1st** 11:00 am **Note: This Basics of DNA class is Today!** Sue Severson will present “Basics of DNA” in preparation for a 2 part series in early spring!

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION (TODAY!) Wednesday November 1st** 6:00 pm Barbara Tien, ringleader at ProjectKin, will help you learn how to turn your family history projects into thoughtful gifts using a “Two Views” approach. Come and receive a “recipe” for reproducing your project as a framed art piece and a digital twin!

**Tuesdays November 7th & 28th** 11:00 am The FamilySearch Skills sessions will continue with Denise Plaskett. The session on the 7th is on record hints, attaching sources, and notes. The session on the 28th is on memories, uploading and tagging photos, and adding documents.

**Wednesday November 15th** 11:00 am Expand Your Family Tree with the help of OFSC volunteers. Hands-on help on any topic.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION Wednesday November 15th** 6:00 pm Well known lecturer, CGS member, and OFSC volunteer Lisa Gorrell will present “How to Leave Your Genealogy: Don’t Let it get Thrown Away!” (a fear many genealogists have!) Lisa will give suggestions and provide solutions to assure your research will be preserved. AND you might get an idea for a Christmas present!

DECEMBER

NOTE: Classes will be offered the 1st and 2nd week of December only

**Wednesday December 6th** 11:00 am Orientation to Scanning Options at OFSC with OFSC volunteers. Discover what devices OFSC has to assist you in saving photos, recordings, videos, scrapbooks, and more. These memories can be uploaded to your FamilySearch family tree and Ancestry.com (among other websites and programs). They can be shared with your family and friends through emails and social media. They can be used to create books about your family. Stay and do some scanning or make an appointment to use the equipment on another day.

**Tuesday December 12th** 11:00 am FamilySearch Skills 7: Merging with Denise Plaskett

Signups appreciated on [Eventbrite](#). Calendar of classes available at [the OFSC webpage](#).

**Holiday Hours**

The CGS Library will be closed Thanksgiving weekend (Nov 23-25) and for the last two weekends in December (21-30). The library will reopen on January 4th.
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 Nov from 10 am to noon**

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**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, 4 Nov from 10 am to noon**

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**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 Nov from 6:30 to 8 pm**

Email Jacqueline or Lisa for a link to the Zoom meeting.
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, 17 Nov from 10:30 am to 11:30 am**

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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, 18 Nov at 10 am**

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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, 18 Nov from 1 to 3 pm**

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RootsMagic Users Group - SIG

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

**Wednesday, 27 Dec from 6:30 to 8 pm**

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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.

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**Call for Nominations**
Call for Nominations: The CGS Board of Directors extends an invitation to members to nominate potential candidates for the Board. You may even nominate yourself! We are always looking for individuals with different talents to help guide the society. The current board includes people with backgrounds in communications, finance, science, architecture, marketing and business, among other things. Would you like to join our fun and cordial group of decision-makers, or can you suggest someone who would? At the moment, we are especially looking for individuals with an interest in event planning and in finance. Commitment includes attending monthly meetings and being willing to head a committee or a project/event. Please contact Jennifer Dix (jdix@californiaancestors.org) by November 10.

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.

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!

Meetings & More

CGS Monthly Board Meeting - 11 Nov 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.

Surplus Books for Sale


Polk’s Long Beach (Los Angeles County, CA) City Directory 1962. 848, 507, 169 pg. Hardback, fair condition (binding needs work). $20

Polk’s Oakland (California), City Directory 1933. Includes Alameda, Berkeley, Emeryville and Piedmont. 880 pg. Hardback, fair condition (looks old and beat up). $25

Polk’s Stockton (San Joaquin County, CA) City Directory 1968. Includes Signal Hill. 610, 266, 80 pg. Hardback, fair condition (looks old and beat up). $20

Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor, by Bertram Hawthorne Groene, 1973 John Blair Publisher, Winston-Salem, NC, 124 pg. Bibliography and Index. Hardback, good condition. $10

Western Massachusetts Families in 1790, Edited by Helen Schatvet Ullmann, 2012, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 313 pg. Index. Paperback, good condition. $10

------------------------ v. 2, Edited by Helen Schatvet Ullmann, 2016, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 554 pg. Index. Paperback, good condition. $10

——— How To Order Surplus Books ———

Email
Send an email to library@californiaancestors.org stating which book you want to buy and providing your name and address where you want the book mailed to. We will calculate the postage and inform you of the total price. You can send us a check and we will mail the book to you.

Donation
On the CGS Donation page, you can make a donation of the price of the book plus postage, and specify in the Note box that you want to buy a specific book from our Surplus Books list in the CGS enews. The Donation page allows you to pay via Pay Pal or via mail. When we learn that you have done this, we will
Visit the Library in Person
Send an email to library@californiaancestors.org to make sure the book is still unsold and tell us that you want to come in person to pick it up. If we reply that it is still available, then you can come in during our open hours, and you can pay with cash or a check and take the book home with you.

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

- CGS Announcement: All Talks Now FREE
- Jane Lindsey honored for extraordinary service
- Call for Volunteers: The 10 Million Names Project

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

NorCal APG Chapter

The NorCal chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists is having a meeting on November 7th at 5 pm. Come connect with other professionals in the field of genealogy!

National & International Conference Schedule

Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)
Midwest African American Genealogy Institute (MAAGI)
Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (Gen-Fed)
The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)
IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

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

Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG)

RootsTech

Ohio Genealogical Society Conference

National Genealogical Society

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

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](#)