



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXX No. 10 May - 2025

May Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 11am

Annual Meeting & 40th Anniversary Celebration!

(In Person and Via Zoom)

San Ramon Valley
Genealogical Society

Annual Meeting and 40th Anniversary Celebration!

Lunch, door prizes, games,
speakers!



In person and Zoom!

Tuesday,
May 20th
11 AM - 1 PM

More Info

At the LDS Church, 2949
Stone Valley Road, Alamo,
CA. RSVP to Weldon
Theobald,
wtheobaldworkeyahoo.com



Our Annual meeting coincides with the 40th anniversary of our Society. This is also our annual General Meeting, as specified in our bylaws. There will be a lunch, door prizes, games and speakers! This will be an in-person meeting in Alamo and the talks will be shared via Zoom. All members will be sent the Zoom meeting information.

Please note the meeting time of **11am** (one hour later than our regular meetings).

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President's Message

By Scott Hefner



In 1985, Ronald Reagan was in the White House and Mikhail Gorbachev led the Soviet Union. The Cold War was dominant in world politics, Germany was divided into East and West and the Berlin Wall was intact, separating East and West Berlin. In the tech world, Betamax and VHS battled for VCR dominance, the Walkman debuted, “brick” phones ushered in the era of mobile cellular communications, and the first “.com” domain name was registered, marking the beginning of the commercial internet era. I’ll leave it to the reader to decide how positive all of these developments have been for society, but there’s no doubt the combined impact of all these changes on our lives has been tremendous.

In the same year, while arguably less significant in world history but important to us, a few local amateur genealogists decided to form a new organization and invite others with similar interests to join. Jean Blackmur, a local resident, believed there was a need for a genealogy group that held its meetings during the day, rather than in the evening as most groups did. Proof that Jean was right is shown by the fact that the fledgling San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society recorded fifty-two people as charter members by May of 1985.

Those early meetings of the SRVGS were held at the old Danville Library, subsequently moving to other locations as the group grew. It goes without saying that meetings were always in person since the only Zoom at the time was a breakfast cereal. From the beginning the Society was focused on learning, bringing in outside experts to do presentations and conducting classes and field trips to provide educational opportunities to the members. But there is little doubt that of equal importance to the members is that the Society provided an opportunity to gather with other people who shared a passion for finding out about their ancestors and family history. Sharing discoveries, experiences, potential resources, and other aspects of their research was a key part of what drew people to

the group and kept them coming back.

Many genealogy societies around the country, both large and small, are struggling to survive and remain viable. Organizations like ours are strictly volunteer-driven, and it requires a significant amount of time and resources to maintain our basic infrastructure. The Society must have a constitution and bylaws, hold regular meetings, keep minutes and records, track finances, maintain a website, schedule speakers, and a myriad of other tasks. Having a critical mass of volunteers allows the work to be spread around so the burden isn’t too great on any one person is vital to the Society’s viability. The fact our Society has survived for forty years is testament to the perceived value and importance it represents to our members, and the commitment of our volunteers to keep it alive and thriving.

Thank you to all of our members for your support, and here’s to another forty years! ■

**Genealogy...because Rocket Science
wasn't Challenging Enough!**

Are you an NGS Member? Would you like to be?

If you are over 65, have Medicare and have a Medicare Advantage plan or a Medicare Supplement you may be eligible for reimbursement of your NGS dues or a free membership. You should check the NGS website (www.GrouponGroup.com/NGS) and then you can decide if you want to join. It would basically be a free membership which would give you free access to Newspaper Archives.



Notes on the April 2025 Presentation

By Margaret Goetze

“Getting the Most Out of Census Records” by Thomas MacEntee ”

Thomas MacEntee: author, educator, student, advocate, marketer, storyteller, entrepreneur and that “genealogy guy” who helps you accomplish your family history goals delivered an insightful presentation at our April meeting with tips for genealogists of all experience levels. A detailed summary was included in the Zoom meeting invite so take the time to download and review it. Alas, due to technical issues, there is no recording of this session available.

Census records are one of the most important types of genealogical records, containing a wealth of information you may not find in vital records and allowing you to track your ancestors’ progress over time. While most genealogists focus on the major content in a census record (birthplace, age, relationships), a more thorough process can help you extract much more and expand your genealogy research.

Some of the top tips that Thomas shared include:

Go to the Catalogs in FamilySearch Wiki and Ancestry Card Catalog to search Census records instead of the basic index search.

Don’t make Assumptions about age, occupation, spelling, etc. You may limit yourself. Use wildcard and creative searches.

Avoid the narrow search as it also limits the information you may see.

Know the growth of the census and the nuances of additional details. You can download blank copies for each year for a reference from the IPUMS website.

Check other schedules and documents such as the Mortality Schedule of people who died in year prior.

Always download the census record and rename it. Licensing agreements can expire so the ability to view the details of a census record could disappear with no advance notice.

After the 1890 census burned at US Commerce building, only 1% was recovered. The Veteran schedule is an alternative source that may have the information you are looking for.

Look at Territorial and State Census records, New York had numerous ones. The Territorial censuses were taken prior to statehood. Sometimes they made up towns and people to help qualify the Territory to become a state.

The US 1790 Census took 18 months as it was done with the enumerators, who were US Marshals that were traveling on horseback. FamilySearch Research wiki is a godsend – put in your Toolbox.

Thomas explained the variations of the hand written codes added to the census forms and their meanings.

Always research the Enumerator listed at the top of the page. They could be on their own page or be a relative. If you see lots of “Roomer” they are more likely a relative such as a cousin-in-law.

Notes on the April 2025 Presentation (cont'd)

By Margaret Goetze

His favorite notable Indexing item was for a baby boy born in East Texas in 1910 named Baby Mohammed Glendenen.

NAME OF INSTITUTION		NAME	RELATION
TION.		of each person whose place of abode on April 15, 1910, was in this family.	Relationship of this son to the head of family.
Number of dwell- ing house in or- der of visitation.	Number of family in order of vis- itation.	Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 15, 1910. Omit children born since April 15, 1910.	
1	2	3	4
26	35	Glendenen Thomas M.	Head
		Annie B.	Wife
		Baby not named	Son

Upon further review, rather than Mohammed, the child was “Baby not named”. Since the indexing staff for this record lives in another part of the world, their eyes quickly spotted Mohammed, a common name in their region. A great reminder for us to always review the actual records as we continue to research.

Thomas was a fun and highly knowledgeable speaker. We can follow him online for tips on genealogy tool sales, updates and lots of free items. He can be found at: <https://genealogybargains.com/thomas-macentee/>. ■

The California Digital Newspaper Collection is in Peril!

The California Digital Newspaper Collection, <https://cdnc.ucr.edu>, is a free site which holds over 40 million pages of digitized state newspapers. It is the largest archive of its kind in the country. Over the years, it has been supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California. Such funding is necessary to maintain and improve the collection. However, its annual funding of \$430,000 is scheduled to be cut from the California 2026 budget. Without this funding, the CDNC will go offline and the work of providing free preservation and digitization for researchers will end.

If you believe that the work of the CDNC should be preserved and continued as a free service supported by the State of California, you are urged to contact your local California State Assembly Person and Senator and request that your letter/email be forwarded to the Assembly Education and Finance Subcommittee 3 and the Senate Finance and Budget Committee 1. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 2025

- 20 Tuesday-11am, the May General Meeting and **40th Anniversary Celebration** will be held in person and on Zoom. Lunch will be served
- 27 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

June 2025

- 17 Tuesday-10am, the June General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Evan Wilson will present **Putting Your American Ancestors on the Map**.
- 24 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

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 July 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

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Scott Hefner
president@srvgensoc.org

1st Vice President:
 Karen LaDuca

2nd V.P. & Programs Committee:
 Karen Olynger
 Wayne Mortensen
 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
webmaster@srvgensoc.org

will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

November 2025

- 18 Tuesday-10am, the November General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Speaker and subject still to be finalized.
- 25 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR MAY, 2025

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In May, 2025 we have seven Special Interest Groups meeting at their normal dates/times. 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, May 12th, (the 2nd Monday) from **1:00 pm – 3:00 pm 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, May 14th, (the 2nd Wednesday) **10:00 am - 12:00 pm in a Zoom meeting**. They share information from the internet, journals, DNA and books. Leslie Stewart is the SIG leader. You may contact Leslie at lwvleslie@gmail.com.



Italian SIG, Wednesday, May 21st, (the 3rd Wednesday) **1:00 pm—3:00 pm in a Zoom meeting**. Share and learn new techniques for researching your Italian ancestors. Please contact Karen LaDuca at kblquilts@comcast.net to be provided the Zoom link to the meeting.



DNA SIG, Monday May 19th, (the 3rd Monday) **1:00 pm - 3:00 pm 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 an approved equivalent. You may contact SIG Leader **Mark McLaren** at greatscot@earthlink.net.



Publishing SIG, Thursday, May 15th, (the 3rd Thursday) **10:30 am - 12:00 pm in a Google Meet meeting**. Contact Kathy Javdani at kijsc@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, May 26th, (the 4th Monday) from **7:00 pm—9:00 pm 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, May 28th, (the 4th Wednesday) from 1-2:45pm 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 kblquilts@comcast.net . ■



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani

Yes, it's May, the month of Yes, You May learn more genealogy.

☞ 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. May 3 from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Genealogy Basics Overview**.
- Also, on the 3rd from 1-2 Robert Trapp will lead the **Mayflower Descendants SIG** in-person at the CGS Library. Contact Robert at rtrapp@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- On Sat. May 10 from 2-4:30 at the Moraga Library in the Community Room Susan Skilton will present **Unlocking the Past in Lamorinda and Beyond: Resources & Strategies for Local History and Genealogy Research**.
- On Wed. May 14 from 6:30-8 via Zoom Madeline Yanov will share **How to Locate Lost Ancestors in 1890 Census Substitutes**.
- On Sat. May 17 from 10-12 Sandra Huber will lead the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom. Contact sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- In addition, on the 17th from 1-3 Ron Madson and Karen will host a hybrid session of the **FamilyTreeMaker 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 Sat. May 24 from 10-11:30 the **Eastern European SIG** will meet via Zoom. Register on the Eastern European SIG site.

- On Mon. May 27 from 7-8:30 the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.
- On Wed. May 28 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. Jun 7 from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Using the Census**.

☞ 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 Sat. May 3 from 11-12:30 Jane Lindsey will answer **Got Genealogical Questions?** In person only.
- On Tue. May 6 from 11-12:30 Cindy Thomson will facilitate the **Hawaiian Research Discussion Group**. In person only.
- On Wed. May 7 from 11-12:30 Robert Jackson will lead the **German Research Discussion Group**. In person only.
- Also on the 7th from 1-2:30 Pat Jenkins will share **Internal Only- The Story of a Negro**

Woman in the Women's Army Corps. In person only.

- In addition, on the 7th from 6:30-8 Lisa Gorrell will present **Introduction to Vital Records.** Hybrid.
- On Fri. May 9 from 11-12:30 Karal Henderlong will discuss **Facebook and Genealogy Research.** Hybrid.
- On Tue. May 13 from 11-12:30 Denise Plaskett will offer **FamilySearch 105: Finding and Merging Duplicates.** Repeated Thu. May 15 at 6:30 pm. Hybrid.
- On Wed. May 14 from 11-12:30 Jared Weaver will present **Citing Sources...While Staying Sane.** Hybrid.
- Also, on the 14th from 1-2:30 Esta Weaver will share **Norway and Sweden Available Research Resources.** Repeated on Wed. May 28 from 1-2:30. In person only.
- On Fri. May 16 from 1-2:30 Kelvin Brewer will discuss **Current AI Usage for Genealogical Research.** Hybrid.
- On Sat. May 17 from 11-12:30 there will be a class on **How to Research Online for Chinese Character Tools for Translations.** Hybrid.
- On Wed. May 21 from 11-12:30 Jennifer Dix will offer **Intro to Genealogy.** Hybrid.
- In addition, on the 21st from 1-2:30 Jared Weaver will lead a **Danish Research Discussion.** In person only.
- On Thu. May 22 from 1-2:30 Kara Brewer will present **Research Wiki.** Hybrid.
- On Wed. May 28 from 11-12:30 Sue Severson will lead a **DNA SIG.** In person only.
- In addition, on the 28th from 6-8 Pat Jenkins will lead the **Kimble Price African American Research Workshop.** Hybrid.

- On Thu. May 29 from 11-12:30 Jennifer Dix will offer **Using Premium Newspaper Databases.** Hybrid.

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 Thu. May 1 from 11-1 Curt DiCamillo will share **Curt's Cabinet of Curiosities: A Journey Through His Favorite Art, Architecture & Memorabilia.** \$75
- On Thu. May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 3-4:30 Robert Battle, Sheilagh Doerfler, James Hefferman, David Lambert and Melanie McComb will present **Researching Colonial New England Ancestors.** \$125
- On Wed. May 7 from 3-4:15 Michael Luo and Jill Lepore will discuss **"Strangers in the Land: Exclusion, Belonging, and Epic Story of the Chinese in America".** \$12.50 - live broadcast. \$ 47 - live broadcast and book.
- On Fri. May 9 from 10-11:15 Caroline, the Countess of Derby will share **The American Journal of the 14th Earl of Derby: The Making of a Prime Minister.**
- On Tue. May 13 from 12-1 Rhonda McClure will explore **English Immigration to the American Colonies.**
- On Wed. May 28 from 3-4 Matthew Lockwood will discuss his book **Explorers: A New History.**

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 Thu. May 8 from 3:30-4:30 Lisa Elvin-Staltari will present **Uncover the Past: Exploring the Canadian Census (1825-1931)**.
- On Tue. May 13 from 11:30-12:30 Michele Doyle will discuss **Using Tax Records to Add Context to Your Family**.
- On Tue. May 20 from 11:30-12:30 there will be a presentation on **Evaluating Published Family Histories**.
- On Thu. May 22 from 3:30-4:30 Susie Wickman will explore **Mapping Your Family History**.

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

- On Fri. May 2 at 11 Dave Obee will examine **Nach Kanada! Immigration of Germans to Canada**.
- On Tue. May 6 at 7 Richard Miller will share **7 Productivity Tips for Google Chrome**.
- On Wed. May 7 at 11 Donna Rutherford will explore **Unscrambling Haplogroups: A Beginners Guide to DNA**.
- On Fri. May 9 at 11 Kelly Cornwell will discuss **Researching Your Essex and East London Ancestors**.
- On Tue. May 13 at 11 Wayne Shephard will present **Finding and Fixing Tree Inconsistencies**.
- On Wed. May 14 at 11 Diahan Southard will share **See How It Works: Shared DNA Matches Find Ancestors**.
- Also, on May 14 at 5 Katy Barnes will offer **21 Million Reasons to Research at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania**.
- On Thu. May 15 at 5am Elisabeth Zetland will present **Webinaire MyHeritage en Francais**.

- On Fri. May 16 at 11 Joy Oria will examine **Traditions of Death and Burial in Mexico**.
- On Tue. May 20 at 5 Ann Staley will discuss **From Despair to Cargoes of Hope: WWII's Displaced Persons**.
- On Wed. May 21 at 11 Julia Anderson will share **Secrets for Success: How to Harness the Power of FamilySearch's Full-Text Search**.
- On Wed. May 28 at 11 Kory Myerink will offer **10 New Tools for New York Research**.

 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. May 1 at 10:15 the **Genealogy Society of Vallejo- Benicia**, <https://gsvb.org>, will have a **field trip** to the **Solano County Genealogical Society's Genealogy Research Library** at 610 East Main St., in Vacaville. The event is free and all are welcome. See the society's website for details.
- On Mon. May 5 from 4-5:30 **San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society**, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting on Zoom. Melissa Barker will discuss **Using Archives to Fill the Gaps in Your Ancestor's Timeline**. Register on the

website.

- On Thu. May 8 from 6:30 – 8 the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its Annual Business and “Show & Tell Event” via Zoom. Register under Events on the society's website.
- On Mon. May 12 from 7 -8:30 the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, www.l-ags.org, will host a Zoom meeting. Our own Karen LaDucca will be the guest speaker. She will explore **Navigating FindaGrave and Creating Virtual Cemeteries**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. May 15 at 1 the Napa Valley Genealogical Society, <https://napagensoc.org>, will present Lisa Vogele at a hybrid meeting. Her topic will be **Point of Origin: How to Find Your Ancestral Village**. Register on the society's website.
- On Sat. May 17 at 10:30 the **San Mateo County Genealogical Society**, www.smccgs.org, will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. The guest speaker, Terry Hartley, will examine **Navigating DNA Challenges in French Canadian Indigenous Ancestry**. Register on the society's website.
- On Tue. May 20 from 6:30 – 8 2 the **Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society**, www.scchgs.org, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Rebecca Koford, will present **Intro to the Genealogical Institute on Federal Records**. Register on the society's website.
- On Tue. May 27 the **Sacramento German Genealogical Society**, will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. The guest speaker, Richard Haberstroh will discuss **The Alsace-Lorraine Region**. Register on the society's website

Upcoming Special Events

- On May 17 from 8-12:30 the **American-Canadian Genealogical Society** will hold the **ACGS Spring Conference** on-line. Registration closes on May 10. To register go to <https://acgs.org/spring-conference-2025/>

- From May 23 – 26, the **National Genealogical Society** will hold its **2025 Conference – Tales & Trails Family History** in Louisville, Kentucky. Go to <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/> for details and registration.
- From June 22-27, the **GRIP Genealogy Institute**, <https://grip.ngsgenealogy.org>, will be offering a series of virtual courses and the in-person courses from July 13-18 in Pittsburgh, PA from May 23 – 26. Go to <https://grip.ngsgenealogy.org/#schedule> for details and registration.
- 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. ■



Did you go to Rootstech2025? Margaret Goetze did. And she reports that she thoroughly enjoyed it and thought it was well worthwhile. Many of the sessions are available to

you now on-line in the comfort of your own home. You can search on various subjects to find the sessions of interest to you. Here are some stats on sessions by topic:

• Getting Started	560
• AI	190
• German	59
• FamilySearch	570
• Ireland	41
• Scotland	21
• Poland	20
• DNA	279

If you have any recommendations for specific sessions that you think may be helpful to the rest of our members, please send them to me, the Newsletter Editor, and I'll gladly publish your comments. ■

SRV Genealogical Society Constitution and By-Laws Changes — submitted by Julie Basel, Membership

The SRVGS Board of Directors proposes the following changes to the Constitution and By-Laws:

Article III Section B.

~~Annual dues shall be payable June 1, and delinquent on August 1. A delinquent member shall be dropped from the membership rolls and no longer receive Society publications.~~

“Memberships will be renewed annually on the anniversary date of the member join date and delinquent after a two-month grace period. Existing members as of May 31, 2022 will have an annual expiration date of May 31st. A delinquent member shall be dropped from the membership rolls and no longer receive Society communications/emails.”

Article III Section E.

~~The membership and fiscal year of the Society shall run from June 1 through May 31.~~ ■

Spring Cleaning? I just dusted off 5 generations of ancestors!

Nothing says “fresh start” like discovering your great-great-grandfather was in prison.

Ancestry is the only place where being related to royalty is just a click away!

Danville Family Search Center
2949 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo
Phone: (925)552-5920

The Family Search Center is open for business! 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 – 1pm
 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, Thanksgiving week, and the last 2 weeks of December.

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.

- ♦ “Genealogy: An account of one’s descent from an ancestor who did not particularly care to trace his own.” —Ambrose Bierce
- ♦ Famous quote that applies (all too often) to questionable genealogy: “Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please.” —Mark Twain
- ♦ Dear Ancestor, I may not have found you yet, but it’s a 3 day weekend and I bought snacks.

Want to Help or Do You Need Help?

We are developing a **New Members Section** for our web site, along with some helpful information for beginning/intermediate genealogists. We have begun a list of members to be included who have volunteered to assist members:

- Steve Watty - General Research
- Francie Lloyd - Getting Started in an Organized Manner
- Karen LaDuca - Italian Research, Dutch Research
- Kathy Javdani - California Research
- Bill George - FamilySearch.org
- Barbara Thurston - Jewish Research
- Ted Shapas - Polish and Lithuanian

If you have an area of expertise and would like to help newer members please contact Karen LaDuca at kblquilt@comcast.net or Bill George at wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com to have your contact information added. This will be listed exclusively in our members-only section of the <https://srvgensoc.org> website. Thank you for helping.

Any members looking for help in a specific area can also contact us and we will try to connect you with someone who can assist. ■