



Since 1898

January, Vol. 14, No. 1

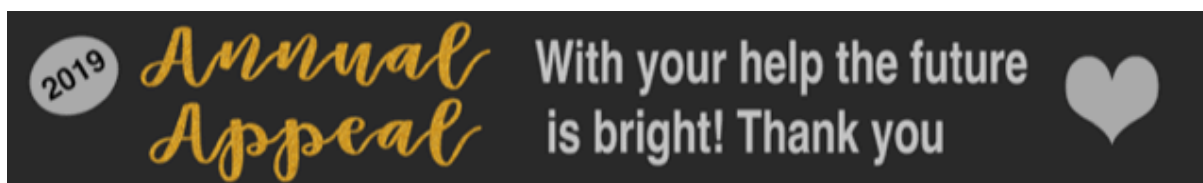
January 2020 Announcements



• HAPPY NEW YEAR •



[CGS Annual Appeal](#)



Letters for the annual appeal from Jim Sorenson, President, were sent to all CGS members in early November. We appreciate any tax-deductible contribution that you feel you can make at this time. You can use the envelope which was enclosed or you can donate using our website. We also accept donations from non-members.



Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting for members will be on January 11th, starting at 11 a.m. in the CGS library classroom. The agenda includes voting for members to the CGS Board of Directors, approval of the 2020 budget and approval of Bylaw revisions.

Please come for a festive potluck, meeting old friends, enjoying cake and plan to stay for the program after the meeting.

2020 Board Slate

CGS Board Nominating Committee

Committee Chair: Richard Kehoe

Committee Members: Kathleen Beitiks, Nancy Cork, Maureen Hanlon, Linda Okazaki

Continuing in their first term:

- Matt Berry
- Jennifer Dix
- Stacy Hoover
- Jim Sorenson
- Jeffrey Vaillant



Continuing in their second term:

- Richard Kehoe
- Arlene Miles

Proposed nominations for a second term:

- Marisela Meskus
- Chris Pattillo

Proposed nominations for a third term:

- Maureen Hanlon
- Stewart Blandón Traiman

Effective with the annual meeting on January 11, 2020:

- Nancy Cork will step down from the board.
- Felicia Addison will term-out.
- Linda Okazaki will continue as Past President.

New board member nominees:



Theresa Murphy has been researching her ancestry since 2016 when she traveled to Ireland to visit her family's homelands and meet newly found cousins. She has been a member of CGS since 2018. Since joining CGS, she expanded her research to her New England ancestry with the help of one of our members. Theresa is a native of Oakland and spent her professional career as a CPA in auditing, consulting, and systems implementations - skills which have proven invaluable in genealogy research. She is currently serving on the Website Committee, assisting in the development of our new website, and is teaching a workshop on creating a family history book.

Joanna Shear was born in Boston, grew up in Missouri, and landed in the Bay Area 21 years ago. A member of CGS since 2016, she has a BS in physics from Indiana University, an MSE in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech, and has completed Boston University's Certificate Program in Genealogical Research. She was first drawn to genealogy by an unknown name on a mysterious engraved silver chalice, which led to



a reunion for family separated by the Holocaust. Eleven years down the road, she is deep into the history of her Jewish ancestors as they moved within Europe and emigrated to other continents. She now also uses DNA to go beyond the documentation and trace new family connections. As her research for family and others has grown into new areas, so has her dedication to making genealogy open and accessible to all.


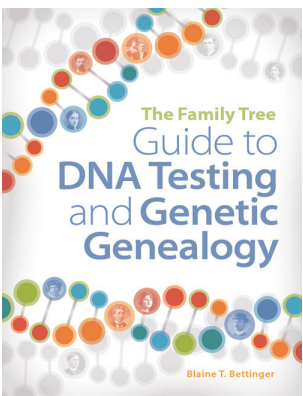






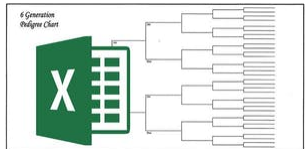

Grant Din has been interested in genealogy ever since a cousin told him forty years ago that he was in the 36th generation of Gongs! Since that time, he has researched his and many families' immigration histories including when he was on the staff of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation. He has worked in the Bay Area nonprofit sector his entire adult life and has extensively volunteered his genealogical services. Grant moderates a Chinese American family history email group and has spoken at many libraries and genealogical societies. He completed Boston University's Certificate Program in Genealogical Research in 2015 and enjoyed being a part of the team that researched the six Chinese seamen who survived the Titanic for the film "The Six".




Classes and SIGs





When registering on [Eventbrite](#) you'll need your CGS membership number to complete the registration. If you do not know your membership number send a request to [Membership](#).



	<p>Introduction to Genealogy</p> <p>Our first-Saturday "Intro to Genealogy" class is a four-session series. The first class offers an overview of genealogy. Each of the next three sessions will begin with a quick review of the overview, followed by a more in-depth focus on the following topics: Census, Vital Records, and Organization. The classes may be taken in any order, and participation in one class is not required to attend others in the series. The entire series will be repeated.</p> <p>Saturday, Jan 4, from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m</p>
	<p>Introduction to DNA and Genetic Genealogy with Mark McLaren</p> <p>The class is designed to be an introduction to DNA as an exciting new tool for genealogists. It is intended for individuals who either are new to DNA or looking to improve their ability to use it in their research. The objective of the class is to provide a basic understanding of all DNA tests and concepts. It will examine the available tools and strategies to more effectively manage DNA matches. It will also create a solid foundation for those interested in taking classes in more advanced skills.</p> <p>Wednesdays, Jan 8 to Feb 12, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>
	<p>San Francisco SIG</p> <p>Join the conversation with the CGS San Francisco Special Interest Group (SFSIG). We uncover records, view historical photographs and maps, read historical newspapers, manuscripts and other San Francisco records.</p>

	<p>Saturday, Jan 18, from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</p>
	<p>Family Tree Maker SIG</p> <p>Devoted exclusively to the popular, robust and easy-to-use Family Tree Maker™ software from Software MacKiev. Join FTM-SIG facilitators Ron Madson and Karen Halfon on the third Saturday of each month</p> <p>Saturday, Jan 18, from 1 - 4 p.m.</p>
	<p>Getting Started With DNA and Using it for Brick Walls Presented by Sue Severson</p> <p>Get introduced to the what and the why of genetic genealogy. This class will provide DNA concepts. You'll learn about and compare the main DNA labs. Sue will share how you can use genetic data to break through your genealogy brick walls.</p> <p>This class is presented by CGS at The Oakland FamilySearch Library</p> <p>Saturday, Jan 18, from 1 - 3:30 p.m.</p>
	<p>Field Trip To Oakland Public Library & Oakland History Room</p> <p>Join Jane Lindsey for a tour of the Oakland Main Library. Dorothy Lazard, Principal Librarian in the Oakland History Room, will discuss the resources available at the Oakland Public Library to assist you with your family research.</p> <p>The Oakland History Room is an important center for the study of the history and current development of the East Bay. Its collection contains a wide variety of materials relating to the history of Oakland and the larger Bay Area, including books, magazines, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, photographs, postcards, sheet music, trade catalogs, and scrapbooks.</p> <p>Thursday, Jan 23 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. FOR CGS MEMBERS ONLY (a perk of membership)</p>
	<p>Excel for Genealogists with Stewart Blandón Traidman</p> <p>Stewart loves spreadsheets! He is an expert in Microsoft Excel using it in genealogy quite frequently. Laying out all the data in Excel can help researchers see gaps in knowledge or correlations between data points. Stewart shows many examples of his use of spreadsheets.</p> <p>This is a hands-on class. Please bring a laptop with Excel loaded.</p> <p>Spreadsheets are fun!</p> <p>Saturday, Jan 25 from 1 - 3:30 p.m.</p>
	<p>On the Road Again: Practical Tips for Successful On-Site Research Presented by Pam Brett</p> <p>A research trip to one's ancestral home can be extremely rewarding, but also presents many challenges. Over the last 20 years Pam has visited 18 states and the District of Columbia to conduct research on her family</p>

	<p>that "came early and moved often." Well-planned on-site research will increase your chances of answering your most perplexing research questions and enhance understanding of the lives of your ancestors. Although focused on the United States, you will learn practical tips on how to plan your trip wherever you choose to travel.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 8 from 1 - 3:30 p.m.</p>
	<p>Intermediate Records Series: Land, Church, Court and Immigration for Genealogy. Presented by Lisa Gorrell, CG.</p> <p>Are You Ready for the Next Level?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you want to take your genealogy research beyond vital records and census records? • Do you want to understand probate, church, immigration, and land records that appear on sites like Ancestry and FamilySearch? • Are you stuck and feel you need to perhaps find records in local repositories? <p>This intermediate class will focus on four specific record groups and demonstrate how to find these record types both on and off line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court Records: Probate, Guardianship, Wills, Other • Church Records: Sacramental, Membership, Business • Emigration, Immigration, & Naturalization • Land & Property Records: Federal, State, & Local land records, & Tax Records • Off-line Research: Using Online Sources to Find Off-line Records <p>The course will consist of both lecture and group hands-on activities. There will be immediate practice using these newly taught skills. There will also be optional homework so practice can continue at home.</p> <p>Wednesdays, Feb 19 - Mar 18, from 9:30 a.m. - Noon. Five Wednesday mornings at the Oakland FamilySearch Library.</p>
	<p>Photo Scanning Workshop</p> <p>Ron Madson will conduct a hands-on photo scanning class using a PC or MAC to assist members who wish to scan documents to use with their genealogical projects. This is one of the classes that will complement the WRITING SERIES classes that will be beginning in April.</p> <p>All participants must bring their own laptops and a scanner (assistance will be available to help you to decide what to purchase).</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 22 from 1 - 4 p.m.</p>
	<p>Field Trip To California Historical Society</p> <p>Join coordinator Maureen Hanlon at the California Historical Society for a special CGS-only session with CHS reference and outreach librarian Frances Kaplan. Frances will describe the holdings and share selected materials for our perusal. We'll have time to learn about the cataloged, indexed and other treasures in this special collection of California material.</p> <p>Tuesday, Feb 25 from 10:30 a.m. - Noon. FOR CGS MEMBERS ONLY (a perk of membership)</p>
	<p>Eastern European Special Interest Group Facilitated by Craig Siulinski</p>

	<p>Come to a Special Interest Group (SIG) discussion, focused on Eastern European Genealogy. Our group is open to all.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb 29 from 1 - 3 p.m.</p>
	<p>Irish Ancestry Network Meetup</p> <p>Join others researching Irish ancestors for our fifth annual opportunity to meet in person. We will exchange successes, discoveries and strategies for researching in Ireland. Networking will occur in the morning followed by a potluck lunch and speaker or short presentations in the afternoon.</p> <p>Sunday, Mar 15 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.</p>
	<p>The Naughty and Notorious Tour of Mountain View Cemetery This is a Members only Docent-led tour of Mountain View Cemetery.</p> <p>Docent Michael Colbruno will lead the CGS group on his most popular tour (formerly known as Headline Makers), including stories about the suicide of a Hall of Fame baseball player, a famous San Francisco madam, a corrupt judge, a scam artist who fascinated Mark Twain, a buried heart, a Hollywood director accused of bigamy and others who pushed the boundaries of acceptable behavior.</p> <p>Saturday, Mar 21 from 10 a.m. to Noon</p>
	<p>West Coast Immigration to the United States in the 20th Century with Linda Okazaki</p> <p>20th Century immigrants to the west coast arrived by ship through Washington, Oregon, and California. Some immigrants arrived overland through Canada and Mexico. Vast numbers of these immigrants were Asian. This lecture will examine the ports of entry, the records generated, and the laws which impacted who and how the immigrants arrived. Many examples from the Angel Island Quarantine Station and Immigration Station will be used.</p> <p>Saturday, Mar 21 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. At the Oakland FamilySearch Library</p>
	<p>Blogging to Share Your Family History for Writers and Non-Writers with Chris Pattillo</p> <p>This will be an introductory class for starting a blog. Chris will begin by talking about the pros and cons of blogging vs publishing books, or never getting around to doing anything with all your wonderful research.</p> <p>Then we will jump right in and create a blog using Blogger, which is free and very easy to use. Chris will show attendees how to choose a theme and background, review page layout options, add gadgets, add text, photos and captions, how to edit after posting, and more.</p> <p>Saturday, Mar 28 from 1 - 3:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Also visit our Eventbrite profile page to see the latest class additions and descriptions.</p>	

Volunteers!

Let the Babylonians be your inspiration to volunteer in 2020

It is said that more than 4,000 years ago, the ancient Babylonians were the first people to make New Year's Resolutions. It is also said that members of the California Genealogical Society are some of the most generous people around. Why? Because at some point, "Volunteer at CGS" made it on their New Year's Resolution List. If it has not yet made your own resolution list, consider adding it for 2020!



We are an all-volunteer organization (since 1898) and depend on the generosity, time and talents of our members. For a general list of [volunteer opportunities](#) (which change periodically), take a look at the CGS website, then submit the [Volunteer Form](#). For questions or more information, send an email to [Kathleen Beitiks](#), CGS Volunteer Coordinator. Happy New Year!

Meetings and More

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

Board Meeting

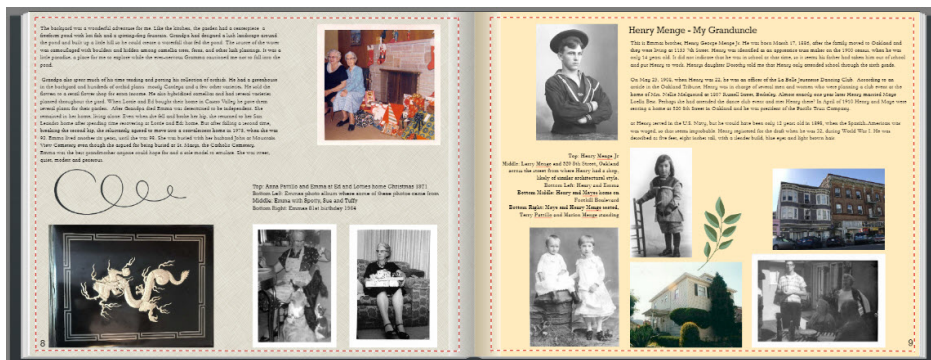
January 11, directly following the Annual Business Meeting.



Annual Business Meeting

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Annual Meeting Program

After the Annual Business Meeting and lunch, we have a special program planned to kickoff a 2020 class theme which focuses on skills to write a family history.

All meeting attendees are invited to bring books, family trees or other graphic family history exhibits that you have created to show and share. When you arrive just put your book or other item on the display table. Anyone who wishes to talk

about their project will be allotted three minutes to make an oral presentation. Speakers are free to talk about any aspect of their project, ie. How you decided on the focus of your book, what system you used to organize your material, what printing company you used and what did you like and not like about their system, or any other aspect of your project. After the talks you will be free to talk with and ask questions of those to have brought something to share.

We expect this will be a lively, informative and very helpful opportunity to learn a lot about how to record your family's history. Please come to share and learn.

If you would like to host a Special Interest Group then please contact [Maureen Hanlon](#).

If your Society or Organization would like to use our facility as a meeting space for a nominal fee, please contact [Jim Sorenson](#).

CGS Blog

Highlights from the California Genealogical Society Blog and Others

Please subscribe to the [CGS Blog](#). If you haven't been receiving our blog posts on a regular basis, be sure to re-subscribe. It is a great source of information about classes, events, volunteers and members.



We want and need your stories. If you have an idea for an article, ongoing series of posts or monthly column, then please contact Blog Editor [Jennifer Dix](#) to discuss.



Chris Pattillo finished her state by state review of the library's offering and now expands to international sources, references books and other treasures worthy of your time to come into the library.

- [CGS Library Collections: Oversized Books](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: History of North America](#)
- [CGS Library Collections: World History](#)

[Happy holidays to all - see you in the new year](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[Fall 2019 Nugget is here! Plus, a call for submissions](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[Why You Should Go: 2020 Trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[Rare opportunity to buy complete set of Civil War-themed books](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

[GEDMatch is sold to Verogen](#) -- by Jennifer Dix

['Tis the Season: The Annual Appeal](#) -- by Jennifer Dix



Here are a few interesting blog posts from other sites:

[GEDmatch acquired by forensic firm](#) -- by Judy G. Russell

[Searching British War Records from World War II](#) -- by Amie Tennant on FamilySearch

[Man Discovers Half-Sister Thanks to Christmas DNA Kit Gift](#) -- by Talya on MyHeritage

[Best Strategies: How to Find Church Marriage Records](#) -- by Lisa Cooke

[Essential Methods: Research Logs](#) -- by Frederick Wertz on NYG&B

[FamilySearch Releases GEDCOM Version 5.5.1](#) -- by Dick Eastman

[The Nebraska Death Index \(1904-1968\)](#) -- by Reclaim the Records



How to Archive Your Family History Documents, Photos, & Artifacts

Events & Conferences

There are always many other events happening in the Bay Area and across the nation. For the latest events, check [Conference Keeper.org](#).

Local Events

[Bay Area Genealogy Calendar](#) maintained by the Sutro Library

Power and the People **The U.S. Census and Who Counts**

FREE TALK

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 22ND
AT 12PM**

Join us for a discussion on the U.S. Census, why it matters, and its historical context presented by the curators of the UC Berkeley Library Census Exhibit.

**SUTRO LIBRARY READING ROOM
5th floor of J. Paul Leonard Library
San Francisco State university**

RSVP at sutrocensus.eventbrite.com.
Contact us at (415) 469-6100 or sutro@library.ca.gov
Courtesy of exhibits.lib.berkeley.edu/spotlight/census.

Major National and International Conferences:

[Family History Library Webinar Series](#)

2020		
Jan 17 - 19	Salt Lake Genealogical Institute (SLIG) CGS Member Marisa Louie Lee will be on faculty for SLIG 2020.	Salt Lake City, Utah
Jan 19 - 24	SLIG Academy for Professionals - registration opens 13 July 2019	Salt Lake City, Utah
Feb 26 - 29	RootsTech 2020	Salt Lake City, Utah

Apr 29 - May 2	Ohio Genealogical Society Conference	Sandusky, OH
May 20 - 23	National Genealogical Society	Salt Lake City, Utah
Jun & Jul 2020 (3 sessions)	Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Jul 13 - 17	Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (Gen-Fed)	Washington D.C.
Jul 26 - 31	The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)	Atlanta, Georgia
Jul 31 - Aug 1	Celtic Connections Conference	Wheeling, Illinois
Aug 9 - 14	IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy	San Diego, California
Sep 2 - 5	Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)	Kansas City, Missouri
Sep 10 - 12	New York State Family History Conference	Albany, New York
Oct 15-17	APG Professional Management Conference	Portland, Oregon
Oct 25-26	MyHeritage LIVE	Tel Aviv, Israel
Nov 13-15	Texas State Genealogical Society	Irving, Texas
2021	International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP)	Cincinnati, Ohio

Connect with Us

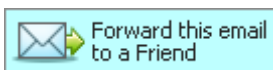
See our [Volunteer](#) page for opportunities or contact [Kathleen Beitiks](#)

Become a member of CGS



Tel (510) 663-1358 - Fax (510) 663-1596

The library is open Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Email [Stewart Blandón Traiman](#), eNews Editor with any questions.

