

California Genealogical Society

CaliforniaAncestors.org

eNews

Since 1898

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Message from the President



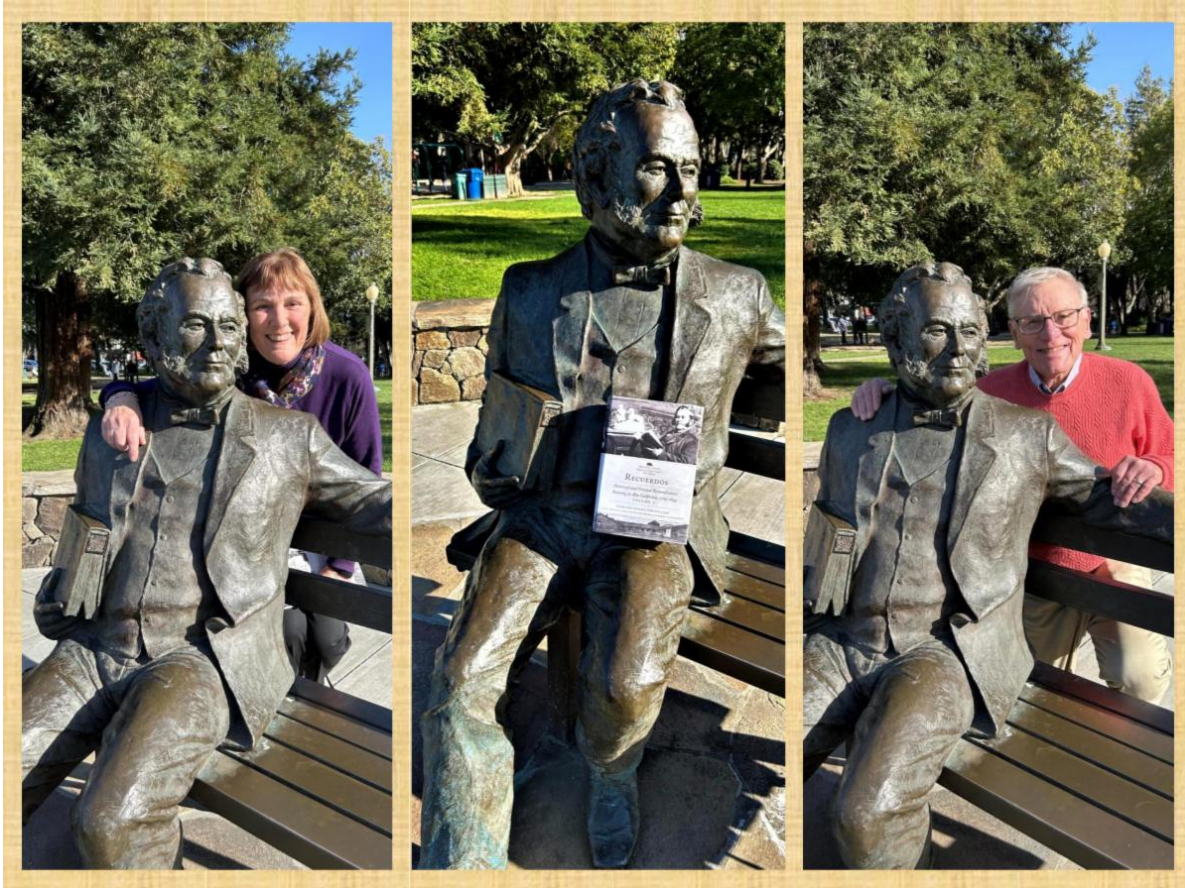
As president and a member of the CGS board of directors I receive a monthly board packet that includes the agenda, meeting minutes and a set of committee reports. When the packet arrives, I tend to open the committee reports first because I'm always interested to read what has been happening with our various committees. If you look on our website, you'll find a list of our committees with the name and email for each chair. There are 22 committees, plus there are 8 Special Interest Groups (SIGS). The number of volunteers that staff each committee varies from one person handling **Facilities** to the **Desk Duty Committee** with 13 members.

The packet for the April board meeting included a report from the **Volunteers Committee** co-chaired by Larry Youngman and Jane Lindsey. They are focused on engaging our members by offering ways to connect including a distant member event in Roseville, a local member coffee, and most exciting is a new member-only benefit "Jukebox Genealogy".

The **Digital Archive Committee** chaired by Ron Madson has finished digitizing all of our vertical files and are actively pursuing several other new projects. The **Outreach committee** is making plans for several events including a tour of the Santa Clara Mission cemetery, an event in Sacramento, another to Angel Island and a local field trip to Peralta Hacienda in Oakland. As always, our **Programs committee** is working on arranging educational programs for the remainder of the year and all of them sound great.

This is typical for the monthly report. There is always a lot going on at CGS – all of it good. Our active volunteers work hard to make all this happen for our members. If you have time and are interested in contributing, we are always looking for new volunteers. Contact CGS at volunteers@californiaancestors.org if you want to join the fun.

This month's free presentation



A Californio Family in Transition: Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo and Francisca Benicia Carrillo de Vallejo, 1846-1888

The experiences of Mexicans who were living in California when it was annexed by the United States is a crucial element in our state's past. These Californios, as they called themselves, made California's identity diverse and multi-cultural from the moment it became part of the United States. The Vallejos were one of the most prominent of these Californio families.

This presentation considers the experiences of this family, using more than 180 letters that Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo and Francisca Benicia Carrillo de Vallejo exchanged with each other between 1846 and 1888, and the scores of letters that one or both of them exchanged with their children. These letters offer an intimate glimpse of the ways in which this family, and many Californio families like them, struggled to adapt to the political, social, and cultural changes that were occurring around them, especially when they found themselves strangers in the land in which they had been born.

Individually, and as a couple, Mariano Guadalupe and Francisca

Benicia found themselves faced with ever-changing--and at times conflicting--demands on their public and private lives. They struggled to maintain ownership of their property, to raise their children in an environment that they did not entirely understand, and to help each other maintain their dignity and social authority in a world they had not chosen.



**A Californio Family in Transition: Mariano
Guadalupe Vallejo and Francisca Benicia Carrillo de
Vallejo, 1846-1888**

**Presented by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M.
Senkewicz**

Join us at the California Genealogical Society Library to learn about resources and strategies available to research early California settlers. Californios were soldiers and settlers in Alta California from 1769 to California statehood September 9, 1850. Learn about the early history of California from the mission period (1769-1833) on.

There will be a reception after the event.

Saturday, 11 May from 1 to 3 pm

How did your ancestors move West?



American Ancestors Comes to California

Join Chief Genealogist David Allen Lambert and Senior Genealogist Melanie McComb as they travel from coast to coast, making the journey many of our ancestors made as they sought new opportunities and adventure in the golden state. This one-day seminar will provide you with tips and strategies to trace your California-bound ancestors. We'll discuss the New England roots of many Westward migrants, as well as how to find records for those notoriously difficult ancestors on the move.

Colonial Migrations in the Northeast – David Allen Lambert

Westward Migration, 1783-1900 – David Allen Lambert

California or Bust! Researching Your Western Pioneers – Melanie McComb

Follow the Money: Go-To Records for Tracing Ancestors on the Move– Melanie McComb

Strategies for Tracking Ancestors on the Move– David Allen Lambert

Preservation Park - 660 13th Street Oakland, CA

June 8, 2024 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Cost: \$150, includes five lectures, breakfast, and lunch

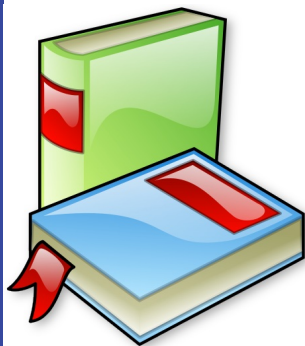
From More information and to Register

<https://www.americanancestors.org/california>

PARKING : Arrangements have been made with the parking garage adjacent to Preservation park to be open. The parking fee will be \$20 per car for the day. Interested in Carpooling? [Contact Jane Lindsey](#)

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.

- **Wednesday, May 1, 11:00 am**
 - "Exploring Hawaiian Records for Genealogical Research" with **Cindy Thomson**. Cindy will share with you the records available for Hawaiian research and where to find them both online and in Hawaii.
- **Wednesday, May 1, 6:30 pm**

- "Using American Ancestors.org" with **Matt Berry**. This talk will give an overview of the AmericanAncestors.org website including its extensive educational material and many databases. While the site used to have a predominantly New England focus, it now offers databases covering all fifty states and many countries.
- **Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 pm**
 - "Contacting Cousins: How? Why? (DNA, Photos, Family History and more)" with **Jane Lindsey**. We all begin our research by finding our ancestors . But cousins, close or distant, may have family information that provides clues to enhancing your research.
- **Tuesday, May 14th, 11:00 am**
 - "How to Series: Using Linkpendium" with **Denise Plaskett**. Per their website "Linkpendium is a 10,000,000+ resource directory to everything on the Web about families worldwide and genealogically-relevant information about U.S. states and counties." This hands-on presentation will have you navigating Linkpendium with ease, tracking down those records and valuable information you need to find your ancestors and their stories.
- **Wednesday, May 15, 11:00 am**
 - "Expand Your Family Tree: Hands on Help from OFSC Volunteers in the Computer Lab" with **Jane Lindsey and others**. Come with questions and plan to stay to get assistance finding information to expand your tree with tips for more productive searches and finding new records to use.
- **Wednesday, May 15, 6:30 pm**
 - "Sharing Family History with Children" with **Marisa Louie Lee**. Inspire an interest in family history with the children in your family! We'll discuss the importance of rituals and storytelling to children and explore some practical family history activities for busy families.
- **Tuesday, May 21, 11:00 am**
 - "How to Series: Indexing and Other FamilySearch Projects" with **Bruce Dearden**. We are all very appreciative of the ability to put an ancestor's name into a search field and discover historical records that define that ancestor's life. This type of searching is available because the records have been indexed.
- 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.

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 May](#).



Tips & Talk Classes are taking the summer off!

In June, July, and August, hourly discussion groups are being scheduled Tuesdays - Saturdays. They will be in-person only with no sign up needed.

Examples :

1st Wednesdays at 1:00 pm - German ancestry

2nd Fridays at 1:00 pm - Irish records from 1830-1930

3rd Wednesdays at 1:00 pm - French Canadian

Other groups being planned are Chinese genealogy, FamilySeach Q&A, and more .

SALT LAKE CITY

Research Trip

5 Days
For Just
\$1150 /Person
\$1650 for single occupancy
Airfare not included

More Information at
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.

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.



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, 4 May 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 **8 May** 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.

Friday, 17 May from 10:30 am to 11:30 am



Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group **Hosted by Ron Madsen and Karen Halfon**

FTM-SIG is a user group founded in 2014. This group has the purpose of helping genealogists at all levels use the popular flexible Family Tree Maker genealogy software, optimally to further their family history work and to promote CGS. We offer presentations on special topics as well as discussions about problems. Check out the FTM-SIG website, <http://ftm-sig.org> to find the topics for the upcoming meetings, as well as FTM information and help.

Saturday, 18 May 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, 18 May at 10 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, 22 May from 6:30 to 8 pm



A California Family in Transition: Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo and Francisca Benicia Carrillo de Vallejo, 1846-1888

Presented by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz

Join us at the California Genealogical Society Library to learn about resources and strategies available to research early California settlers. Californios were soldiers and settlers in Alta California from 1769 to California statehood September 9, 1850. Learn about the early history of California from the mission period (1769-1833) on.

There will be a reception after the event.

Saturday, 11 May from 1 to 3 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, 1 June 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.

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.

Can't come into the Library? No problem. Many jobs can be done remotely or in the library.

NOTE: Click the links below for more details for these and other volunteer opportunities. Arrangements can be made to meet committee members to get additional information.

PROGRAM CHAIR Are you interested in building and improving our education and the classes that CGS offers to members? We are looking for one or two volunteers to coordinate programs.

CALENDAR COORDINATOR Could you help keep our CGS calendar up-to-date with program info for events? Work remotely but collaborate with other volunteers.

CLASSROOM HOST Would you like to help our instructors by supporting our online and in-library classes? We need help with set-up and support for our speakers and audience during a class.

ZOOM HOSTS & CO-HOSTS Are you good with operating Zoom and helping folks who are new to it? Join the existing committee to support hybrid and online zoom programs, TRAINING PROVIDED.

Join our team and have opportunities to meet other members to share your research interests. If you are interested and would like to get more information please contact [Jane Lindsey](#).

CGS Revamping Member Services

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 or email **Jane Knowles Lindsey**. We would love to hear from you!

Meetings & More

CGS Board Meeting - 11 May 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

If you would like to host a Special Interest Group, please contact [Maureen Hanlon](#).

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

- [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 8th** 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, Friday, and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 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](#)

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

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