



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

www.srvgensoc.org



San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXIX No. 5 November- 2023

November Presentation:

Tuesday November 21, 2023 at 10 am

“Exploring the Greatest Generation Adding Context to the Veteran's Story ”

By Jennifer Holik



Part 2 of the Research Strategy....

Contextual records are everywhere, not just the National Archives! Once you have established what units your service member was in and where they served, it is time to explore unit-level records. In this program you'll explore:

The second part of the research strategy to piece together your veteran's story.

- How to add to your timeline of service and expand the narrative.
- Explore various histories, journals, photos, and maps for all the military branches.
- You will learn about the most valuable foundational records to put your service member into context and write a richer story everyone will want to read.

These records help you write the narrative to your stories. They will also help you understand why your veteran was who they were after service, and probably bring up more questions for you to consider.

Jennifer Holik is a genealogical and military research expert, author of more than 20 books on those topics. and an intuitive healer specializing in inherited & war trauma, and ancestral healing. She helps people understand why their family is the way they are and heal. Learn more at <http://www.ancestralsoulswisdomschool.com>. Jennifer uses storytelling along with the records to help you understand the deeper impacts of service. You might want a tissue for the story at the end of this session. ■

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



It was a perfect Goldilocks Day, not too hot, not too cold, just right. On October 3, 2023 over 30 members of the society met at the Dublin Pioneer Cemetery for a delicious picnic lunch and informative tour. Steve Minnear, the Dublin Historian, provided history on the cemetery and insights into the lives of a number of pioneer families buried there. We need to thank Karen Olynger and her committee for the wonderful job putting this event together. This was only the second time in over three years that our society met in-person as a group. We plan on holding this type of event more often as our members need the social interaction not provided on the Zoom platform.

Our next planned in-person event is the Holiday Gathering and Cookie Exchange on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 from 2 to 4 p.m. The annual event is always well received and guests are welcome. This year the event will be held at the LDS church gymnasium, where our social breaks during past general meetings were held. Member favorite cookie (or other treats) are encouraged but not required, so plan on attending and reconnect with the group. The Family Search Center (FSC) will also be open during this time, so take a tour, engage in some research or even volunteer to help staff the FSC.

The November 21st General Meeting, to be broadcast on Zoom, will include the 2nd part of Jennifer Holik's presentation on military research. A number of our members were able to make new discoveries on their ancestors after Jennifer's first presentation and additional guidance, so tune in and learn about other sources and methods adding to your research toolkit.

I hope to see you on Zoom in November and in-person at our December event. Until then enjoy our wonderful Fall weather and as always, happy hunting!■

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 rhwolf@hotmail.com. He will provide more information and coordinate with you. ■

Dublin Picnic Photos added to Photo Album

Your Society Photo committee is pleased to announce that photos taken at the Dublin Picnic and Cemetery Tour of last month, have been up-loaded to the Society's on-line photo album. These photos are courtesy of Bill George and show all the participants enjoying the beautiful weather, refreshments, and surroundings, as well as some of the scenes from the tour. You may view these pictures by logging-in to the Society website at: www.srvgensoc.org and then clicking on the "Photo Album" link in the left margin. That takes you to the photo album where you can then click on the "Special Events" button and then scroll down and click the "2023 Dublin Picnic" button in the left margin. As usual, for a closer look, you may enlarge any photo by simply clicking on it. Clicking it again will return it to its normal size. Enjoy.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

SRVGS

HOLIDAY
GATHERING
& COOKIE
EXCHANGE!

Reconnect with genealogy friends!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023
2:00 - 4:00PM

At the LDS church gymnasium
2949 Stone Valley Road
Alamo

Refreshments will be served!

THE ITALIAN TENOR AND THE “COUGAR” FROM MAINE

By: *Leslie Stewart*

Susan Ella Kingsbury, Ella, my 2x great-aunt, came from a Maine family that was sufficiently well off to send the youngest son to a select New York academy and Ella to Italy, where she evidently was pursuing an interest in music and more specifically, finding herself a young Italian tenor to marry.

I was looking at Ella and her husband in the 1880 census because I was trying to pin down the ages of all her siblings, a generation born during the “tick-mark census” years. My 2x great-grandmother, then widowed, was living with her widowed mother Betsy and Ella in the household headed by Ella’s husband, Ernesto Baldanza, a musician from Italy. They were living in the Kingsbury’s home town of Wiscasset, near Bath, in Maine. Ernesto was 33, Ella was 32, Ella’s sister was 55, and Ella’s mother Betsey was 80.

I had verified my 2x great-grandmother’s age by other records, and I was in the process of doing this for Betsey. When I took a second look at this particular census as it concerned Ella and her husband, it matched for Betsey and her older daughter, but something was clearly off, because it showed that Betsey would have been 48 years old when Ella was born.

I already knew that Ella was a problem as far as her birth year was concerned. After figuring out that she had been Susan in one census and Ella in the one following, the ages were still not matching up well, and the 1880 census didn’t match either of the previous ones.

I was using a published genealogy of the Kingsbury family which was right often enough to be useful, which said that Ella was born in October 1829, had been married once before going to Italy, and married Ernesto in Italy in 1872. This made more sense – Betsey would have been 29 when Ella was born – but it would have made Ella 51 in 1880, not 32, a difference of almost 20 years in age.

The Kingsbury genealogy was published in the early 1900s and drawn from sometimes unverifiable family records. Thus far I haven’t confirmed either of the reported dates for Ella’s marriages, but I did find a passenger record for Ernesto and “wife” arriving in the US in 1879. Ernesto was shown as 24, and his wife was 35. In the year be-

tween that arrival and the census, Ernesto had aged eight years and Ella had gotten younger, still more confusing.

I tried to determine dates for Ernesto, who was initially quite successful in the US, starting with a popular touring company and then singing on tour with Adelina Patti, but was then reduced to giving voice lessons in various cities across the upper Midwest. Somewhere in this period, he and Ella



Image from SF newspaper account of his death in 1900

broke up – she was not the wife who was mentioned as surviving him when he died, alone and impoverished in a Geary Street hotel room, after trying to make a comeback doing concerts in San Francisco. At his death in 1900, he was said to be about 49 years old, and his magnificent gravestone in Colma shows a birth year of 1852. While this doesn’t match his age on the passenger list with Ella, it does match his age on his 1890 marriage record and the 1891 passenger lists when he took his second wife on a European honeymoon.



Putting together the non-Ella-based facts, she was probably born in 1829 as the Kingsbury genealogy says. In 1872, when they supposedly got married, Ernesto would have been 21 and Ella would have been 43! She must have carried off

THE ITALIAN TENOR AND THE “COUGAR” FROM MAINE (CONT'D)

her deception for a time, picking whatever age she wanted when someone asked. It's hard to tell what effect the age difference had on the marriage, but when he remarried, it was to a student who was 15 years younger.

After Ernesto moved on, Ella lived in New York for some time, despite financial difficulties – she wrote in support of her mother's pension application that she was unable to cope with payments to the Wiscasset poor farm for Betsey's care. According to a city directory, she was teaching “voice culture”. In 1900 she characteristically told the census she was 45, not 70-ish. Her connections to the music world meant that she would have heard of Ernesto's death later that year, but she may not have known that she also outlived Ernesto's second wife, who committed suicide 5 years later.

I can't find Ella in the 1910 census, but in 1911 she died in her Maine hometown of Wiscasset, where they had a pretty good idea of her age and recorded it as 83. Her age had finally caught up with her.■

Editor's note: This article is from one of our members. I encourage all of you to write a short story to be published in a future issue of our Newsletter. There must be something that you are proud of finding, a breakthrough that has been long coming or even a funny, interesting, or possibly ironic story about one of your ancestors. It can be as short as a paragraph or two or as long as two pages or so. Publication will be determined by when I receive it and by space available.

RootsTech is coming back next year (Feb 28-Mar 2, 2024) and registration is now open. It will be



both on-line and in person, with a fee to attend in person. “What's RootsTech?”, you say? It is a worldwide genealogical conference sponsored by Family Search, taking place in Salt Lake City and in your computer room. There are >200 on line sessions as well as >250 sessions only available in SLC. There will be exhibitors, of interest to you if you attend in person, and nationally and internationally known speakers. If you want to know more or register go to <https://www.familysearch/rootstech/>

Do You Have Irish or Scottish Ancestors? Join our SIG

The Irish & Scottish Research SIG, originally the Irish group, is one of the first special interest groups in SRVGS, and the longest continuously meeting SIG. Patty Erickson, a charter SRVGS member, led this SIG at her home since 1994 with shared genealogy books and journals and home baked treats until 2020, when we went to Zoom meetings due to Covid. Meetings now continue on Zoom due to traffic and widespread members. Our members ancestors are from varied counties in Ireland and Scotland.

Members subscribe to varied genealogy internet sites and the Septs magazine. They are experienced in the use of Catholic and other church records as well as USA records of all types once ancestors were in this country. Some families came through Canada, so early Canadian records have been researched.

We have studied the early history of Ireland and Scotland and their interactions with England and the invasions of Cromwell and other English leaders, as well as the effect of the 1840s potato famine on immigration to the USA. The early 1920s Dublin battle for Irish freedom from England cost genealogists major losses of records for Ireland.

Our SIG members are congenial, warm, and helpful and have become long-term friends. Members help each other, and especially new members, with research tips and indicate places to look on the internet. Mark McLaren, with occasional help from Bill George, has managed and led the ZOOM meetings. For SRVGS members, Patty can be reached at russpat@comcast.net.■

Genealogy: “An account of one's descent from an ancestor who did not particularly care to trace his own.” —Ambrose Bierce

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR****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. All members are welcome.

December 2023

- 5 Tuesday 2-4pm Holiday Party and Cookie Exchange will be held at the Danville FSC

January 2024

- 16 Tuesday-10am The January General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Tina LaFreniere on **Connecting Faces Through Time, Using AI for Facial Recognition**
- 23 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

February 2024

- 20 Tuesday-10am The February General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Margaret "Peg" Kapustiak on **How Can Historical Context Genealogy Help My Family Tree?**
- 27 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.

March 2024

- 19 Tuesday-10am The March General Meeting will be held via Zoom Link. The speaker will be Janice Sellers on a subject TBA regarding Jewish Genealogy
- 26 Tuesday-10am The Board Meeting will be held via Zoom. All members are welcome.■

**Notes on Last Month's Presentation****By Karen LaDuca****Research a Veteran, Part 1****By Jennifer Holik**

Ms. Holik shared her extensive knowledge of military records from WWI to the Vietnam War. In this first presentation she discussed the research process, giving many examples of the types of records available for the various branches of service and what you can learn from them. She gave information on what archives hold the various types of records also noting that access has changed since Covid.

She gave many examples of the actual records and shared stories of her research. One important hint is that the unit number listed on the final papers may not be the only unit the veteran served in but is just a starting point.

Included in her handout is a 7 page Military Service Questionnaire which will help to focus your search. There is also a list of helpful websites.

Be sure to join the November meeting for Part 2 of this topic.■

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.

**Like us on
Facebook**

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP UPDATE*By: Bill George*

In November 2023, SIG dates are all meeting on schedule except the DNA SIG and the German SIG. 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 Nov. 8th, 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 Nov. 13th, 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 Nov. 16th (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 - the next meeting is Monday Dec. 11th, 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.



German Research - Wednesday Nov. 29th, 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. ■

**SRVGS is on Facebook!**

Click on the link below or go to:

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



EDUCATION

By: Kathy Javdani



Happy November. . It's time to celebrate family at Thanksgiving and their service connected with Veteran's Day. Let's learn more.

☞ The California Genealogy Society Library, www.californiaancestors.org, 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. Nov. 4th from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a Zoom meeting. The topic will be **Vital Records**.
- On Wed. Nov. 8th from 6:30-8 Lisa Gorrell and Jacqueline Henderson will host the **CGS Members Roundtable – an online group discussion session**.
- Through Nov. 16th members can view the recording **Using Google's My Maps as a Research and Analysis Tool**.
- On Fri. Nov. 17th from 10:30-11:30 Robert Trapp will lead the **Mayflower Descendants SIG** in person at the CGS library.
- On Sat. Nov. 18th from 10-12 Sandra Huber will host the **San Francisco SIG** via Zoom.
- Also, on the 18th 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. Nov. 22nd from 6:30-8 the **RootsMagic Users Group SIG** with Keith Montgomery will meet online.
- On Sat. Nov. 25th from 10-11:30 the **Eastern European SIG** will hold its quarterly meeting.
- On Sat. Dec. 2th from 10-12 the **Introduction to Genealogy Group** will hold a Zoom meeting. The topic will be **Organizing Your Family History Work**.

☞ To contact The Oakland Family Search Library, www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Oakland_California_FamilySearch_Library/Classes_and_Workshops. Email fhcoakland@gmail.com or call 510-531-3905 for Infor-

mation 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 as well as RootsTech classes. In addition, the Family Search Library in Salt Lake City presents a number of webinars each month. Check the Oakland Family Search Library website for a list of numerous online webinars and classes.

- On the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 11; 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 11; and the 3rd Wednesday at 6, CGS and OFSC volunteers host **Tips & Talk**. These are in-person discussions 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 Nov. 22nd, from 6-9 the **African American Research Workshop** meeting will be held on Zoom.

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

- On Sat. Nov. 4th at 10 Karen Fortin will share **Family History Activities and Storytelling with Children and Grandchildren**.

☞ 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 Thu. Nov. 2nd from 3-4:30 David Lambert, Matthew Delmont and Adam Hochschild will discuss **Uncovering Wartime Stories, 1918-1945: Researching Veteran and Homefront Experiences of the World Wars**. \$65
- On Wed. Nov. 1st, 8th and 15th from 3-4:30 Christopher Child and Lindsay Fulton will explore **Verifying Your Mayflower Lineage**. \$85.
- On Mon. Nov. 6th, from 3-4 Rebecca Clarren will share her family history, **The Cost of Free Land: Jews, Lakota, and An American Inheritance**.
- On Tue. Nov. 7th, 14th and 21st from 1-2:30 Curt DiCamillo will examine **Classical Architecture in Europe and America**. \$85
- On Tue. Nov. 7th from 3-4 Margaret Atwood will discuss her latest book, **Old Babes in the Wood**. \$12.68
- On Thu. Nov. 9th from 12-1 Jonathan Hill will explore **Researching Black Soldiers in the Civil War**.
- On Thu. Nov. 16th from 12-1 Eileen Pironti will examine **Settlement House Research**.
- On Mon. Nov. 20th from 3-4:15 Sarah Lohman will share her insights on **Endangered Eating: America's Vanishing Foods**.
- On Wed. Nov. 29th, Dec. 6th, 13th, and 20th from 3-4:30 Kyle Hurst and Kimberly Mannisto discuss **New Jersey Research: Four Centuries of History and Genealogy**. \$115
- On Thu. Nov. 30th from 12-1 Nathaniel Taylor will present **An Introduction to the Committee on Heraldry at American Ancestors**.
- Also on the 30th from 3-4 Rachel King and Sarah Quiat will share **Introducing Jewish Neighborhood Voices**.

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. Nov. 7th from 11:30-12:30 Sylvia Tracy-Doolos will discuss **British Research Methodology: How, What & Where to Search**.
- On Wed. Nov. 8th from 3-4 Patricia Stamm will share an **ACGSI Hybrid Program: Grandpa's Military File, What and Where Is It?**
- On Thu. Nov. 9th from 3:30-4:30 Kim Richardson will explore **Beginner Colonial-era Research**.
- On Tue. Nov. 14th from 11:30-12:30 John Beatty will examine **Mayflower Genealogy: Tracing Ancestors in Colonial Plymouth Colony**.
- On Thu. Nov. 16th from 3:30-4:30 Sue McNelly will present **South Africa: Getting Started**.
- On Tue. Nov. 21st from 11:30-12:30 Pam Vestal will discuss **Voting Records - Genealogy's Best Kept Secret**.
- On Tue. Nov. 28th from 11:30-12:30 Dana Palmer will share **Finding Your Hungarian Roots**.
- On Thu. Nov. 30th from 3:30-4:30 Eleanor Brinsko will examine **Farming, Factories, and The Frontier: Midwest Genealogy Basics**.

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

- On Wed. Nov. 1st at 11 Nancy Low will explore **Finding Females in US Naturalization Records, 1790-1952**.
- On Fri. Nov. 3rd at 11 Ari Wilkins will share **Friends of Friends: Quakers and African American Communities**.
- On Wed. Nov. 8th at 5 Paul Milner will examine **Scottish Emigration to North America: Before, During and After the Rebellions**.
- On Tue. Nov. 14th at 11 Uri Gonen will offer **New Updates on Your MyHeritage Family Tree**.

- On Wed. Nov. 15th at 11 Diahn Southard will answer **Can mtDNA and XDNA Help Topple Geoff's Brickwall?**
- On Fri. Nov. 17th at 11 Collen Robledo Greene will present **Tio Juvenal: Putting the Records, Context & Strategies All Together.**
- On Tue. Nov. 21st at 5 LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson will share **Why Standards Are for Everyone.**
- On Tue. Nov. 28th at 11 Tal Erlichman will discuss **The Good News About Historical Newspapers.**
- On Wed. Nov. 29th at 11 Katie Gertz will examine **The Erie Canal History and Its Impact on US Migration West.**
- On Thu. Nov. 30th at 4am Elisabeth Zetland will present **Reimagine, la nouvelle application photo de MyHeritage.** (in French)
- On Fri. Dec. 1st at 11 Amy Bertsch will answer **Who Were "Felix Richards' Slaves"? Identifying Enslaved People Photographed During the Civil War.**

 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://lusalouisecooke.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=PLwtrWI_IBMJszRsNrcDauSLtHwGWXeQ6R

Events from Local Societies

- On Thu. Nov. 2nd at 1:30 the Genealogy Society of Vallejo and Benicia, <https://gsvb.org>, will have its monthly in person meeting at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum. Jessica Cocar, the guest speaker will discuss **Funeral Customs**.
- On Mon. Nov. 13th from 7 -8:30 the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, www.l-ags.org, will host a Zoom meeting Mary Kircher Roddy will examine **Flying Under the Radar- Discovering Charles Olin's Atlas**. The link to register for the meeting is on the site under speakers.

- On Thu. Nov. 9th from 6:30 -8 the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society, <https://cccgs.net>, will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom. Guest speakers Joseph and Judie Palmer will reflect on the 30-minute movie **New York City's Hart Island: A Cemetery of Strangers** following its showing. Register under events on the society's website.
- On Thu. Nov. 16th from 1-4 the Napa Valley Genealogical Society, <https://napagensoc.org/event-5379233>, will hold a hybrid general meeting. Elizabeth O'Neal will answer **What Can You Learn from Lineage Societies...Without Becoming a Member!** See the society's website to register.
- On Tue. Nov. 21st 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 James Bording will present **Rosicrucian Park Revealed: A Glimpse into San Jose's Mystical Oasis**. See the society's website to register.
- On Sun. Nov. 19th from 1-2:30 the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society, www.sfbajgs.org/calendar.html will hold its monthly meeting on Zoom. Nancy Loe, the guest speaker, will explore **Discovering European Immigrant Ancestors: Their Experiences and the Records**. See the society's website to register.

Upcoming Special Events

- 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.
- From Nov. 10-11th the Texas State Genealogy Society, www.txsgs.org, will hold the 2023 TxSGS Family History Conference, **Roots and Branches: Climbing Your Family Tree** virtually. Visit www.txsgs.org/2023-conference to register.
- From Feb. 29th -March 2nd, the RootsTech 2024 Conference will be hybrid with presentations both in person at Salt Lake City and online.

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

Family Search Center Changes

You 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*.

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

Want to Help or Do You Need Help?

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

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

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

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