



**Since 1898**

**May 2015, Vol. 9, No. 5**

### Editor's Note

### May is Asian Pacific Heritage Month

We've had a couple good storms in April so thank you for Thinking Rain.

As we get to enjoy the proverbial May flowers we also remember our Asian / Pacific Ancestors. May is the official month of [Asian Pacific Heritage](#). Below you will find many resource links for Asian & Pacific Island genealogy sites.

CGS thrives with the generosity of its volunteers! If you are interested in donating your time and talent to CGS our top 3 Spring 2015 positions waiting to be filled are: **Tech Guy/Gal; Wordsmiths; Library Desk Duty**. See our [Volunteer Positions](#) page or contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for more information.

Finally, the CGS On-line Catalog will be *temporarily unavailable* as we transition to the new OCLC system. Stay tuned for the launch of the new system approximate on May 20th.

Enjoy May!

**Stewart**

### Local Conferences

#### [Bay Area Heritage Exchange Open House](#)

His-story, her-story, what about OUR story? Join Mechanics' Institute on May 7th to meet representatives from other local cultural, historical and genealogical entities at this Open House.

Find out about their services and how they are going about collecting, preserving, and disseminating our shared heritage and communal memory. Hear writers, film makers, and aficionados discuss insights into our past through presentation and interaction.

**CGS Library Director Dr. Henry Snyder** will give a brief presentation about our new acquisition of historical California Directories.

If you delight in local culture and family history, or just wish to socialize over food and drink with innovative people who are transforming awareness of our history and culture, you will enjoy this special event.

**May 7, 2015 - 5 P.M. to 8 P.M**  
Event is Free, but [registration](#) is required



**CGS San Francisco Special Interest Group**

## A Second Final Rest: The History of San Francisco's Lost Cemeteries

A film by [Trina Lopez](#) exhumes the hidden history of how this modern metropolis managed to systematically relocate nearly all of its burial grounds to make room for the living. Trina Lopez will be discussing the film at this private screening.

Oakland Family Search Library,  
4766 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland  
May 16, 2015 10 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.



A discussion will follow the screening on where are the records of the dead?

[Register for this Event](#). Members are Free, Non-Members \$20

## National Conferences



May also brings the [National Genealogical Society's](#) conference entitled [Crossroads of America](#). If you have not made plans to travel to St. Charles, Missouri, on **May 13 - 16** then you can also enjoy the [On-Line program](#) and the Live Streaming of the event.

Other conferences scheduled for 2015 should be "penciled" into your electronic calendars. More information will be presented here as the dates approach.

- [46<sup>th</sup> Annual Jamboree - Southern California Society and Family Research Library](#)  
June 5-7, 2015, Burbank, California
- [Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research](#) - June 7-12, 2015, Birmingham, Alabama
- [Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh](#) - June and July, 2015, La Roche College.  
Registration is open for both June and July
- [The Northwest Genealogy Conference](#) - August 13-15, 2015, Arlington, WA  
[Registration is now Open](#)

## Classes

**California Genealogical Society & Library**  
**2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland**



Saturday, May 2 [Intro to Genealogy](#)  
with Ron Madson, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, May 9 [Using Photoshop Elements in Family History - Overview](#)  
with Ron Madson, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, May 16 [Building Archives Together! - Internet Archive Solutions](#)  
with Robert Miller, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, May 30

[Lies, Lies and Damn Lies: Can DNA Solve My Paternal Lineage?](#)  
with Jeffery Vaillant, 1:00 p.m - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, June 6

[Intro to Genealogy](#)  
with Diana Wild, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m



Saturday, June 6

[Creating Graphic Family Trees with Photoshop Elements](#)  
with Ron Madson, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, June 13  
(changed from May 23)

[Creating Graphic Family Trees with Photoshop](#)  
with Ron Madson, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Saturday, June 27

[Creating Graphic Family Trees with Irfanview](#)  
with Ron Madson, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For additional events check out the [San Francisco Bay Genealogy Calendar](#).  
Also [visit our Eventbrite profile page](#) to see the latest class additions and descriptions.

## Genealogy for Asian Pacific Heritage

by *Stewart Blandón Traiman*

I did a quick internet search and put together this list of promising links for researching Asian Pacific Ancestry.

- [Hawaii State Archives](#)
- [Cyndi's List](#) - Asia and the Pacific
- [National Archives - Japanese American Records](#)
- [National Archives - Chinese Immigration](#)
- [National Archive at San Francisco](#) (*in San Bruno really*) has records generated by the Federal courts and more than 100 Federal agency field offices in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (i.e. Marshall, Caroline, and Northern Mariana Islands). Holdings also include records of U.S. Navy bases on foreign territory in the Pacific and Far East and are a primary resource for the study of Asian-Pacific immigration, environmental and natural history, naval and military activity in the Pacific.
- Family Search Wiki Pages - [China](#), [India](#), [Indonesia](#), [Japan](#), [Philippines](#), [Sri Lanka](#), [Pacific Islands](#)
- [Angel Island Immigration Island Foundation](#), the "Ellis Island of West".



## Meetings and More

**California Genealogical Society & Library**  
**2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland**

**Saturday, May 16:** CGS Board of Directors, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



**Saturday, May 16:** [San Francisco Special Interest Group](#)

There will not be a regularly scheduled SF SIG meeting at the library this month. Instead it will be at the Family History Library - see above

**CGS Blog**

**Highlights from the California Genealogical Society Blog (and Others)**



The blog has a temporary new editor and guest writers are encouraged to submit material and photos to [Linda Okazaki](#).

- [Please Pass the Salt...And Tell Us About Your Ancestors](#) - by Kathleen Beitiks
- [Lies, Lies and Damn Lies; Can DNA Solve My Paternal Lineage?](#) - by Jeffery Vaillant
- [Graphic Image Classes by the Photography Guy](#) - by Linda Okazaki

There are many other blogs with fascinating stories for genealogists. Following are links to blog spots on NPR and on the Angel Island Immigration Foundation.

- [100-Year-Old Message In A Bottle Plucked From Baltic Sea](#)
- [Herbert Yee's Story: From Child Angel Island Immigrant to Community Leader](#)

**New Membership Perk!**

**California Genealogical Society & Library**



[FindMyPast](#) offers more than 1.7 billion international family history records from around the globe, including more than 1,000 exclusive collections that you won't find online anywhere else.

We are excited to announce FindMyPast is now offering a flat **50% off the annual World subscription** (over \$99 off) for all CGS members! You can find the code on our [Welcome](#) page once you log in as a member. Look for the blue "FindMyPast" in the middle of that page.

If you've forgotten your CGS number please [contact the CGS Membership team](#).

**Ancestor Tribute**

**by Judianne Abramson**

	<p>Featured this month are Grace Seu Wong and her granddaughter, Priscilla Shee. They stand in front of the house on Lombard St., San Francisco, owned by the couple we introduced in the Photo Tribute last February, Walter Lowe and Dora Seu Lowe. Grace was Dora's sister.</p> <p>This house was used in Alfred Hitchcock's</p>
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film, *Vertigo*. It's there to see using an Internet search for the film's images.

Baby Priscilla's parents were Evelyn Wong and Wilson Michael Shee. In researching her family's history, Judianne verified that Mr. Shee was the first Chinese American Federal Narcotics Agent and tragically died in action when he was shot by a drug-addicted informant in Chinatown.

We enjoy honoring members' ancestors. Please email a photo to [Lorna Wallace](#), along with a short summary about why the ancestor featured is important or interesting to you. Photos should be in .jpg format with a file size over 100 kb; photos and text may be edited for space.

### Connect with Us

See our [Volunteer](#) page for opportunities or contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#) for information



CGS Received the 2014 ALL STAR AWARD from Constant Contact for exemplary engagement with our readers.



*Stewart Blandón Traiman*  
eNews Editor [email me](#)

