

# California Genealogical Society

CaliforniaAncestors.org

eNews

Since 1898

February, Vol. 18, No. 2

It was Great to See You at the Annual Meeting!





CGS would like to welcome new members Sunny Jefferson, Josie Smith, Pamela Heath, Nancy Smyth-Phillips, Miriam Hunter, and David Lustig

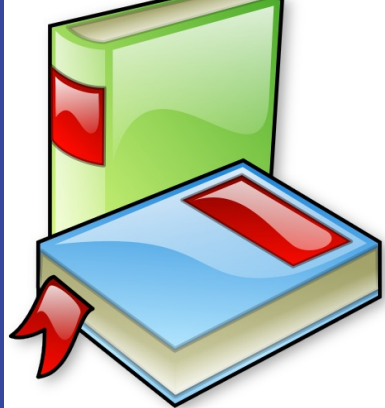
# Tips & Talk

**Happy New Year!**

We are excited to announce that our joint project with the Oakland FamilySearch Center is building momentum. We have seen an increase in attendance and received compliments on the quality of the classes that have been presented.

Classes are now scheduled through the end of May. *Click here for the flier.*

Upcoming presentations include a multi-class series for Black History month, a



Upcoming presentations include a multi-class series for Black History Month, a three-week series on DNA, a three-part German research series as well as classes on Irish, French Canadian, Hawaiian, Mexican, African American research, and more.

- Classes are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00 am. and also most Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Be sure to check the flier for the specific dates.
- Topics are being presented by expert genealogists volunteering their time.
- Classes will be in person and also on ZOOM
- **NOTE: This year participants must register on EventBrite. *Click here for the registration page.*** Once registered, you will be sent a reminder a few days before the class with a zoom link.
- More detailed descriptions are on EventBrite and will be in the CGS Blog the week of the class.

We are looking forward to seeing you. Also, please, as a courtesy to our speakers, let us know if you will not be attending.

And feel free to come early and/or stay late for some one-on-one assistance.

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

Announcing the dates for the 2024 CGS research trip to the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City! Join Stewart Blandón Traiman and Evan Wilson for six nights at the Radisson and five days of research, learning, and camaraderie. Mark your calendars for **September 29-October 5, 2024**. Stay tuned for a registration link and more information, coming soon!

## 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](mailto:events@californiaancestors.org) and we will be in touch.



### 2024 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, 3 Feb 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



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 Feb from 6:30 to 8 pm  
Email [Jacqueline](#) or [Lisa](#) for a link to the Zoom meeting.



### 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](mailto:r1946at@aol.com).

**Friday, 17 Feb 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, 17 Feb 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](mailto:SFSIG@californiaancestors.org).

**Saturday, 18 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, 24 Feb at 10 am**



## How to Leave Your Genealogy: Don't Let it Get Thrown Away!

Presented by Lisa S. Gorrell

This presentation will discuss tasks you can do now so you will leave your genealogy in good shape for your heirs.

**Saturday, 24 Feb at 11 am**



## RootsMagic Users Group - SIG

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

Our next meeting will be hybrid live/online. Please bring your laptop for a hands-on work session.

**Wednesday, 28 Feb from 6:30 to 8 pm**



## Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group + Irish SIG Hybrid Meeting

Hosted by Ron Madson, Karen Halfon, and Maureen Hanlon

Hear a presentation on the journey of the McLeod family from Ireland to Scotland and the United States that was created by Bruce McLeod, using a new feature from MyHeritage, *Deep Story*. A *DeepStory* is a video biography, where the narrative is told by a speaking portrait of an ancestor or relative, based on details from the family tree and manually entered text, and is enriched by photographs that illustrate various life events. Not for everyone, but may just be the tool you would want to use to engage your family's younger generation in their heritage.

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, 16 Mar from 1 to 3 pm**



## You Can Do This: Photo Organizing and Preservation

Presented by Thomas MacEntee

Participants will learn the best ways to organize and preserve family photos including outsourcing as well as the DIY approach.

**Saturday, 30 Mar from 10 am 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](mailto: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**.

Want more information about a particular volunteer position? Contact [Volunteers@californiaancestors.org](mailto: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!

### Calling all members! Something new is in the works!

Over the past several years, CGS has developed a great library and digital scanning committee where a group of people meet weekly to work together. They also get to know one another and have a fun time doing it.

In 2024, plans are to expand the Membership Committee and the Events committee . Plans are to make the committee positions to be manageable; provide opportunities to work together and have fun . Most committee meetings will be Zoomed. Many committee members will have jobs that are easily done at home with a manageable number of hours per month.

Here is a very brief outline of the Membership committee and the positions we hope to have:

- Chair or co-chairs
- Volunteer coordinator
- Life Member Liaisons
- New Member Processing
- New Member liaisons
- Member Connect coordinator
- Member recruitment events
- Member only field trips
- Local member coffees

If you can work from home or are interested in hearing about the fun things we have planned for a specific committee project, contact **Jane Lindsey** at [jlindsey@californiaancestors.org](mailto:jlindsey@californiaancestors.org).

All other members who would like to volunteer in a manageable position from home or in the library, please contact Jane Lindsey or **Larry Youngman, Volunteer Coordinator**, at

[lyoungman@californiaancestors.org](mailto:lyoungman@californiaancestors.org).

Or maybe you have an idea you would like to share!

Hope to hear from you! I will see you at the annual meeting next Saturday!

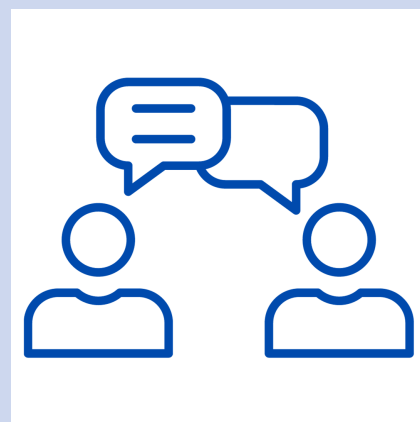
## Meetings & More

### CGS Board Meeting - 10 Feb at 10am

CGS board members and guests will meet online via Zoom and in-person at the CGS Library in Downtown Oakland. 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



### NorCal Group - Association of Professional Genealogists

The Northern California chapter of APG is back after a hiatus!

We are planning quarterly field trips, educational sessions during meetings, and more. A logo and a Facebook group are under construction. Quarterly virtual meetings are planned for the first Tuesday of February, May, August and November. All APG members in good standing are invited to participate. **You do not need to live in Northern California to participate in our group.** Interested parties should contact Linda Okazaki at [lindahokazaki@gmail.com](mailto:lindahokazaki@gmail.com).

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

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

There are always many other events happening in the Bay Area and across the nation.

For the latest events, check [Conference Keeper.org](http://Conference Keeper.org).

## Local Events

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

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

## National & International Conference Schedule

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

[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](#)

[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

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](#)