



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXIX No. 9 April - 2024

April Presentation:

Tuesday April 16, 2024 at 10 am

“Heading West, Starting Fresh: Our Ancestors and American Expansion”

By Robert M. Wilbanks IV



This presentation is a historical overview of United States migration from the earliest Colonial period through to the later 1800s. This presentation explains the geography and topography of the Eastern United States, and how it influenced early settlement and growth, as well as the westward expansion after the Revolutionary War through the post Civil War Era. This presentation also discusses what pushed and pulled our ancestors to pick up and head elsewhere.

Robert Martin Wilbanks IV is a long-time genealogist who discovered genealogy at the age of 12 with the advent of the television mini-series Roots in January 1977. He instantly became a fervent genealogist, and considers Alex Haley the most influential person in his life. Robert began his genealogy profession in 1988 as editor and publisher of two family newsletters, followed by authoring several books, and then became editor of a genealogy society newsletter, and a quarterly. Robert gave his first genealogy presentation in 1989 speaking continuously ever since.

Now a professional genealogist for over 40 years, he founded Ancestral Pride: Professional Genealogy Services in 2009 and continues speaking, researching, writing, and has developed several websites.

Robert's most noted areas of expertise are United States military history and records, the American Civil War, the Old South and Colonial Virginia, general United States history and genealogy, and genealogy and history of the British Isles, with some research experience in Canada, Germany, Poland and the historic Bohemian region of the Czech Republic.■

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 Steve at president@srvgensoc.org prior to the meeting for the link. If you have any Zoom questions or issues, please contact Steve Watty at 925-766-6706 or Bill George at wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com.

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President's Message

By Steve Watty



Free lunch! The May 21, 2024 SRVGS General Meeting will be held at the Danville FSC in Alamo (2949 Stone Valley Rd.), the location for our in-person meetings prior to the pandemic. This will be our yearly meeting, so we ask any member able to to attend. We need a quorum

of members in attendance to confirm the slate of officers for the next two years. And yes, a free light lunch will be provided, thanks to our Hospitality committee. Come join other members of the SRVGS in this social gathering. A freebie table will be available along with information on our special interest groups (SIGs). A blast email announcement will be sent soon asking for a RSVP to this May meeting, so please commit with your attendance.

The April 16, 2024 General Meeting will be held on Zoom with our Keynote speaker, Robert Wilbanks IV. He will present "Heading West, Starting Fresh: Our Ancestors and American Expansion." A blast email will be sent a week before the meeting with the Zoom link. Until then, enjoy the Spring weather and our scenic nature.■

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

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

**Constance Norwick
Margaret Goetze
Gael Treible
Kentra McKeen**

Make A Difference



We need you! Every two years in May the SRVGS holds the election of officers for the Board. This is an election year and a new board will be set in June for the 2024/2026 term. All of the current Board members have been in their current positions for at least the past two-year term, some serving multiple terms. Volunteerism has been a key component throughout our history leading to a successful, growing, and vibrant society. But this can only continue with ongoing commitment, active support, and volunteers from our members.

Now we need you to step up, volunteer for a Board or Committee assignment. Training, support, and appreciation will be given to any member willing to commit a few hours each month. Join the team, share innovative ideas, and let your voice be heard. Call or email any member of the board, they are available to answer any of your questions or discuss the responsibilities for any desired position.■

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Our society realizes many of us are faced with that familiar brick wall, or maybe we need suggestions on where to look after we've begun chiseling into the bricks.

Under New Member Resources on our website, <https://srvgensoc.org>, is a list of our society members willing to help in specific areas (ALL members can use this, not just new.) You can also send a query to the email: secretary@srvgensoc.org

We want to help!

Are you seeking another SIG?

Our society currently has five SIGS (Special Interest Groups), FamilySearch, Irish/Scottish, DNA, Publishing and German. There is an **Italian SIG** in the works, so please notify me if you're interested in it. We would also like to encourage you to lead or help lead a SIG. You only need to be a society member, not even an expert on the topic, to lead. Many lead groups and learn from discussion. Or you may already know a subject and just want to share. Either way, leading a SIG is enriching and expands your skills. Four of our five SIGs meet online. I will help you with Zoom, if needed. Email me at williamcgeorge@gmail.com if you have interest in leading a SIG or just want to be put on a SIG's announcement list. Our website <https://srvgensoc.org> has detailed information about all our SIGs.■

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

Family Search Center Changes

Kevin Ganschow, gans5@sbcglobal.net, has been appointed the new Director of our Danville FSC, replacing interim Director Rudy Wolf who has been transferred to the Oakland FSC. Current hours are below but look for changes soon. Appointments are not needed.

~~Monday 10-1~~

~~Tuesday 2-5~~

~~Wednesday 1-5~~

Temporarily closed until the roof leaks are repaired and the drips on the computers are eliminated!

We'll let you know when.■

A Thought for Today...

The things we admire in men, kindness and generosity, openness, honesty, understanding and feeling are the concomitants of failure in our system. And those traits that we detest, sharpness, greed, acquisitiveness, meanness, egotism and self-interest are the traits of success. And while men admire the quality of the first they love the produce of the second.

- John Steinbeck, novelist, Nobel laureate (1902-1968)

I thought it was my dryer that was making my clothes shrink. It turns out it's the refrigerator.

Calling for RootsTech Reviews...

RootsTech is over but it's not over. The in-person component happened in Salt Lake City at the end of Feb/beginning of March, however many of the presentations are available on-line in case you were unable to attend in person.

Were you able to attend or listen to any of the sessions? Do you have any comments on any of the sessions that you were able to view? We'd like to publish any comments you have, a one liner or a paragraph or two, positive or negative.



There are sessions available for viewing even from past years so if you have any comments, let's put 'em here in our newsletter for everyone to take advantage of ... "fabulous, don't miss it" or "forget it...a waste of time" with details of the session itself. <https://www.familysearch/rootstech/> Reply to your newsletter email or send your comments to me, your newsletter editor at Barbara.thurston@sbcglobal.net ■



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 2024

- 16 Tuesday-10am, The April General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Robert M. Wilbanks IV on the subject of **Heading West, Starting Fresh: Our Ancestors and American Expansion.**
- 23 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

May 2024

- 21 Welcome Back! The Annual General Meeting/Elections will be held in person with Lunch included.
- 28 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

June 2024

- 18 Tuesday-10am, The June General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Kim Richardson will present **A New Strategy for Brick Walls.**
- 25 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

July 2024

- 16 Tuesday-10am, the July General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Steve Little will present **AI-Assisted Genealogy via Zoom Link.**
- 23 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

August 2024 No Meeting or events

September 2024

- 17 Tuesday-10am, the September General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. Lisa Vogel will present **Travel our Tree: Walking in you Ancestors' Steps.**
- 24 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.■



Notes on Last Month's Presentation

"Jewish Genealogy: How is This Research Different from All Other Research?"

By Janice Sellers

Ms. Sellers gave an interesting introduction to the differences in and the history of the two main branches—the Ashkenazi and the Sephardic. Then she went into the many differences in doing Jewish research as opposed to other general European or North American research. She went over the many types of records where you will find Jewish records and also the places where we are used to searching— where you will not find Jewish records.

Her handout has a great list of resources for Jewish genealogy.

She ended with a good discussion of what to do with your research. Something that is a universal concern for all genealogists and something we all need to think about sooner rather than later.■

FREE LUNCH!

Our May 21st meeting is our Annual Meeting when we vote on the slate of candidates for our elected Board Positions. Your presence is very important since our bylaws mandate a vote by a quorum of our membership. As an inducement (bribe?) for you to attend we are providing a light lunch.

We have no shame!



We are meeting at the Danville LDS Church, 2949 Stone Valley Road, Alamo at 10am.

Please RSVP to Susan Hanck (susan.hanck@gmail.com) or Karen Olynger (karenolynger@gmail.com) so that we can get a reasonable head count for lunch and the election.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President: Steve Watty
president@srvgensoc.org

1st Vice President:
 Scott Hefner

2nd V.P. Programs:
 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:
 Karen LaDuca

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor: Barbara Thurston

Calendar Coordinator:
 Bill George

Education Coordinator:
 Kathy Javdani

Webmaster: Bob Venter
webmaster@srvgensoc.org

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE*By: Bill George*

In April, 2024, the SIGs are all meeting on schedule and on-line except the German SIG which meets in person. The Publishing SIG is using Google Meet for their on-line meetings. All SIG members receive emails from their leaders on how to join each meeting.



Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday April 10, 10-12noon (the 2nd Wednesday) in a Zoom meeting. They share info from the internet, journals, DNA and books. Patty Erickson is the SIG leader. You may contact Patty at russpat@comcast.net.



Family Search - Monday April 8, 1-3pm, (the 2nd Monday) via Zoom. Learn the many aspects of this free, comprehensive genealogy web site. You may contact SIG Leader Bill George at williamcgeorge@gmail.com.



Publishing - Thursday April 18th, (the 3rd Thursday), **10:30-12noon** in a Google Meet meeting. Contact Kathy Javdani at kjjsc@aol.com for info on how to join the meeting. Francie Lloyd, is the SIG Leader and can be reached at frances_lloyd@comcast.net.



DNA - Monday April 15th, 1-3pm, (the 3rd Monday), 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.



German Research - Wednesday April 24th, 1-2:45pm, (the 4th Wednesday) at the Danville FSC 2949 Stone Valley Rd, Alamo. Members share information from a variety of sources. You may contact SIG Leader Karen LaDuca at kblquilts@comcast.net. (In person only, no Zoom)■

**SRVGS is on Facebook!**

Click on the link below or go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/srvgensoc>



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



April is here with beautiful, long Spring days. It's a perfect time for learning more family history. Let's start.

- ☞ The California Genealogy Society Library, www.californiaancestors.org, is open from 10-2 Thursday and Friday and 10-4 on Saturday. Note that Saturday visits have different procedures than weekdays. Refer to the society's website to register for the following activities. Note any fees. Also, visit the website for access to available recordings and videos.
- On Sat. Apr. 6th from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a Zoom meeting. The topic will be **Organizing Your Family History Work**.
 - On Wed. Apr. 10 from 6:30-8, Lisa Gorrell and Jacqueline Henderson will host the **CGS Members Roundtable** – an online group discussion session.
 - On Fri. Apr. 19 from 10:30-11:30, Robert Trapp will lead the **Mayflower Descendants SIG** in person at the CGS library.
 - On Apr. 20 from 10-12, Sandra Huber will host the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom.
 - Also, on Apr. 20 from 1-3, Ron Madson and Karen Halfon will lead a hybrid meeting of the **Family Tree Maker SIG**. Fee for non-members. Register through the FTM-SIG website or contact Ron Madson (650) 576-4495 or Karen Halfon (415) 922-2255
 - On Mon. Apr. 23 from 7-8:30, the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at greatscot@earthlink.net for details.
 - On Wed. Apr. 24 from 6:30-8, the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** with Keith Montgomery will meet online.
 - On Sat. Apr. 27 from 11-12:30, Stewart Traiman will share **Excel for Genealogists** via Zoom.
 - Also on the 27th from 10-2, Rick Voight, VividPix CEO, will lead the **Workshop on Using Your Photos to Create Video Stories**. The meeting will be held in person at the CGS office in Oakland.
 - On Tue. Apr. 30 from 6:30-7:30, Stewart Traiman will host a **Member Connections Workshop** online.
 - On Sat. May 4 from 10-12, the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a Zoom meeting. The topic will be **Genealogy Basics Overview**.
- ☞ To contact The Oakland Family Search Library, www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_FamilySearch_Library/Classes_and_Workshops for an appointment, to register for classes and/or workshops, check the website, email fhcoakland@gmail.com for an appointment or call 510-531-3905. The website has links to online classes at the other Family Search Regional Libraries and BYU as well as RootsTech classes. In addition, the Family Search Library in Salt Lake City presents a number of webinars each month.
- On Apr. 3, 9, 10, 17, 23 and 24 at 11, and on Apr. 10, 17, and 24th at 6:30, CGS and OFSC volunteers host **Tips & Talk**. These are hybrid discussions at the Oakland FamilySearch Center. Go to the OFSC website for more information on specific topics and to register for a session.
 - Jane Lindsey will provide French Canadian Assistance. Appt. only.
 - On Thursdays from 11-6 there will be assistance for Swedish Research. No appt. required.
 - On Wed. Apr. 24 from 6-8, the **African American Research Workshop** meeting will be held on Zoom.
- ☞ The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html offers a variety of webinars. Register online in advance.
- On Sat., Apr. 6 at 10 Susan Skilton will present Research Land Records in California.

☞ The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), www.americanancestors.org/events has a growing Online Learning Center that offers educational resources for both guest users and NEHGS members. It contains subject guides on a variety of genealogical topics, informative videos, webinars, online courses, and more. If you have questions or feedback, contact Online Education. Register for its webinars on the society's website.

- On Mon. Apr. 1 from 3-4, Sarah Benor will discuss **Jewish Languages: Commonality and Diversity**.
- On Tue. Apr. 2 from 3-4, Rachel Webster will share her book, **Benjamin Banneker and Us: Eleven Generations of an American Family**.
- On Thu. Apr. 4 from 12-1, Kimberly Mannisto will examine **The Truth of Tracing Tartans: Scottish Clan Research**.
- On Fri. Apr. 5 from 10-12:15, Stephen Lloyd along with Curt DiCamillo will explore **Knowsley Hall and the Derby Collection**.
- On Thu. Apr. 11 from 12-1, Rhonda McClure will share **Planning a Trip to Ancestral Homelands**.
- On Fri. Apr. 12 from 1-2:15, Jane Tippettt will discuss her book, **Once A King: The Lost Memoir of Edward VIII**.
- On Thu. Apr. 18 from 12-1, Melanie McComb will present **Using Tax Records in Your Family History Research**.
- On Fri. Apr. 19th from 10-11:15, Curt DeCamillo will moderate **Harridans and Heroines: The Women of Castle Howard**.
- Starting on Sat. Apr. 20 from 11-12, Rhonda McClure and Melanie McComb will offer 5 hours of pre-recorded lectures on **Researching Catholic Ancestors**. \$125.
- Available for purchase until Apr. 30 Christopher Child and Lindsey Fulton offer three 90-minute sessions on **Verifying Mayflower Lineage**. \$115
- On May 2 from 3-4:15, Natalie Dykstra will share her book, **Chasing Beauty: The Life of Isabella Stewart Gardner**. \$12.50 / ticket. \$50

for ticket and signed book.

☞ 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. Apr. 2 from 11:30-12:30, Cheri Passey will examine **From South to West: The Southern Diaspora in the United States**.
- On Tue. Apr. 9 from 11:30-12:30, Dr. Adam Coward will discuss **Providing a Sense of Place: Enhancing Your Family History with the National Monuments Record of Wales**.
- On Wed. Apr. 10 from 4-5, Chris Nancarrow and Andrea Griffin will present an **ACGSI Hybrid Program- Clerk of the Allen Circuit and Superior Courts**.
- On Thu. Apr. 11 from 3:30-4:30, Emily Schroeder will share **Growing Little Leaves: Children and Genealogy**.
- On Tue. Apr. 16 from 11:30-12:30, Heather Kisilywicz will explore **Researching Immigration: Passenger Lists at the Steamship Historical Society of America**.
- On Thu. Apr. 18 from 3:30-7:30, Allison Singleton will discuss **PERSI Explorer: Tracing Your Roots Using the Periodical Source Index**.
- On Tue. Apr. 23rd from 11:30-12:30, Sara Allen will present **DNA Relationships Explained: Known Relatives**.
- On Thu. Apr. 25th from 3:30-4:30, Jennifer Dunn will answer **How to Tap into Tax Records to Enrich Your Genealogy Research**.

☞ Legacy offers numerous free webinars every month. Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com> to register. This month Legacy offers its 24hr marathon on the 11th and 12th.

- On Tue. Apr. 2 at 6, Jenny Joyce will explore **Non-Conformism in England and Wales**.
- On Wed. Apr. 3 at 11, Paula Williams will share **Solving a Virginia Mystery Using DNA**.
- On Thu. Apr. 4 at 11, Daniel Horowitz will dis-

- cuss **Researching Family History at Your Library with MyHeritage Library.**
- On Fri. Apr. 5 at 11, Renate Yarborough will present **From This Day Forward – Documenting Marital Unions of Enslaved and Emancipated Persons.**
 - On Tue. Apr. 9 at 11, Daniel Horowitz will offer **RootsTech Recap.**
 - On Thu. Apr. 11 at 2, Judy Russell will discuss **Silent Storytellers: A Genealogist's Guide to Cemetery Photography.**
 - Also, on the 11th at 3, Michelle Leonard will offer **Clustering with MyHeritage Labels.**
 - In addition, on the 11th 4, Paul Milner will examine **Tracing Your Royal Navy Ancestors and the Ships on Which They Served.**
 - Again, on the 11th at 5, Dave Obee will present **A Primer on Austro-Hungarian Geography.**
 - On the 11th at 6, Andrew Redfern will examine **Artificial Intelligence & Family History: An Introduction.**
 - On the 11th at 7, Linda Okazaki will share **The Picture Bride Era: The Gentlemen's Agreement of 1907 between the U.S. and Japan.**
 - On the 11th at 8, Mike Mansfield will discuss **Searching for Your Family in NYC? Resources and Techniques at MyHeritage and Beyond.**
 - On the 11th at 9, Carol Baxter will answer **Why Can't I Find It? Locating Surnames in Online Databases.**
 - On Apr. 11th at 10, Fiona Brooker will share **Exciting Discoveries – Organizing Your Family History.**
 - On the 11th at 11, Gregory Kontos will examine **Common Challenges in Greek Genealogy Research.**
 - On Fri. Apr. 12 at 12am, Myko Clelland will share **What's New & Exciting in MyHeritage's Historical Records.**
 - Also, on the 12th at 1am, Shauna Hicks will offer **My Top 5 Websites for Victorian Australia.**
 - Again, on the 12am, Michelle Patient will explore **The Wilson Collection for New Zealand Researchers.**
 - On the 12th at 3am, Andrea Bentschneider will offer **How to Successfully Research at a German Archive.**
 - On the 12th at 4am, Bruce Durie will present **Scottish Genealogy - Are We a Clan or a Family? And Can We Have a Chief?**
 - On the 12th at 5am, Ursula Krause will share **Moving, Moving, Moving! Migration Patterns Within Germany.**
 - On the 12th at 6am, Lisa Lisson will offer **Can't Find the Family Bible? 10 Places You May Not Have Looked.**
 - On the 12th at 7, Cheri Passey will discuss **Beginning Your Genealogy Journey: 8 Steps to Getting Started.**
 - On the 12th at 8, Lisa Lisson will examine **Unlocking Birth Records: Exploring Birth Dates and Alternate Sources.**
 - On the 12th at 9, Tara Shymanski will share **6 Tips to Build a Family Tree for Busy People.**
 - On the 12th at 10, Ari Wilkins will present **African American Research 101 – Reconstruction Era (Part 2 of 3)**
 - On the 12th at 11, Lisa Alzo will discuss **10 Ways AI Can Help You Find Your Elusive Ancestors.**
 - On the 12th at 12, Sunny Morton will offer **Using U.S. Church Records as a Brick Wall Strategy: Case Studies.**
 - On the 12th at 1, Diahan Southard will answer **What's Your DNA Problem? Too Few Matches? Too Many?**
 - On Tue. Apr. 16 at 9, Anne Morddel will discuss **French Emigrants: They Were Not All Huguenots, or Nobles, or from Alsace-Lorraine.**
 - On Wed. Apr. 17 at 10, J. Mark Lowe will present **Comparing Plats of Land With Deeds and Grants.**
 - On Fri. Apr. 19 at 11, Johanne Gervais will provide **Tools to Research Your French Canadian Ancestors.**

- On Tue., Apr. 23 at 11, James Tanner will examine **Using Artificial Intelligence Tools to Expand Your Genealogical Research Universe**.
- On Wed. Apr. 24 at 11, Nathan Dylan Goodwin will share **Where Fact Meets Fictions: Behind the Scenes of a Genealogical Crime Mystery**.
- On Fri. Apr. 26 at 11, Elizabeth Shown Mills will explore **Tax Rolls” Getting Our Money’s Worth from the Taxes Our Ancestors Paid**.
- On Tue. Apr. 30 at 7pm, Eliza Watson will discuss **Getting Out of the Archives and Into the Pubs to Trace Your Irish Ancestry**.
- On Wed. May 1 at 11pm, Alec Ferretti will share **Strategies to Analyze Endogamous DNA**.

☞ 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>
- 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 offers help on the variety of genealogical topics. Also see the upcoming events schedule at www.dar.org/libraryevents.
- The Sutro Library hosts the Bay Area Genealogy Calendar, www.library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy/calendar. The calendar provides information about events throughout the Bay Area.
- Conference Keeper, <https://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_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6R

Events from Local Societies

- On Thu. April. 4 at 1:30, the Genealogy Society of Vallejo- Benicia, <https://gsvb.org>, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom. Candice Buchanan and Sherre Budge from the Library of Congress will discuss **Navigating Unexpected Genealogical Finds**. If you are a non-member and interested in attending, please send an e-mail to GSVBzoom@gmail.com to request a Zoom invitation
- On Sat. April. 6 at 11, the Solano County Genealogical Society, www.scgca.org, will have its monthly meeting via Zoom. Pam Vestal, the guest speaker, will present **Why They Left, Where They**

Went and What Their Journeys Can Reveal. Non-Members Guests are welcome to attend this free event. If interested, send an email to the society at scgs@scgsca.org no later than 4 pm April 5th to request an invitation.

- On Mon. Apr. 8 from 7-8:30, the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will host a hybrid meeting. The guest speaker, Jennifer Holik, will present **Exploring the Greatest Generation, Adding Context to the Veteran's Story - Part 2 of 2** in military research. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.
- Also on Sun. Apr. 14th from 1-2:30, San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html, will have its monthly meeting on Zoom. Melissa Barker, the guest speaker, will examine **Loose Records in an Archive: What are They?**
- On Thu. Apr. 11 from 6:30-8, the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. Guest speaker Sharon Marangoni will explore **DNA Testing: Two Surprises and a Bombshell**. Register under 'events' on the society's website.
- On Thu. Apr. 18 at 1, the Napa Valley Genealogical Society, <https://napagensoc.org>, will have Pam Vestal as their guest speaker on their hybrid meeting. Her topic will be **Why They Left, Where They Went, and What Their Journeys Can Reveal**. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Fri. Apr. 19 from 10-12, the Mt. Diablo Genealogy Society, <https://facebook.com/mdgensoc/events> will hold its monthly meeting in person at the Club Room at Creekside in Rossmore. Our own Mark McLaren will share an **Overview of the Major DNA Testing Companies**. See its Facebook page for details.
- From May 16th-18th NGS will hold its **2024 Virtual Family History Conference**, Expanding Possibilities, Register at conference.ngsgenealogy.org
- From June 23rd-28th the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburg (GRIP), www.gripitt.org, (part of NGS) will hold its virtual conference.
- From July 21st-26th the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR), ighr.gagensociety.org, will hold a virtual conference.
- From Sept. 11th-13th the 7th WAC (We Are Cousins) Virtual Genealogy Conference will take place. Register at wacconference.com/register.
- On Sept. 20th and 21st the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org will hold its hybrid New York State Family History Conference. For details go to www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/nysfhc/about
- From Sept. 29 – Oct. 5 Stewart Traiman and Evan Wilson will lead the 2024 CGS Salt Lake City Research Trip. See the CGS website <https://www.californiaancestors.org> for details and for early registration. ■

Upcoming Special Events

- From April 1 through April 6th the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, <https://sggs.us>, will hold its History Week: Digging for Family Treasures. Admission is free. For more information or to register visit <https://srgcouncil.org/cpage.php?pt=77>.

