



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XLI No. 9 April - 2026

April Presentation

Tuesday, April 21st, 2026 at 10am

Re-uniting Families with Lost Photos

Kate Norton Kelley



Educator and genealogist, Kate Kelley, founder of The Photo Angel Project, has spent years reuniting forgotten photos with their families. A longtime special education teacher in Massachusetts, Kate combines her love of history, research and storytelling to bring these memories back home.

It all began with a pile of labeled photos of non-relatives that were mixed in with Kate's Grandparents' old family pictures. Were they friends? Classmates? War buddies? Neighbors? Kate was determined to find out.

In addition to giving presentations to local and national genealogical and historical societies, she has been featured on the Today Show and in the Boston Globe, Kate will share the story behind her project and offer a look at how she tracks down descendants from a single photograph.

Note: Our March meeting was a tour of the Family Search Center in Oakland. There is no recording for the March Meeting. ■

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 wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com.

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President's Message

By Scott Hefner



I recently had the opportunity to participate in staffing the genealogy help desk at the Danville Library, one of the initiatives Steve Watty has been spearheading to increase our Society's visibility in the community and encourage interest in genealogy research. It was an interesting 3 hours. While we only had three customers, a couple and an individual, we spent a fair amount of time with them discussing their families, their objectives, and their research efforts to date. It was an interesting and enlightening process and I'd like to share some of my observations with you.

First, it was fun to see how excited people get when they see facts, photos, and information about their ancestors displayed for them that they hadn't seen or known about before. Many of us have vague notions about many of our ancestors but are short on facts. We think our maternal great-grandfather was born in Arkansas, but we're not sure of the date and place where he and our great-grandmother got married. We've been told our paternal great-grandfather emigrated from Germany around 1900 but we don't know the ship or arrival port. Seeing the facts laid out in front of us in black and white (or on a computer screen) for the first time can be stunning.

The interaction with our guests was also a reminder about how much information is available online, and that most people have no idea the scope of data that exists, or how or where to access it. In our brief time together we pulled up birth records from Italy, existing online family trees, census records, passenger lists, marriage records, and more. As genealogists we are aware of the wide range of available record types and records, and sometimes we start to take it for granted. But to a "newbie" who is just starting out, it can be astonishing and exciting to just get a taste of the possibilities.

Finally, seeing extensive family trees containing their ancestors on a site like Family Search and realizing how quickly they can fill in their own tree

is stunning. Our guests left the impression they couldn't wait to get home, create their own account, and get started on their research immediately.

Of course, we discussed our Society with them and encouraged them to join us. Hearing about the many benefits of membership such as SIGs, Zoom presentations, field trips, and just the fun of being around others who share your passion and interest in genealogy, was obviously appealing to them.

Kudos to Steve, Karen O., Ted, Karen L., Margaret and others who have participated in these help desk sessions. If nothing else, it has been a great benefit to our community, and it has already brought us several new members, and judging by my experience we can expect to see a few more.■

In Memoriam—Edward Mason



We are saddened to hear of the passing of Ed on February 1, 2026 at the age of 92. He was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts and settled in Lafayette in 1968 before moving to Alamo in 1982. After retiring he joined SRVGS in 2002 and quickly became an active member of the society, holding at various times many different elected Board positions: President, 1st VP, Membership-3rdVP, Treasurer, Webmaster and Auditor until 2020. He was SRVGS President 2006-2009 and at the same time became our first Webmaster setting up our first pages and filled that position for 2 years until he handed it off to Bob Venter. In his role as Treasurer, he set up the Excel spreadsheet system that was used by all of our Treasurers until we switched to using Google Sheets recently. He was an excellent and enthusiastic genealogist who inspired many of our ranks to be involved. He will be missed.

At our recent Board meeting Kathy Javdani recalls her first month with the Society in 2005 when Ed asked her if she'd like to be on the Programs Committee. "I know nothing and no-one", she responded. "What better way to learn", he replied. He really invigorated our Society.■

SRVGS Election is coming up at our May in person meeting. In keeping with our constitution and by-laws we are publishing the slate of officers to be voted on.

Proposed 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

The Election will take place at the May General meeting on 19 May 2026

Do you have a Revolutionary War Veteran ancestor?

In getting ready for our country's 250th anniversary in July, your board members thought it would be an interesting project to collect the names and information on the patriot ancestors of our membership. If you know this information for any of your lines, please submit the following information for us to include in our database: your name, the name of your patriot or Loyalist ancestor, your relationship to the ancestor, BMD info, any service info that you have and any additional information that you wish to share.

If you don't know yet, and have ancestors who lived in the colonies in the mid to late 1700's, now is the time to do some research! Let us know if you need help.

Send submissions or questions to Karen LaDuca at kblquilt@comcast.net and our committee will get to work on putting the information together to post on our website. We would like to have this available for our May general meeting which will be focused on **America 250**.



Did you go to RootsTech, either in person or virtually? Did you listen to any presentations that impressed you or you think were worthwhile spreading the word to the rest of our membership? Just send me a line or two on the presentation and why you thought it was memorable and I'll publish your comments in upcoming issues.

Oakland Family Search Center Field Trip

By Margaret Goetze



Thirty members of the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society met at the Oakland FamilySearch library for a presentation and free time to pursue family research on March 17. We were hosted by Rudy and Laurie Wolf who are the coordinators for the Oakland location. You may recall that Rudy directed our very own Danville FSC before being promoted to direct the Oakland Center. Our meeting opened with Rudy giving a presentation on the tools and resources available in Oakland and with both Laurie and Rudy answering our many questions. Everyone is welcome and there is no proselytizing.

The FamilySearch application has over 8+ billion searchable records with billions of additional images that are not yet indexed. With more than a billion individuals, it is a single collaborative tree. The records span over 200 countries, in 20+ languages, with millions of records added every day by more than 300 camera teams who continually digitize records worldwide.

When onsite, patrons have complimentary access to Ancestry.com, MyHeritage, FindMyPast (UK), Geneanet, Filea (French), and Archion (German), Newspapers.com and many others. In Oakland there are fifty computer workstations with volunteers who are available to assist researchers with ancestors in different countries. A number of the volunteers are certified genealogists. One area they stressed was the scanning capability with devices that can scan not only the regular 8 1/2 x 11 page but also large size items such as newspapers diplomas and certificates and scanners that you can feed in multiple items at a time. They also have the ability to scan 35mm slides, whole carousels at a time.

After the presentation, attendees were free to further their research and socialize with other members. The lunch room has a beautiful view of the Oakland Hills, and downtown San Francisco. There is plenty of parking. They are open six days a week and their schedule is online. On their site you can also find the classes that are offered to assist you with your genealogy. ■

New things coming to our website

When was the last time you visited our Society's website www.srvgensoc.org? A 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 by the end of May or sometime in June. We will keep you posted and announce when we will be "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, so stay tuned. This is the first announcement of what we anticipate will be several. ■

I Can't Believe My Own Eyes!

By Barbara Thurston, Editor

BREAKING NEWS: Most of the 1890 U.S. Census Has Been Found—And It's in Almost Perfect Condition!

Washington, D.C., March 23, 2026 — In a jaw-dropping revelation that has sent genealogists into a frenzy, the National Archives announced today that a long-lost treasure trove of the 1890 U.S. Census records has been rediscovered, meticulously preserved, and should be available for public viewing soon. The census, widely considered the “Holy Grail” of genealogical research, was believed to have been destroyed in a catastrophic fire over 130 years ago. But, as of today, researchers can access over 500,000 pages of the long-lost documents—some in pristine condition, others with barely a hint of smoke damage.

“This is a truly unprecedented moment for genealogists everywhere,” said Martha Kline, Director of the National Archives. “After all these years of uncertainty, we can finally confirm that the 1890 census records—once thought to be lost forever—have been found, catalogued, and preserved. The value of these records cannot be overstated.”

The rediscovery, which occurred after a routine archival search of government storage rooms in a hidden section of the National Archives building, was completely unexpected. The records were not only intact but remarkably detailed, with several pages showing new, previously unknown data about 19th-century Americans—data that could revolutionize historical research.

The Rediscovery

The 1890 census was reported destroyed in a fire at the U.S. Commerce Department building in Washington, D.C., in 1921, leaving only fragments of the original records behind. For decades, genealogists and historians have been plagued by the loss, with only a few surviving census schedules—many in poor condition—available for research. The fire's destruction of the census meant that whole generations of Americans had remained shrouded in mystery.

But today's announcement reveals that the fire might not have been as devastating as previously thought. According to a statement from the National Archives, a set of “miraculously preserved” census records was found tucked away in an unexpected location: the attic of the building, inside a forgotten collection of shipping crates from the early 20th century.

“Believe it or not, the crates were labeled ‘Miscellaneous Bureau Records, Do Not Open,’” said Robert Mathis, lead archivist at the National Archives. “We were just as shocked as anyone when we opened them to find pristine copies of the 1890 census, perfectly intact. The records are in remarkable condition. Some of the papers even have a faint ‘newspaper smell,’ as if they’d just been printed.”

What's Inside the Newly Found 1890 Census Records

The newly discovered census data, which spans more than 700 counties across the United States, includes an astonishing level of detail that was previously unheard of for 19th-century census schedules. For instance, entire family households are listed not only by name, age, and occupation, but also by the type of household pet, detailed descriptions of family members' “eccentricities,” and even lists of their social club memberships.

Some of the most fascinating finds include:

The “Pet Census”: For the first time ever, researchers can now see exactly what kinds of pets were owned by families in 1890. The data includes a wealth of information on pet ownership, including the most common animals in households (dogs, cats, and, unexpectedly, parrots) as well as “highly unusual” pets like monkeys, snakes, and an obscure species of ferret known only to aristocratic families.

I Can't Believe My Own Eyes! (cont'd)

The “Eccentricities of the Nation”: A surprising section of the census includes detailed notes on “eccentric family members,” with descriptions like “Ruth Smith: Talks to the plants daily, believes they are her ancestors” or “Henry Jones: Still believes in fairies and refuses to sleep without his magic amulet.” Experts believe these descriptions will open new avenues for genealogists exploring family mental health and quirky family histories.

The Social Club Listings

For the first time in history, the 1890 census includes a section where families were asked to list any social clubs they belonged to, from the “Reformed Woodworkers of Cleveland” to “The Pompous Aardvark Society of Brooklyn.” Researchers are already speculating that this data could provide invaluable insights into social stratification and underground social movements of the late 19th century.

What This Means for Genealogists

For genealogists, this discovery is nothing short of revolutionary. The 1890 census was often considered a major “brick wall” for researchers, with many individuals’ records lost to history after the fire. Now, for the first time, the complete census will be available to anyone seeking to track down elusive ancestors or better understand their family’s history.

“This is a game-changer for anyone researching family trees from the 1880s to the early 1900s,” said Daniel Thurston, a professional genealogist and president of the International Genealogical Society. “For years, we’ve been at a disadvantage, unable to fill in crucial gaps. Now, with these newly found records, it’s like unlocking a whole new dimension of American history.”

However, there are concerns about the authenticity of the newly discovered records. Some genealogists have raised questions about the provenance of the documents, with a few suggesting that the records may have been fabricated as part of an elaborate practical joke. “It just seems too good to be true,” said one anonymous genealogist, who questioned the sudden appearance of such perfect records. “It’s like finding the lost city of Atlantis of census data.”

How to Access the Rediscovered 1890 Census

The National Archives has made the newly discovered 1890 census records available for online research through a new portal, [CensusReborn.gov](https://www.censusreborn.gov) to be available soon. Effort has already begun to digitize and index the documents. Beginning on April 1, 2027, genealogists and history enthusiasts should be able to access the complete records free of charge. The portal will include a searchable database that allows users to find their ancestors by name, location, and even their unique pet or eccentricity.

In addition to the online portal, physical copies of the 1890 census will be available for viewing at the National Archives, where a special exhibit will open later this summer, showcasing some of the most remarkable findings from the newly rediscovered records.

Conclusion: A Momentous Discovery

The rediscovery of the 1890 census marks a turning point in American genealogical research. With the preservation of such detailed, unique information about American families, researchers now have the opportunity to uncover previously hidden stories about our ancestors. For many genealogists, it feels like a dream come true. And, for others... it may be more of a dream gone awry.

For more information, visit [CensusReborn.gov](https://www.censusreborn.gov) when it is announced and begin exploring the remarkable records that have changed the face of genealogy forever.

Well, by now you have no doubt realized this is an April Fool's joke! And if you hadn't, then Gotcha! The 1890 census is still largely lost to history... but wouldn't it be amazing if it weren't? ■



SAN RAMON VALLEY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



2026
ANNUAL MEETING

CELEBRATION OF AMERICA'S 250TH YEAR!
INCLUDING ELECTIONS AND SPEAKERS ON
REVOLUTIONARY WAR ANCESTORS
& LINEAGE SOCIETIES (DAR AND SAR)



TUESDAY, MAY 19TH
10 AM - 12 NOON
(IN-PERSON ONLY)

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
2949 STONE VALLEY RD
ALAMO, CA





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 2026

- 21 Tuesday-10am, the April General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Kate Norton Kelley will present **Reuniting Families with Lost Photos**
- 28 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

May 2026

- 19 Tuesday-10am, the May meeting will be a General Meeting to be held in person at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Alamo.
- 26 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

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

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Editor: Barbara Thurston

Calendar Coordinator:
 Bill George

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bill George
webmaster@srvgensoc.org

will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome

August 2026—No meeting or Board Meeting this month

September 2026

- 15 Fall Picnic at a local park, details forthcoming as they become available■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR APRIL, 2026

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In April, 2026, all seven Special Interest Groups will meet 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, April 13th (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, April 8th, (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, April 15th, (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, Thursday April 20th (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, April 16th (the 3rd Thursday) **10:30am - 12 Noon in a Google Meet meeting**. Contact Kathy Javdani at kjjsc@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, April 27th (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, April 22nd, (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 April. Let's rejoice in a gorgeous spring by learning more about our families.

☞ The California Genealogy Society Library, www.californiaancestors.org is open on Thursday through Saturday from 10-2. Refer to the society's website for specific procedures for Saturday visits and to register for the following activities. Note any fees. 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, handout 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. Apr. 4th from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Organizing Your Family History Work**.
- On Wed. Apr. 15th from 6:30-8, in a hybrid meeting Lisa Gorrell will examine **Probate Records: More Than Wills**.
- On Sat. Apr. 18th from 10-12, Sandra Huber will lead the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom. Contact sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- In addition, on the 18th from 1-3, Ron Madison 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 Wed. Apr. 22nd from 6:30-8, the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** with Keith Montgomery will meet online. Contact Keith at kmontgomery@californiaancestors.org to register.

- On Thu. Apr. 23rd from 10:30-12:30, Jane Lindsey will lead a **CGS members Field Trip to the Oakland FamilySearch Center**. Contact Jane at jlindsey@californiaancestors.org.
- On Sat. Apr. 25th from 1-2:30, Stewart Traiman will lead a Zoom session on **Excel for Genealogists**. \$5 for non-members
- On Mon. Apr. 27th from 7-8:30, the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.
- On Sat. May 2nd from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Genealogy Basics Overview**.
- The Mayflower Descendants SIG is no longer meeting. Contact Robert at rtrapp@californiaancestors.org for help with Mayflower ancestry and how to join The Society of California Mayflower Descendants



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. Many classes are available both in-person and via zoom. A button to join each Zoom is on the website. Here are some (but not all...):

- On Wed. Apr. 1st from 9-10:30, Wendy Rupper will lead **DNA to “Discover New Ancestors” on MyHeritage and Ancestry.com.**
- Also, on Wed. Apr. 1st from 11-12, **Using Premium Partner Websites.**
- Also on Wed. Apr. 1st from 12:30-1:30, **Ancestry—How to get started.**
- Also on Wed. Apr. 1st from 1-2, Robert Jackson will lead the **German Genealogy SIG.** In person.
- Also, on Wed. Apr. 1st from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy.** Hybrid.
- On Wed, Apr. 8th from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy.** Hybrid.
- Wed., Apr. 15th, from 1-2, Jared Weaver will host the **Danish SIG.** In person.
- In addition, on the 15th from 1-2, Esta Weaver will lead the **Norwegian/Swedish SIG.** In person.
- On Wed, Apr. 22nd from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy.** Hybrid.
- Also, on the 22nd from 6-8, Electra Kimble Price will host the **African American Workshop.** Hybrid.
- On Wed. Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 3-4:30 Rhonda McClure, Christopher Child, Melanie McComb, Hallie Kirchner and David Lambert will present a series of sessions on **Massachusetts Research: Four Centuries of History and Genealogy.** \$125
- On Thu. Apr. 9th from 10-11, Chris Gerrard will explore **Unlocking the Stories of the Scottish Soldiers from the Battle of Dunbar, 1650.**
- On Mon. Apr. 13th from 4-5, Cheryl McKissacks Daniels will share her book, **The Black Family Who Build America: The McKissacks, Two Centuries of Daring Pioneers.**
- On Tue. Apr. 14th from 10-11:30, David Lambert will explore **Finding the Elusive Maiden Name.** \$25
- On Thu. Apr. 16th from 1-2, Madeline DeDePanken will present **Declarations of Americanism: Jewish-American Displays of National Identity.**
- On Fri. Apr. 17th from 1-2:30, Curt DiCamillo will offer **Classical Architecture & Decorative Arts in British Houses, Part 1.** \$15
- On Sat. Apr. 18th from 12-3, Melanie McComb will discuss **From Tyranny to Freedom: Irish Contributions to the American Revolution.** Hybrid.
- On Thu. Apr. 30th from 3-4, Rosie Grant will share her book, **To Die For: A Cookbook of Gravestone Recipes.**

Visit www.familysearch.org/en/centers/oakland_california/learning-resources 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. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education. Register for its webinars on the society's website.

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. Apr. 7th from 2:30-3:30 Lisa Minogue will answer **Did Grandpa Live on the Freeway? Digitally Merging Old and New Maps.**
- On Thu. Apr. 9th from 3:30-4:30 Jeremy Verduco will examine **Uncovering Your Ancestors Through Newspapers: Starting with Family Research and Making the Most of Your Discoveries.**
- On Tue. Apr. 14th from 11:30-12:30, Chris Morton will present **Develop and Digitize Your Family History Archives with Anderson Archival.**
- On Thu. Apr. 16th from 3:30-4:30, Debbie Kroopkin will share **Genealogy Research Around the World with JewishGen.Org.**
- On Tue. Apr. 21st from 11:30-12:30, Kate McKenzie will discuss **The Queen City: Tracing Ancestors in Cincinnati.**
- On Thu. Apr. 23rd from 3:30-4:30, Rachael Mellen will examine **Wills and Their Whereabouts (England).**

 Legacy offers numerous free webinars every month. Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com> to register.

- On Wed., Apr. 1st at 8:30 am, Yvonne Fenster will explore **Untangling Family Networks: Solving Paternity with DNA and Records.**
- Also, on the 1st, at 9:45, Penny Howard will discuss **DNA Matches: Getting Answers From Unresponsive Cousins.**
- In addition, on the 1st at 11, Laura Hedgecock will lead a **Panel: DNA Surprises and Family Identity: A Guide to Preparation, Processing and Family Storytelling.**
- On Wed. Apr. 8th at 11, Judy Russell will present **Advertising the Law: The Gems in the Legal Notices.**
- Also, on the 8th at 5, Andrew Redfern will examine **From Research to Data with AI 3 of 5: Organizing Information – Tables, Tags, and Templates.** (For webinar members)
- On Fri. Apr. 10th at 11, Ari Wilkins will share

Black and White Southern Families in Southern Plantation Records.

- On Tue. Apr. 14th at 11, Cathy Wallace will offer **5 Ways to Use AI to Find Family in Final Records at MyHeritage.**
- On Wed. Apr. 15 at 11, Karen Stanbary, will explore **DNA in Action 2 of 6: Writing Proofs including DNA.**
- In addition, on the 15th at 5 Andrew Redfern will discuss **From Research to Data with AI 4 of 5: Seeing Patterns – Summaries, Timelines, and Clusters.** (For webinar members)
- On Fri. Apr. 17th at 11, Christine Woodcock will present **Researching Métis Ancestors: Origins, Scrip, and Red River Records.**
- On Tue. Apr. 21st at 5, Kristina Clever will answer **What's in a Name? Finding Your Norwegian Ancestors.**
- On Wed. Apr. 22nd at 11, Angela McGhie will offer **Fields of Hope: African Americans, Immigrants, and Women in the Homesteading Era.**
- On Wed. Apr. 22nd at 5, Andrew Redfern will discuss **From Research to Data with AI 5 of 5: Your AI Research Assistant – Logs, Notes, and Citations.** (For webinar members)
- On Fri. Apr. 24th at 11, Dave McDonald will share **Essential Skills for New Genealogists 2 of 12: Vital Records-Records of Hatchings, Matchings, and Dispatchings.**
- On Tue. Apr. 28th at 11, Lisa Alzo will explore **Using MyHeritage to Create Interactive Family Histories.**
- On Wed. Apr. 29th at 11, Torhild Shirley will discuss mastering the **ICAPGen Accreditation Process: Your Path to Professional Success.**
- On Fri. May 1st at 11, Paula Stuart-Warren will share **Insight into State Archives ARCs, IRADs, ONAHRs, and Other**

Branches.

 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

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=PLwtrWl_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6

Events from Local Societies

- The San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom. Check its website for further information and to register.
- On Mon. April 13th from 7 -8:30 the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will host a Zoom meeting. Dawn Kosmakos, the guest speaker, will explore **Genetic Genealogy Case Studies**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. April 9th at 6:30, the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, <http://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Sylvia Doolos, will share **Faith and Founding Fathers: Religion's Role in America's Story**. Register under events on the society's website
- On Tue. April 21st from 6:30-8, the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society, https://scchgs.org, will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. Kathryn Hogan, the guest speaker, will present **Migration Pathways Between Canada and the United States You**

Haven't Considered. Register under events on the society's website.

- On Thu. Apr. 16th at 1, the Napa Valley Genealogical Society, <https://napagensoc.org>, will hold its monthly meeting in the hybrid format. The guest speaker, Christine Cohen, will examine the **Grand Army of the Republic**. Register on the society's website.

Upcoming Special Events

- From May 27th-30th the **National Genealogical Society 2026 Family History Conference** will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana in a hybrid format. Register at <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>
- From June 12th-17th (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 Sept. 16th-18th **We Are Cousins** will hold its **9th We Are Cousins Virtual Genealogy Conference**. Register at <https://wacconference.com/>
- On September 18th and 19th the North Carolina Genealogical Society will hold its **hybrid 2026 Fall Conference from Raleigh, NC**. Save the date registration details to follow.
- On Nov. 6th and 7th 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. 16th 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/> ■

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
 6:30pm – 9:00pm
 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. ■