



Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

January 2023

Volume 45 Number 1

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January 19, 2023
 7:00 P.M.
 Program will be announced as soon as received.

Presidents Message

By Vicky Wolff

I wish you a Merry Christmas.... and a Happy New Year! I trust you all had a great time with family and friends during this holiday season, I know David and I sure did. I have been thinking about this new year, 2023, and what it will bring for the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County.

My first wish is that we can welcome back our members who we have been missing since the Covid Pandemic.

Next, we need to work on our membership. We used to have over 360 members not that long ago. Where did everyone go?

We lost some to death and some have moved to different states, and some haven't returned since the pandemic.

Finding our ancestors and doing our family histories is gaining importance with the public and we continue to put the puzzle pieces together and break down those brick walls. Now more than ever, people are interested in their families and wanting to know where they came from. Please continue to find people who are interested in doing their family histories and invite them to attend our next meeting. My goal this year is to add 25 more new members to our membership. Will you help me to achieve this goal?

My next goal is to have a fun filled year! Please come and enjoy the friendship, programs, seminars, workshops and finding your roots, all at the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County.

Remember, we meet at Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 1600 Carver Road, Modesto, CA., on the third Thursday of each month @ 7:00 P.M.

Please plan to attend our next meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2023. I will look forward to seeing you!

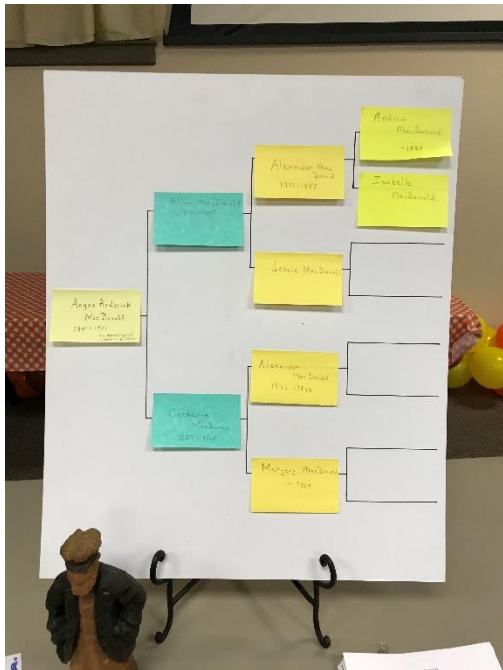
Photos from November

By Heidi Armo

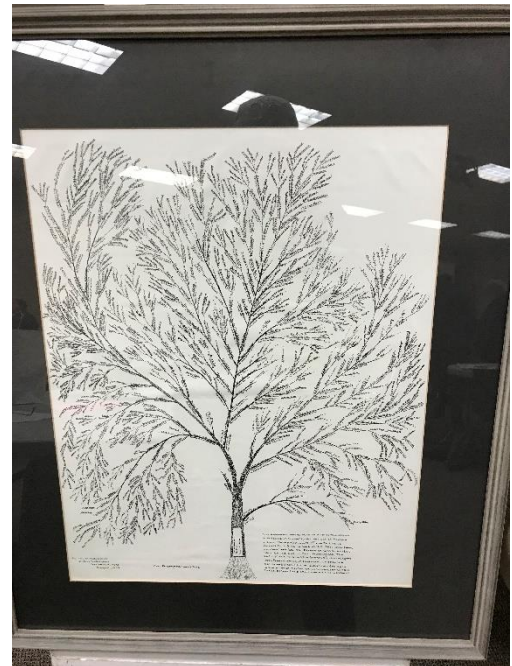


Your 2023 Officers taking their oaths





Two ancestors night presentation trees



Member made cookies



Members sharing genealogy

Save the Date for a Beginning Genealogy Class April 29, 2023 at 2 pm. It will be held in the library's makerspace room at the downtown Modesto Library. More information to follow later.



[RootsTech 2023 March 2 to 4– It is FREE again this year](#)

RootsTech is a place to learn, be inspired, and make connections through family history. Hosted by FamilySearch and sponsored by other leading genealogy organizations, we have hundreds of expert classes, tips and tricks videos, and inspiring stories that can help you experience family history like never before.

Since 2011 RootsTech by FamilySearch has been a family gathering unlike any other. The annual conference, first held in Salt Lake City, Utah, has grown and changed since those early days. From in-person to the entirely virtual, world-wide conference held just last year, RootsTech has always been a celebration of connection—past, present and future

**Virtually
FREE**

200+ NEW on-demand class sessions and classes
All-year learning from the comfort of your own space
Connect via digital chat with friends and industry experts

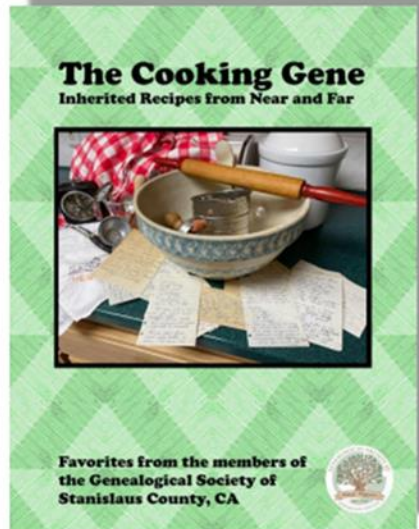
[Event Register for Virtual](#)

FREE

We still have copies remaining of the Cookbook. Judy and Joyce would be more than happy to fill your order.

ORDER YOUR COOKBOOKS NOW!

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY PRESENTS:



Recipes from our members. Many are dishes handed down through our families. The book is spiral-bound for ease of use. Only \$15.00 each. Great gifts for the Holidays! **PRE-ORDER YOURS NOW!**

Enclose a check made out to: GSSC

Mail Orders to: Judy Byrne 1005 Clarksburg Way Modesto, CA 95355 Attn: GSSC

Cut at this line and include with your order and check made out to GSSC

I wish to order _____ cookbooks at \$15.00 each I am a member of GSSC _____

Name _____

Address (street) _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

THANK YOU

SANFORD DONALD OBITUARY

Donald DeForest "Bud" Sanford
October 5, 1923 - December 9, 2022

Modesto, California - Donald DeForest Sanford, 99, passed away Friday evening, December 9th at the Bethel Retirement Community in Modesto due to age related health issues.

Donald was a native of Portland, Oregon. "Bud", "Buddie", "PaPa", "Grandpa", or "Don", as he was called by friends and family was the second of two children, born October 5, 1923 to Horace and Mildred Barstow Sanford. As a youngster he was a paper boy, a Portland bicycle delivery boy and a Boy Scout. He attended Franklin High School and in 1942, after graduation, started work as a shipyard welder in Portland.

In February 1943, Bud enlisted in the Army Air Corp as an aviation cadet under a program for high school graduates passing an entrance exam. He trained in Nebraska, Iowa, California and Arizona, winning his wings in 1944. He was promoted to Flight Officer that year and trained in the P-39 single engine fighter. In early 1945 he trained in a twin engine fighter, the Lockheed P-38 Lightning and in July was sent overseas to join the 49th Fighter Group, 8th Fighter Squadron stationed at Lingayen, Philippines, and then Ie Shima, Okinawa. He was promoted to 2nd Lt. in Okinawa. During Japan's occupation he was stationed at Atsugi Army Air Base and assigned to the 63rd Air Service Group where he piloted multi engine transports and bombers including the C-47, B-25 and B-17. He returned home to Portland in June 1946. After release from the Air Corps he was assigned to the Army Air Force Reserves and promoted to 1st Lt. in May of 1951.

Donald attended Oregon State College from 1946 to 1950; was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science in Food Technology. He met his beautiful wife "Bobbie", Barbara Jane Baker, while attending college, marrying her on August 28, 1948. They had their first child while Bud was studying for finals in 1949. Destined to meet each other after the war, Bud found that he and Bobbie had both been Portland shipyard welders at the same place and time.

After graduation the "romance" of wine making drew Don to Modesto, California and a job at E & J Gallo Winery. He and his small family moved to Modesto in 1950 where they had three more children. He worked at Gallo for many years as an enologist, and later worked as the Winery Compliance Director and finally as Brandy Plant Manager. Don retired from Gallo after forty years in 1990 making many lifelong friends.

While working at Gallo, Don served in the California National Guard from 1955 until his full retirement in August 1983. He served as an Aviation Officer and pilot in the Guard, being promoted to Captain in June 1961 and to Major in January 1967. He flew a variety of fixed wing aircraft every month to keep his pilot rating current, and was trained as a rotor wing pilot at Fort Walters, Texas in 1962.

After retirement, Don never stopped moving and had an exceptional number of interests, hobbies and travels. He and his wife Bobbie traveled the US in their RV doing genealogy research, taking photographs and enjoying the country. He traveled to Japan, South East Asia, China and Italy to mention a few. His favorite place in the world was Yosemite and favorite thing to do was to be with friends and family, but most of all he loved to fly.

Don was a member of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, and later St. Paul's Episcopal Church where he served in many positions, including writing the church newsletter. Don's affiliations include the American Society of Enologists, Institute of Food Technologists, Exchange Club, American Legion, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons in Retirement, P-38 Association, Commemorative Air Force, Press & Publications for McHenry Historical Society, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Modesto PC Users Group and so many more. His hobbies included woodworking, PC computers, desktop publishing, genealogy, stamp collecting, coin collecting, photography, sailing, reading, history and gardening.

Don was preceded in death by his wife Bobbie in 2003. He is survived by four children, Stephen Sanford (Sarah) of Citrus Heights, Stuart Sanford (Lora) of Woodbridge, Virginia, Francine Wister (Dennis) and Rex Sanford (Rhonda) of Modesto; nine grandchildren; ten great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held January 17, 2023 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1528 Oakdale Rd., Modesto, at 10:00 am. There will be a burial ceremony at Lakewood Memorial Park starting at 1:30 pm. Remembrances in lieu of flowers may be made in his name to any of the following charities:

P-38 Association, tinyurl.com/donaldsanford; VFW Post 3199, (209) 652-1824; Gallo Center for the Performing Arts, 1000 I Street, Modesto 95354; Shriners Hospital, donate.lovetotherescue.org/give/119312/#!/donation/checkout?c_src=lttr; Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P.O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95352-1352.

by Published Modesto Bee from Dec. 16 to Dec. 17, 2022.

The 6 Most Accurate Ancestry Sites in 2022

GenealogyYou

according to these folks

1. Ancestry.com

<https://www.ancestry.com/>

2. FamilySearch

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

3. Archives.gov

<https://www.archives.gov/>

4. MyHeritage

<https://www.myheritage.com/>

5. FindMyPast

<https://www.findmypast.com/>

6. LegacyTree

<https://www.legacytree.com/>

Ancestry.com is a massive database.

It is one of the oldest genealogy for profit companies and is most likely to have the historical data you would be looking for.

In addition to typical genealogy records, you can also receive an easy DNA test through Ancestry.com or use the website to locate the grave of a loved one.

DNA tests are an effective way to see what you have in common with your ancestors.

Ancestry.com has over 10 billion records and 3 million paying subscribers.

FamilySearch.org is a non-profit whose mission is to help everyone discover their family history.

They are a database of records that are generally successful in crafting a family tree for its users.

They believe that knowing your family tree is important to living a fulfilling life, and it is an opportunity that everyone deserves.

Because FamilySearch is a mission-based non-profit, they do have limitations to the services they provide.

The non-profit is founded by The Church of Latter-Day Saints, and they offer several styles of service:

- Online records
- In person help
- Mobile apps

Archives.gov is a bit different from the other options because it puts you in charge of being your own genealogist.

It is also tailored to American citizens as it is an archive by the United States government.

MyHeritage.com is similar to Ancestry.com in how it functions.

To begin experiencing it, you will need to sign up for a free trial or start a paid subscription. Once you do this, you will be gaining access to billions of records.

FindMyPast.com is not useful for North Americans whose origins are from elsewhere, but it is highly useful for people who could use their data and otherwise would not have access to it.

LegacyTree.com is a unique style of genealogy research site than the ones we have previously seen.

Membership Information Dues: Single membership, \$25.00 per year Family membership, \$35.00 per year
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 1352, Modesto, CA 95352-1352. Delivered via email.

Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: 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

Telephone: 209-529-9430 (Vicky Wolff)

GSSC web page: <https://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, The Secret Garden, 2401 E Orangeburg Ave.,
 Modesto, CA.

2023 Officers		2023 Standing Committee	
President	Vicky Wolff	Acquisitions	
1st Vice President	Karen Souza	Audit	Board of Directors
2nd Vice President	Jackie Niemeyer	Budget	Roxanne Ferrari
Corresponding Secretary	Martha Carter Bhatti	Four Generation Charts	Julie Condrin
Recording Secretary	Pam Atherstone	Historian	Heidi Arno
Treasurer	Roxanne Ferrari	Membership	Joyce (Plis) Hickman
Director at Large 1	Joyce (Plis) Hickman	Memorial Day	Membership
Director at Large 2	Amy Mowery	Mentor	Joann McDonald
Director at Large 3	Joann McDonald	Newsletter & Website	Lewis & Logan Ruddick
Director at Large 4	Martha Carter-Bhatti	Nominating	Membership
Director at Large 5	Julie Condrin	Planning	Officers & Board
Past President	David Wolff	Programs	Karen Souza
		Publicity	Vicky Wolff
		Queries	Colleen Norby
		Research & Publication	Millie Starr
		Refreshments	
		Seminar	
		Special Collections Room & Workshops	Jackie Niemeyer
		Social Media	Pam Atherstone
		Sunshine	Martha Carter-Bhatti
		Trips	Heidi Arno

Updated 15 Dec 2022.

We had 66 members for 2022

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



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Stanislaus County
P O Box 1352
Modesto, CA 95352-1352

