

February 2013, Vol. 7, No. 2

115th Celebration - Last Chance for Tickets!

Saturday, February 9, 2013, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Nile Hall, Preservation Park, 668 Thirteenth Street, Oakland, CA 94612



Join us for a special birthday event as the California Genealogical Society celebrates 115 years! The festivities will include a social hour, used book sale, and luncheon salad and sandwich buffet. Our special guest speaker will be [Dr. Andy Anderson](#), Chief Historian of Wells Fargo Bank, who will present *The Healing Power of Genealogy*.

Seating is limited. Be one of 115 members and friends to attend. Ticket sales end on February 5, 2013. [Learn more.](#) [Register online.](#)

CGS Memberships Donated to KQED 2013 Pledge Drive

Listen to KQED Radio FM 88.5 on Monday, February 4, 2013, at 7:50 a.m.

KQED

The California Genealogical Society has been part of the [KQED Perks Member Benefits](#) program for many years. KQED members can receive a \$5 discount on new memberships to CGS.

This year the society is donating twenty CGS memberships to KQED Radio for their 2013 pledge drive. Listen Monday morning, February 4, 2013, at 7:50 a.m., for the on-air mention of our society and library and the description of our gift.

Black History Month Panel Discussion - Only a Few Seats Left!

Saturday, February 23, 2013, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, CA 94612

The California Genealogical Society is partnering with the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California to present a Black History Month panel discussion. Felicia Addison, Annette Madden, Vernester Sheeler, Nicka Smith, and Jackie Stewart will be discussing genealogy research in their respective home states: South Carolina, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi. The panel will share some of the challenges they have faced and how they overcame them, including the use of DNA. [Learn more.](#) [Register online.](#)

The National Archives and Archives.gov

Saturday, March 9, 2013, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, CA 94612



Archivist Marisa Louie of the National Archives at San Francisco will speak about resources of genealogical interest found at our local facility in San Bruno and at locations nationwide. Learn how to get in touch with archivists, how to navigate the Archives.gov website, and what is - and what isn't - in the holdings of the National Archives. [Learn more.](#) [Register online.](#)

Field Trip to The California Historical Society

Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

California Historical Society, 678 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

Join Library Services Committee Chair Henry Snyder for a talk, a tour, and a day of research at the California Historical Society. This field trip is for members only and is limited to the first twenty-five to register. [Register online.](#)

Are You Going to RootsTech?

RootsTech Family History and Technology Conference, March 21-23, 2013

Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah



The California Genealogical Society has received an offer from the Southern California Genealogical Society to share a booth at this year's RootsTech Conference. We're still working out the details but we would love to know which of our members will be attending. Please [email Kathryn Doyle](mailto:Kathryn.Doyle@cgsgenealogy.org) if you are going. And be sure to register early - the early-bird price expires February 15, 2013.

French-Canadian Seminar and Panel Discussion

Saturday, March 23, 2013, 10:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

CGS Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2,

Join Dr. Robert Jackson for an overview of French-Canadian history and a discussion of major French Canadian resources and online resources for your research. Bring your lunch and network with others who share your research interest.

[Register online.](#)

Have Your Registered for the 2013 Salt Lake City Tour?

Sunday to Sunday, April 14-21, 2013

Accommodations at the Shilo Inn, 206 West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT

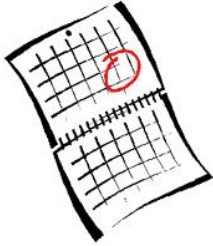


Past-president Jane Lindsey is leading the 13th annual California Genealogical Society Salt Lake City Tour to the **Family History Library** April 14-21, 2013. Research Director Nancy Peterson returns to help lead this very popular trip. [Download the tour flier](#) for full information.

[Register online](#) to reserve your space now!

Coming in April

Save These Dates!



- 4/6: First Saturday Free; Intro Class, Muriel Sonne
- 4/9: Book Repair Committee
- 4/10: Genealogy Writing Special Interest Group
- 4/13: Membership Meeting, Publications by Our Members
- 4/16: RootsMagic Special Interest Group
- 4/18: Advanced Genealogy Series begins (5 sessions), Susan Goss Johnston
- 4/20: San Francisco Special Interest Group
- 4/27: DNA Seminar, Preservation Park, 9-3:30 p.m.

Check our website, CaliforniaAncestors.org, for the most up-to-date information on classes and events.

The Volunteer Corner

Help Wanted in the Library

by Linda Harms Okazaki

2013 began with a flurry of volunteerism. Arlene Miles orchestrated the library shelf read and completed the task in just three days, thanks to the tremendous efforts of Barbara Close, Pam Coville, Linda Darby, Gary Darnsteadt, Eva Goodwin, Lisa Gorrel, Gloria Hanson, Shirely Hoye, Kath Merilo, Bill O'Neil, Cheryl Schmidt, Nancy Servin, and Pat Smith.

It's a pleasure to introduce several members who are new volunteers. Lynne Dory, Debbie Mascot and Terri Taylor have joined the Events Committee, co-chaired by Jane Lindsey and Sandy Fryer; Kathie Heller is on the Membership Committee under Diana Edwards; Carol Horn is working with Kathryn Doyle on the eNews. Welcome all of you. We appreciate your enthusiasm!

The library still needs some additional help:

- volunteers with legible printing are needed to replace spine labels that are fading or falling off
- volunteers are needed to follow up on some catalog discrepancies discovered during the shelf read
- volunteers are needed to process our ebay sales of used books
- trainees are needed for Desk Duty

There are plenty of other opportunities to volunteer. Let us know how you would like to help. Weekly? Monthly? Just for special events? Or do you have an idea or special skill that you want to share. Send an [email to Linda Okazaki](mailto:Linda.Okazaki@californiaancestors.org).

Editor's Picks: Suggested Links from the Blogosphere

[The Drafty Ohioan](#) by Judy G. Russell

[Thank You, F. Warren Bittner](#) by Julie Michutka

[Are You Reading the Originals?](#) by Bill Dollarhide

[Foreign Correspondent Moment - Montreal](#) by Anne Morddel

[Analyze Historical Deeds: Taking a Close Look](#) by Kathleen Brandt

[Research Guide from the National Library of Ireland](#) by Deborah Large Fox

[New Show to Feature Tips on New England Research](#) by Thomas MacEntee

[BCG Skillbuilding Track at NGS Las Vegas May 8-11, 2013](#) by Julie Miller, CG

[Online Death Records, Indexes and Obituaries - Latest Additions and Updates](#) by Joe Beine

California Ancestors: They Came from Everywhere

Photo Tributes to the CGS Family

Edited by Lorna Wallace

This month, we honor **Thelma Nordengen Armstrong Flaten**, grandmother of California Genealogical Society board member Shannon Reese.



Thelma Nordengen Armstrong Flaten

Thelma Nordengen was born August 12, 1925, on the family farm in Pine Creek, Minnesota, just a mile from the Canadian border. She was the youngest daughter of Norwegian immigrants - Anton and Anna (Wick) Nordengen - who were the parents of six. After graduating from high school, Thelma worked as a sandwich girl in a Boeing aircraft factory in Seattle during WWII. She married Ray Jack Armstrong and they had three children. Thelma worked at the Social Security Administration in Birmingham, Alabama, for twenty-five years. In later life, she married Gilmore Flaten and they split their time between Alabama and Minnesota.

In her youth Thelma dreamed of becoming a fashion designer. Instead, she was a self-taught, amateur artist. She loved to paint landscapes, as well as to sew and make clothes for friends and family. Her other love was traveling. She made frequent trips to California to visit family. Always proud of her roots, Granny Thel would pepper her speech with simple Norwegian phrases. She delighted in teaching the grandchildren about our heritage.

Thelma left the earth on June 15, 2012, surrounded by her family. She was a wonderful, loving grandmother and I will deeply miss her.

-Shannon Reese

Call for Submissions - Are you a member with a great family photo to share? Please [email Lorna Wallace](#) and send your image with a brief narrative.

Did you miss these posts in the California Genealogical Society & Library blog?

[Just for Fun: Can You Guess?](#)

[What You Missed: 2013 Annual Meeting](#)

[Lavinia's Visit with the Chula Vista Genealogical Society](#)

[Talking Maritime Records at the San Francisco Special Interest Group](#)

[Members Gathered after a Week of Teaching and Learning at SLIG 2013](#)

[A San Francisco Public Library Talk by Jane Lindsey: Using Familysearch.org](#)

Connect with Us



Kathryn Doyle, eNews Editor [email me](#)





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