



# San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXIX No. 3 September - 2023

**September Presentation:**

**Tuesday September 19, 2023 at 10 am**

## **“Diseases, Disasters, Distress: Bad for Your Ancestors, Good for Genealogy!” (VIA ZOOM)**

**BY LISA ALZO**

Wouldn't it be nice if all the branches on our family trees were filled with bright shiny leaves that reflected only good kin and happy times? The truth is, most of our pasts are dotted with blemishes, and bad things did happen, often to good people. History is blanketed with disheartening tales of devastation and loss. Certainly, it may be difficult for us today to comprehend the everyday adversity that befell our ancestors, or the lasting hardships they endured as a result. This session will discuss how diseases, disasters, and distress may have impacted your family's history.

Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A., is a freelance writer, instructor, and internationally recognized lecturer, specializing in Eastern European genealogical research, writing your family history, and using the Internet to trace female and immigrant ancestors. She grew up in Duquesne, Pennsylvania and earned a BS degree in Nutrition from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1987 and a MFA degree in Nonfiction Writing from the Univ. of Pittsburgh in 1997. Lisa is the author of eleven books, including *The Family Tree Polish, Czech and Slovak Genealogy Guide*, and the award-winning *Three Slovak Women*, and hundreds of magazine articles. Lisa is a contributing editor for *Family Tree Magazine* and works as an online educator and writing coach. She also developed the Eastern European Research Certificate Program for the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. Lisa is a frequently-invited speaker for national conferences, genealogical and historical societies, and webinars. An avid genealogist for more than 30 years, Lisa also chronicles her family history adventures on her blog, *The Accidental Genealogist* <https://www.theaccidentalgenealogist.com>. Visit <https://www.lisaalzo.com> for more information. ■

*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](mailto: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](mailto:wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com).*

### **IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER**

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## President's Message

*By Steve Watty*



WE ARE BACK! – After the society's August summer break, our collective minds are now recharged and ready to delve into genealogy work. Our planned September 19, 2023 general meeting is promised to be epic. We have Lisa Alzo, an internationally recognized lecturer, scheduled to present an exciting presentation "Diseases, Disaster, Distress: Bad for Your Ancestors, Good for Genealogy." In addition to the Zoom general meeting, our special interest groups (SIGs), either on Zoom or in-person, will resume. Visit our website or this newsletter for the schedule and location of your favorite SIG. If you do not belong to one of these SIGs, there is room for your shared contribution and member collaboration. Check with the SIG chairperson for a Zoom link or the in-person meeting location, all members are welcome. Also, don't forget about the Fall picnic planned for October 3, 2023 at the Heritage Park and Pioneer Cemetery. Get your RSVP in to Karen Olynger for your attendance. Information for the picnic is on our website with reminders coming via the blast email system.

I look forward to welcoming all of you during the general meeting, so save the date. See you on Zoom! ■

## The Best Genealogy Websites, published by Family Tree Magazine

Ted Shapas sent in this link to the best genealogy sites for various purposes such as:

- Best Family Tree and Sharing Websites
- Best US and Canadian Genealogy Websites
- Best Genetic Genealogy Websites
- Best Cemetery Websites, and several more

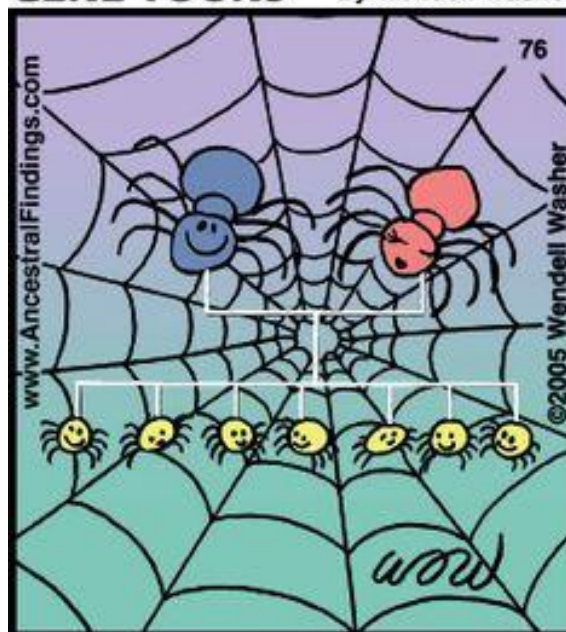
<https://familytreemagazine.com/best-genealogy-websites/>

Check it out, there may be just the site you are looking for.■

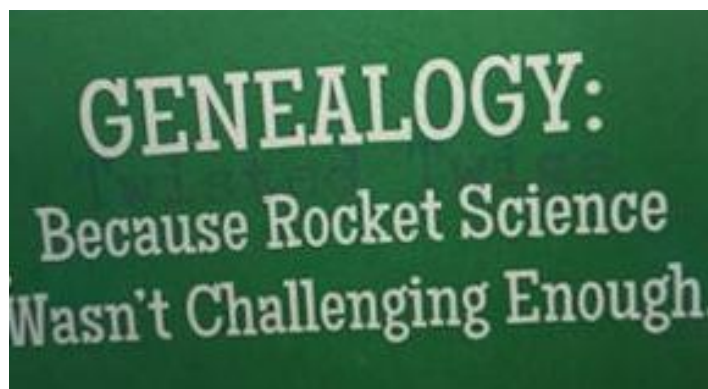
## Attention all passionate genealogists!

You have an opportunity to share your knowledge. The Danville Family History Center is looking to expand hours into Sunday afternoon to make it easier for those who cannot attend during the weekday. If you have an interest in helping others, please contact Rudiger Wolf at 925-699-7040 or [rhewolf@hotmail.com](mailto:rhewolf@hotmail.com). He will provide more information and coordinate with you. ■

## GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



Genealogy on the web.





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### September 2023

- 19 Tuesday—10am The September General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Lisa Alzo on **Diseases, Disasters, Distress: Bad for your Ancestors, Good for Genealogy.**
- 26 Tuesday—10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom.

### October 2023

- 3 Tuesday 11-1 **SRVGEN Picnic Lunch** at Dublin Pioneer Cemetery with Steve Minnear, Dublin Historian, slated to help with tours of the cemetery
- 17 Tuesday—10am The October General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Jennifer Holik on **Research a Veteran: Exploring the Basics of Military Research, Part 1 of the Research Strategy**
- 24 Tuesday—10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom.

### November 2023

- 21 Tuesday—10am The November General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Jennifer Holik on **Research a Veteran: Exploring the Greatest Generation, Adding Context to the Veteran's Story, Part 2 of the Research Strategy**
- 28 Tuesday—10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom.

### December 2023

There are no meetings in December, however our Holiday Party is planned but not firmed up yet. We will post it here and on our website when the details are set.

As of this publishing date, we have speakers scheduled through Feb 2024, so check our website for more details.■

*Age is not a particularly interesting subject. Anyone can get old. All you have to do is live long enough — Groucho Marx*



## Notes on Last Month's Presentation

By Karen LaDuca

### Beware of the Enchanted Forest: Perils & Pitfalls of On-line Trees

By Jean Wilcox Hibben

Ms. Hibben presented a very thorough discussion of online family trees, including the types of trees you will find, how to evaluate them for quality, which ones to avoid, and how to cite them if you decide to use them as a source. These are all outlined in her 4-page handout.

If you want to use an online tree as a source for your own tree, you should check the links and attached documents for yourself before doing so and contact the tree owner if possible. Remember if you add your family information to a Wiki tree, anyone can make changes to what you have posted. You need to check frequently to be sure this hasn't happened.

Ms. Hibben also reminds us that we should not rely on an online tree as the only place to keep our family information. It should also be kept on non-internet dependent genealogy software and backed up frequently. And she added a page of links for additional opinions and thoughts on online trees.■

*The recording and handout from this session are available by logging in to the member section of our web site. They will be available for one month.*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Let's all extend a Warm Welcome to our newest member

Jan Myers

## MADONNA OF THE TRAIL

By: Jill Zollinger

Did you know Madonna of the Trail is a series of 12 identical monuments dedicated to the spirit of pioneer women in the United States? The monuments were commissioned by National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The statues, differentiated by the inscriptions on their bases, commemorate the westward

move of American civilization on a series of trails, which eventually linked the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The statue was designed by German-born architectural sculptor August Leimbach and inspired by a statue of Sacagawea in Portland, Oregon.



These twelve monuments were dedicated to the spirit of the pioneer women in the United States and intended to provide a symbol of the courage and faith of the women whose strength and love aided so greatly in conquering the wilderness and establishing permanent home. Dedicated in 1928 and 1929, the statues became sources of local pride. Through the continuing efforts of local and national groups, all are currently in good condition and on display.

Each statue is 10 feet high, weighs 5 tons and is made from Missouri granite. Harry Truman oversaw that each one would receive funding. They are located in Bethesda, Maryland; Wheeling, West Virginia; Beallsville, Pennsylvania; Springfield, Ohio; Richmond, Indiana; Vandalia, Illinois; Lexington, Missouri; Council Grove, Kansas; Lamar, Colorado; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Springerville, Arizona; and Upland, California.

Some fun facts: the first statue in Bethesda, Maryland is the only statue that faces east. All the other statues face west. In December

2004, the statue had to be temporarily removed to repair a foundation problem. An alert Washington Post reporter noted that as it was placed on the flatbed truck, the Madonna faced west, believed to be the first time that all 12 have done so. Second - Ohio's Madonna was relocated in 2011 to the new National Road Commons Park located in downtown Springfield. The statue is positioned facing south for better visibility on Main Street. Third - The Council Grove statue is one of the three along the Santa Fe Trail route. Council Grove was chosen for a statue in part due to its historic connections to the trail and in part because the town planned to build a memorial park around the statue. Fourth - In New Mexico, it was originally located in McClelland Park, but was removed in 1996 when the park was demolished to build the Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse. The monument was restored and moved to a new site at the northwest corner of the courthouse grounds, where it was rededicated on September 27, 1998. And lastly, The Upland, California monument is said to represent four historic trails: the Mojave Trail, the de Anza Trail, the Emigrant Trail, and the Canyon Road.

So the next time you are out travelling, why not stop by one of these beautiful statues and pay your respects to those that helped shape our country and set up permanent housing across this great county. ■

### SRVGS *yelp*

The real time Roots Tech is over but the sessions are still available to all of us to view/listen to/ benefit from the myriad of speakers this year and from years past.

How many sessions did you attend? Did you attend some sessions that you really enjoyed? How about writing a one or two sentence review to encourage your fellow SRVGS members to view the session. Send me your comments and I'll publish them in future issues of the newsletter, with your name or anonymously, if you are shy. ■

**OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE***By: Bill George*

In September 2023, SIG dates are all "normal", i.e. meeting on schedule. The publishing SIG is using Google Meet for their on-line meetings. The German SIG is meeting in person. All SIG members receive emails from their leaders on how to join each meeting.



**Irish/Scottish Research - Wednesday Sept. 13th, 10am-12** (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](mailto:russpat@comcast.net).



**Family Search - Monday Sept. 11th, 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](mailto:williamcgeorge@gmail.com).



**Publishing - Thursday Sept. 21th** (the 3rd Thursday), **10:30-12noon** in a Google Meet meeting. Contact Kathy Javdani at [kjjsc@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:frances_lloyd@comcast.net).



**DNA - Monday Sept. 18th, 1-3pm**, (usually 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](mailto:greatscot@earthlink.net).



**German Research - Wednesday Sept. 27th, 1-2:45pm**, (Usually the 4th Wednesday) at the Danville Family Search Center, 2949 Stone Valley Rd, Alamo. Members share information from a variety of sources. You may contact SIG Leader Karen LaDuca at [kblquilts@comcast.net](mailto:kblquilts@comcast.net). ■

**SRVGS is on Facebook!**

Click on the link below or go to:

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



## EDUCATION

*By: Kathy Javdani*



**Y**es, it's September. School has started and it's time to increase our genealogy knowledge. Let's begin!

☞ The California Genealogy Society Library, [www.californiaancestors.org](http://www.californiaancestors.org), now is open from 10-2 Thursday and Friday and 10 – 4 on Saturday. No reservations are needed. 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. Sept. 2nd from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will have a Zoom meeting. The topic will be **Genealogy Basics Overview**.
- On Sat. Sept. 16th from 10-12 Sandra Huber will host the **San Francisco SIG**.
- Also, on Sat. Sept. 16th from 1-3 Ron Madson and Karen Halfon will lead a hybrid meeting of the **Family Tree Maker SIG**. Fee for non-members.
- On Wed. Sept. 13th from 6:30-8 Lisa Gorrell and Jacqueline Henderson will host the **CGS Members Roundtable** – a group discussion session.
- On Mon. Sept. 25th from 7-8:30 the **DNA Skills SIG** with Mark McLaren will meet online. Contact Mark at [greatscot@earthlink.net](mailto:greatscot@earthlink.net) for details.
- On Wed. Sept. 27th from 6:30-8 the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** with Keith Montgomery will meet online.
- On Sat. Sept. 30th at 11:30 Jill Morelli will present **Be a Super Sleuth: Accessing and Using Image Records** on a Zoom meeting.
- On Sat. Oct. 7th from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a Zoom meeting. The topic will be Using the Census.

☞ To contact The Oakland Family Search Library, [www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland\\_California\\_FamilySearch\\_Library/Classes\\_and\\_Workshops](http://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_FamilySearch_Library/Classes_and_Workshops). Email [fhcoakland@gmail.com](mailto:fhcoakland@gmail.com) or call 510-531-3905 for information or to register for online classes and workshops. In addition, the website has links to online classes at the other Family Search Regional Libraries and BYU. The Family Search Library in Salt Lake City also presents a number of webinars each month. Check the

Oakland Family Search Library website for a list of numerous online webinars and classes.

- On Wednesdays at 11am and 7pm CGS and OFSC volunteers hosts **Tips & Talk**, information discussions in person at the Oakland FamilySearch Center. . Go to the OFSC website for more information 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 Sept. 27th, from 6-9 the **African American Research Workshop** meeting will be held on Zoom.

☞ The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS), [www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html](http://www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html) offers a variety of webinars. Register online in advance. The upcoming presentation for September is:

- On Wed., Sept. 20th at 6 Leslie Carney will examine **Landholders: Ranches to Land Grants**.

☞ The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), [www.americanancestors.org/events](http://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 Wed. Sept. 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th from 12-1:30 David Lambert, Rhonda McClure, and Melanie McComb will explore **Law & Order: Using Court Records in Your Family History Research**. \$115

- On Thu. Sept. 7th from 12-4 Sheilagh Doerfler will examine the **Basics of Scandinavian Research**.
- On Mon. Sept. 11th from 3-4 Emily Franklin will discuss her novel **The Lioness of Boston**.
- On Thu. Sept. 14th from 12-4 Nathaniel Taylor will offer **An Introduction to Heraldry for Genealogists**.
- On Mon. Sept. 18th from 12-1 Peter Moore will discuss his group biography, **Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness: Britain and the American Dream**.
- On Thu. Sept. 21st from 12-1 from Claire Vail will share **What's New at American Ancestors**.
- Also, on Thu. Sept. 21st from 3-4:15 Tiya Mills will discuss her book, **Wild Girls: How the Outdoors Shaped the Women Who Challenged a Nation**. \$35 fee includes signed copy of book.
- On Demand until Sept. 30th Hallie Kirchner and Rhonda McClure present 4 classes on **Navigating Passenger Lists: Arrivals to the United States**. \$115.
- On Demand until Sept. 30th Kyle Hurst, Ann Lawthers, Kimberly Mannisto, and Meaghan Siekman offer 4 classes on **Virginia Research: Four Centuries of History and Genealogy**. \$115.
- On Demand until Sept. 30th Judith Lucey, Rhonda McClure, and Eileen Pironti McClure present 5 sessions on **Researching Ulster Scots Ancestors**. \$125.
- On Demand until Sept. 30th Christopher Child, Lindsay Fulton, David Lambert and Ann Lawthers offer 5 classes on **Basics of Early New England Research**. \$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. Sept. 5th from 11:30-12:30 Kate McKenzie will share **Introduction to Genealogy Research**.
- On Thu. Sept. 7th from 3:30-4:30 Steven Frank will discuss **Examining DNA for Unknown Parentage**.
- On Tue. Sept. 12th from 11:30-12:30 Kathy Cuff will present **Introduction to the Vasa Archives**.
- On Thu. Sept. 14th from 3:30-4:30 Bob Taylor will examine **Using the Family History Guide**.
- On Tue. Sept. 19th from 11:30-12:30 Bryan Mulcahy will explore **Researching Your Black Sheep Ancestors**.
- On Thu. Sept. 21st from 3:30-4:30 Michelle Spencer will share **A Genealogist's Guide to Sanborn Maps**.

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

- On Fri. Sept. 1st at 7:15 AM Teri Flack will explore **Connecting Generations Through Probate and Property**.
- On Fri. Sept. 1st at 8:30 AM Colleen Robledo Greene will examine **Capturing Their Stories: Best Practices for Recording Family History Interviews**.
- On Fri. Sept. 1st at 9:45 AM Mary Eberle will offer **Case Study: Finding My 3rd Great Grandfather: How X-DNA Led the Way**.
- On Fri. Sept. 1st at 11 Shelley Murphy will discuss **Following Oral History in Search of William Davis But Finding Mildred Brand: A Case Study**.
- On Fri. Sept. 1st at 12:30 Shannon Combs-Bennett will present **DNA Matching Made Easy on MyHeritage**.
- On Tue. Sept. 5th at 7 Kristy Love will explain **How to Catch a Criminal: Finding Records for Your Rogue Relatives Downunder**.

- On Wed. Sept. 6th at 11 Michelle Leonard will share **Understanding Predicted Relationships at the DNA Testing Sites.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 8th at 7:15 AM Thomas MacEntee will discuss **3-2-1 Data Backup is Great, But First You Need to Find All of Your Data.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 8th at 8:30 AM Suzanne Adams will present **Italian Local and Parish Censuses.**
  - On Tue. Sept. 8th at 9:45 Elizabeth O'Neal will explore **10 Places to Search for An Ancestor's Death Date... Without a Death Certificate.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 8th at 11 Cyndi Ingle will explain **Life Cycle of a Record: From Clerks and Clerics to You, the Digital User.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 8th at 12:30 James Beidler will present **Explore Your Ancestors' Names in the "Newspaper Name Index".**
  - On Tue. Sept. 12th at 11 Rhonda Lauritzen will discuss **Power of Place – Using MyHeritage to Tell the Stories of Buildings & Places.**
  - On Wed. Sept. 13th at 5 Denise Cross will explore **Setting Sail with Your Seafaring Ancestors.**
  - On Fri. Sept., 15th at 7:15AM Richard Hill will share **Hidden Roots in Your DNA: Adoptee Success & Surprise Discoveries.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 15th at 8:30 Paula Stuart-Warren will answer **So, You Think You Know All About City Directories.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 15th at 9:45 Dave Obee will present **Driven by Faith: The German Protestants in Ukraine.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 15th at 11 Lisa Medina will examine **Mexican Land Reform and the Ejido: History and Records.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 15th at 12:30 Mike Mansfield will explore **Diving Into the Newly Released 1931 Canada Census.**
  - On Tue. Sept. 19th at 5 Karen Stanbary will present **Follow the Trail of Records and DNA from Ireland to Oregon (1810-1860).**
  - On Wed. Sept. 20th at 11 Thomas MacEntee will share **Genealogy Escape Room: The Case of the Only Name Change at Ellis Island.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 22nd at 7:15AM Melissa Barker will discuss **10 Things To Do Before Leaving a Library or Archives.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 22nd at 8:30 Ann Lawthers will explore **Hidden Treasure in New England Town Records.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 22nd at 9:45 Peggy Lauritzen will present **Lighthouses and Their Keepers: For Those in Peril on the Sea.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 22nd at 11 Nicka Smith will discuss **Finding Joan Lee.**
  - On Wed. Sept. 22nd at 12:30 Elizabeth Shown Mills will examine **Using Negative Evidence: The Power of Silence in the Records.**
  - On Tue. Sept. 26th at 11 Marie Cappart will answer **How to Trace Your French Ancestors with MyHeritage.**
  - On Wed. Sept. 27th at 9:45 Diane Richard will share **Even More 50 Mostly "Hot Off the Press" Net Sites You Want to Check Out.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 29th at 7:15 AM Lisa Also will present **50 Family History Writing Tips in 50 Minutes.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 29th at 8:30 Craig Scott will examine **A Revolutionary War Case Study: Joseph L. Harper.**
  - On Wed. Sept. 29th at 9:45 Teresa McMillin will offer **Mini Case Studies Demonstrate Finding a Town of Origin.**
  - On Fri. Sept. 29th at 11 Paul Milner will share **Welsh Emigration to North America.**
  - On Wed. Sept. 29th at 12:30 Sharon Monson will present **Worth More Than Gold or Silver-MyHeritage's U.S. Naturalization Records, Northern California, 1852-1989 Collection.**
-  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, however there are far too many to list here. Visit their website to see what's available.

### And there's more....

Here are some other webinars and podcasts that are online:

- 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](http://www.genealogyguys.com)
- Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems <https://lusalouisecooke.com/podcasts>
- Lisa also has a genealogy chat on YouTube at 9 am on Thursdays entitled **Elevenes**.
- Thomas MacEntee's [www.genealogybargains.com](http://www.genealogybargains.com)
- Judy Russell's [www.legalgenealogist.com](http://www.legalgenealogist.com)
- Family History Fanatics [www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog](http://www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/blog)
- Connie Knox <https://genealogytv.org>

The following are sites with large amounts of valuable information:

- The National Archives- [www.archives.gov/research/genealogy](http://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](http://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](http://www.dar.org/libraryevents).
- The Sutro Library hosts the Bay Area Genealogy Calendar, [www.library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy/calendar](http://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](mailto: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](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwtrWl_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6R)

### Events from Local Societies

- On Thu. Sept. 7th at 10:30 the **Genealogy Society of Vallejo and Benicia**, <https://gsvb.org>, will tour the **Family History Center in Oakland**. See the society's website for details.
- On Mon. Sept. 11th from 7 -8:30 the **Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society**, [www.l-ags.org](http://www.l-ags.org), will host a Zoom meeting. Candice Buchanan will discuss **Local History & Genealogy Research at the Library of Congress**. The link to register is on the site under speakers.
- On Thu. Sept. 13th from 6:30 -8 the **Contra Costa County Genealogical Society**, [cccgs.net](http://cccgs.net), will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. Guest speaker Christine Cohen will share **Research Patriots and More Using the DAR Website**. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Fri. Sept. 15th at 10 the **Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society**, <https://mdgs.webs.com>, will have its monthly hybrid meeting on Zoom and at the Vista Room or Hillside in Rossmoor. The guest speaker Candice Buchanan will examine **Research at the Library of Congress**. For the Zoom presentation e-mail [mdgs.webs@gmail.com](mailto:mdgs.webs@gmail.com) at least 2 days prior to the meeting to receive the link.
- On Tue. Sept. 19th from 6:30 –8:30 the **Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society**, <https://scchgs.org>, will hold its general meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker, Cyndi Ingle, will explore **Path to Digital Libraries and Archives**. See the society's website to register.
- On Sat. Sept. 23rd at 10, the **Sacramento German Genealogical Society**, <https://sggs.us>, will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. Roger Minert will be the guest speaker. Refer to the society's website for details and to register.

**Upcoming Special Events**

- On September 8th and 9th **Scottish Indexes**, [www.scottishindexes.com](http://www.scottishindexes.com), will hold its Scottish Indexes Conference XXI, a free conference. Go to its website for further information and to register.
- From Oct. 9th to 14th there will be a **California Research Trip to the FamilySearch Li-**

**brary in Salt Lake City.** Early-bird pricing now available. For information visit <https://californiaancestors.org/2023-salt-lake-city-research-trip>.

- From Nov. 2nd to 4th the New York Genealogy and Biographical Society, <https://newyorkfamilyhistory.org> will hold the 2023 New York State Family History Conference in-person and Online. Visit <https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/nysfhc/about> for details and to register. ■



# SRVGS FALL PICNIC

**Tuesday, October 3, 2023 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.**  
Court Yard next to OLD St. Raymond Church

City of Dublin  
Heritage Park and Pioneer Cemetery  
6600 Donlon Way  
Off Dublin Blvd near San Ramon Valley Blvd.  
Dublin

Light lunch will be provided

Tour of Pioneer Cemetery



RSVP by  
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 to

Karen Olynger, Programs Chair:  
[karenolynger@gmail.com](mailto:karenolynger@gmail.com)  
(925) 872-0880

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

### Family Search Center Changes

**Y**ou may have noticed the new name. The Church is standardizing the naming worldwide. Henceforth the name is changing from *Family History Center* to *Family Search Center*.

Rudy Wolf is the new interim director of the Danville FSC. You can reach Rudy at 925-699-7040 or [rhewolf@hotmail.com](mailto:rhewolf@hotmail.com). Current hours are below but look for changes soon. Appointments are not needed.

Monday 10-1  
 Tuesday 2-5  
 Wednesday 1-5

### What apps are available at the FSC nearby?

**F**or the last couple of months I have published a list of the premium websites available at the Oakland FSC but come to find out that the list is different from those available at the Danville and Livermore FSC's. Karen LaDuca has very kindly taken the task on to identify what is available locally and this is what she has come up with. In the meantime, I'm going to try and find out why the list is different from the Oakland FSC. So look here for an update on this subject, but meanwhile, here's what you can use locally....

- 19th Century British Library Newspapers
- Alexander Street - American Civil War
- American Ancestors - New England Genealogical Society
- Ancestry Institutional
- Arkiv Digital - Swedish research
- FamNet - New Zealand research
- FindMyPast - UK research
- Fold 3 - military records
- Geneanet
- Irish Ancestors - John Grenham's website
- MyHeritage Library Edition
- Newspaper Archive
- Paper Trail - overland trails to the West
- Puzzilla■

### Want to Help or Do You Need Help?

**W**e 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](http://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](mailto:kblquilt@comcast.net) or Bill George at [wiliamcgeorge@gmail.com](mailto: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. ■

**W**hen was the last time you visited our Society's website [www.srvgensoc.org](http://www.srvgensoc.org)? There's lots to see there including the latest list of speakers and their subjects that have been booked so far, into 2024. The Members-Only section, accessible using your login has contact info for our members, the recording of the previous month's speaker and handouts. The members-only area also has a recently added feature of bios on most of our board members as well as some historical pictures of our society's previous years. ■

*You know you're getting old when almost everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.*