



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXX No. 6 January - 2025

January Presentation

Tuesday Jan. 21st, 2025 at 10 am

"Travel Your Tree: Walking in your Ancestors Foot-steps" (Via Zoom)



Explore the world of family history travel beyond the confines of television shows like Finding Your Roots. Discover how you can personally trace your ancestors' paths, whether it's visiting battlefields where your forebears fought, exploring ancestral villages, or connecting with distant relatives. Join us to uncover expert tips for planning your journey and forging meaningful connections along the way.

Lisa Vogele is a professional genealogist and Certified Travel Advisor (CTA). She is the Chief Tree Climber at Travel Your Tree: Where Ancestry Meets Adventure, a full-service family history research, travel planning & custom tour operator. She is

passionate about traveling in the footsteps of your ancestors to make or re-establish connections of personal, historical significance. In 2016, Lisa authored Food & Folklore: A Year of Italian Festivals, a guidebook to assist travelers with incorporating heritage festivals into their itineraries, get off the beaten path, and experience local culture through food and historic events. She earned a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University in 2019 and a Certified Travel Associate (CTA) credential from The Travel Institute. Her travel tips have been featured in the Huffington Post, 1000 Travel Tips, and her travel blog LisaLovesToTravel.com. She holds a Master's degree from Clemson University, was raised in Connecticut, and resides in Colorado. ■

A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out to all members a few days prior to the meeting. If you have any friends or family that would like to attend, have them contact Scott Hefner at president@srvgensoc.org prior to the meeting for the link. If you have any Zoom questions or issues, please contact Scott at 925-765-7184 or Bill George at wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com.

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President's Message

By Scott Hefner



I'd like to take this opportunity to review the year just ended and some of the highlights and consequential events that took place during 2024.

As most of you are aware, 2024 was a presidential election year, and as is usually the case, this year's election was highly anticipated and not without some trepidation. Fortunately, I won in a landslide and there ended up not being any drama or controversy. Steve Watty left the Society in a great position and I'm trying to just keep it functioning as best I can. I couldn't hope to do it without the support and help of the many Board members, Committee chairs, and other members who give generously of their time to make the Society the great organization that it is.

We held our Annual meeting in May. The meeting was held in person for the first time in four years, and included the aforementioned election of officers, a Mini-Ed on DNA, and an extended social hour. The meeting was held at the LDS Church in Alamo and was well attended. Witnesses attested to the fact that a good time was had by all.

Our Special Interest Groups continued to meet regularly in 2024, most by Zoom but a few chose to meet in person. In addition to existing SIGs, two new groups were started in 2024: Karen LaDuca invited members with an interest in Italian genealogy to join in an Italian SIG, and Bill George agreed to start and lead an AI SIG to explore and discuss the current state of Artificial Intelligence and its effect on the world of genealogy.

Steve Watty apparently got bored after leaving the Presidency and redoubled the Outreach efforts of the Society. In addition to offering informational meetings at the Danville Library, Steve and Karen Olynger staffed a table at the Danville Farmer's Market in hopes of generating interest in genealogy in general, and our Society in

particular. Turnout has been less than hoped, but we are optimistic that Steve's efforts will help our Society to grow and thrive.

Our monthly general meetings showcased a number of excellent presentations in 2024. While in-person meetings are more fun and certainly desirable, there's no denying the advantage online meetings provide in terms of opening up the range of speakers available to us. We have been able to call on experts from across the country on a wide variety of topics that would not have been possible just a few years ago. Kudos to Karen Olynger and the Programs Committee for another great year of programs.

We ended the year with the popular annual Holiday Gathering and Cookie Exchange. We again took advantage of the hospitality of the LDS Church and held the meeting in person in the church gym. The event was well attended, the cookies were delicious and plentiful, the dancing was impressive and great fun, and the conversation flowed freely. Once again, it was confirmed that the membership enjoys meeting in person.

These are challenging times for local genealogy groups, and it is gratifying to note that our Society continued to survive and even grew a little in 2024.

Thank you all for a great year, and I'm looking forward to a fun and rewarding 2025! ■



rootstech

The World's Largest Family History Conference is coming up March 6-8, 2025 and it is both Virtual and In Person again this year! Register now—Ctrl-click the link for [Roots Tech registration](#). Note that the Virtual is FREE again this year. The In-Person fee is \$129 for the 3 days.

You can also go to the [FamrootstechilySearch](#) site for detailed info on the event. Don't miss this marvelous event.



Notes on the November 2024 Presentation

By Margaret Goetze

“Preserving Family Heritage: Navigating *FindAGrave* and Creating Virtual Cemeteries”

By Karen LaDuca and Bob Venter

We had the pleasure of learning how unique Find A Grave is to help us locate information for our genealogy work from two of our members, Karen LaDuca, and Bob Venter. You are likely familiar with it when queries take you to Find A Grave for details on an ancestor's date of death and burial location. It can be invaluable in sourcing additional information you may not be able to find any other way. You may access it at: <https://www.findagrave.com>.

Find A Grave was founded in 1995 by Jim Tipton, a Salt Lake City resident with a focus on the graves of celebrities and famous figures including actors, musicians, and politicians. As users began adding records for non-famous individuals, the site evolved into a comprehensive tool for genealogy and cemetery documentation. Over time, user contributions worldwide became a cornerstone of the platform, allowing anyone to create memorials, upload photos of graves, and provide additional biographical details.

In 2013, Ancestry.com acquired Find A Grave, expanding its reach, and integrating it into the larger family history and genealogy ecosystem. It is now a community-driven site with millions of worldwide user-contributed memorials. It remains free to use and continues to grow through volunteer efforts and user submissions.

Karen demonstrated best practices of how to use and conduct searches. More details are in the meeting recording on our website, and in the presentation outline that was sent in the general meeting invitation.

For a Memorial Search, start by entering a person's first and last name.

Memorial Search

First Name Middle Name Last Name(s)

Year B... Exact Year Died Exact Cemetery Location Browse

SEARCH More search options Search tips

For a woman, use her married name. Your results will have her maiden name in *italics*.

River View Cemetery
Portland, Multnomah County,
Oregon
Plot info: Sec 129, Lot 371,
Grave 2

Eva May Bonar Goetze
11 Mar 1904 - 18 Jul 1985

Notes on the November 2024 Presentation (cont'd)

You can select any item in Blue for additional information on the person in the Memorial, and the cemetery where they are buried. After you access a person's Memorial, scroll down and you may find their relatives listed so this is incredibly helpful if you did not know someone's parents or siblings. Scrolling further you will find who maintains the Memorial, when it was created, along with the contribution statistics for that individual.

You can request to Manage a Memorial for your relatives from them.

Find A Grave has the goal to create Memorials for all graves in all cemeteries. Volunteers who enjoy history and walking outdoors take the time to photograph grave-stones and then upload the

Memorials > Region > North America > USA > Oregon > Multnomah County > Portland > River View Cemetery > Eva May Bonar Goetze

Maintained by: Whitfield

Originally Created by: FriendsOfRiverView

Added: Oct 20, 2012

Find a Grave Memorial ID: 99249860

Find a Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/99249860/eva_may-goetze; accessed November 21, 2024), memorial page for Eva May Bonar Goetze (11 Mar 1904–18 Jul 1985), Find a Grave Memorial ID 99249860, citing River View Cemetery, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, USA; Maintained by Whitfield (contributor 47786265).

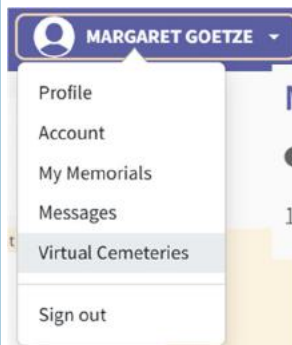
photos to create the Memorials. By registering, or using your Ancestry.com login, you will be able to access additional features in Find A Grave. These include suggesting Edits to Memorials, reporting Duplicates, uploading Photos, leaving virtual flowers, or requesting a photo of a gravestone you believe is in that cemetery. You can also create a Memorial if one does not yet exist, even if you do not have a gravestone photo, or for someone who was cremated. It is a touching gesture to leave Flowers by choosing from many icon choices and adding a message that will be displayed in the Memorial.

Under the Cemetery tab you can find cemeteries by location, as well as those in the nearby area if you do not find who you are looking for. Perhaps they were buried nearby, and in some cases, people have been moved when a cemetery closed. In the example below, 84% of the graves have a Memorial so your person might be there and you could make a request for a photograph. The GPS location helps when visiting so you know how to easily find their grave.

Bob Venter walked us through the steps to create a Virtual Cemetery where you can collect all the information and Memorials for your ancestors. After you are logged in, go to your Account, and select Virtual Cemeteries. Then click on the +Add button to create your Cemetery and give it a name and then Save it.

To add a Memorial to an existing Virtual Cemetery, go to that Memorial and click on the "+ SAVE TO" button and choose "Virtual Cemeteries" from the pulldown menu. While our ancestors may be buried far away or in another country, we can collect their information in our own Virtual Cemetery where we can visit them online and remember them on special dates in their lives.

I made a research breakthrough when I found a person's relatives buried in the same cemetery, and it listed their previously unknown parents' names as well as their siblings.



My Virtual Cemeteries

A Virtual Cemetery is a customizable collection of Find a Grave memorials. [Read More](#)

1 total · [+ Add](#)

[Settings](#)

Name (A-Z)

Find A Grave is now a source I will regularly use to assist my future research.

Many thanks to Karen and Bob for helping us learn how to use the unique features of Find A Grave. ■

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR****January 2025**

- 21 Tuesday-10am, the January General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Lisa Voegel will present **Travel Your Tree: Walking in Your Ancestors' Footsteps**
- 28 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

February 2025

- 18 Tuesday-10am, the February General Meeting will be held via Zoom link. Scott Norrick will present **Germans to the Midwest, 1848-1900.**
- 25 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

March 2025

- 18 Tuesday-10am, the March General Meeting will be held via Zoom link. Bob LaPerriere MD will present **Women's Issues on the Overland Trail.**
- 25 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

April 2025

- 15 Tuesday-10am, the April General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Tom MacEntee will present **Getting the Most out of Census Records.**
- 22 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

May 2025

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

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Scott Hefner
president@srvgensoc.org

1st Vice President:
Karen LaDuca

2nd V.P. & Programs Committee:
Karen Olynger
Wayne Mortensen
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Recording Secretary:
Margaret Goetze

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor: Barbara Thurston

Calendar Coordinator:
Bill George

Education Coordinator:
Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bill George
webmaster@srvgensoc.org

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR JANUARY 2025

By: Bill George, SRVGS SIG Coordinator

In January, 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 want 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, January 13th, (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, January 8th (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, January 15th, (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.

[This Photo](#) by



DNA SIG, Monday January 20th, (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, January 16th, (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, January 27th, (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, January 22nd, (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

Happy New Year! 2025 brings great opportunities to refresh our research and 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. Jan. 4 from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a hybrid meeting. The topic will be **Genealogy Basics Overview**.
- In addition, on Sat. Jan. 4 from 1-2 Robert Trapp will host the **Mayflower Descendants SIG** in person at the CGS library. Contact Robert at r1946@aol.com for more information.
- On Sat. Jan. 18 from 10-12 Sandra Huber will lead the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom. Contact sfsig@californiaancestors.org for more information.
- Also, on Jan. 18 from 1-3 Ron Madson and Karen will host a hybrid session of the **Family Tree 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 Wed. Jan. 22 from 6:30-8 the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** with Keith Montgomery will meet online. Contact Keith at kmontgomery@californiaancestors.org to register.
- On Mon. Jan. 27 from 7-8:30 the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.
- On Sat. Feb. 1 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 classes and SIGs.

- On Sat. Jan. 4 at 11 the **Chinese SIG** with Lee Pearce. In person only.
- On Wed. Jan. 15 at 1 the **Danish SIG** with Jared Weaver. In person only.
- On Tue. Jan. 21 at 11 the **Hawaiian Research** with Cindy Thomson. In person only.
- On Tue. Jan. 21 at 1:30 the **United Kingdom** with Bruce McLeod. Hybrid.
- On Wed. Jan. 22 at 11 the **DNA SIG** with Sue Severson. In person only.
- On Wed. Jan. 22 at 1 the **Norwegian SIG** with Esta Weaver. In person only.
- On Tue. Jan. 28th the **United Kingdom Part 2** with Bruce McLeod. Hybrid.

☞ Visit www.familysearch.org/en/centers/oakland_california/learning-resources for a wealth of other genealogy research support.

- On Wed. Jan. 22 from 6-8 the **African American Research Workshop** meeting will be held on Zoom. Use the meeting link on the Center website to join the meeting.

☞ The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinars, offers a variety of webinars. Register online in advance.

☞ 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. Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 from 3-4:30 David Lambert, Melanie McComb and Rhonda McClure will explore **Getting Started in Family History**. \$125.
- On Tue. Jan. 14 from 1-4:30 Melanie McComb will discuss **Choosing a DNA Test for Your Research Goals**.
- Also, on Jan. 14 from 3-4:15 Nicholas Nugent will share his book **"The Spice Ports: Mapping the Origins of Global Sea Trade"**.
- On Wed. Jan. 22 from 3-4 Laurel Leff will discuss **Catholic and Jewish Communities' Reactions to Antisemitic Violence in Wartime Boston**.
- On Mon. Jan. 27 from 3-4:15 Alan Taylor will present his book, "American Civil Wars: A Continental History, 1850-1873". \$12.50 for live broadcast, \$52 for live broadcast and signed book.
- On Tue. Jan. 28 from 10-11:15 Juliet Carey and Abigail Green will explore **Jewish Country Houses**.
- On Wed. Jan 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 3-4:30 Melanie McComb and Christopher Child will examine **Making Connections: Interpreting DNA Test Results**. \$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.

- On Tue. Jan. 7 at 11:30 Susan Kim will present **Ancestry.com – Beyond the Basics**.
- On Thu. Jan. 9th at 3:30 Anni Parsons discusses **This Goes Here, That Goes There ...Let's Organize!**
- On Tue. Jan. 14 at 11:30 Laura Weber will share **Back to Basics: Understanding Autosomal, Mitochondrial, X-DNA, and Y-DNA Inheritance**.
- On Thu. Jan. 16 at 3:30 Lisa Vogeles will explore **Heritage Travel: Top 10 Tips for Walking in Ancestral Footsteps**.
- On Tue. Jan. 21 at 11:30 Sarah Day will offer **Piecing Together the Past: Tools and Techniques for African American Genealogy**.
- On Thu. Jan. 23 at 3:30 Lisa Vogeles will share **Getting Started with Italian Genealogy**.
- On Mon. Jan. 27 at 11:30 Janet Few will present **Forgotten Women: Researching the Marginalized Women on Your Family Tree**.

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

- On Wed. Jan. 8 at 5 Geoff Rasmussen will lead **Genealogy Meets AI: Panel Discussion**.
- On Fri. Jan. 10 at 11 Jude Rhodes will share **Researching in Yorkshire**.
- On Tue. Jan 14 at 11 Melisa Barker will present **MyHeritage: Your Family Stories are Just One Click Away**.
- On Wed. Jan. 15 at 11 Drew Smith will discuss **Collaborative Trees: Make Them Work for You**.
- On Thu. Jan 16 at 4 AM Elisabeth Zetland will share **La genealogie et les enfamts comment interesser les jeunes generations a leur histoire familiale**.
- On Fri. Jan. 17 at 11 Lisa Medina will explore **Las Californias: Alta, Baja, and Beyond**.
- On Tue. Jan. 21 at 5 Karen Stanbary will examine

The Everleigh Sisters: A Case Study in Conflict Resolution.

- On Fri. Jan. 24 at 11 Andrew Redfern will share **10 Practical Uses for AI for Family History**. For webinar members.
- On Tue. Jan. 28 at 11 Gilad Katz will explore **Latest Updates to the MyHeritage Mobile App**.
- On Wed. Jan. 29 at 11 David Lambert will discuss **Researching the Great Migration of New England 1620-1640**.
- On Tue. Feb. 4 at 11 Helen Smith will share **Oops! Married twice (at the same time) Case Studies in Bigamy!**

 The State Historical Society of Missouri has produced nearly 100 On-Demand programs through its virtual program series and past recorded 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.

- Auntie Jen's Family Trees, <https://Auntiejentrees.blogspot.com/p/1950-census.html>
- Extreme Genes: Family History Radio <https://extremegenes.com/blog>
- The Genealogy Guys Podcast www.genealogyguys.com
- Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems <https://lisalouisecooke.com/podcasts>
- The Genealogy Squad <https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogysquad/>
- Lisa also has a genealogy chat on YouTube at 9 am on Thursdays entitled [Elevenes](#).
- Thomas MacEntee's www.genealogybargains.com
- Judy Russell's www.legalgenealogist.com
- Family History Fanatics

www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog

- Connie Knox <https://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 Mon. Jan. 13 from 4-5:30 the **San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society**, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting on Zoom. Jean Wilcox Hibben will discuss **Avoiding Fallacies in Family History: A Key to Research Success**. Register on the website.
- On Thu. Jan. 9 at 1:30 the **Genealogy Socie-**

ty of Vallejo-Benicia, <https://gsyb.org>, will have its monthly meeting in person at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum at 734 Marin Street, Vallejo. The featured speaker, Ruth Anne Halligan, will explore **Practical Genealogy**. See the society's website for details.

- Also, on Thu. Jan. 9 from 6:30–8pm the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Linda Okazaki, will share **Organize Your Family History Research**. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Mon. Jan. 14 from 7-8:30 the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, www.l-ags.org, will host a hybrid meeting. The guest speaker, Grant Din, will present **Finding Chinese Railroad Workers Files in the U.S.** The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. Jan. 16 at 1 the **Napa Valley Genealogical Society**, <https://napagensoc.org>, will hold its Annual Meeting in a hybrid format. Attendance in person will be at the NVGS Library at 1701 Menlo Ave., Napa. The special program, **Get Reacquainted with YOUR Genealogy Library**, will be lead by Sue Ziemski and Susan Ingersoll.
- On Sat. Jan. 18 at 12:30 the **Sonoma County Genealogical Society**, <https://scgsonline.org>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. Jamie Mayhew, the guest speaker, will explore **Across the Prairie: Land Records in the Public Land States**. Go to <https://scgsonline.org/event-5945308> to register.
- On Tue. Jan. 21 from 6:30-8:30 the **Santa Clara Historical & Genealogical Society**, www.scchgs.org, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Sharon Hoyt, will answer **What Happened to Uncle Walter? Evidence Analysis and Correlation Uncover a Man's Duel Identities**. See event flyer on the society's website to register.

Upcoming Special Events

- On Feb. 28 and Mar.1 the California Genealogical Society will sponsor an **Irish Research Seminar**. Feb. 28th will feature 30 consultations and March 1 will offer in-person lectures. Details to follow.
- From March 6-8 RootsTech 2025 will be held live in Salt Lake City and online. Register at www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/?cid=EM-00042619&lid=65end1fdkdkj.
- From May 23 – 26 the National Genealogical Society will hold its **2025 Family History Conference – Tales & Trails in Louisville, Kentucky**. Go to <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/> for details and registration. ■

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Let's all extend a Warm Welcome to our newest members,

Ken Harmon
Ben Harmon
Bill Elerding

Where there is a will, you'll find a genealogist!

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

The Family Search Center is closed for the Holidays until January 5th. After that it 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:

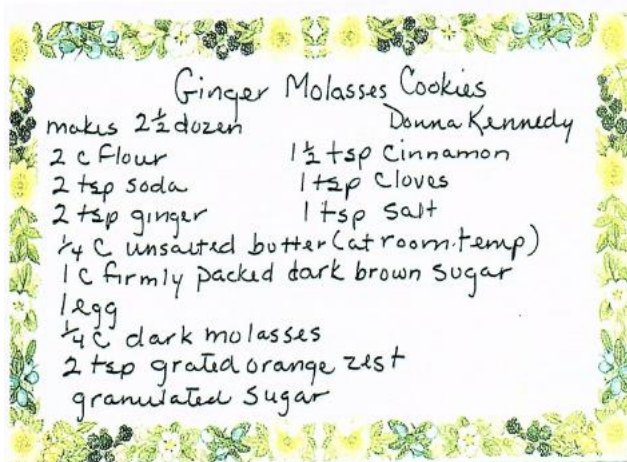
- ◆ Alexander Street (US social and cultural history)
- ◆ American Ancestors (from New England Historic Genealogical Society)
- ◆ Ancestry Institution
- ◆ ArkivDigital (Sweden)
- ◆ FamilySearch
- ◆ FamNet (New Zealand)
- ◆ Findmypast (United Kingdom)
- ◆ Geneanet (France, Belgium, Netherlands)
- ◆ Fold3 (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.



Sift together flour, soda, ginger, cinnamon, cloves and salt in bowl - set aside.
 Combine shortening, butter + brown sugar in large bowl and beat until fluffy. Add egg, molasses and orange zest - beat until blended.
 Reduce speed to low, add flour mixture and mix just until incorporated. Cover + refrigerate 1-8 hours.
 Preheat oven 350° - lightly butter baking sheets.
 Roll dough in 1/4" balls + roll in sugar.
 Bake until pale golden and cracked on top but still soft - 12 min

Italian Pizzelles

You need a pizzelle baker to make these!

3 eggs
 3/4 cup sugar
 1/2 cup butter melted
 1 tsp vanilla extract
 1/2 tsp anise extract
 1 3/4 cup flour (all purpose)
 2 tsp baking powder

Beat eggs and sugar together.
 Add cooled melted butter and vanilla and anise extracts.
 Sift flour and baking powder together and add to egg mixture.
 Batter will be stiff enough to drop by spoon.

Heat pizzelle baker about 5-8 minutes, then spray with cooking spray.
 Drop about one heaping teaspoon of batter in the center of each pizzelle pattern.
 Close baker and bake about 30 seconds.
 Remove pizzelles with a spatula and let cool on paper towels on the counter.

Makes about 30. *Karen Ha Duca*