



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XLI No. 2 July - 2025

July Presentation

Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 10am

“Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist.”

(Via Zoom) By Anne Burke Lyttle



How do we know if the facts we’ve uncovered about our ancestors are correct? How do we avoid attaching somebody else’s ancestors to our family tree? The Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) is our guide to producing reliable research results. This introduction to the Genealogical Proof Standard will get your research moving in the right direction and help you avoid errors and frustration.

Annette Burke Lyttle owns Heritage Detective, LLC, providing professional genealogical services in research, education, and writing. She speaks on a variety of genealogical topics at the national, state, and local levels and loves helping people uncover and share their family stories. She has taught about Quaker research at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) and following ancestral migrations for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG). She is coordinator of the Fall Virtual Intermediate Foundations course for SLIG. Her articles have been published in NGS Magazine, FGS Forum, and the APG Quarterly, among others. Annette is president of the Association of Professional Genealogists and editor of The Florida Genealogist. ■

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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.

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President's Message

By Scott Hefner



One of the chief pleasures in any kind of research is the “Eureka!” moment when the researcher is able to identify and prove a link between disparate pieces of information that can suddenly open up a whole new trove of connections and relationships that were previously hidden. For many engaged in genealogical research, this could be something monumental such as “I’m directly descended from a Mayflower passenger” or “George Washington is my 6th great-grandfather”.

But for most of us these discoveries tend to be on a smaller scale, e.g., my mother’s 6th great-grandmother was named Elizabeth “Betsey” Harrison, born in Goochland, Virginia around 1758. She had a brother named Richard and her father was named Charles Battalle Harrison. Sometimes our search for the big discovery can cloud our judgement a little, and these bits of information led me down the path of believing “my” Elizabeth Harrison was related to future presidents William Randolph Harrison and Benjamin Henry Harrison. Quite heady company and very exciting, until I dug further and found out there was another Elizabeth Harrison from Virginia around that time who did have family ties to the Harrison presidents but has no connection to me.

As exciting as it is to make the initial “find” it’s equally embarrassing to admit to everyone you told that you were totally mistaken. Our speaker at the July 15th General Meeting, Annette Burke Lytle will be trying to help us to avoid that embarrassment and those mistakes in our own research with her talk on “Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist”. I hope you will be able to attend Annette’s presentation and will find it helpful.

Of course, there are other connections we discover that are not so momentous or fraught with risk of being clearly wrong and embarrassing. In my own research I’ve encountered several connections that have surprised me and opened my eyes to new possibilities. Two of them involve my father, David

Dawson Hefner, who died when I was 5 years old. The first discovery was that my dad grew up in Portland, Oregon and attended Washington High School from 1934 to 1938. I randomly discovered that my mother-in-law and her older sister, who I didn’t meet until 1973 when they were living in Chicago, also attended Washington High School during the same period. While I have no evidence they ever met, it was not a large school and it is not beyond the realm of possibility that they did.

The second discovery was that, after returning from WWII, my Dad enrolled in Lewis and Clark College in Portland, graduating in 1951. Coincidentally, the father of my old college roommate (who grew up in Portland and who I have remained close friends with for 50 years) also attended Lewis and Clark College, and when we compared notes I found that I had a Commencement Program for June 3, 1951 that contained the names of both of our fathers. Again, while I have no evidence they ever actually met, both were in the Elementary Education program for at least part of their college years and it wouldn’t be unlikely they would have shared at least one class together. ■

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Carole Gallien

Genealogy: where “well behaved” ancestors rarely make the history books.

Notes on the June Speaker

By Margaret Goetze

Putting Your American Ancestors on the Map

By Evan Wilson

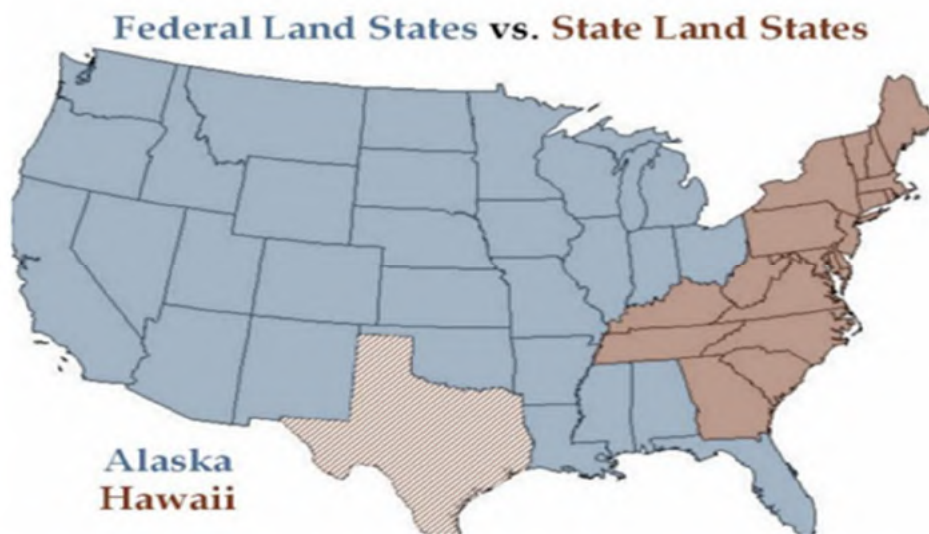
Evan fell in love with genealogy as a child listening to his grandmother's stories. His academic journey took him through a PhD in English and Medieval Studies, where he learned how thrilling it can be to encounter a document from another culture and try to understand it on its own terms. His specialties include Southern US research and history, DNA, and land records and mapping. The replay is on our website for thirty days and a detailed summary was included in the Zoom meeting invite so take the time to download and review it. It provides the detailed steps for you on using maps including the top sources to consider.

Evan also works as an Ancestry ProGenealogist where he researches for clients. He always builds maps for his clients because it helps provide more depth and nuance, helps confirm relationships with their families while separating them from other people with the same name. With specific locations, it is clearer where to search for records.

His talk presented a four-step process for pinpointing ancestors on a map:

1. Find the land/location records
2. Understand the system of land description
3. Find the best maps for your needs
4. Annotate those maps or even map parcels yourself.

When searching US land records, it is important to know whether the original land grants were Federal Land Grants or State Land Grants as the strategies for searching are different.



State Land Grants, issued for land in state-land states, mostly use the metes and bounds system of land description apply to states that were part of the territory of the original thirteen states.

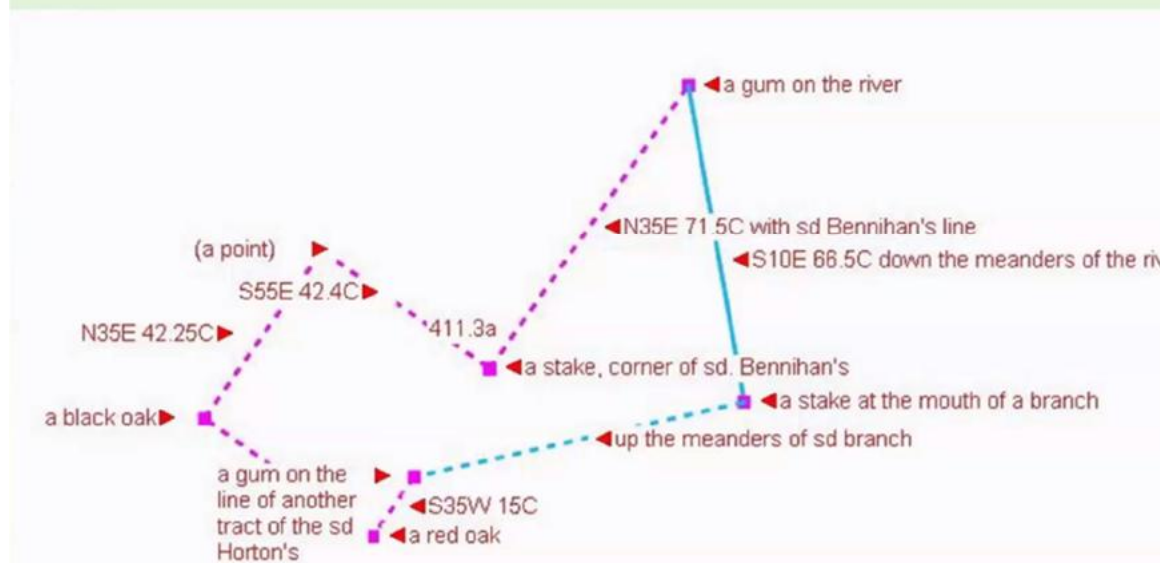
Federal land grants, issued for land in federal or public land states, based primarily on the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). The experimental Full-Text Search on FamilySearch has made it far easier to

find land records for our research.

The metes and bounds system is a method of describing land boundaries using physical features of the local geography, along with directions and distances. It defines property lines by referencing natural landmarks (like rivers or trees) or man-made structures, and uses measurements (metes) and boundary lines

(bounds) to form a closed shape that outlines the parcel of land. Since the landmarks, such as a tree, may disappear over time, discrepancies and disputes are more likely with this system.

Metes and Bounds



His handout explains in detail how to understand the system of land description. To find the best maps for Step 3, he provides a wish list of potential sources as well as the types of maps created between the 1600s to the late 1800s. For example, early maps from the 1600s to early 1700s are of the US coasts and hazards near them. They did not record as much on the interior. ■

Pictures from our 40th Anniversary Party

Last month we published a couple of pictures taken at the party. Now, all of the pictures taken by our “unofficial” Society photographer, Ted Shapas, have been posted to our Society website. In case you haven’t taken the time, you can also view pictures of past events dating back to before photography was invented!

Remember, you must login to the webpage in order to see the pictures as well as membership info etc..

WWW.srvgensoc.org>

Login>

PhotoAlbum>

Special Events>

40th Anniversary #1-4

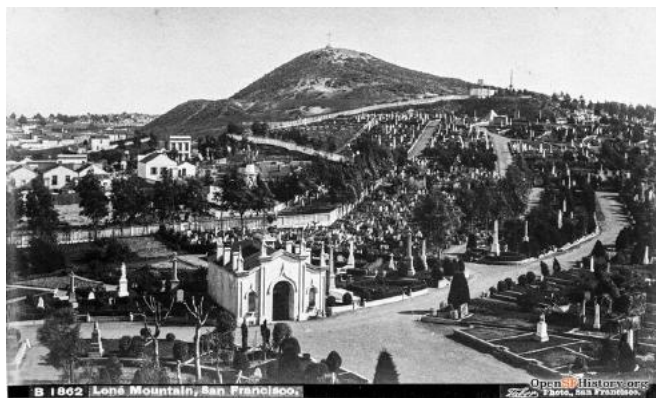
Member Story

Life and Death in San Francisco

By Leslie Stewart

Burned counties in other parts of the US are matched by “burned San Francisco” locally – so many records were lost in the 1906 earthquake that any surviving records are worth a look. If you have ancestors who were living in California during the early days, it may be worth paging through the Family Search catalog item called California, San Francisco, Area Funeral Home Records, 1835-1981. (<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/collection/1385518>)

Obviously, these records cover more than just pre-quake years, and in fact some of them (1896-1931) have been name-indexed, although I haven’t checked to see how thorough the indexing might have been. The collection includes daily order books and other papers, some of them from beyond San Francisco. My interest was in the period around 1873-1875, and as I browsed page by page through the “day book” of N. Gray in San Francisco, I found that in addition to the details of coffins, hearses, and gloves for pall bearers, there are names and addresses of relatives who contacted the funeral directors, and often a lot of information about the deceased, including where they came from, age, full name including first names for women, and frequently the cause of death. (Sadly, there seemed to be a great deal of scarlet fever in the city in the years I have been checking, in addition to the anticipated consumption and deaths connected with childbirth.) The company did a lot of business with the Chinese community but it is interesting that there is usually no cause of death listed for these burials unless it was unusual – accidents or violence.



Odd Fellows Cemetery, Lone Mountain in background, c.1885

As a reflection of the role of San Francisco at the time, with its very recent connection to the rest

of the US by rail, there are also notations about arrangements to send remains to be buried “back home”, with references to shipping across the Bay to Oakland, and destination addresses as far away as Hong Kong. Some of the orders were for people who had died in other parts of California, from Virginia City to Santa Barbara, whose bodies had been sent by ship or coach to San Francisco. For San



Mission Dolores Cemetery c.1880

Francisco burials, the records may also list the initial place of interment, prior to the move of almost all remains to cemeteries in Colma over several decades.

N. Gray (later Carew & English) also provided funeral supplies to other locations in northern California for people buried there, so their books don’t list everyone who died in the region, but the full collection contains records for some years for Burlingame, Stockton, and Sacramento. This makes this collection worth checking for “mystery disappearances” during those years throughout northern California. As death records became more established, the basic information may be available elsewhere, but there may still be some gems to be found among the notations about candles and funeral officiants.

Just added recently (**May 2025**) to www.SFGenealogy.org: Mortality Register for Sacramento City, 1850-1852: This is an important list of the deaths of 1,238 individuals who were involved in the early years of the Gold Rush around Sacramento, California. **April 2025**: San Francisco Historic Cemeteries: A large number of new resources including academic studies, newspaper collections, images, and maps have appeared on the internet since we first published this section in 1999. Thus, we have updated our information and created a new map. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 2025

- 15 Tuesday-10am, the July General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Annette Burke Lyttle will present **Genealogical Proof for the Everyday Genealogist**.
- 22 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

August 2025—No meetings this month

September 2025

- 16 Tuesday-10am, the September General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Dawn Kosmakos will present **Genealogical Case Studies**.
- 23 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

October 2025

- 21 Tuesday-10am, the October General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Melinda Kashuba will present **Detecting Genealogical Fraud & Fantasy**
- 28 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

November 2025

- 18 Tuesday-10am, the November General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Thomas MacEntee will present **Photo Organizing and Preservation—You Can Do It!**
- 25 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

December 2025

- 2 There are no regularly scheduled meetings this month, however we will be having a holiday party and our traditional cookie exchange on Tuesday December 2, details (time and place) to be announced as the date approach-

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Scott Hefner
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Recording Secretary:
 Margaret Goetze

NEWSLETTER TEAM

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Calendar Coordinator:
 Bill George

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bill George
webmaster@srvgensoc.org

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January 2026

- 20 Tuesday-10am, the January General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Sara Cochran will present **Who Needs It Anyway? Getting around the missing 1890 Census**.
- 27 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR JUNE, 2025

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In July 2025 we have six of seven Special Interest Groups meeting at their normal dates/times. The Publishing SIG will not meet in July but will be the only SIG that meets in August. All SIGs meet on-line, except for the in-person German SIG at the Danville FamilySearch Center from 1pm - 2:45pm. All meet during the day except the AI SIG that meets at 7pm, on Zoom. All SIG members receive emails from their leaders on how to join each meeting. If you're wanting to attend a SIG for the first time, contact the SIG leader to be added to their monthly announcement email. Guests are welcome, but encouraged to join the Society.



FamilySearch SIG, Monday, July 14th, (the 2nd Monday) from **1:00pm – 3:00pm 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, July 9th, (the 2nd Wednesday) from **10:00am-12:00noon 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, July 16th, (the 3rd Wednesday) **1:00pm—3:00pm in a Zoom meeting**. Share and learn new techniques for researching your Italian ancestors. Please contact Karen LaDuca at kblquills@comcast.net to be provided the Zoom link to the meeting.



DNA SIG, Monday July 21st (the 3rd Monday) **1:00pm-3:00pm** 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 an approved equivalent. You may contact SIG Leader Mark McLaren at greatscot@earthlink.net.



Publishing SIG, no meeting in the month of July, however this SIG will be meeting Thursday, August 21st, (the 3rd Thursday) **10:30am - 12:00pm 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, July 21st, (the 4th Monday) from **7:00pm—9:00pm 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, July 23rd, (the 4th Wednesday) from **1:00pm-2:45pm** at the Danville FamilySearch Center, 2949 Stone Valley Road, 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 kblquills@comcast.net . ■



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



It's July. Let's celebrate the 4th and enjoy delving into more family history research.

☞ The California Genealogy Society Library, www.californiaancestors.org, is open 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 website for access to available recordings and videos.

- On Sat. July 5 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.
- On Wed. July 9 from 6:30-8 Madeline Yanov will discuss **Finding Missing Ancestors in Institutional Records- Part 2** on a Zoom presentation.
- On Sat. July 12 from 1-2:30 Anne Morddel will answer **Revolution or Gold – What Sent the French to 1850s California?** on a Zoom presentation.
- On Sat. July 19 from 10-12 Sandra Huber will lead the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom. Contact sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- In addition, on the 19th from 1-3 Ron Madson and Karen will host a hybrid session of the **FamilyTree Maker SIG**. Register at the <http://-ftm-sig.org> or contact Ron at 650-576-4495 or Karen at 415-922-225 for further information.
- On Mon. July 28 from 7-8:30 the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.
- On Wed. July 23 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. July 26 from 11-12:30 via Zoom Steve Little will present **Introduction to Artificial Intelligence for Genealogists**.

- On Sat. Aug. 2 from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Organizing Your Family History Work**.
- On Sat. Aug. 9 from 1-2:30 via Zoom Keith Montgomery and Janet Netz will share **CSG Members' Experience with AI: Getting Your Feet Wet**.

☞ The website of Oakland Family Search Center, https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/oakland_california/classes has recently been updated. Check the website 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. Many 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.

- On Wed. July 2 from 11-12:30 Robert Jackson will facilitate the German Research Discussion. In person only.
- Also, on July 2 from 6:30-8 Serena Juhasz, Jaclyn Pruett and Joseph Stuart will share **Getting Started Part 3- Rootstech Video Series – Analyzing Data and Making Good Decisions**. Hybrid.
- On July 8 and 22 from 11-12:30 Denise Plascett will lead **Let's Talk FamilySearch: A Group Exploration**. Hybrid.
- On Wed. July 9 from 11-12:30 Esta Weaver will offer the **Norwegian/Swedish Research Discussion**. In person only.

- On Wed. July 9, 16, 23, and 30 from 10:30-10:45 Kelvin Brewer will share **The 15 Minute AI Tip for the Week**. Hybrid.
- On Sat. July 12 from 1-2:30 Serena Juhasz, Jaclyn Pruett and Joseph Stuart will share **Getting Started Part 3- Rootstech Video Series – Analyzing Data and Making Good Decisions**. Hybrid. Repeat.
- On Wed. July 16 from 1-2:30 Jane Lindsey will lead the **Ancestry Website Research Group**. In person only.
- On Thur. July 17 from 1-2:30 Marianne Spignolo and Jane Lindsey will facilitate **Italian Research Discussion**. In person.
- On Sat. July 19 from 11-12:30 Jane Lindsey will lead the **Ancestry Website Research Group**. In person only.
- On Wed. July 30 from 6:30-8 Sarah Reed and Kristina Kaufman will share **Getting Started Part 5 – Rootstech Video Series – Searching Smarter: Making the Most of Your Time and Resources**. Hybrid.
- On Fri. July 11 from 10- 11:15 Anne Somerset will discuss her latest book, **Queen Victoria and Her Prime Ministers**.
- On Tue. July 22 from 3-4:15 David Sedgewick will share his book “**Fatherhood A History of Love and Power**”. \$12.50.
- On Fri. July 28 from 3-4:15 Henry Wiencek with Curt DiCamillo will explore Henry’s new book, **Stan and Gus” Art, Ardor and the Friendship That Built the Gilded Age**.
- On Thur. July 31 and Aug. 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 3-4:30 Christopher Child, Kyle Hurst, David Lambert, Melanie McComb and Elizabeth Peay will present **Researching Upstate New York Ancestors**. \$125.

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.

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.

- On Tue. July 8 from 3-4:15 Brian C. Black will discuss his book, **Ike’s Road Trip: How Eisenhower’s 1919 Convoy Paved the Way for the Roads We Travel**. \$12.50.
- On Thu. July 10 from 12-1 Davel Lambert will examine **On the Ground: Top Repositories for Researching Upstate New York**.
- On Tue. July 1 from 11:30-12:30 **Ask the Experts!** Genealogy librarians are available on-line to assist with your genealogy.
- On Tue. July 8 from 11:30-12:30 Katherine Brodt explain **Why Family History Needs Historians**.
- On Thur. July 10 from 3:30-4:30 Angela Andrieux will present **Digitize Like a Pro: Best Practices from Scanning and Metadata Entry**.
- On Tue. July 15 from 11:30-12:30 Linda Yip will explore **Finding the Records for Impossible Genealogy**.
- On Tue. July 22 from 11:30-12:30 Jennifer Brannock will share **Community Cookbooks as Local History and Genealogy Resources**.
- On Thu. July 24 from 3:30-4:30 Mark Belloni

will examine **Old Homes, New Discoveries: How to Research Historic Properties.**

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

- On Wed. July 2 at 2am Natalie Bodle will share **Irish Ancestors- 5 More Essential Websites You Need to Know About .**
- Also, on the 2nd at 11 Nancy Loe will explain **The Six-Folder Genealogy Organizing System.**
- On Tue. July 8 at 11 Lorna Moloney will explore **Discovering Your Irish Roots: Uncover Hidden Stories and Sources with MyHeritage.**
- On Wed. July 9 at 5 Craig Scott will present **Forgotten Records: Pension Ledgers and the Payments They Represent.**
- On Fri. July 11 at 11 Sarah Pettyfer will discuss **Researching Your Ancestors in Surrey.**
- On Tue. July 15 at 5 Craig Scott will answer **Civil War Records: What is a Reasonably Exhaustive Search?**
- On Wed. July 16 at 11 Alison Spring will offer **Tracing Scots Ancestors Before 1855.**
- On Thu. July 17 at 5am Elisabeth Zetland will present **Webinaire MyHeritage en Francais.**
- On Fri. July 18 at 11 Colleen Greene will share **Strategies for Sorting Out and Documenting Mexican Names and Families.**
- On Tue. July 22 at 11 MyHeritage Webinars will present **A MyHeritage Webinar.**
- On Wed. July 23 at 11 Elizabeth Gomoll will explore **Unlocking Notation Code on Alien Passenger Lists.**
- On Fri. July 25 at 11 Andrew Redfern will provide **10 Advanced Ways to Use AI in Family History.**
- On Wed. July 30 at 11 Ari Wilkins will present the **Top Newspaper Sites That You Must Re-**

search.

- On Fri. Aug. 1 at 11 Brian Nash will examine **Finding Your Scots Ancestors in New Scotland.**

 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=PLwtrWl_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6.

Events from Local Societies

- On Thu. July 10 at 12 the **Genealogy Society of Vallejo- Benicia**, <https://gsyb.org>, will hold its **Annual Summer Potluck**. at the Vallejo Naval and & Historical Museum at 734 Marin St., Vallejo. The event is free and all are welcome. See the society's website for details.
- On Thu. June 12 from 6:30 – 8 the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. Kate Penny Howard, the guest speaker, will explore **Solving Maternal Surname Mysteries With DNA**. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Mon. July 14 from 4-5:30 **San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society**, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting on Zoom. Dr. Stephen Morse will present **One Step Webpages: A Hodgepodge of Lesser Known Gems (revised)**. Register on the website.
- Also, on July 14 from 7-8:30 the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, [www.l-](http://www.l-ags.org)

ags.org, will host a hybrid meeting. Candice Buchanan will be the guest speaker. She will share **Look Locally: Finding the Women in Our History**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.

- On Tue. July 15 from 6:30 – 8 the **Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society**, www.scchgs.org, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Jill Morelli, will present **Dissecting a Civil War Pension Record – Union and Confederate**. Register on the society's website.
- On Thu. June 19 at 1 the **Napa Valley Genealogical Society**, <https://napagensoc.org>, will present Annette Burke Lyttle at a hybrid meeting. Her topic will be **Tax Records – More Exciting Than You Might Think!** Register on the society's website.
- On Tue. July 22 the **Sacramento German Genealogy Society**, <https://sggs.us> will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. Lisa Gorrell will present **Land Records Pertaining to German Immigrants**. Register on the society's website.
- On Sat. July 26 at 10:00 the **San Mateo County Genealogical Society**, www.smcgs.org, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Mary Lynn Wilson, will discuss **Germanic Christian Sects Migrations: Amish, Mennonite & Moravian**. Register on the society's website.

Upcoming Special Events

- From Aug. 6-8 the Foundation for East European Family History will hold its Annual Conference on-line. Go to <https://feefhs.org/> for details and registration.
- On Sat. Sep 13 there will be a free **Scottish Indexes Virtual Conference**. For details and to register go to www.scottishindexes.com/conference.aspx
- From Sep 17-19 the **8th We Are Cousins Virtual Genealogy Conference** will be held. For details and to register go to [https://wacconference.com/](http://wacconference.com/). For details and to register go to

- From Sep 19-20 the **New York Genealogy and Biographical Society (NYG&BS)** will hold its **2025 New York State Family History Conference** using a hybrid format. For details and to register go to <https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/nysfhc/about>.
- On Oct. 18 the **Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS)** will hold its **2025 Fall Conference: Archives Across America – Unlocking National and Midwest Genealogy Resources**. For details and to register for this virtual conference go to <https://iowagenealogy.org/detail/eventDetail.php?er=455>. ■

Did you know we're available to help you...?

Free Genealogy Research Assistance provided by the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society (SRVGS) in partnership with the Danville Library on **Tuesday, July 8, 2025, 10am-1pm**, (and every 2nd Tuesday of the month!)

- Looking for your ancestors?
- Want to do a little genealogy research?
- Could you use some help or direction?

Bring your questions to the Danville Library, 400 Front Street, Danville, CA. (925)314-3750. Genealogy docents from SRVGS (www.srvgensoc.org) will be available to help you take your research further with print resources from the library's genealogy collection or online.



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 gans5@sbcglobal.net if you need to reach the FSC.**

The Family Search Center is open for business but NOT during the month of August! 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.

Closed major holidays, including Labor Day coming up, Thanksgiving week, and the last 2 weeks of December. **FSC will also be closed for the month of August 2025.**

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.