

# California Genealogical Society

CaliforniaAncestors.org

eNews

Since 1898

March, Vol. 18, No. 3

## This Month's FREE Presentation!

CGS  
Online



**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**

## CGS Members at RootsTech 2024



CGS Board Members Carly Morgan and Matthew Berry

CGS would like to welcome new members Wendy Milbach, J.K. Robinson, Linda Jackson, and Rosemarie Coyle

# Tips & Talk



The joint classes for CGS and the Oakland Family History Library are going very well. There has been an increase in in-person attendance with some interesting discussions after the meetings. And the attendees online have increased as well.

This month, we have some great classes.

- March 6th, 11 a.m.
  - CGS member **Maureen Hanlon** is giving an *Overview of Irish Records* focusing on the 19th century.
- March 6th, 6:30 p.m.
  - CGS member **Pam Brett** is giving tips on *Planning an On-site Research Trip*. She has great tips!
- March 12th, 11 a.m.
  - **Robert Neville** is giving part of the How-to Series: *Snipping, Clipping, and Irfanview*, as well as some other helpful resources to help genealogists.
- March 13th, 20th, and 27th, 6:30 p.m.
  - **Robert Jackson**, well known to CGS members, is giving a three-part *Beginning German* series on three consecutive Wednesday evenings.
- March 26, 11 a.m.
  - **Robert Leitao** is giving a talk and demo for *Simple Photo Enhancements for Novices*. He has scanned thousands of enhanced photos on his public Ancestry.com site, an amazing work created to help families with ancestors from Macao.
- Classes will be in person and most will also be on ZOOM
- NOTE: Participants must register on EventBrite. *Click here for the registration page*. Once registered, the Zoom link will be in your confirmation email.
- Coming in April - In addition to stand-alone classes, there will be a three-part DNA series presented by expert DNA researcher **Sue Severson** offered on Wednesdays both at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

We are looking forward to seeing you at these excellent class offerings . Also, please, as a courtesy to our speakers, let us know if you will not be attending. Thank you!

Register on [Eventbrite](#). Download [the flier of classes for March, April, and May](#)

# SALT LAKE CITY

## Research Trip



**5 Days**

For Just

**\$1150** /Person

\$1650 for single occupancy  
Airfare not included

More Information at  
[CaliforniaAncestors.org](https://CaliforniaAncestors.org)

The revived annual research trip to Salt Lake City is back for another year and open for registration! This time, we're adding one more night to the trip so that participants can make more progress on their research goals or take a needed day for rest and sightseeing. Join Evan Wilson and Stewart Blandón Traiman for five full days of research, learning, and camaraderie.

The trip includes:

- A six-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 Stewart and Evan
- Daily hotel breakfast
- Two group dinners at local restaurants

Mark your calendars for **September 29-October 5, 2024**. To register, visit the [Eventbrite page](#). To learn more about our successful trip last October and what you could get out of a trip to the FamilySearch Library, read [this blog post](#). Prices will go up on July 1, so register in advance to get the best rate.

[Workshop: Digitize Your Family Photos & Stories](#)

[April 27th 10:00 - 3:00 pm PST](#)

Join our special guest, Rick Voight CEO of Vivid-Pix to discover the many uses of our new overhead scanner. Bring your family photos, memories, stories, and memorabilia. We will use the California Genealogical Society's new Vivid-Pix Memory Station to scan, restore, and record you talking about your family memories. We can save your oral memories with your photos onto a USB, free for you.

Rick Voight has spent his career helping people take/make/share pictures and with his clients has created a billion-dollar business through consumer and business research, business development, and marketing for Kodak, HP, and Vivid-Pix. He's a father and husband who loves traveling, scuba diving, and has made it his personal goal to get his partner to blow bubbles.



## 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, 2 Mar 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 **13 Mar 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, 15 Mar from 10:30 am to 11:30 am**



### 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, 16 Mar at 10 am**





### 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**



### 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, 27 Mar from 6:30 to 8 pm**

### You Can Do This: Photo Organizing and Preservation

Presented by Thomas MacEntee



CGS  
Online



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**

CGS  
Events



### Workshop: Digitize Your Family Photos and Stories

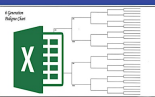
Presented by Rick Voight, CEO of Vivid-Pix

CGS Members please join our special guest, Rick Voight, CEO of Vivid-Pix, to discover the many uses of our new overhead scanner. Lecture and demonstration at 10:00 am. The lecture and demonstration will be broadcast on Zoom.

Bring your family photos, memories, stories, and memorabilia. We will use the California Genealogical Society's new Vivid-Pix Memory Station to scan, restore, and record you talking about your family memories. We can save your oral memories with your photos onto a USB, free for you.

**Saturday, 27 Apr from 10 am to 2 pm**

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Online



### Excel for Genealogists

Presented by Stewart Blandón Traiman

Laying out all the data 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, sorting, color coding, calculations and many other functions.

**Saturday, 27 Apr from 11 am to 12:30 pm**

CGS  
SIG  
Online



### 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.

CGS  
SIG  
Online



### 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.*

## 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!

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## CGS Revamping the Membership Committee

In order to provide more opportunities for our members to network and advance their genealogy, this spring we are creating some new ways for our members to interact.

- Local member coffees for CGS members who live near each other.
- Distant member meetings to provide members who live away from the CGS library with a chance to connect.
- More fun ideas are in the works - maybe you have a few too?

We will be contacting new members to learn what they would like to discover so we can connect them with other members who have common research interests.

We are also creating manageable volunteer positions that can be done remotely or in-person at the CGS library. We hope to entice you to contact us to see if there is a fit.

- Do you have writing skills? We could use your help with the blog, eNews, and more.
- Do you enjoy networking and interacting with others? We need help on the Membership and Outreach committees to call members, organize events, and identify resources to help members with their research projects.
- Do you have an interest in providing interesting programs for members? The Program committee would be a good fit. There are in-person and remote opportunities.
- Do you have an ideas you would like to share with us?

These manageable jobs will not only strengthen CGS but also provide opportunities to meet others.

Please feel free to email your questions and comments to [volunteers@californiaancestors.org](mailto:volunteers@californiaancestors.org) or email **Jane Knowles Lindsey**. We would love to hear from you!

## Meetings & More

### CGS Board Meeting - 9 Mar 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

- [Report from the Annual Meeting](#)
- [CGS Announcement: All Talks Now FREE](#)
- [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

Save the Date

On **Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>** the **New England Historic Genealogical Society** is coming to Oakland. The event will be at Ginn Hall at Preservation Park in Oakland. Arrangements are also being made to rent the parking garage nearby!

Stay tuned for details.

## National & International Conferences

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

[RootsTech](#)

[Ohio Genealogical Society Conference](#)

[National Genealogical Society](#)

[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 \(SLIG\)](#)

## 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