



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XLII No. 1 June - 2026

June Meeting

Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 10 am

America at 250! Researching Your Revolutionary Ancestors

By Scott Norrick



2026 marks the 250-year anniversary of America's signing of the Declaration of Independence. At the time of America's independence, the population of the American colonies was about 2.7 million. While 1776 is a pivotal year, the war for independence (the Revolutionary War) was fought from 1775-1783. About 500 thousand Americans served in the Patriots' cause in some capacity. This presentation will provide a deep dive into discovering and researching your revolutionary ancestors. It will cover the top resources, strategies, websites, libraries, archives, and organizations for learning more about your ancestors at our nation's founding. Resources and documents available at the National Archives, DAR, SAR, as well as state and local organizations will be included. The presentation

will also reveal that many colonists did not support independence and supported the British/Tory cause. It is an exciting time to jump in and learn as much as you can about your revolutionary ancestors!

Scott Norrick's passion is connecting people to their past. His areas of expertise include research in the American Midwest along with the immigration to the Midwest from Britain, Ireland, and Germanic countries. He also does significant research into Revolutionary War and Civil War records. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and a graduate degree from Northwestern University. With over 30 years of family history research experience, he is familiar with all the latest and time-tested genealogical tools. Through his company Ancestral Past, he welcomes the opportunity to assist others on their genealogy journey. He has presented to dozens of genealogical societies, history centers, and libraries. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. scott@ancestralpast.com AncestralPast.com ■

A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out to all members a few days prior to the meeting. If you have any friends or family that would like to attend, have them contact Scott Hefner at president@srvgensoc.org prior to the meeting for the link. If you have any Zoom questions or issues, please contact Scott at 925-765-7184 or Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



President's Message

By Scott Hefner



I've been reflecting on this month's in-person Annual Meeting, and wanted to share a few thoughts with you. The first is an appreciation of how many people contribute their time and energy to an event like this in order to make it comfortable, fun, and special for the participants. Whether it's arranging speakers, baking delicious snacks, making questionable-colored (but tasty) punch, planning participation activities, making banners and posters, or simply helping with setting up and taking down tables and chairs, we have a substantial group of people who willingly give their time to help. If it was just left up to me, we'd probably be meeting in a bare gym, sitting on benches, and passing around bags of chips, but luckily we have people with higher sensibilities who care about the big and little touches that make things feel special.

My second thought was a little more philosophical about the nature of groups like SRVGS and why they exist. Without sounding too much like I'm waxing nostalgic for the "good old days", it's pretty clear that our society is moving gradually away from personal interactions and towards more online, device-based relationships. Working from home, online education, Zoom meetings, AI chat-bots, and more are signs that we are often willing (or even eager), to embrace the simpler and easier alternative of interacting with others online and from the comfort of our homes. While there's no doubt it's less effort, it's also obvious we are giving up something important by shunning personal interactions. Humans are social animals and it's in our nature to want to associate with others. It was obvious to me that, while we all enjoy our monthly Zoom meetings and our opportunity to hear from a variety of genealogy experts, our members and visitors were enthusiastic and truly enjoyed sitting and chatting with others who have similar interests and experiences.

My final thought is that genealogy is especially suited to meeting in person with others sharing the same passion. There are limitless opportunities

to learn from each other, share sources that we've found that may unlock mysteries for others, discuss tools that we've found helpful, and sometimes even discover ancestral connections with others that we didn't know existed. Genealogy can be lonely work, as we discover that our family and friends do not always share our enthusiasm or excitement about finding an old picture or letter, or discovering that our 5x great-grandfather was married 5 times. We instinctively seek out others to share our discoveries with, and we are naturally disappointed when they yawn, their eyes glaze over, or they start looking at their phone. Our fellow genealogists may not be as enthusiastic hearing about our finds as we are, but at least they will be polite about it, if only so we will return the favor when they tell us about theirs.

In sum, my biggest takeaway from our meeting is that we need to continue to look for ways for our Society to meet in person, whether it's picnics, field trips, or hybrid meetings. I'd be interested to hear your thoughts about this. ■

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

CONTACT INFORMATION	6
DANVILLE FSC HOURS	12
EDUCATION	8
EVENTS FROM LOCAL SOCIETIES	11
MARK YOUR CALENDAR	6
NOTES ON MAY MEETING	4
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	7
UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS	11
WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS	

Irish/Scottish SIG Welcomes English & Welsh Descendants!

Were your ancestors “just plain English” or from Wales? You’re invited to join the Irish/Scottish SIG meetings, where we recognize that there is more to the British Isles than Scottish clans or Irish townlands. Contact Leslie Stewart at lwvleslie@gmail.com to be put on our SIG email list. We’d also like to hear from you if you have been interested in this group but had a schedule conflict – we are considering changing the timing of the meeting so now is the time to speak up!■

SRVGS Elections Held

SRVGS Elections were held at our May 19th in-person meeting. The following slate of officers was presented at the meeting and it was approved unanimously by the members present.

Slate of Officers for 2026-2028

President: Scott Hefner
1st Vice President: Karen LaDuca
2nd VP (Programs): Karen Olynger
3rd VP (Membership): Julie Basel
Recording Secretary: Caren O'Donnell
Corresponding Secretary: Julie Basel
Treasurer: Jill Zollinger■

Free Genealogy Research Assistance

Provided by the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society (SRVGS) in partnership with the Danville Library on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 10am-1pm.

- **Get Help With:** Starting/Researching/Documenting your Family Tree using online genealogy tools
- **Bring:** What you know (names, dates, places, documents) & Your questions!
- **Location:** Danville Library, 400 Front Street, Danville, CA. (925) 314-3750.

Genealogy docents from SRVGS (srvgensoc.org) will be available to help you take your research further.



A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**Ron Waggener
Sharon Stagg
Jim & Jeanie Grimes**

and welcome back to returning member Martha Levison

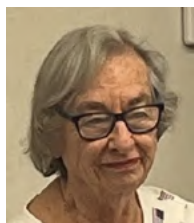
Notes on May 19th In-Person Meeting Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary By Margaret Goetze



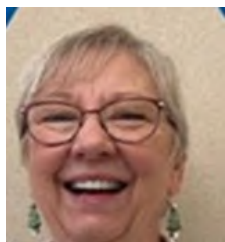
Over forty members and guests attended our May General Meeting on May 19. President Scott Hefner provided a business update, the slate of candidates for the 2026-2028 Board of Directors and Officers was voted on by attendees and was unanimously approved. Several speakers gave interesting presentations. Bill George gave a preview of our new website, and we then adjourned for delicious treats and enjoyable conversation.



Derek J Brown shared the highlights of the Sons of the American Revolution organization. It was founded in April of 1889 and has grown to more than 37,000 members who participate in 590 worldwide chapters. It is a non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education for future generations. Members need to be a lineal descendant of a qualifying ancestor over the period of 1775-1783. They assist applicants in completing their application and members can attend regular meetings with interesting speakers.



Virginia Rood is a SRVGS member and long-time member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The organization was founded a year after SAR in 1890 and is very well known due to stronger marketing initiatives. They have 190,000 members across 3,000 chapters. Virginia pointed out that it is the only organization in DC that is run entirely by women. Virginia answered questions from the attendees about the application process. Requirements for membership are similar to the SAR.



Karen LaDuca led the creation of a SRVGS database with details on member ancestors who participated in the American Revolution. This includes the Patriots, the Loyalists and even a Quaker who abstained. We had 23 members with 91 patriot ancestors. Three members also reported 4 loyalist ancestors and interestingly these 3 members were also in the patriot category as well. Sharon Garrison and Virginia Rood won the virtual prize for reporting 12 patriot ancestors each. Donna Kennedy reported 10 and Carol Satterthwaite had 7 but she gets bonus points for John Buttrick and for making her report at the meeting. We'll do some more analysis on this DB and report later!



Karen Olynger told us about one of her "sort of" ancestors Old Put. Major General Israel Putnam was born in Salem, Mass in 1718, now Danver, Mass. Old Put's grandfather, Thomas Putnam b.1615 and Karen's 9th great-grandfather Nathaniel b.1619 were brothers born in England emigrating to Salem with their parents in 1634. Old Put was a veteran of the French and Indian wars, 1754-1763. Famous for the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775 during the Siege of Boston, he was one of the three Major-Generals reporting to George Washington who was Commander-in-Chief. Only Washington and Putnam had

Notes on May 19th In Person Meeting (cont'd) Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary

unanimous votes for their command. "I [Karen] was hoping that this general would be my direct ancestor to make up for the death and chaos caused by the Putnam families in the 1692 Salem witch trials."

Karen also shared the story of Christopher Ludwick, German-born immigrant affectionately called the Baker General of the Continental Army and was known for baking thousands of loaves of bread at this own expense to feed the revolutionaries. Karen tried to reproduce the gingerbread that he baked but evidently she said it was horrible and resorted to modern day gingerbread muffins to feed our group. Ludwick was not Karen's ancestor, to the best of her knowledge.

Carol Satterthwaite, a member of SRVGS and DAR, shared the story of her 5th great grandfather, Captain John Buttrick, who fired the famous "shot heard round the world" in Concord Massachusetts. As a Major, John Buttrick commanded the Minute Men of Concord and the action at Concord North Bridge on April 19, 1775. He gave the famous order to fire and then he fired the first shot on the American side in the Revolution "the shot heard round the world" He later served in Col. John Nixon's 5th Regiment and as Lt. Col. in the Middlesex Co. Militia. He was born 20 July 1731 in Concord and died 16 May 1791 in Concord. He married Abigail Jones in 1760 and they had six sons and four daughters. His great grandfather, William Buttrick, emigrated from England in 1635 and settled in Concord. William married Sara Bateman in 1652. Their house was lived in by at least ten generations of Buttricks and still stands today. Their land, which extends to the North Bridge, was deeded to Concord by the family in 1875 and is within Minuteman National Park. ■

Product of this week's AI session led by Bill George...

The agenda of May's AI SIG meeting was to use AI to create an image which could be used for a variety of things such as illustrating documents (your own genealogy stories perhaps) and communications. Bill started, inspired by a graphic published in [The Neuron](#), and then went through several iterations with specific instructions in the prompt to tailor it, ultimately arriving at this example during our meeting. This may inspire you create some of your own graphics and/or join the AI SIG to find out what else you can do with AI. And I may be inspired to include some in future issues of the newsletter. ■





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 2026

- 16** Tues-10am, the June General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Scott Norrick will present **America at 250 Years! Researching Your Scott Norrick Revolutionary Ancestors** via Zoom
- 23** Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

July 2026

- 21** Tuesday-10am, the July General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Allison Singleton will present **The Genealogy Center, Allen County Public Library, Indiana, Overview of Collections and Supporting research of America's 250th year**
- 28** Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome

August 2026—No meeting or Board Meeting this month

September 2026

- 15** Fall Picnic at Danville's Hap McGee Park, details forthcoming as they become available
- 22** Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

October 2026

- 20** Tues-10am, the October General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Katy Bodenhorn will present **Hidden**

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Scott Hefner
president@srvgensoc.org

1st Vice President:
 Karen LaDuca

2nd V.P. & Programs Committee:
 Karen Olynger
 Karen LaDuca
programs@srvgensoc.org

3rd V.P. Membership:
 Julie Basel
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Treasurer: Jill Zollinger

Corresponding Secretary:
 Julie Basel
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Recording Secretary:
 Caren O'Donnell

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor: Barbara Thurston

Calendar Coordinator:
 Bill George

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bill George
webmaster@srvgensoc.org

in Plan Sight...Plus using "Full Text Search" tool on FamilySearch.org

- 27** Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome

November 2026

- 17** Tues 10am, the November General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Sharon Duda will present **Writing the Stories We Don't Want Lost.** ■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR JUNE, 2026

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In June, 2026, we have seven Special Interest Groups meeting at their normal dates/times, All SIGs meet on-line, except for the in-person German SIG which is meeting at the Danville Church of Latter Day Saints. All meet during the day except the AI SIG which meets at 7pm on Zoom. All SIG members receive emails from their leaders on how to join each meeting. If you want to attend a SIG for the first time, contact the SIG leader listed below to be added to their monthly announcement email. Guests are welcome, but encouraged to join the Society.



FamilySearch SIG, Monday, June 8th (the second Monday) from **1-3pm in a Zoom Meeting**. Learn the many aspects of this free, comprehensive genealogy web site. You may contact SIG Leader Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Irish/Scottish Research, Wednesday, June 10th, (the 2nd Wednesday) from **10-12 Noon in a Zoom meeting**. They share information from the internet, journals, DNA and books. Leslie Stewart is the SIG leader. You may contact Leslie Stewart, SIG Leader, at lwvleslie@gmail.com.



Italian SIG, Wednesday, June 17th, (the 3rd Wednesday) **1-3pm in a Zoom meeting**. Share and learn new techniques for researching your Italian ancestors. Please contact Karen LaDuca at kblquilts@comcast.net to be provided the Zoom link to the meeting.



DNA SIG, Monday June 15th (the 3rd Monday) from **1-3pm in a Zoom meeting**. This SIG assumes a basic knowledge of Genealogical DNA testing and therefore is only open to those who have completed the SRVGS Intro to DNA class or successfully completed Mark's Basic Skills Quiz. You may contact SIG Leader **Mark McLaren** at greatscot@earthlink.net.



Publishing SIG, Thursday, June 18th (the 3rd Thursday) **10:30am - 12 Noon in a Google Meet meeting**. Contact Kathy Javdani at kjisc@aol.com for info on how to join the meeting. Share information and ideas on how to publish and preserve your research. **Francie Lloyd**, is the SIG Leader and can be reached at frances_lloyd@comcast.net.



AI SIG, Monday, June 22nd (the 4th Monday) from **7-9pm in a Zoom meeting**. Learn the many aspects of AI used for Genealogy. See also a website <https://aisig.ancstor.org> that will have helpful AI URLs and an agenda. You may contact SIG leader Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



German Research SIG, Wednesday, June 24th, (the 4th Wednesday). This is an in-person meeting only, no Zoom to be held at the Danville Church of Latter Day Saints, 2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo. Members share information from a variety of sources. You may contact SIG leader **Karen LaDuca** at kblquilts@comcast.net for more info. ■



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



It's June. Summer is coming. What a perfect time to spend studying family history.

☞ *The California Genealogy Society Library, www.californiaancestors.org, is moving and will reopen on June 4th at its new location at 1841 Berkeley Way in Berkeley. It will be open at its usual times – 10 AM – 2 PM Thursday through Saturday. Please note any fees for activities. Also, visit the society's website for access to available recordings and videos. CGS Members are no longer required to register for most events. Members can log into the CGS website, and find Zoom, handouts and survey links directly before the event. If you prefer to register and to receive the reminder emails, you may continue to do so. The speaker may not have handouts ready until the evening before the event.*

- On Sat. Jun. 6 from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Using the Census**.
- On Wed. June 17 from 4:30-6, Stewart Traiman on Zoom will explain **Citations: Easier Than You Think**.
- On Sat. June 20 from 10-12 Sandra Huber will lead the San Francisco SIG online meeting. Contact sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- In addition, on the 20th from 1-3, Ron Madson and Karen Halfon will host a hybrid session of the **FamilyTree Maker SIG**. Register at the <https://ftm-sig.org> or contact Ron at 650-576-4495 or Karen at 415-922-225 for further information.
- On Mon. June 22nd from 7-8:30, the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.

- On Tue. June 23 from 10-4, there will be a **Field Trip to Sutro Library for CGS members only** with an orientation at 11. Participants will meet at the Sutro Library.
- On Wed. June 24 from 6:30-8, the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** with Keith Montgomery will meet online. Contact Keith at kmontgomery@californiaancestors.org to register.
- On Sat. June 27 (Note rescheduling due to July 4th holiday) from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Vital Records**.
- Also, on the 27th from 1-2:30, Maureen Hanlon will discuss in person **Getting Started with AI for Newspaper Research**.
- The **Irish Ancestry SIG** is scheduled to hold its quarterly meeting on a Saturday in June from 11-12:30. Date to be announced.

☞ *The Oakland FamilySearch Center will be closed for renovations starting June 1, 2026 and planning to reopen on Sept. 1, 2026. Please check back to confirm the opening date and the date for the Open House. Check the website of Oakland Family Search Center, www.familysearch.org/en/centers/oakland_california/classes, for a long list of free in-person and hybrid classes and SIGs. The FSC offers classes and research groups on a variety of family history topics. Some are led by individuals who are members of partner organizations, such as the California Genealogical Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Mayflower Society, and others.*

- Each week on Wed from June 3 through July 7 from 2-2:15 a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy**. On Zoom.

Visit [Help and Learning: Family History Resources and Articles](#) for a wealth of other genealogy research support.

 The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes, has a growing online series of presentations, library, and more, such as their on-demand previously aired courses and presentations. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education. Register for its webinars on the society's website.

- On Wed. June 3, 10, 17, 24 and July 1 from 3-4:30, Kyle Hurst, Sheilagh Doerfler, David Lambert, Rhonda McClure and Melanie McComb will lead a series of classes on **Land Records Unlocked: A Genealogist's Guide to Deeds and Other Records**. \$125
- On Tue. June 9 from 3-4, Edda Fields-Black will share her Pulitzer Prize book, **"COMBEE: Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid and Black Freedom During the Civil War"**.
- On Fri. June 12 from 1-2:15, Curt DiCamillo will examine the exhibition **Avery, Gottlieb & Rothko: By The Sea**.
- On Thu. June 18th from 3-4:15, Ken Burns and Vincent Brown will discuss **From Revolution to Remembrance: Patriots of Color and Their Descendants**. Free but donations appreciated.
- On Sat. June 20 from 8-9, David Lambert and Judith Lucey will present **Picture This: Identifying and Preserving Family Photos**. \$15
- On Tue. June 23 from 3-4:15, Eric Jay Dolin will share his book **"The Wreck of the Mentor: A True Story of Death, Despair, and Delivery in the Age of Sail"**. \$15, \$42 with signed book.

- On Fri. June 26 from 1-2:30, Curt DiCamillo will discuss **Murder Mysteries & The English Country House**, \$15

Unable to attend the live broadcast? A recording of the free events will be posted on the NEHGS website the following day. Many courses with fees are available on demand following their initial presentation.

 The Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center offers many webinars. Go to <https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy> to see the current list and to register online. Also, explore the Genealogy Center Videos at <https://acpl.lib.in.us/explore-genealogy/our-services>. Recorded Genealogy Center programs can be found on the Genealogy Center section of the library's YouTube channel.

- On Tue. June 2 from 11:30-12:30, Dai Davies will explore **Reflecting on Yourself to Discover Your Ancestors**.
- On Tue. June 9 from 11:30-12:30, Pamela Vittorio will discuss **Catching the Waves: Italian Transatlantic Migrations to the U.S.**
- On Tue. June 16 from 11:30-12:30, Annela Buffin will present **An Oral History: How to Find the Truth**.
- On Tue. June 23 from 11:30-12:30, John Beatty will examine **The Five Forts That Make Up Fort Wayne**.
-  Legacy offers numerous free webinars every month. Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com> to register.
- On Tue. June 2 at 7pm, Linda Yip will present **Your Family Tree, Everywhere: Mac and iOS Genealogy Solutions**.
- On Wed. June 3 at 8:30am, Ernest Thode will share **10 Ways German Research Is Different from U.S. Research**.
- In addition, on the 3rd at 9:45am, Andrea Bentschneider will offer **German Surnames Unlocked: Meanings, Origins, and Clues**.
- Also, on the 3rd at 11am, Ursula Krause will present **Cracking the Case with German Records You've Never Used Before**.

- On Fri. June 5 at 11am, Dave McDonald will offer **Essential Skills for New Genealogists 3 of 12: U.S. Census Records from 1790-1950 and Beyond.**
- On Tue. June 9 at 11am, Janna Helshtein will examine **ScribeAI: It Was There All Along ... You Just Didn't See It.**
- On Wed. June 10 at 11am, Seema-Jayne Kenney will discuss **Massachusetts Land Records: Tracing Property and Ancestors.**
- On Fri. June 12 at 8am, Janice Nickerson will share **Land Records of Upper Canada 1 of 3: Land Registry Office Records.**
- On Fri. June 12 at 9:30am, Janice Nickerson will share **Land Records of Upper Canada 2 of 3: Land Registry Office Records.**
- On Fri. June 12 at 11am, Janice Nickerson will share **Land Records of Upper Canada 3 of 3: Land Registry Office Records.**
- On Tue. June 16 at 5pm, Jill Morelli will discuss **Mastering Data Collection.**
- On Wed. June 17 at 11am, Karen Stanbary will present **DNA in Action 3 of 6: Generating Clues.**
- On Fri. June 19 at 11am, Sharon Batiste Gillins will explore **Descendants in Dialogue: Connecting Families of the Enslaved and Enslavers.**
- On Tue. June 23 at 11am, Kaye Prince-Hollenberg will examine the **Top 10 Canadian Collections at MyHeritage.**
- On Wed. June 24 at 11am, Grant Din will discuss **WWII Internment of Japanese Immigrant "Enemy Aliens" in the San Francisco Bay Area.**
- On Wed. July 1 at 12am, Claire Bradley will present **Ireland's 1926 Census: A guide to the New Release.**
- Also, on the 1st at 8:30am, Kimball Carter will share **Create Maps Using Power Point and**

Google Slides.

- In addition, on the 1st at 9:45am, Natalie Webb will describe **Spreadsheets for Genealogists: Mastering Charts, Filters, and Pivot Tables.**
- Again, on the 1st at 11am, Rhonda Lauritzen will offer **Automating Oral History: Best Tools for Transcribing Audio.**
- Finally, on the 1st at 12:30pm, Andrew Redfern will list **10 Essential Digital Skills for Family Historians.**

The State Historical Society of Missouri has produced nearly 100 On Demand programs through its virtual program series and past events. Freely available through the Society's website, <https://shsmo.org>, on demand topics include genealogy, art, scholarship, signature lecture series, and more.

Here are some other webinars, blogs, and podcasts that are available.

- Auntiejenstrees.blogspot.com
- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <https://extremegenes.com/blog>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast www.genealogyguys.com
- The Genealogy Squad www.facebook.com/groups/genealogysquad
- Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems <https://lisalouisecooke.com/podcasts>
- Thomas MacEntee's www.genealogybargains.com
- Judy Russell's www.legalgenealogist.com
- Family History Fanatics www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog
- Connie Knox <http://genealogytv.org>
- [Www.amyjohnsoncrow.com](http://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com)

And there's more....

The following are sites with large amounts of valuable information:

- The National Archives- www.archives.gov/research/genealogy offers a genealogy tutorial, genealogy research topics and a variety of charts and forms.
- The DAR Library – www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy provides help on the variety of genealogical topics. Also see the upcoming events schedule at www.dar.org
- The Sutro Library hosts the Bay Area Genealogy Calendar, www.library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy/calendar This calendar provides information about events throughout the Bay Area.
- ConferenceKeeper.org lists conferences, events, calls for papers, contests, grants, volunteer opportunities, tours and more. To sign up to receive *Tami at Conference Keeper* which lists events that have been recently added, go to mail@sendfoxmail.com.
- The Sacramento Public Library Genealogy Program has a YouTube channel. Visit its playlist at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwtrWI_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6

Events from Local Societies

- On Tue. June 2 at 6:30pm, **The San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society**, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom. Guest speaker will share **The Wanderers: A Story of Exile, Survival, and Unexpected Love in the Shadow of WW II**. Check its website for further information and to register.
- On Mon. June 9 from 7-8:30pm, the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, www.l-ags.org, will host a Zoom meeting. Lisa Gorrell, the guest speaker, will present **Focused Research: Using Research Plans**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. June 11 at 6:30pm, the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, <https://cccg.net>, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom. Fran

Shockley, the guest speaker, will discuss **Using DNA Painter**. Register under events on the society's website

- On Sat. June 13 from 1-4pm, the **Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society**, <https://scchgs.org>, will hold an *in-person Heritage Expo: Research and Resources* at the Central Park Library in Santa Clara. See the society's website under events for details.
- On Thu. June 18 at 1pm the **Napa Valley Genealogical Society**, <https://napagensoc.org>, will hold its monthly meeting in the hybrid format. The guest speaker, Sara Cochran, will present **Grandma Said What? Gathering and Verifying Your Family's Oral History**. Register on the society's website.
- On Sat. June 20 at 12:30pm, the **Sonoma County Genealogical Society**, www.scgsonline.org/Events, will hold a hybrid **Free Half Day Seminar** featuring **Lisa Gorrell and Cindy Brennen**. See the society's website for details and to register.

Upcoming Special Events

- From June 12-14 the **Ontario Genealogical Society** will hold a virtual conference entitled **From Steamships to Microchips**. For details and to register visit the website <https://ogs.on.ca/virtual-conference-2026/>
- From June 12-17 (In-person Courses In Pittsburgh, PA) and from June 22nd-26th (Virtual Courses) the **GRIP Genealogy Institute** will take place. For details and to register visit the website <https://grip.ngsgenealogy.org/>
- From Aug. 6 -9 the **Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania** will hold its **PaGE 2026 Virtual Conference**. For details and to register visit the website at <https://events.genpa.org> .
- From Sept. 16-18 **We Are Cousins** will hold its **9th We Are Cousins Virtual Genealogy Conference**. Register at <https://wacconference.com/>
- On Sept. 18 and 19 the North Carolina Genealogical Society will hold its hybrid **2026 Fall Conference from Raleigh, NC**. Save the date registration details to follow.
- On Nov. 6 and 7 the Texas Genealogical Society, www.txsgs.org, will hold its hybrid **2026**

TxSGS Family History Conference. Registration details to follow at www.txsgs.org/2026

- On Nov. 16 the Italian Genealogical Group will host its first virtual conference, **"Italian Genealogy: The Boot and Beyond"**. For more information, go to: <https://www.italiangen.org/events/>■

New things coming to our website...

When was the last time you visited our Society's website www.srvgensoc.org? A totally volunteer committee within our Society, headed up by Bill George and Bob Venter, has taken on the task of bringing our website into the 20th-21st century and making it more pleasing to the eye and easier to navigate.

It is not a trivial task even though our website vendor has provided us a template. It involves creating new screens for all of the features we currently have including the membership, photos, events, calendar, etc. and of course, the newsletter including every issue published, and transferring all the data over so it displays correctly.

We anticipate it will be available for viewing by mid June with a planned go live July or August. Our vendor is evidently backed up and it seems that though we will be ready, our vendor will not be. We will keep you posted and announce the official "going live". Going live may involve some downtime, i.e. unavailability of the website, but that is still to be determined and of course there will be notifications in this newsletter and by special emails, so stay tuned. This is the second announcement of what we anticipate will be several.

If you would like to take a peek at this work in progress, follow this link, <https://sb-srvgs.ens-205.com/>. No logins available yet. We welcome any suggestions, ideas for additions, corrections and improvements, but be aware that we may not be able to implement them based on the limitations of the software itself. It may also be that we may implement suggestions as we go along after the go-live based on resources available to do the work. So go ahead and send in your comments and ideas to [Bill George](#) for improvements, suggestions, corrections...you get the idea.■

Danville Family Search Center

2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo

Phone: (925)552-5920**

**** The FSC has been having phone issues that are still not resolved. Contact Kevin Ganschow at (925)209-5489 or gans5@sbcglobal.net if you need to reach the FSC, ask questions, or schedule time at the FSC.**

The Family Search Center is open for business. There have been no changes to the hours for 2026. See scheduled open hours below. The FSC contains nine computers (with flash drive slots), scanners, a printer, lots of reference books, Wi-Fi access, and friendly docents to help you along your genealogy path! Digital resources include:

- ♦ Alexander Street (US social and cultural history)
- ♦ American Ancestors (from New England Historic Genealogical Society)
- ♦ Ancestry Institution
- ♦ ArkivDigital (Sweden)
- ♦ FamilySearch
- ♦ FamNet (New Zealand)
- ♦ Findmypast (United Kingdom)
- ♦ Geneanet (France, Belgium, Netherlands)
- ♦ Fold3 (military)
- ♦ Geneanet (France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Sweden, and Germany)
- ♦ Goldie May (organizing tools)
- ♦ MyHeritage Library Edition
- ♦ Irish Ancestors
- ♦ Newspaper Archive
- ♦ Paper Trail (19th century westward American migration documents)
- ♦ Puzzilla
- ♦ 19th Century British Library Newspapers

Hours are:

Monday.....10:00am – 1:00pm

Note Monday eve hours cancelled due to unavailability of volunteers to staff it.

Tuesday..... 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Wednesday.....1:00pm – 4:00pm

Appointments outside of normal hours may be arranged by calling (925)837-7010.

Note that the FSC is always looking for volunteers to man the center during the above hours. This is a good opportunity to help others and get some of your own research done. ■