



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XLI No. 8 March - 2026

March Event

Tuesday, March. 17th, 2026 at 10am

Oakland Family Search Center

Field Trip



Theme: Working on genealogy can be a complex undertaking as the hobby genealogist works on understanding family histories, changes in boundaries, deciphering handwriting, understanding their ancestors' cultures, digitizing photographs, slides and films, learning how to use ever-changing genealogical software and research databases and so much more. This work can get overwhelming. You are not alone. There is help available in many forms. This presentation introduces the audience to an integrated set of resources specifically designed to support the hobby genealogist.

Target Audience: Beginner and intermediate genealogists
Length: 90 minutes without Q&A. Allot 2 hours.

Outline:

Introduction to the presenters,
any specific questions to be addressed?

FamilySearch Overview (10 min) – Extent of research capabilities, fundamental organizational approach, mission of FamilySearch, capabilities FamilySearch brings to the public.: Research Database, Personal Account and FamilyTree, Memories, Infrastructure.

Research Database and Personal Account (45 min) – Fan Chart capabilities, Research Helps, Research Wiki, how to create a FS Account, how to populate your tree (type it in, find it, GEDCOM import)

Memories (20 min) – Demo of the FS Gallery and Memories App, including the sharing of stories and culturally important information for children via email, etc.

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

CONTACT INFORMATION	5
DANVILLE FSC HOURS	11
EDUCATION	7
EVENTS FROM LOCAL SOCIETIES	10
MARK YOUR CALENDAR	5
NOTES ON FEB. MEETING	4
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	3
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	6
UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS	11

Infrastructure (15 min) – Description of the infrastructure supplied by FamilySearch, including FamilySearch Centers (1:1 help, scanning, premium websites), phone 1:1 support, FSC combined calendar, training capabilities, RootsTech videos.

Q&A (30 min) – could be done at the end of each section.

Outcome: Based on previous sessions, we expect the audience to walk away with a sense of excitement for continuing their own family history efforts. They will feel more comfortable in knowing about additional resources, available free of charge, designed specifically to help them.

Stay as long as you like: Although the tour is scheduled for about 2 hours, you are welcome to close out the day at the FSC and do some research you've been meaning to do or perhaps to start on some research based on what you've learned on the tour. Bring your lunch and eat in the lunchroom provided or take it outside and enjoy the beautiful gardens and flowers. Hours for the Oakland FSC are below. Center Contact Info: (510) 531-3905 CA_Oakland@familyhistorymail.org. Center Address: 4766 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, CA, 94602

Monday: by appointment only

Tuesday: 10am-4pm

Wednesday: 10am to 8pm

Thursday: 10am-8pm

Friday: 10am-4pm

Saturday: 10am-4pm ■

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 kblquilts@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**.



Don't forget Rootstech is coming up this month, March 5th-7th, both on-line and in person. Registration for either is [here](#). This is the largest family history conference and genealogical learning library.



President's Message

By Scott Hefner



As I discussed in last month's message, the Society is encouraging members to participate in a fun exercise to increase engagement with the America250 celebrations. The exercise is to identify any of your ancestors who were participants in the Revolutionary War. I've been engaged in tracking down my ancestors and thought I'd share some of my experiences and observations from the process.

Of course, the first part of the process is to identify who among your ancestors might have served in the Revolutionary War, so this presupposes that you have traced at least some of your family lines to the 1700's and have established that they resided here between 1775 and 1783. In theory, they should have been males of military age during those years, e.g., between 18 and 39, but like many conflicts age rules can be somewhat flexible for Revolutionary War soldiers, which I found particularly relevant in my case.

After establishing the pool of possibilities, the next step is to find evidence of military service. It's important to remember that not everyone who fought in the Revolution fought on the American side or even in the American army. Loyalists were settlers in the Colonies whose sympathies and service were for the British Army, and my brother-in-law has an ancestor who fought in the Revolutionary War but as a soldier in the French Army. So far, my research has focused on soldiers in the American army.

Up to this point I've identified three direct ancestors who fought in the Revolution, a 5X Paternal Great Grand Father, a 4X Paternal Great Grand Father, and a 5X Maternal Great Grand Father. To be honest, I didn't discover this entirely through my own research, I was lucky enough to find connections between my tree and others who had already done that research for me. I've been able to find supporting documents from multiple sources, including the DAR, the SAR, Fold3, family books, Ancestry, MyHeritage, military pension records,

land grant records, and more. It's truly miraculous the amount of information and resources that are available to us online!

One of my ancestors is pretty straightforward and solid, but the other two have been problematic. In spite of the fact they have been confirmed in the DAR and SAR databases, there is some disagreement about basic facts such as birth year and place of birth. I have made frequent use of AI bots in attempting to sort this out. For example, one shows a birth year of 1718 or 1720 in England, but the DAR record says 1743. An AI query states that my ancestor arrived on a shipload of emigrants from the Palatinate in Philadelphia in 1743, and that some genealogy researchers have mistakenly used that as his birth year. It provided me with a timeline of his emigration to America, including ship name and passenger list, and his movements from Pennsylvania to Maryland to Kentucky. It also suggested research strategies and an approach to document his birth and death dates, family members, his will, and more. I'm still working through the process but have found the AI recommendations very helpful.

If you think you may have a Revolutionary War veteran or two in your family tree, this America250 year is a great time to discover it, and there are more tools and resources available to help you. Happy hunting!■

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Janet Luhmann

Steven Schnier

Karen Ambrogio

Bill Pratt

**Notes from February Speaker,
Mark McLaren, SRVGS DNA SIG Leader
“Review of DNA Testing Companies Features and Tools ”**

By Margaret Goetze

Mark McLaren is a long time member of the SRVGS and leads the DNA Special Interest group. He stepped in on short notice when our scheduled speaker became ill. His presentation gave us an update on the DNA testing companies and their new features.

There is no handout, however you may access the recording on our website for thirty days. Mark provided an update on the autosomal testing companies with the goal of highlighting their differences and reviewing their features and tools. Ideally you will learn something new about a company you are already working with, and advantages of a company you may be less familiar with.

It is assumed that you already have a basic knowledge of DNA tests and terminology. He noted that GEDMatch is not a testing company however you can upload your DNA to it. He pointed out that everyone has a bias including himself. All testing companies have their advantages and limitations. People often like the place “where I have the most matches,” and the size of their database and locations of the testers are other important factors.

Ancestry continues to be the leader in the size of its database with 25 million people. 23&Me lost a number of people when they deleted their kits as the company filed for bankruptcy last year, and has dropped to about 10 million. MyHeritage, with a higher number of European testers is about 8 million and FamilyTreeDNA which focuses on Y-DNA (inherited via the male line from father to son) and mtDNA (inherited from mother to her sons and daughters) has about 2 million.

Important criteria for Mark are the ease of navigation for the website, ease in managing multiple test kits, the range of tools, the ability to leverage both family tree and DNA matches, and the amount of DNA details provided. Overall, the recommendation to maximize results of your genealogical research is to be in all of them.

Important elements in using DNA to learn how you are related to people you share DNA with are:

- “Fish in many ponds” and test as many people and many locations as possible
- Use both DNA matches and traditional research to confirm your research
- Start with the largest matches and then work the smaller ones
- Test your oldest known relatives to narrow matches down by family line, and potentially go back one more generation. On average DNA sharing tracks back about five generations.
- Build your tree wide and deep as siblings and their descendants may match you
- Keep track of your shared matches and clusters as solving one may solve several matches
- Use one of the charts that show estimated relationship based on shared cM such as available from DNA Painter rather than from the testing company for better accuracy.

Mark ranks the testing companies, based on his preferences and criteria as:

1. MyHeritage
2. Ancestry
3. FamilyTree DNA (FTDNA)
4. 23&Me

For the details on the companies be sure to access the meeting recording. If you want to further your genealogy through the use of DNA, consider joining the DNA SIG which meets the 3rd Monday of the month from 1pm to 3pm via Zoom. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 2026

- 17 Tuesday-10am the March General Meeting will be as a Field Trip/Excursion to the Family Search Center in Oakland.
- 24 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

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.■

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Scott Hefner
president@srvgensoc.org

1st Vice President:
 Karen LaDuca

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

3rd V.P. Membership:
 Julie Basel
membership@srvgensoc.org

Treasurer: Jill Zollinger

Corresponding Secretary:
 Barbara Shapas
secretary@srvgensoc.org

Recording Secretary:
 Margaret Goetze

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor: Barbara Thurston

Calendar Coordinator:
 Bill George

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bill George

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 350th year
- 28 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR MARCH, 2026

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In March, 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 a local German restaurant from 11:30-1:30. 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, March 9th (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, March 11th, (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, March 18th, (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 March 16th (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, March 19th (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, March 23rd (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.ancestor.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, March 25th, (the 4th Wednesday). Lunch at a local German restaurant from **11:30-1:30** Please RSVP or contact **Karen LaDuca** at kblquilts@comcast.net for more info. ■



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



It's March. Beware of the Ides of March, but use those strong spring breezes to soar to great learning.

☞ 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. Mar. 1st from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Vital Records**.
- On Wed. Mar. 18th from 6:30-8, in a hybrid meeting Lisa Gorrell will explore **Land Records in Former Colonial States: What is Metes & Bounds?**
- On Sat. Mar. 14th from 10-12, Sandra Huber will lead the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom. Contact sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- In addition, on the 14th 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 Mon. Mar. 23rd from 7-8:30, the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.

- On Wed. Mar. 25th 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. Apr. 4th from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Organizing Your Family History Work**.
- 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. Here are some:

- On Wed. Mar. 4th from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy**. Hybrid.
- Also, on March 4th from 1-2, Robert Jackson will lead the **German Genealogy SIG**. In person.
- On Wed. Mar. 11th from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy**. Hybrid.

- On Wed. Mar. 18th from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy**. Hybrid.
- Also on the 18th, from 1-2, Jared Weaver will host the **Danish SIG**. In person.
- In addition, on the 18th from 1-2 Esta Weaver will lead the **Norwegian/Swedish SIG**. In person.
- On Wed. Mar. 25th from 2-2:15, a staff member will offer the **15 Min. Weekly Tip: AI Use for Genealogy**. Hybrid.
- In addition, on the 25th from 6-8 p.m., Electra Kimble Price will host the **African American Workshop**. Hybrid.

 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.

- On Tue. Mar. 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st Rhonda McClure, Eileen Pironti, Melanie McComb and Judith Lucey will present a series of sessions on **Finding Irish Ancestors: A Guide to Civil and Church Records**. \$125
- On Thu. Mar. 12th from 12-1, David Lambert will discuss **The Basics of Massachusetts Family History Research**.
- Also, on Mar. 12th from 3-4, Elizabeth Evitts Dickinson will share her book, **Claire McCardell: The Designer Who Set Women Free**.
- On Fri. Mar. 13th from 10-11:15, Christopher Ridgway will examine **Slain, Beheaded & Imprisoned: How the Howard Family Survived the Tudors**.

- On Thu. Mar. 19th from 1-2, Madeline DeDe Panken will present **In Concert: How Jewish Women Built Community Through Music**.
- On Sat. Mar. 21st from 11-12, Melanie McComb will explore researching **Women in the American Revolution**. \$15
- On Fri. Mar. 27th from 10-11:15, Adrian Tinniswood will discuss **The Houses of Guinness**.
- On Sat. Mar. 28th from 10-11, Melanie McComb will share **Getting Started in Family History Research**.

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. Mar. 3rd from 11:30-12:30, Janice Smithers will offer **Practical Steps for Learning Your Family History**.
- On Tue. Mar. 10th from 11:30-12:30, Joe Collins will explore **The Magic of a Voice, a Story and a Family History**.
- On Thu. Mar. 12th from 3:30-4:30, Tegan Price will share **Reading and Understanding Norwegian Records**.
- On Tue. Mar. 17th from 11:30-12:30, Elizabeth Hodges will explore **Tracing Your Irish Roots: An Intro to Irish Genealogy**.
- On Thu. Mar. 19th from 3:30-4:30, Joy Reddicks will discuss **Curating Your Physical Photo Legacy: A Minimalist System for Sentimental Keepers**.

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

- On Tue. Mar. 3 at 11, Daniel Horowitz will discuss **Ultimas Funcionalidades de MyHeritage**.
 - On Thu. Mar. 5th at 6 a.m. , Nacy Loe will share **Le Systeme d'Organisation Genealogie a Six Dossiers**.
 - On Tue. Mar. 10th at 7 a.m. , Sonia Meza will examine **Diccionario Geografico de Espana para genealogistas: como interpretar lugares antiguos en tus investigaciones familiares**.
 - On Wed. Mar. 11th at 11, Alec Feretti will explore **Leveraging Freedom of Information Laws to Procure Novel Records**.
 - Also, on the 11th at 5, Andrew Redfern will present from **Research to Data with AI 1 of 5: Extracting with AI**.
 - On Thu. Mar. 12th at 7 a.m. , Thomas MacEntee will offer **Annuaire urbains: aucune ville n'est trop petite, aucun indice n'est insignifiant**.
 - On Fri. Mar. 13th at 11, Paul Milner will examine **Researching in Northumberland & Durham**.
 - On Tue. Mar. 17th at 11, Lisa Medina will share **Paleografia, Abreviaturas y Formulas Comunes de los Archivos Parroquiales en America Latina**
 - Also, on the 17th Kelley Lear will present **Patterns from the Past: Using Visuals to Showcase Correlation and Analysis**.
 - On Wed. Mar. 18th at 11, Blaine Bettinger will explore **Advanced Topics in DNA 2 of 5: Digging Deep into the Science of Autosomal DNA**.
 - On Thu. Mar. 19th at 7 a.m. , Mike Mansfield will share **Pourquoi faire un test AND pour la recherche genealogique**.
 - On Fri. Mar. 20th at 11, Lisa Medina will discuss **The Largest Diocese: History and Records of the Archivo Historico del Arquidiocesis of Guadalajara**.
 - On Fri. Feb. 20th at 11, Jude Rhodes will offer **Emigration and Migration from Yorkshire, England**.
 - On Tue. Mar. 24th at 7 a.m. , Elisabeth Zetland will present **Ce que vous ne saviez pas pouvoir faire avec MyHeritage 1 sur 5**.
 - Also, on the 24th at 11 Daniel Horowitz will offer **RootsTech 2026 Recap: MyHeritage's Announcements**.
 - On Wed. Mar. 25th at 11, Julia Anderson will share **Anatomy of a Union Pension File: A Civil War Case Study**.
 - Also, on the 25th at 5, Andrew Redfern will present **From Research to Data with AI 2 of 5: Cleaning Up—Fixing, Formatting, and Validating Data**.
 - On Thu. Mar. 26th at 7 a.m. Diane Henriks will offer **Comience su viaje por la historia familiar de forma gratuita con MyHeritage**.
 - On Tue. Mar. 31st at 11, James Tanner will discuss **Mejora la precision de tu arbol genealogico con la linea de tiempo y el verificador de coherencia de MyHeritage**.
 - Also, on the 31st at 6, Peggy Jude will explore **Organizing AI Research: Saving and Searching Your Best Genealogy Chats**.
 - On Wed. Apr. 1st at 8:30 a.m. , Yvonne Fenster will present **Untangling Family Solving Paternity with DNA and Records**.
 - Also, on the 1st at 9:45 a.m. , Kate Howard will examine **DNA Matches: Getting Answers from Unresponsive Cousins**.
-  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.
-  The Kentucky Genealogical Society, <https://www.kygs.org>, will hold two webi-

nars in March. Webinars are free for members. Membership is \$20/year. Register on the society's website.

- On Mon. Mar. 9th at 4, Susan Court will answer **Why and How to Join a Lineage Society**.
- On Mon. Mar. 23rd at 4, Luana Darby will share **My Ancestor Knew Daniel Boone – Did Yours? Researching Along the Wilderness Trail**.

And there's 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>

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**, <https://www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html>, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom, details not available at newsletter publication time. Check its website for further information and to register.
- On Mon. Mar. 9th from 7 -8:30, the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, <https://www.l-ags.org>, will host a Zoom meeting. Kathryn Hogan, the guest speaker, will explore **Finding Your Canadian Ancestors**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. Mar. 12th at 6:30, the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Christine Cohen, will share **Homesteading – Land For All**. Register under events on the society's website
- On Tue. Mar. 17th from 6:30-8, the **Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society**, <https://scchgs.org>, will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. Kim Harrison, the

guest speaker, will present **Book of Clues: Using County Histories as a Resource**. Register under events on the society's website.

- On Thu. Mar. 19th at 1, the **Napa Valley Genealogical Society**, <https://napagensoc.org>, will hold its monthly meeting in the hybrid format. The guest speaker, Kate Howard, will explore **Women's Hidden Histories in Early America**. Register on the society's website.
- On Sat. Mar. 21st the **Sonoma County Genealogical Society**, <https://scgsonline.org>, will have its monthly meeting. Consult its website for details.

Upcoming Special Events

- From March 5th-7th **RootsTech 2026** will be held in a hybrid format. Registration is now open at www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registration
- On Fri., March 27 the **North Carolina Genealogical Society**, www.ncgenealogy.org, will hold its **2026 NCGS Virtual Conference**. Register at <https://www.ncgenealogy.org/event/2026-ncgs-virtual-conference/>
- 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 Nov. 6th-7th the **Texas Genealogical Society**, <https://www.txsgs.org>, will hold its hybrid **2026 TxSGS Family History Conference**. Registration details to follow at <https://www.txsgs.org/2026>. ■

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. ■