



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XLI No. 7 February - 2026

February Presentation

Tuesday, Feb. 17th, 2026 at 10am

“Hidden in Plain Sight” (Via Zoom)

By Katy Bodenhorn”



Hidden in Plain Sight deals primarily with using websites like FamilySearch that have large collections of unindexed records and how to navigate them. They're online, but it's not always obvious and it's not always intuitive how to use them. This is often true of records such as deeds and probate/other court files. I'll also be covering FamilySearch's new "Full Text Search" tool in this lecture.

Katy has a B.A. in Family History and Genealogy from Brigham Young University and over ten years of experience as a professional researcher, speaker, and editor. Most recently, she is the former Genealogy Director for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

She has spent years as a senior-level professional researcher with highly rated companies such as Legacy Tree Genealogists and Price Genealogy. Since 2010, she has completed hundreds of genealogy projects and peer reviews, amounting to tens of thousands of hours of experience across a wide range of time periods and geographic areas. She is a member of the Mid-Atlantic chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists. ■

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.

IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

BOB THOMPSON MEMORIAL	2
CONTACT INFORMATION	5
DANVILLE FSC HOURS	11
EDUCATION	7
EVENTS FROM LOCAL SOCIETIES	10
MARK YOUR CALENDAR	5
NOTES ON JAN. MEETING	3
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS	6
UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS	10



President's Message

By Scott Hefner



Inspired by all of the talk I'm hearing about the 250th Anniversary of our country, I've been looking into my ancestors from that time, especially those who may have served in the War for Independence. Tracing an ancestor who served in the American Revolutionary War (1775–1783) can be both challenging and deeply rewarding. Records from the 18th century are often incomplete, and many soldiers served in short-term militia units rather than standing armies. Still, a wide range of surviving sources—especially those now available online—can help genealogists uncover evidence of Revolutionary War service and place an ancestor within this pivotal era of American history.

One of the most important starting points is compiled military service records. These records summarize information drawn from original muster rolls, pay lists, and other documents. In the United States, many of these records are held by the National Archives (NARA) and are accessible online through platforms such as Fold3, which specializes in military records. These files may include a soldier's rank, unit, dates of service, and occasionally personal details.

Pension and bounty land records are among the richest sources for Revolutionary War research. Veterans—or their widows and heirs—often applied for pensions or land grants, and these applications frequently contain affidavits, family data, marriage information, and personal narratives of service. Digitized pension files can be searched on Fold3, Ancestry, and the National Archives website. Even if your ancestor did not receive a pension, searching these records is essential, as neighbors or relatives may mention them in supporting testimony.

Another key resource is the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Genealogical Research System (GRS). This free online database contains verified lineage information, service descriptions, and references to supporting documentation for thousands of Revolutionary War patriots.

While DAR entries should always be independently verified, they provide valuable clues and citations to original sources. I was fortunate to discover that I have a direct ancestor on both my mother's and father's sides of the family who are listed in the DAR database.

State-level resources are also critical. Each colony—and later state—kept its own militia records, pay rolls, and rosters. Many state archives and historical societies have digitized these materials or published them in print and online. Additionally, local histories, tax lists, and land records can help place a potential soldier in the right location at the right time.

Finally, modern genealogy platforms such as Ancestry, FamilySearch, and MyHeritage allow researchers to correlate military records with census substitutes, probate files, and family trees. Used carefully and critically, these tools make Revolutionary War research more accessible than ever.

With patience, thorough documentation, and a willingness to explore multiple sources, genealogists can successfully identify and honor their Revolutionary War soldier ancestors. In a real way, finding evidence that you have ancestors who directly participated in this critical event in our nation's history makes it feel more personal and strengthens our connection to the past. ■

In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of a long-time member and officer of our Society, Robert "Bob" Thompson. Bob and his wife Mary joined SRVGS in 2015, and Bob was elected Vice President of Membership the following year, followed by his appointment as Parliamentarian. Bob was born in Georgia and received his degree in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech before joining the Navy. It was there he met Mary and they settled in the Bay Area after he left the Navy. Bob loved to travel, was an avid reader, and was an ardent student of history. That love of history, as it often does, led him to wonder about his own ancestors and he subsequently developed a great interest in genealogy. Bob was a devoted and active member of our Society, and leaves behind a loving family and many friends. Rest in peace, Bob, you will be missed. ■

Notes on the January Speaker, Sara Cochran

“Who Needs it Anyway? Getting Around the Missing 1890 Census”

By Margaret Goetze

1890 Census



Storage area inside the Commerce Building after the 1921 fire.

You may have run into the challenge of hoping to find people in the 1890 census. Due to a fire in 1921, and the later destruction of what remained by congressional order in 1934, locating people during that era has its challenges.

Sara Cochran has been a professional genealogist for 30 years. Her informative presentation on ways to find alternative records will be on our website for 30 days. The email with the Zoom link for the meeting also includes her handout or check our website so be sure to download it for reference.

Nearly sixty-three million people were enumerated in the 1890 census. The fire destroyed 25% of the records, and 50% were damaged by water, smoke, and the fire. Just over 1200 pages for six thousand people were all that were salvaged. These may be found at Ancestry.com in the “1890 United States Federal Census Fragment Collection” for people in ten states and the District of

Columbia.

Sara lists twenty-two resources and links at the end of her handout for other places to research to find who you are looking for. The handout also has a full page of Tips of questions to answer to help guide you further. So, what are options that may help you?

The 1890 Veteran Schedules were intended to document Union soldiers; Widows and some Confederate veterans were also included. The records that survive cover about thirty-five states, primarily from Kentucky to Wyoming but not earlier in the alphabet. If your veteran moved, search under the state in which he enlisted. These will be in the State Archive, but they are not digitized.

Many states conducted their own census, often in years ending in a 5. You may find these records in Ancestry and FamilySearch however not all are fully digitized. Additional alternate records include County Histories, Will and Probate records, School Census records, Federal Land Records and Local Land Records. FamilySearch Full Text search may help you locate these records.

Sara gave us hope we might find who we are looking for. A focused research plan and preparation to examine unindexed records may produce results for you. Good luck! ■

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 name of your ancestor and any information you might have on him, such as enlistment place, service information, etc.

At our Board discussion in January, it was brought up that not all of our ancestors may have enlisted, but might have had a supporting role important to the war. And some of us might have Loyalist ancestors or Hessian soldiers with interesting stories to tell. We’d love to hear them!

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.■

A few newsletter issues ago, I featured SRVGenSoc member Sharon Beth Duda with her new book and here she is offering a book signing.

BOOK SIGNING EVENT

Sharon Beth

Saturday

February 7

@ 3pm

AUTUMN LEAVES

A DNA Memoir



*Come say hello, get your copy signed
by the author and meet a surprise
guest from the story!
Books will also be available for purchase.*

THE QUIRKY CROW BOOKSHOP

2005 Crow Canyon. Pl. Suite 162 San Ramon CA 94583
925-359-6048



www.sharonbeth.net



rootstech

Don't forget Rootstech is coming up next 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.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**Deborah J. Graffuis
Diane Bianchi**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR****February 2026**

- 17 Tuesday-10am the February General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Katy Bodenhorn will present **Hidden in Plain Sight ... Plus Using " Full Text Search" Tool on Family Search.org.**
- 24 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

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.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Scott Hefner
president@srvgensoc.org

1st Vice President:
Karen LaDuca

2nd V.P. & Programs Committee:
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Corresponding Secretary:
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Recording Secretary:
Margaret Goetze

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor: Barbara Thurston

Calendar Coordinator:
Bill George

Education Coordinator:
Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bill George

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.■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR FEBRUARY, 2026

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In February, 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 at the Danville FamilySearch Center from 1-2:45pm. 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, February 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, February 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, February 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 kblquilt@comcast.net to be provided the Zoom link to the meeting.



DNA SIG, Thursday February 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, February 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, February 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, February 25th, (the 4th Wednesday) from **1-2:45pm** at the Danville Family Search Center, 2949 Stone Valley Rd., Alamo. **This is an in-person meeting only, no Zoom**. Members share information from a variety of sources. You may contact SIG Leader **Karen LaDuca** at kblquilt@comcast.net. ■



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

It's February, the month of Valentines. Let's show our love for family history by learning more.

☞ 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. Feb. 7th from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Using the Census**.
- On Sat. Feb. 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 Wed. Feb. 18th from 6:30-8, Jane Lindsey will discuss **Finding Living Family Members to Advance Your Genealogical Research**. This will be a hybrid meeting at the Oakland Family Search Library and on Zoom.
- On Sat. Feb. 21st from 10-11:30, the **Eastern European SIG** led by Craig Siulinski and Laura Bajuk will hold its quarterly meeting via Zoom. Contact Craig Siulinski cassleuth@gmail.com for further information.

- On Mon. Feb. 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. Feb. 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. Feb. 28th, Mar. 7 and Mar. 14 from 1-2:30, Pam Brett will offer a 3-class series via Zoom on **Precision Research: Finding Your Ancestors in the Right Context Series**.
- On Sat. Mar. 1st from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Vital Records**.
- 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, too many to list here!.

☞ 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. Feb. 4th from 3-4, Judith Giesberg will share her book **"Last Seen: The Enduring Search by Formerly Enslaved People to Find Their Lost Families"**.
- On Thu. Feb. 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th and Mar. 5th from 3-4, June Henry, Rhonda McClure and Melanie McComb will present **Leveraging Tech Tools in Family History Research**. \$125
- On Sat. Feb. 7th from 11-12, Danielle Rose will explore **Researching Black Patriots and Loyalists During the Revolutionary Era**.
- On Tue. Feb. 10th from 12-1, Rhonda McClure will examine **Faith and Family: Tracing the Religious Roots of Ireland's Past**.
- On Sat. Feb. 14th from 11-1, Ester N will demonstrate **Written with Love: An Introduction to Calligraphy**. \$25
- On Tue. Feb. 17th from 3-4, Dr. Michael Hoberman will discuss his book, **"Imagining Early American Jews"**.
- On Wed. Feb. 18th from 3-7:15, Todd Purdum will share his book **"Desi Arnaz: The Man Who Invented Television"**. \$15
- On Tue. Feb. 24th from 3-4, Gloria McCahon Whiting will discuss her book, **"Belonging: An Intimate History of Slavery and Family in Early New England"**.
- On Fri., Feb. 27th from 10-11:15, Katia Lysy will present **La Foce: Paradise in Tuscany**.

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. Feb. 3rd from 11:30-12:30, Brendan Wolfe will present **The Commissioner and Mr. Coughlin: Two Immigrants, One Murder, and a Search for Origins**.
- On Tue. Feb. 10th from 11:30-12:30, Emma Holmes will offer **Exploring Family History in Rhode Island**.
- On Thu. Feb. 12th from 3:30-4:30, Stacie Murry will share **A Fun Look at Fashion: What Did Your Ancestors Wear**.
- On Tue. Feb. 17th from 11:30-12:30, Barbara will examine **Reimagining Family History Storytelling in a World Transformed by Data**.
- On Thu. Feb. 19th from 3:30-4:30, Carolyn Schott will explore **From Church Archives to KGB Archives**.

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

- On Tue. Feb. 3rd at 5, Paul Milner will present **English Context – History, Sources and Repositories**.
- On Wed. Feb. 4th at 8:30am, Annette Burke Lytle will discuss **Advanced Census Research: Understanding Census Enumerators and Their Instructions**.
- Also, on the 4th at 9:45, Cheri Passey will explore **The Many Faces of the Census: Beyond the Population Schedule – Agricultural, Mortality, and Industry Records**.
- On Fri. Feb. 6th at 11, Dave McDonald will describe **Essential Skills for New Genealogists 1 to 12: Hail the Hunter-Gatherer – Finding What You Already Have**.

- On Tue. Feb. 10th at 4am, Elisabeth Zetland will present **Mieux naviguer dand don arbre MyHeritage: Vues, reglages et astuces d'affichage.**
- Also, on the 10th at 11, James Tanner will offer **Discovering Your Eastern European Ancestors on MyHeritage.**
- On Wed. Feb. 11th at 11, Sunny Morton will share **Searching for Sisters? Researching Catholic Nuns in the United States.**
- On Fri. Feb. 13th at 11, Andre Kearns will examine **Breaking the 1870 Brick Wall: Comprehensive Strategies for Tracing Formerly Enslaved African American Ancestors.**
- On Tue. Feb. 17th at 6am, Cathy Wallace will discuss **Documentacion de cementerios con BillionGraves.**
- In addition, on the 17th, at 5, Angela McGhie will explore **Lineage in Context: Creating a Compelling Kinship-Determination Project.**
- On Wed. Feb. 18th at 11, Karen Stanbary will present **DNA in Action 1 of 6: Proving Your Pedigree with DNA.**
- On Thu. Feb. 19th at 6am, Cathy Wallace will share **Documenter les cimetieres avec BillionGraves.**
- On Fri. Feb. 20th at 11, Jude Rhodes will offer **Emigration and Migration from Yorkshire, England.**
- On Tue. Feb. 24th at 11. Janna Helshtein will explore **Genealogy for our Descendents.**
- On Wed. Feb. 25th at 11, Kory Meyerink will share **50 Most Popular Genealogy Websites for 2026.**
- Also, on the 25th at 5, Andrew Redfern will present **Foundations in AI for Family History 5 of 5: Building Your AI Workflow and Digital Crew.**

📺 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>

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 Wed. Feb. 4 from 6-7, **San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society**, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Anne Hand, will examine **Austrian Again: Reclaiming a Lost Legacy**. further information and to register.
- On Mon. Feb. 9th from 7 -8:30, the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, www.l-ags.org, will host a hybrid meeting Scott Norrick will be the guest speaker. He will share **Online Resources for Researching British Ancestors**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. Feb. 12th at 6:30, the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Dawn Kosmokos, will explore **Genetic Genealogy Case Studies**. Register under events on the society's website
- On Tue. Feb. 17th from 6:30-8, the **Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society**, <https://scchgs.org> will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. Nancy Moffett, the guest speaker, will present **Practical Uses for AI in Genealogy**. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Thu. Feb. 19th at 1, the **Napa Valley Genealogical Society**, <https://napagensoc.org>, will hold its monthly meeting in the hybrid format. Allison Singleton, the guest speaker, will demonstrate **How to Use the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center and PERSI From Home**. Register on the society's website.
- On Tue. Feb. 24th from 10-12, the **Sacramento German Genealogy Society**, <https://sggs.us>, will offer a presentation on Zoom. Anrea Benschneider, the guest speaker, will discuss **German Emi-**

gration in the 19th Century: Beyond Passenger Lists – Overlooked Emigrant & Ship Records. Register on the society's website under calendar.

Upcoming Special Events

- On Sun. Feb. 1st the **Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain** will hold its virtual Mini Conference. Go to www.jsgsb.org.uk/jsgsb-annual-virtual-mini-conference-639 to register.
- From February 1st – 8th, 2026, Matt Berry will lead the **California Genealogy Society's Research Tour to Boston**. There are only 15 spaces available. For details and to Register by October 31 go to www.californiaancestors.org/2025-boston-research-trip/
- On Feb. 7th the **Olympia Genealogical Society** will present a full day, virtual seminar featuring Cyndi Ingle. She will discuss **Decoding Your Ancestors: The Tech Edition**. Visit <https://olygensoc.org/> for details and to register.
- On Sun. Feb. 8th at 2-4pm, Ron Chan will present **Writing Family History With AI** at the **Castro Valley Library**. Explore the fusion of storytelling and artificial intelligence at our Writing Family History with AI Workshop. This interactive session merges theory, demonstrations, and sharing for a dynamic learning experience. *Bring your creativity and laptop, and craft your own AI-assisted family stories*. For more info and registration go to the CV Library [Writing Your Family History with AI | Events | Alameda County Library](#).
- From March 5-7th **RootsTech 2026** will be held in a hybrid format, both on-line and in person. The on-line format is free. Registration is now open at www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registration.
- 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 22-26 (Virtual Courses) the **GRIP Genealogy Institute** will take place. For details and to register visit the



Something different
for an upcoming
meeting...!

For our March Meeting we are taking a trip to tour the Oakland FamilySearch Center and its extensive resources.

WHEN: Tuesday, March 17, 2026

TIME: 10:00 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.

WHERE: 4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602

We will have a guided overview of the FamilySearch Center, its many resources and meet the volunteers available to assist with your research.

If you've never been to this location, you'll be impressed with all they have available. Even if you have been, there will surely be something new that you didn't know about.

You are welcome to stay onsite the rest of the day to further your research and get assistance from their many volunteers.

If you are interested in Carpooling we will meet at the Danville Sycamore Park and Ride at 9:15.

If you plan to attend, or have questions, please email Karen Olynger at karenolynger@gmail.com and let her know:

- your name and phone number even if you plan to drive separately so we know how many people to expect.
- If you want to Carpool, and if you can be a Driver let her know how many people you can drive.
- If you plan to leave after our initial session, or plan to stay longer for research.■

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. ■