



## Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

April 2021

Volume 43, Number 4

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We will be back to regular meetings and programs as soon as the Corona Virus pandemic is over!

**ZOOM Meeting 3-18-21 7:00 PM**

### Presidents Message

by Beverly Graham

### Here is my take

This past year has been unbelievable. I'm sure all of us can say we have never seen anything like this in our lifetime. I've always known that my grandmother died in 1918 of the horrible flu pandemic. She was only 26 years old. My mother was 2 years old. Her sister was only 8 months old. The other two children were 6 and 4. I'm sure my grandfather, Louie, was devastated, wondering what to do. Like a lot of families, he worked and left the children with grandparents. Soon he married a widow with two boys, so the family of 8 was soon back on the road of being normal. Or where they?

Hattie was a hard worker and cared for her stepchildren as best she could. Or did she? My mother's memories were of growing up with a ruthless woman who used a belt more than anything. She scared the children constantly with ghost stories. This kept them in a state of anxiety their entire childhood. After becoming adults, one by one the children left their home in Texas, for California. All tried to get far away from Hattie.

Where was Father during this time? Why didn't he see what was going on in the home? Maybe he did and maybe he didn't, but after all his children left, so did Louie. He followed his children to California. The whole family got together in the same town and neighborhood. Then it happened...

Hattie found where the family had settled. She followed them and showed up at Louie's door. She begged him to take her in. She was sorry for her actions with the children years before. But was she? Would he take her in? Would he forgive and forget? Could he?

Looking back, the children were all successful and in turn, lived very good lives. But what happened to Louie and Hattie? Did they get back together? Did they still need each other since they had no children left at home? The answer to those questions are entwined in history. Oh, the tangled web we weave...

**Current Covid-19 information for Stanislaus County**

**Total cases**

**57,504**

**Deaths**

**969**

**Covid-19 Shots now Available for those 65 or older**

**A Reminder**



**HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!**

Submitted by Vicky Wolff

Saint Patrick's Day and its symbols are, in part the story of the Irish and the land many of them left behind to come to the United States. For when they came, they brought with them their patron saint. St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17th the day of Patrick's death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick' Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.



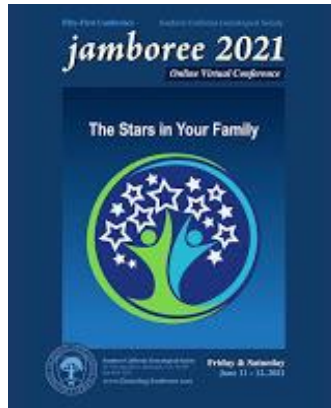
Saint Patrick, who lived during the fifth century, is the patron saint of Ireland and its national apostle. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at the age of 16. He later escaped, but did return to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people.

In the centuries following Patrick's death on March 17, 461, the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture: Perhaps the most well known legend of St. Patrick is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.

The first St. Patrick's Day Parade took place not in Ireland but in America. The first Parade was held on March 17, 1601 in a Spanish colony in what is now St. Augustine, Florida. The Spanish Colony's Irish vicar Ricardo Artur organized this parade. Today, people of all backgrounds celebrate St. Patrick' Day. Popular St. Patrick's Day recipes include Irish soda bread, corned beef and cabbage and champ. In the U.S. people often wear green on St. Patrick's Day.

We do have an "Irish Cultural Society of Stanislaus County" in Modesto, for those interested in Irish culture, traditions and pageantry, see David or Vicky Wolff

## New Virtual Conferences!



### GENEALOGY JAMBOREE 2021 - FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 11 & 12

The 51st Genealogy Jamboree brings you nationally known speakers keeping you in touch with the latest developments in the field of genealogy. From coast to coast, from North to South, from our neighbors - Canada and Mexico - and from the Old World, our speakers can help you find your ancestors' lives and stories. You'll be able to learn from many tried and true speakers and get surprising insights from speakers that are new to Jamboree.

- World-class Genealogy Conference
- Learn from 51 speakers from the USA, Canada, Ireland, Israel and the UK
- STANDARD Registration includes 6 LIVE lectures June 11 & 12 and 20 recorded lectures of your choice Add PLUS Registration to access all 50 recorded lectures

STANDARD Registration - Select 20 recorded lectures from 50 choices. Members: \$135 Non-members \$155

PLUS Registration - All 50 lectures are yours to view. Members: \$215 Non-members \$245

**All Registration packages receive the Friday and Saturday LIVE lectures.**

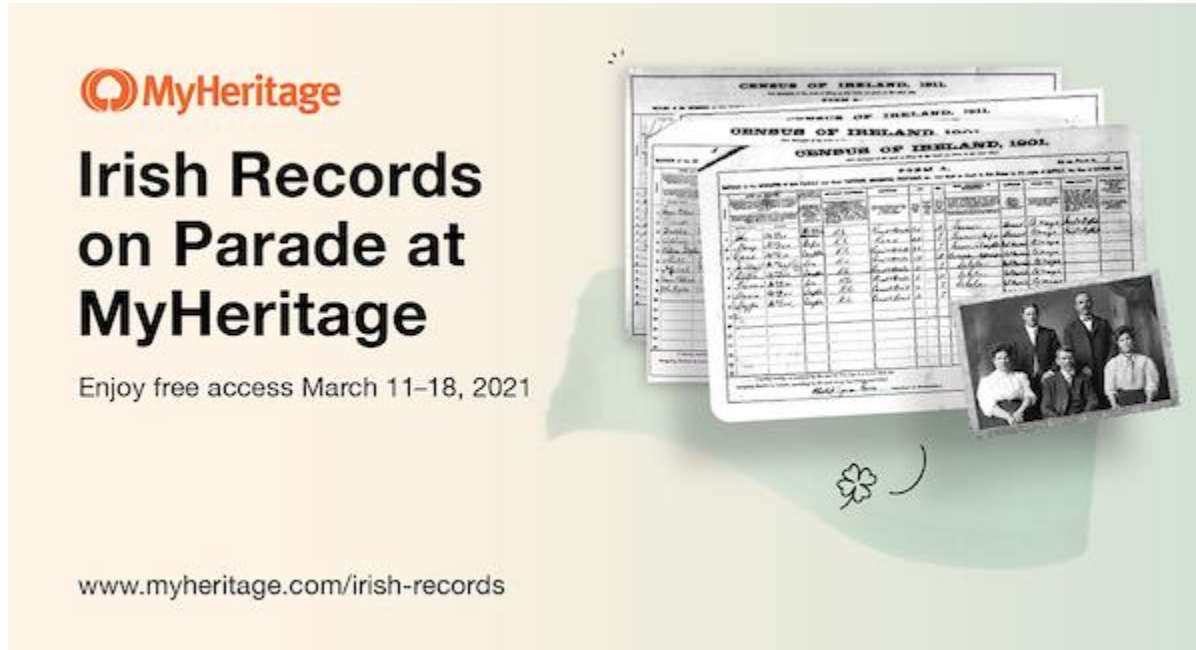
**Prices increase \$20 April 27, 2021.**

Complete descriptions of the conferences are at the Jamboree website:

<https://genealogyjamboree.com>.

# Free Access to Irish Records on MyHeritage for St. Patrick’s Day

11 Mar 2021 6:56 PMAnonymous



In honor of St. Patrick’s Day, MyHeritage is offering **free access to all Irish records on MyHeritage**, from March 11–18, 2021!

MyHeritage’s Irish record collection includes around 14 million records of all kinds: census records, vital records, directories, wills, and much more.

MyHeritage is also home to 120 million family tree profiles with Irish heritage — so even if you don’t find your ancestors among the free records, you just might discover a relative who’s already done some sleuthing and can give you some new insights!

Can search the collection yourself at <https://www.myheritage.com/irish-records> and also read more about this offer in the [MyHeritage blog post](#).

From Dick Eastman <https://eogn.com/page-18080/10186694>

**Did you know, Genealogy is not fatal, but it is a “grave disease”....**



# Cyndi's List Turns 25

10 Mar 2021 9:01 PM Anonymous

Congratulations to genealogy resource site [Cyndi's List](#), which is now 25 years old! "After all these years people still don't often believe me when I say that I am the only person who works on the site. It's true, it's just me. This is my job, but it's also my life's work and my passion. I still enjoy what I do and still find it rewarding, particularly when I hear of success stories from all of you. I am happy to keep providing Cyndi's List as a genealogical research tool for everyone to use."

# Cyndi's List

Here's to another 25 years, OK Cyndi?

From Dick Eastman <https://eogn.com/page-18080/10184088>

Editor – This was one of my very first internet genealogical resources when the internet became a genealogical research tool. I still refer to it today.



THE GENEALOGY SHOW

## Did you know, Genealogy is not fatal, but it is a “grave disease”....

How many of you made a ‘har-har’ noise at this morbid joke? (excuse the pun, we meant to say terrible, how many of you laughed at this terrible joke?) Or at least forced air out from your nose and rolled your eyes a few times.

**Happy April Fools Day all!** Today, we're here to educate you with all the best (and worst) genealogical hoaxes in history.

What is this day and why do we celebrate it in the western world?

Also known as All Fool's Day, April Fools Day is one of the most cheerful days of the year which is observed throughout the western world. And funnily enough, its origins are unclear!

Some see it as a celebration related to the turn of the seasons, while others believe it stems from the adoption of a new calendar.

One popular explanation is that the day arose because of a refusal to accept the new Gregorian calendar, which replaced the Julian calendar in 1582, which meant New Year's Day was celebrated on January 1st instead of April 1st. 'Traditionalists' those that went by the old calendar were made a mockery of and were sent on 'fool's errands' or were tried to be tricked into believing something false. This practice eventually spread throughout Europe.

It is also worth noting that around this time of year as we shift from winter to spring, different cultures all over the world celebrate light-hearted traditions, which could be seen as practicing acts of 'foolishness'. Celebrating the end of winter and the return of spring. For example; The Hindu calendar has Holi, and the Jewish calendar has Purim. Read here for more further detail and more explanations as to why we celebrate April Fools Day.

## Fact and fiction: Myths and legends

We take it, you've come here looking for jokes, and maybe to not be taken for a fool, so here are some of genealogy's finest family myths and legends! Some of these may sound very familiar...



**The Wrong Ethnic Identity Myth**

Broad statements such as all Germans are Hessians who fought in the American Revolution. All the French are Huguenots and all Hispanics are Mexican are of course, not true. We tend to stereotype, and assume that certain groups of people belong to one category. Nationality is not a distinct enough identifier in genealogy.

Names, also, may be inaccurate indicators of ethnic identity. Just because the name sounds Irish, is it really Irish? The name you are accustomed to may have been changed or become corrupted over time, which in turn makes its ethnic origins difficult to reveal.

**The Three Brothers Myth**

It’s always three brothers who immigrated to America, never two or four or five or six. Sometimes one is lost at sea during the voyage over, or one went north, one went south, and one headed west, never to be heard from again. There are never any other family involved in the big move across the pond. Be wary of the brothers myth, and always keep an eye out for additional siblings both in America and once you start foreign research. You may come across it someday!

For more information or for further detail on these family myths and legends, check out this site!

You can also read about some of the world’s most famous fabricated US genealogies here, it features the hoaxes, Franklin W. Horn and “The Horn Papers” and Gustave Anjou and the Family Histories Too Good To Be True.

All hoaxes aside, what isn’t a joke is, us!

From <https://thegenealogyshow.uk/april-fools-day-hoaxes/>

**California’s Covid-19 Tier System**

**Blueprint for a Safer Economy**

**Activity and Business Tiers**

SECTORS	Widespread Tier 1	Substantial Tier 2	Moderate Tier 3	Minimal Tier 4
Critical Infrastructure	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Limited Services	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Outdoor Playgrounds & Outdoor Recreational Facilities **	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications	Open with modifications
Hair Salons & Barbershops	Open Indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications	Open indoors with modifications
All Retail (including critical infrastructure, except standalone grocers)	Open Indoors with modifications • Max 25% capacity	Open Indoors with modifications • Max 50% capacity	Open Indoors with modifications	Open Indoors with modifications

**April 2021**

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Membership Information Dues: Single membership, \$25.00 per year Family membership, \$35.00 per year

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GSSC web page: <http://stanislausgenealogy.org/>  
The newsletter is posted at this website, along with other interesting society-related items.

General meeting: 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd **Thursday** of each month, except July and December at the Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1600 Carver Rd., Modesto, CA.

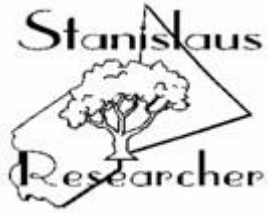
Board meeting: 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month Ridgeway's Restaurant, 2401 E Orangeburg Ave, Modesto, CA

2020 Officers		2020 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	Beverly Graham	Four Generation Charts	Michelle Barnes
1st Vice President	Vicky Wolff	Fundraisers	Committee Chairs
2nd Vice President	Jackie Niemeyer	Historian	Valyrie Jevert
Secretary	Pam Atherstone	Membership	Maybelle Allen
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Director at Large 2	Marge Scheuber	Queries	Colleen Norby
Director at Large 3	Judy Byrne	Refreshments	Tom & Judy Byrne
Director at Large 4	Karen Souza	Registrar	Dorothy Winke
Director at Large 5	Michelle Barnes	Research & Publication	Millie Starr
Past President	Millie Starr	Research Trips	Vacant
		Research Salt Lake City	Vacant
		Resources	Vicky Wolff
		Special Collections Room	Jackie Niemeyer
		Social Media	Pam Atherstone
		Sunshine	Karen Souza

Updated 3-16-21.

**We have 75 members for 2021**

[GSSC website](http://stanislausgenealogy.org/)



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