

STANISLAUS

RESEARCHER



Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

February 2022

Volume 44 Number 2

YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE

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17 February 2022
6:00 P.M. Souper Supper
7:00 P.M. Black History Month by Alvis Ward of the
Oakland Family Search Library.

Presidents Message

Hello to all. The new year has started and we would hope for good luck in finding our ancestors. Just to show a little how my luck has gone, for months Jackie Niemeyer brought a CD to our meetings, and no one wanted it. I decided to try and see if there was useable info on it for me. After finding my very old version of Family Tree Maker, I was able to open the CD and find complete copies of “Genealogies of the Mayflower Participants”, all of the published volumes, 1 - 13.

At the Board of Directors meeting this past week, I found a sense of enthusiasm from the members there. We, as a group and as individuals, want to make our Society bigger and better. Without the cooperation of our members it will be a difficult task, but I am sure there are members within our group who would like to step up and help the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County become bigger and better.

David C. Wolff

February Program

By Vicky Wolff

Black History Month will be our February program presented by Alvis Ward of the Oakland Family Search Library.

Black History Month is an annual observance originating in the United States, where it is also known as African-American History Month. It has received official recognition from governments in the United States and Canada, and more recently has been observed in Ireland, and the United Kingdom. Wikipedia

Black History Month February 1 to March 1 Also called: African-American History Month



Stanislaus County COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

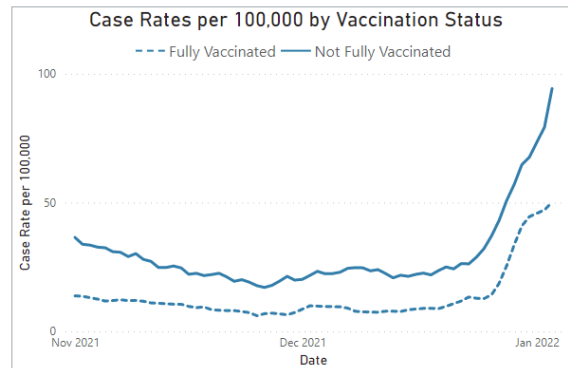
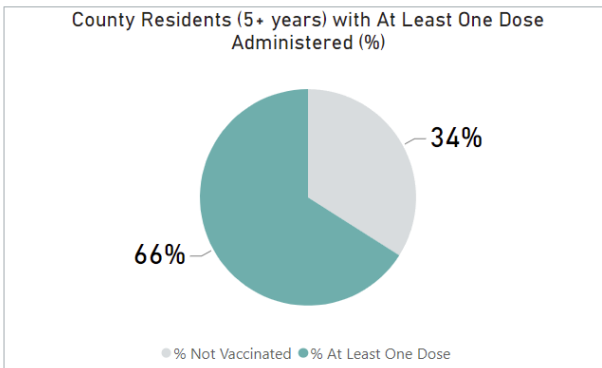


Note: Not included in these counts are vaccines provided directly through a federal program for residents and staff of long term care facilities such as Skilled Nursing Facilities, and some directly provided quantities to hospital systems. The information contained on this website will expand as more 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: 1/10/2022

Vaccination Coverage				Vaccination Status		
Fully Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated (%)	Partially Vaccinated	Partially Vaccinated (%)	Total Doses Administered	Not Fully Vaccinated Hospitalizations (%)*	Not Fully Vaccinated Deaths (%)
294,764	56%	54,484	10%	715,613	76%	92%



*Please note that hospitalization data are missing for approximately 55% of confirmed COVID-19 cases. Cases may have been hospitalized for reasons unrelated to COVID-19, but tested positive upon admission.

- Vaccines
- Cases
- Hospitalizations
- Deaths
- Testing
- Neighborhoods
- Schools

<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoizjJlNDQ3Y2EtN2NjYi00YTFhLWwEYmZQdNjgzMzY4Y2E1Y2U4IiwidCI6ImU3M2I3N2Q4LTNkYmQtNGQ0ZS04ZDgyLWYzMTUzNjcwMzU2ZCJ9&pageName=ReportSection>

Stanislaus County Library Downtown Modesto

by Jackie Niemeyer

GENEALOGY HELP AVAILABLE ON MONDAYS FROM NOON to 4 PM IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ROOM AT THE STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY AT 1500 I STREET IN MODESTO

Whether you are a beginner and need help getting started or have hit a brick wall in your research come see us. We have a great selection of genealogy materials along with volunteers to help you. The library also has free wi-fi available. Come check us out!

Jackie Niemeyer jackie.niemeyer@prodigy.net



YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE



A Few Quaker Genealogical Resources On-line

By Lewis M. Ruddick

I come from a long line of Quakers extending back to Ireland and England in the 1680s. When I was a boy I remember looking up at a big black hat on the south wall of the family dining room at the “Ruddick Home Place” and wondering if it belonged to “the oatmeal man”. I mustered up the courage to ask and was told it belonged to my great grandfather and he wore it daily up to his death. My father embellished the story to add that when he came across the plains on his second trip to California he wore that hat and he carried a short barreled shotgun hidden and hung under his duster for protect. Doing my research, I learned that we came from a line of “birth right” Quakers beginning with my progenitor 5th great grandfather William Ruddock who is first recorded a member of the Menallen Monthly Meeting in York County, (Today Adams) Pennsylvania. The Archivist at Swarthmore College Friends Historical Library told me she could not understand how my great grandfather was admitted to that meeting without going through all of the Society’s customary steps for membership. After reading the research of Dr. Albert Cook Myers in his *Immigration of the Irish Quakers Into Pennsylvania, 1682-1750: With Their Early History in Ireland and related research of the Ballyhagan Meeting in County Armagh, Ireland*, I determined that my 5th great grandfather was certainly a member of that Irish meeting before coming to Pennsylvania and most of his immediate neighbors in York County had also been members of the same Irish meeting. I learned that Quakers largely moved as a religious group and established themselves in communities surrounding a common meeting location. My line was active in the establishment of several Quaker communities in their movement across the United States. My cousin Aaron S. Lancaster was an active member of the Quaker Meeting in Denair along with members of his family. They had migrated west from Iowa.



The following list may be of value to you in your Quaker ancestral research:

1. <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7516/>
2. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/U.S. Quaker Research \(Society of Friends\)](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/U.S._Quaker_Research_(Society_of_Friends))
3. <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/292094-redirection> Dr Myer’s book.
4. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania_Genealogy)
5. <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~quakers/>
6. <https://www.cyndislist.com/quaker/general/>
7. [https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Project:Religious Society of Friends](https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Project:Religious_Society_of_Friends)
8. [https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Space:Quaker Project Resources](https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Space:Quaker_Project_Resources)
9. <https://www.swarthmore.edu/friends-historical-library>
10. <https://columbiafriendsmeeting.org/quaker-historical-resources/>

Good hunting!

The following information is an important consideration for all of our members if our society is to survive!

Facing Up to the Long-term Future of Your Genealogy Society

14 Jan 2022

The following is a Plus Edition article written by and copyright by Dick Eastman.

NOTE: This article contains several personal opinions.

I travel a lot and I spend a lot of time with officers and members of many genealogy societies. Most everywhere I go, I hear stories of societies that are shrinking in size or perhaps a few stories of societies that are struggling to maintain what they already have. Even amongst all this "doom and gloom," I do hear a few rare stories of genealogy societies that are thriving and growing larger every year. Not only are they attracting more members, these few societies are also offering more and more services to their members with each passing year.

Why do the majority of societies flounder while a handful succeed?

I hear all sorts of "reasons" why societies are shrinking these days. I suspect they are not true reasons but are merely "shoot from the hip" excuses. Common excuses include "it's competition from the Internet" or "it's the economy" or "people just aren't interested anymore."

To be sure, competition and economic difficulties and even lack of interest exist everywhere. If society members and officers do nothing to offset these factors, inertia sets in and societies suffer. However, these factors affect all societies. Why is it that some societies thrive and even expand while others shrink at the same time?

I suspect the answer is a combination of many factors. However, some of the causes and perhaps even a few of the solutions become obvious when we look at history. Our ancestors witnessed and perhaps participated in similar problems years ago in other industries. Indeed, in recent years, even those of us alive today have seen similar declines and occasional reversals in a number of business endeavors. Perhaps the answer to future growth of your genealogy society may be found by first looking back at the history of similar problems in other fields of endeavor.

Here is the first question to ponder: What happened to all the railroads in North America?

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Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?

Two (2) attachments by Millie Starr

Los Banos Genealogical Society Farewell

The Salt Lake City Committee works so hard to make our annual trips possible, and continues to update us. Changes are essential to our very existence—from buses to airplanes—made it possible for more members to use this important resource. The records show that in the last 20 years alone 599 researchers have taken advantage of this opportunity. Kudos to all who have made this wonderful opportunity available to our Society and all of our friends.

Our trips to Sutro and the National Archives were often in the early years, but now embracing the internet age, we are accepting the access that is online and so the trips are not so often. Census does not require us renting film, or spending long days reading page after page at the Archives as in the past. There are still many materials that are available only at the Archives and Sutro Library, but not as many as were in time gone by.

Many, many books, not just for us, but for the public have been purchased for the Special Collections Room at the Library. Before the onslaught of the internet the printed census indices were the miracle of the day. They still provide help when a name spelling is troubling. In addition we continue to have qualified people in attendance on Mondays to assist all comers.

For many years we had our very own small library, *The Book Nook*. Inability to secure a permanent home forced us to send our collection to Merced, where we can still visit them.

Another valuable asset much used over the years—Regional Study Groups. There were six that were found mentioned in the minutes—Indiana/Ohio, New York/New England, Germany, Canada, Arkansas, and Pennsylvania.

Last but not least the dedicated workers researched cemetery records, reading graves and inputting data. They also did major work on the Burial Permits of this county. They extracted census records, again inputting data. Probates too were given tender loving care. These projects resulted in our publications being of the highest quality. We are proud of our work.

Meeting places changed, officers changed, projects changed. Those are all good things.

We experience many new ways to research, but we still labor to produce accurate and provable family history. Our goals remain the same, but the methods we implement are subject to updating.

Programs today and in the future must be geared to using all of the new methods that the eruption of the internet offers us.

Five years from now when the Society celebrates FIFTY YEARS there will be much progress in genealogy methods, but nothing can replace the dedicated members of the

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

FORTY-FIVE YEARS?

FIFTY YEARS is a landmark, FORTY-FIVE is a very wide spot in the road! Why are we collecting our history and celebrating after forty-five years? Because we are proud of the accomplishments of the last twenty years. During these busy years the membership has worked hard to live up to our goals:

- *To bring together people with a mutual interest in genealogical research.*
- *To inform, instruct and educate members in the techniques of research.*
- *To increase the genealogical holdings of the **Special Collections Room** at the Stanislaus County Free Public Library and acquire other materials for community use in the form of reference books, microfiche and microfilms.*

We want to honor all those who have enriched our lives with their contributions; not just the original eight around Pansy's table; not just our Charter Members, the twenty-four who joined in 1968. Bette Locke, J. Carlyle Parker and Pansy Willburn are still on our membership rolls. Lowell Beachler has taken a hiatus to catch up on writing for future generations. Coke Brennan has not been able to be an active member in recent years. We are proud to know these pioneers. Words are not adequate to thank these far-seeing family history hunters who started so many of us on the trail of our past.

There are so many who have contributed so much, we want to share this NOW. We want to honor all who have stepped up and willingly taken on jobs big and small. Without you we would be nothing. I deliberately am not using names because no one could remember every person who contributed some very critical bit to an activity. So do not look for personal accolades, this is a tribute to our Society and all of its members, officers and supporters alike.

In twenty years, our presidents have rapped the gavel two hundred times, calling us to attention. We have saluted the flag and said the pledge of allegiance all those many times. We frequently broke bread together; listened and learned from a wide array of folks who shared their knowledge; and then the final gavel called the meeting to an end. Though we were sad to leave our friends-those who speak genealogy-we hurried home to try out some new idea on our own brick wall.

Our seminar/workshop chairpersons brought us in the last twenty years so many nationally known speakers this page could be filled with just their information. But they also brought us many hands-on workshops to better prepare us to do our research work. And work it is. Or should I say a *labor of love*?



The time to say good-bye is never an easy task but, sadly it has come our way. It has been a long time coming and eventually we had to accept it. For years now since Betty Bettencourt had to slow down, we had to move out of her residence, that she'd converted for the use of our group. We were met with the realization that we had records that were outdated and books that were taking space and not being used. Records that dated back forty-three years since Betty began keeping records. Other contributing members: such as Josie Bosworth, 38 years, Arlene Haywood, forty plus years, Noritta McClellan 38 years and others that have been dedicated to our society for years. We as a group are getting older, slower and some with severe health issues. Six members have moved away in the past year, and of course Covid has not helped.

After we moved out of Betty's we moved into the residence of Stephanie Tramonte. Several years later, she made the difficult decision to leave Los Banos and move closer to her grandchildren in Tennessee. It was at this point, we had to make the move to ending our group. Contact was made with a school in the district, and we donated cabinets and tables to use in their school. Milliken Museum, (Los Banos, CA), was also contacted and books that could be sold by them were given to them. The Merced Historical Museum was contacted, and books were donated.

With the internet becoming the place to go for information, less people feel the need to join a club. For a long time, we had felt and worked toward finding a younger group to take over but, we found that people wanted to know about their grandparents but did not want to join a group.

Our group as we knew it has now stopped its operations. We all feel that we can on our own, provide resources to those that seek it. I am currently assisting two

families in their search. I have made my home a place where we can meet and have coffee, talk about old times, help others that are seeking help in finding their roots and hope for the future. It has been a real pleasure working with dedicated people and helping others.

Hasta Luego Amigos.

Hectorg37@comcast.net (209) 769-8341



Hotel Accommodations: Reservations Now Open

Hotel reservations are now open for the 2022 NGS Family History Conference in Sacramento, California, and close 28 April 2022. Attendees have a choice of two hotels with NGS room blocks. Several parking garages with affordable parking are located in close proximity to the Safe Credit Union Convention Center.

The official conference hotels, the Hyatt Regency Sacramento (limited room availability remains) and the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, are within walking distance to the convention center. Both hotels offer complimentary Wi-Fi.

The hotels are offering the NGS rate three days before and three days after the conference, based on availability, so participants can do research or go sightseeing in the area. Check the hotels' websites for COVID-19 regulations, cancellation policies, and amenities. Attendees must request the NGS Family History Conference rate if making phone reservations.

Questions? Contact NGS at conference@ngsgenealogy.org.

Conference Hotels

Hyatt Regency Sacramento (Main Hotel; Limited Availability Remains)

1209 L St., Sacramento, California
Phone/Reservations: 916-443-1234
Online Reservations: [Book Your Group Rate](#)
Self-parking: \$20 per day (subject to change)
Room rate: \$169 Single/Double, plus tax



Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel

1230 J St., Sacramento, California
Phone/Reservations: 916-447-1700
Book your group rate online
Self-parking: \$25 per day (subject to change)
Room rate: \$169 plus tax



Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County January 2022

January

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February

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March

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January

1 GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY 2022
New Year's Day

3 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

10 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

11 10:00 AM Writing Group

20 General Meeting 7:00 pm

31 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

February

7 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

8 10:00 AM Writing Group

14 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

17 Souper Supper - 6:00 pm / General Meeting - 7:00 pm

March

7 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

8 10:00 AM Writing Group

14 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

17 General Meeting 7:00 pm

April

4 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

11 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

12 10:00 AM Writing Group

21 General Meeting 7:00 pm

May

2 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

9 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

10 10:00 AM Writing Group

19 General Meeting 7:00 pm

June

6 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

13 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

14 10:00 AM Writing Group

16 General Meeting 7:00 pm

July

4 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

July

11 No Board Meeting

12 10:00 AM Writing Group

21 No General Meeting

August

1 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

8 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm

9 10:00 AM Writing Group

18 General Meeting 7:00 pm

September

5 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

12 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm
Poinsettia Sale

13 10:00 AM Writing Group

15 General Meeting 7:00 pm

October

3 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

10 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm
Poinsettia Sale

11 10:00 AM Writing Group

20 General Meeting 7:00 pm

November

7 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

8 10:00 AM Writing Group

14 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm
Poinsettia Sale

17 Ancestor's night/ officer voting/installation
General Meeting 7:00 pm

December

5 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM McHenry Library:
Volunteers Mondays when opened

12 Brd Meeting 6:00 pm
Poinsettia Sale

13 10:00 AM Writing Group

24 Christmas Eve

25 Christmas

31 New Year's Eve

July

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August

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September

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October

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November

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27	28	29	30			

December

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18	19	20	21	22	23	⑳
⑳	26	27	28	29	30	⑳

Library Collection Room: Mondays 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - 1500 I St., Modesto - when opened / Writing Group 2nd Tues. of each month - Call Joann (209) 521-2140 -10:00 am. DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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

2022 Officers		2022 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	David Wolff	Four Generation Charts	Vacant
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	Vacant	Publicity	Vicky Wolff
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	Vacant	Research & Publication	Millie Starr
Past President	Beverly Graham	Research Trips	Vacant
		Research Salt Lake City	Vacant
		Resources	Vicky Wolff
		Special Collections Room	Jackie Niemeyer
		Social Media	Pam Atherstone
		Sunshine	Karen Souza

Updated 1-176-22.

We have 45 members for 2022

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



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

