



## Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

August 2021

Volume 43, Number 8

Message from your President..... 1  
**Regular Society meetings resume!**..... 1  
 August Program..... 1  
 Covid-19 Update for Stanislaus County..... 2  
 Overview of Census. .... 3  
 See's Candy Fund Raising..... 8

**We will return to regular meetings and programs beginning August 19, 2021!**

**See you all at Trinity United Presbyterian Church August 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM!**

**Watch our webpage for program announcement**

### Presidents Message

by Beverly Graham

A Jewish family Karnofsky, who immigrated from Lithuania to the United States, took pity on the 7-year-old boy and brought him to their home.

There he stayed and spent the night in this Jewish family home, where for the first time in his life he was treated with kindness and tenderness.

When he went to bed, Mrs Karnovski sang him Russian lullabies, which he sang with her.

Later he learned to sing and play several Russian and Jewish songs.

Over time, this boy became the adopted son of this family.

Mr. Karnofsky gave him money to buy his first musical instrument, as was the custom in Jewish families.

Later, when he became a professional musician and composer, he used these Jewish melodies in compositions such as St. James's Hospital and Go Down Moses.

The little boy grew up and wrote a book about this Jewish family, who adopted him in 1907. And proudly spoke Yiddish fluently.

In memory of this family and until the end of his life, he wore the Star of David and said that in this family he learned "to live a real life and determination."

This little boy's name was Louis Armstrong.

### August Program

Due to a family medical emergency in the Wolff family there will be no August newsletter General membership program announcement in this issue. Watch our GSSC webpage sliding marquee for the August Program announcement.

<http://www.stanislausgenealogy.org/>



# Stanislaus County COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

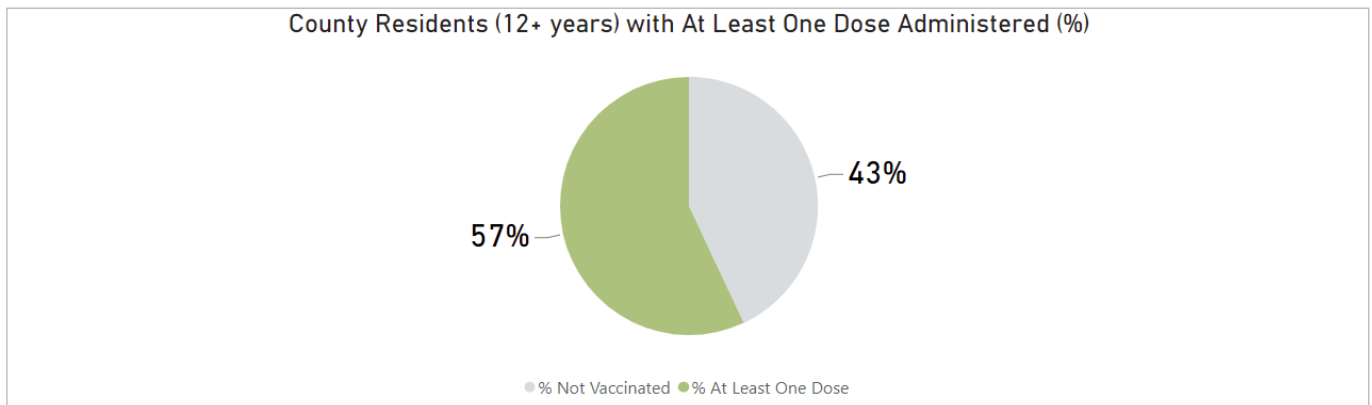


**Note:** Not included in these counts are vaccines provided directly through a federal program for residents and staff of long term care facilities such as Skilled Nursing Facilities, and some directly provided quantities to hospital systems. The information contained on this website will expand as more information becomes available and validated. Doses allocated to public health may be re-allocated to approved providers or will be used in the public health clinic.

**Data Source:** California Department of Public Health & Stanislaus County Health Services Agency

Last updated: 7/19/2021

Vaccination Coverage				Total Doses Administered
Fully Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated (%)	Partially Vaccinated	Partially Vaccinated (%)	
211,632	45%	57,074	12%	467,196



<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=evJrIjoiZiJINDQ3Y2EtN2NjYi00YTFlLWEyMzQtNjgzMzY4Y2E1Y2U4IiwidCI6ImU3M2I3N2Q4LTNkYmQtNGO0ZS04ZDgvLWYzMTUzNjcwMzU2ZCJ9&pageName=ReportSection>

With the posting of the article on the soon to be released 1950 U. S. Census in our July issue by Jackie Niemeyer; Millie Starr and your Editor discussed publishing this paper she used as a U. S. Census training tool. Most of you will not have had her class and the contained information is of value even for those that may have attended.

## Overview of Census

by Millie Starr

As soon as you start talking family history, you hear the word CENSUS.

This word means an official count or survey of a population.

There are state census, and even some before we were a country, but the one that we are going to learn all about today is the United States Federal Census.

The Federal Census is available at Ancestry, FamilySearch, and quite often in local communities.

We had hard working folks who extracted the census for Stanislaus County for 1860, 1870 and 1880. But no matter how complete we try to make these, we cannot duplicate the originals. The 1860 was fun for me, as I had the data in my computer getting ready to print, and thought that it was such a small booklet that I would organize by other criteria besides the alpha. And so I arranged them by the order in which they were enumerated, and then with the assistance of Dr. Leon Pitman at Stanislaus State, I organized them by country of origin. Because of the changing names of countries and regions around that time Dr. Pitman was a wonderful help. If I had a question as to what should be listed, he resolved it for me.

The Federal Census has been taken every ten years since 1790. It is organized by State.

**WHO?** The Federal Government

**WHY?** To determine by population, the number of members each state will have in the lower house of Congress, and thus how much power each state will have for the next ten years.

**WHEN?** It is always taken on the zero year, 1790, 1800, etc. The day of the year was not always the same. So you have a chart that gives you those dates.

**WHAT?** A door to door interview with householders, but that is not set in stone. It was supposed to be, but if the census taker had walked two miles to an isolated house, he is going to take the data from whomever is there. Or if he had ridden his horse several miles and this was the end of the line, he is going to take the info from a little child or a servant or the neighbor. I sometimes think he got it from the dog or cat.

The content varies from year to year. Getting better as time goes by.

**WHERE?** All over the areas that were officially states.

### **Other Census**

There are other types of Federal Census -- Mortality Schedules --Slave Schedules, Non population census, agricultural and industrial census--Veterans Schedule which were basically the only part of the 1890 census which has survived.

But for our purposes, getting started, the only other census besides the regular 10 year we are discussing will be the Mortality Schedules of 1850, 60, 70, and 80.

### **Mortality Schedules - National Archives**

"Mortality schedules record deaths in the year preceding the taking of the census. For example, the 1860 mortality schedules include persons who died between June 1, 1859, and May 31, 1860. For each person, the following information is listed: name, age, sex, marital status if married or widowed, state or country of birth, month of death, occupation, cause of death, and the length of the final illness.

These schedules may be the only record of death for some individuals, as many states did not require recording of deaths until the late nineteenth century. In addition, gravestones or cemetery records may be nonexistent.

For example, a comparison of the 1860 Geauga County mortality schedule, found 52 persons for whom there is no gravestone or other record of burial in that county. There were also 58 children born after the 1850 census whose only "census record" is the 1860 mortality schedule. It may also be the only record of existence for children who have no gravestone. "

In 'the good old days, we were used to seriously searching for census info. There were some indexes of heads of households, available but we had to find these folks on the actual census films by reading frame by frame. We spend days at the National Archives in San Bruno looking at the real stuff. Or looking for the real stuff. It was often our only hope of tracing family. When my third Great Grandmother died in Philadelphia in August of 1853, I could not find the 7 children in 1860. I was without a clue--her husband was no longer in Philly. I knew that her husband Samuel had family in Chester county. No index for that year yet, so I trotted down to the library to order the 1860 microfilm for Chester County on interlibrary loan and discovered that there were four rolls of film for that year in Chester.

After reading all four rolls, I finally found all of the children except one, later found her in NJ. and found the father with a new wife and a new child. But it took days and days of lunch hours and Saturdays and help from my daughter, etc.

### **Content of Census**

Because genealogy without proof is mythology, you need to document every item you put in your computer, or on your paper files.

If it is your own personal family you are seeking, you need to have your birth certificate, your parents marriage license, and their birth certificates and death certificates. These will give you much needed info to start your census searches. I believe it is

essential to look at every census that is in existence for your people. My mother was in the 1940, 1930, 1920 and 1910. She will be in the 1950, and 1960. Every one provides different data. ad lib about commonality of names etc

The logical starting point for us is the 1940 census. If you have no one in that census then you need to move on back. Each census year has different data. and you need every stinking little bit of it.

### Part One

**The 1940** census was released online on April 2, 2012. I had waited thirty years, impatiently, to see my name on the census-I was 7 years old. I knew I would be there in all my glory--Mildred Hunter.

Many of the flukes and foibles that I will tell you about start here.

My mother had an older daughter, by her first husband Carrothers, and I was the second daughter, by her second husband, Hunter. He was the head of the household.

So my anticipation turned quickly to bitterness, to find my name affixed to the Carrothers and not to my father Hunter. If a person in the future is looking at only the index, they will think, Clifford was not her father! If they are doing the work they will read every detail, and see that I am listed as daughter of head of the household, and my sister is listed as stepdaughter. And it is worse earlier on. So beware of careless errors, and unravel them by reading all of the information on the sheet, including names of the neighbors. Do not rely on the index only, it is a finding tool.

1940 has one new item that is very worthwhile, 'Where did they live in 1935?' It also has on the bottom of each page two persons who have been selected for a few extra questions.

Look at the columns on the header for 1940 sheet.

**First** section is Location, street, and house number.

The number of the order of the visit is included, but that is not important to us.

**The next section** is Household Data, and is of real value- Were they the owner of the house, or a renter. Value of the house and/or how much rent were they paying.

**Third** Section is the Name. With instructions to include anyone who is temporarily away, and mark with Ab. More instructions say that if a child is under a year and has not been named to put infant. And then to put an X by the name of the person supplying the info.

**Fourth** Section is to show Relationship to head of the household.

**Fifth** Section is Personal Description - Sex, color or race, age last birthday.

**Sixth** Section is Education- this has only two questions, 'did they attend school or college, during this year?' and 'what is the highest grade they completed.'

**Seventh** Section is Place of Birth- with directions for the census taker to list in US - list state, if other country give name known by in 1937, and to show difference between French Canada and English Canada, and between Irish Free State and Northern Ireland.

**Eighth** Section is for status of citizenship for foreign born.

**Ninth** Section asks for 1935 Residence, to include city, county and state.

The **Tenth** Section is the final one and may seem a little strange to us. Persons 14 years of age and older-employment status. This section has many columns and deals with seeking work, time unemployed, number of hours worked, etc.

This may seem like a lot of mumbo-jumbo as you begin, but look at the headers and determine if your ancestor is important enough to read the data. Mine were!

## Contents of Census

It will be much easier to go through the contents when we leap back to the first census of 1790. All census are organized by State and county.

**1790:** Name of head of household, and number of free white males within specified age groups, and free white females (no age groups).

Name of slave owner and number of slaves.

Remember this is handwritten, with a quill pen and some I swear who watered the ink. Cheap. They will be sorry, I cast a curse on them when they are in hell trying to read the directions to go to heaven, it will be written on the wall in the same ink they used on my family.

But it is still better than nothing.

**1800:** Is much the same, but adds specific age groups for women.

**1810:** Same as 1800.

**1820:** Adds the number of male and female slaves by specific age groups. Number of foreigners in the household.

**1830:** Adds the number of deaf, dumb, and blind persons within specific categories.

**1840:** Adds Name and age of each person receiving a federal military pension and the number of persons in each household attending specified classes at school.

Remember that even though the government developed forms, many of the accounts are on hand drawn forms that were created by the census taker.

We are going to look at a help sheet that was developed many years ago to help us get real use of these census that have almost no info.

As you can see the paper is called 1790-1840 worksheet.

At the top in the large box put the name of the ancestor whose data you have collected and hope to prove that this is the same person, or the right person. It uses a comparison of ages by the year and when you have even two separate census years, you can draw lines down through the boxes to show that the person in the top box matches the person below them in however many boxes as you have. It also shows you the age and birth date potential as the years of the census and their brackets change.

Remember you may need to find a chart online that will help you to interpret the handwriting. The writing of even the educated man had a much different style than we see today. But that is another class.

In 1850, free African Americans were listed as are all US residents. But Slaves were not identified by name until after the Civil War when they were emancipated.

The form for slaves carried the name of the owner; then the number of slaves; followed by a description, age, sex, color, Fugitives from the state; number manumitted'; deaf, dumb, blind, insane or idiotic. No names of slaves.

**1850** The 1850 has several items that are not to be seen earlier.

Name and age; sex, color, birthplace, and occupation;

value of real estate;

Whether married within the year;

whether deaf, dumb, blind or insane;

whether a pauper;

whether a convict;

whether able to read and write and whether attended school within the year.

**1860** only had one new item and that was regarding value of personal property.

Isn't the census getting better now? It has names on it. Men, women and children. But this presents you with a new challenge, the different use of names. My name is Mildred, I am called Millie, my sister called me Mildew. But if the name Millie or Milly appears on a census, be sure to also consider, Amelia, Armilda, Camille, Emeline, Emily, Millicent, Melissa, Parmelia.

Another thing to be considered when trying to determine what other name or form may be the same, is the changes from one nationality and another. Names like Anna, Nancy, Hannah can be just normal growing up changes, from the old country to the new. Of course we don't see that in society today! Kids always go with the true name that their parent gave them, even if it is old fashioned. LOL

Babies often have baby names and then by the next census, they have a more grown up name. Is this parents or kids making the change? Who knows.

**1870** has a few additions-- month of year if born within the year; no longer asks if a pauper or a convict; month of marriage if married within the year; and whether father or mother is foreign born.

So you can see that each census offers up new tidbits and takes away some. Perhaps no one wanted to know about paupers or **convicts in 1870**.

**1880** is a **HURRAH** year. Name of street and house number; relationship to head of family; no longer had value of real estate or personal property; added marital status; no longer asked for month of marriage within the year; added whether temporarily or permanently disabled; added time unemployed during the census year; added birthplace of mother and father.

Birthplace of parents is the greatest thing since sliced bread. As you can see each year offered more valid information. If you are unsure or do not know where the parents of your great or great grands came from this could be your lifeline.

**There is almost none of the 1890 census in existence.** because of a shortage of storage space, the records in Washington had not been secured, and the Commerce building had a fire and as always the water did its job-- damage. Thin paper records did not stand a chance after being stored in the commerce building, and being the **victim of the 1921 fire**.

**1890 Veterans Schedule:** This was originally part of the 1890 census, but it somehow survived. It is a wonderful treasure, giving the house and family numbers of the original census that was lost, names of surviving Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and widows. Rank and Company. Name of regiment, Date of Enlistment, Date of discharge and Length of service. PO Address and Disability incurred.

Then after what really was a 20 year vacuum, the census was back in 1900. And welcomed by researchers who were desperate to make connections. Those born between 1880 and 1900 were viewed for the first time.

**1900** added month of birth back; but removed if married in the year; also removed was if crippled, maimed or deformed; another removal was if they were deaf, dumb, blind or insane; other losses were, the questions, are you a pauper, are you a prisoner or homeless child; are you a convict? Added were number of years in present marriage; and number of children born.

Each year that you note the difference in information, tells you of the necessity to get your hands on the census for every time your family appears in one.

**1910** took the month of birth within the year away again; added back the deaf, dumb, blind or insane question; but they added the mother tongue.

**1920** is a lot like the 1910, it does not have the time unemployed; whether deaf, dumb, blind, or insane; number of living children; fought in the Civil War; number of years in present marriage; and number of children born. It now contains under the heading Occupation--Able to speak English; Trade, profession, or kind of work; industry, business or establishment works; employer, salary or wage worker or self employed; number of farm schedule.

1930 adds in the Home Data Column-- Value of house if owned and rent if not; and my favorite, Radio Set; and as the years begin to reflect the signs of the upcoming depression, it has under Employment whether they were actually at work--yes or no, and Line number for unemployed. Last but not least, it asked whether the person was a veteran of the US military or Naval forces for any war or expedition. Another really important item is the age at first marriage. Helps to determine whether this wife is the mother of the children.

## FINALE

Because the census is a very important guide there are many books etc. that have been prepared to go with it.

Christine Rose prepared a wonderful aide in her book on nicknames. [Nicknames: Past and Present, 5th ed.](#)

Section by section.

nicknames-female                      male

appendix A Dutch and Frisian baptismal names

The Frisians are a Germanic ethnic group native to the coastal parts of the Netherlands and Germany.[1] They inhabit an area known as Frisia and are concentrated in the Dutch provinces of Friesland and Groningen and, in Germany, East Frisia and North Frisia (which was a part of Denmark until 1864).[2] The Frisian languages are still used by 500,000 speakers; dialects of Frisian are recognized as official languages in both the Netherlands and Germany.

appendix B English names and their equivalent in Dutch and Frisian baptismal

appendix C truncated and superscripted names.

appendix D male and also female names

1810 Reconstructed Tennessee Census.

Virginia are all pre Revolutionary War the 1720 and the 1760 are all in the book, but the 1740 that I have is only the parts that I needed.

[Redbook](#) is an excellent reference; Val Greenwood's [Research Guide to American Genealogy](#) is also very valuable.

Another book that is so wonderful, is "Map Guide to U.S. federal Census 1790-1920." These books show each state from the beginning for every census year and in the early ones are very few counties. The counties are in black and the future or should I say final counties are in white, so you can see what county it finally becomes.

*Editor's note: Keep this information tool nearby as you look at U. S. Census research information during your genealogical searches. Also always look at the census pages before and after your research subject's entry page. You may be very surprised by what you see!*





June 23, 2021

Hi Genealogical Society Members and Friends,

Due to COVID-19 your Board of Directors did a lot of discussing on how we could fundraise and keep our society running well financially through this challenging time. It was decided that keeping our See's Candy store open for the summer is the best way to do that for now. It's important for all of us to help in this effort.

You can find its list of seasonal products with prices on our "GSSC Summer Candy Shop" link at:

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/genealogicalsos\\_gssc\\_summer\\_candy\\_store2/candy?h=JudByr3829](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/genealogicalsos_gssc_summer_candy_store2/candy?h=JudByr3829)

Please make your choices from our **GSSC Summer Candy Shop** using its directions. The Summer Store has exciting and different choices than See's regular items.

As a convenience for you, we also opened a "**GSSC All-Year Candy Storefront**". It has many of your favorite See's candies, such as 1 lb. boxes of assorted chocolates. This store will remain open until the end of the year, alongside our seasonal stores. Here is its link:

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/genealogicalsos\\_gssc\\_allyear\\_candy\\_store1/candy?h=JudByr3829](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/genealogicalsos_gssc_allyear_candy_store1/candy?h=JudByr3829)

For orders of more than \$65.00 in any one storefront, your shipping is still free. Just complete your order online. The order will be shipped to you directly, and soon after our GSSC organization will get credit for it. If you would like to have free shipping, but your order is under \$65.00, find another person with whom to combine your orders.

If you have a family member or friend, who would like to buy See's candies for their friends or extended family, just copy the product price list for them and use the same directions in this letter to order from the same site.

Have a Sweet Summer!  
*Thank you for your support!!*  
Judy Byrne, Jackie Niemeyer and Jay Mirza  
The GSSC Board Fundraising Committee





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

Stanislaus Researcher     Published 10 times per year by Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95352-1352. Delivered via email.  
Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: [lruddick@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lruddick@ix.netcom.com) by the 15th of each month.

Address changes:                   Send address, email and phone number changes to Maybelle Allen at:  
US Mail: Maybelle Allen c/o GSSC, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95352-1352  
Email: [gssc-founded1968@gmail.com](mailto:gssc-founded1968@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 209-523-0593 (Maybelle Allen)

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
Treasurer	Roxie Ferrari	Newsletter & Webpage	Lewis M. Ruddick
Director at Large 1	David Wolff	Publicity	Vacant
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

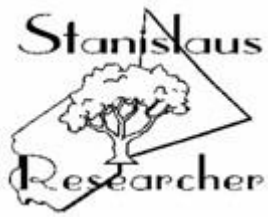
Updated 7-23-21.

**We have 80 members for 2021**

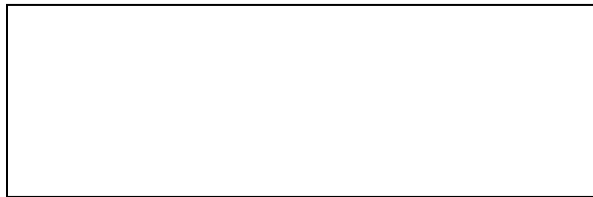
[GSSC website](http://stanislausgenealogy.org/)

August 2021

Volume 43, Number 8



Genealogical Society of  
Stanislaus County  
P O Box 1352  
Modesto, CA 95352-1352



In every conceivable manner, the family is a link to our past, bridge to our future. ~ Alex Haley