

# STANISLAUS



# RESEARCHER



## Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

April 2024

Volume 46 Number 4

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### April Program

18 April 2024  
 7:00 P.M. Lewis Ruddick – Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas. Significance to the outcome of the Civil War and to the program presenter.

**If you did not receive a Researcher You haven't Renewed Your GSSC Membership**

### Presidents Message

by Vicky Wolff

I hope that we all, Celebrated Women's History Month in March ...I celebrated by reading an article in the Smithsonian Magazine about "Sojourner Truth." What a fascinating legacy she has left behind. In 2009, a bust of her was unveiled in the U.S. Capitals Emancipation Hall. Today, memorials to her stand throughout the United States from the campus at the University of California, San Diego, to Florence, Massachusetts, where the city recently installed a historical marker honoring her suffragist activism. New York's Sojourner Truth State Park, a 500 acre campus that includes vistas of the Hudson River Valley where she was born, opened in 2002 and continues to develop. A statue at the State University of New York at New Paltz is currently in limbo. Hudson Valley artist Trina Greene created the sculpture, which shows Truth at the moment she left slavery on foot, carrying her child Sophia and a few belongings. I want to read more about this lady! What a life she led.

Coming up in April we have our Spring Workshop on April 20th from 8AM - 5 PM at Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Telle Center (See Flyer and registration enclosed in this newsletter). We will be helping people find their graves at the cemetery on Memorial Day May 27th. and our June Ice Cream Social. I hope you can all attend these events before we take a break in July where we will be dark. Your Board of Directors are trying to get back to having lots of functions and events to help with your own family history researching! See you at our next meeting!

### April Program

by Karen Souza

Lewis M. Ruddick – The Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas

March 7 and 8, 1862 The Battle of Pea Ridge played a pivotal role in securing Missouri for the Union and opened Arkansas to Union occupation. It played a large role in preserving Missouri's tenuous loyal-state status. Lewis will share his knowledge of that Civil War event and location. Expect to hear some interesting connections regarding this Arkansas Civil War Battle.

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/pea-ridge>

Jackie Niemeyer could use some help at our Main Library– A great way to assist your genealogical society. Contact her and ask how? [Jackie.niemeyer@prodigy.net](mailto:Jackie.niemeyer@prodigy.net) No update on the remodel.

We have been invited to join the Tuolumne County Genealogical Society’s 2024 Salt Lake City trip. If you are interested contact their Vice President, Sandy Turner at (209) 605-2891 or [mamaturner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mamaturner@sbcglobal.net)

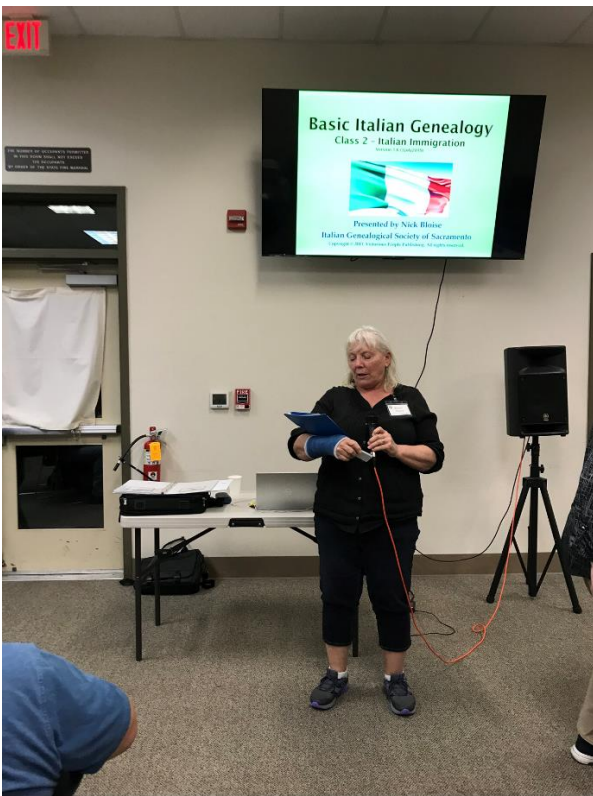
Offer has expired

**GSSC Writing Group**  
by Joann MacDonald

11 April 2024 at her home. Please contact Joann if you intend to attend. The group has a great deal of experience writing about genealogy and can assist you. New members are always welcome. Never written before, no matter, they are here to assist.

(209) 521-2140 or [jmastergardner@aol.com](mailto:jmastergardner@aol.com)

**Photos from our March General Meeting**  
by Heidi Arno



Karen Souza Introducing our speaker



Nick Bloise presenting his material



Our full house of attendees



Nick Bloise Italian Immigration references attached.

## Looking for Stanislaus County newspapers?

There is a gold mine of them located at California State University, Stanislaus, Vasche Library



[https://library.csustan.edu/specialcollections/historic\\_newspapers](https://library.csustan.edu/specialcollections/historic_newspapers)

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## We Are Looking For A Volunteer

California Revealed is a State Library initiative that helps California's heritage organizations digitize and provide long-term online access and preservation to collections and objects significant to California history (e.g., books, documents, newspapers, and audiovisual recordings). We also provide access and preservation services for existing digital collections and in-house digitization programs.

Each year, California Revealed issues an open call for organizations to nominate their collections related to California history for Digitization & Preservation Assistance:

- Partner organizations nominate materials to be digitized (or existing digital collections to be ingested) and published online by California Revealed
- Partners provide metadata descriptions for the materials
- With LSTA funding, the State Library supports free digitization (using selected vendors nationwide), online hosting for public access, and digital preservation
- Partners receive their own page on the California Revealed website that displays their digital collections
- Materials are discoverable through the California Revealed website, the Internet Archive, the Digital Public Library of America, Calisphere, WorldCat, and the Home Movie Registry
- Partners receive copies of the files and fulfill user requests for high-resolution files

Our Society has approximately 14 cemetery books that should be digitized. Lewis Ruddick was able to digitize one volume when Vicki Wolff discovered she had the "flats" for that cemetery book making copying and posting possible with available equipment. We need to do the same for our remaining volumes. If one of our members has grant writing skills it would be greatly appreciated if that individual would step up and write a grant for the digitizing of our GSSC cemetery books and Tinkham Stanislaus County index. Your editor does not have the time to do so.

How to apply:

- Complete the Digitization & Preservation Assistance Application form <https://airtable.com/appz2lc4D8rqphMV2/shrM8Uouojr4wDbx>
- Attach your finished Nominations Spreadsheet to the application form <https://californiarevealed.org/inventory-spreadsheet>

Questions?

We encourage you to review our Frequently Asked Questions and the program timeline. Check out more resources below and contact us directly at [team@californiarevealed.org](mailto:team@californiarevealed.org).

I do have the books and the time to deliver them, just not the time for the grant writing and related clerical work.

Please contact me 209-667-0536 or [lrduddick@ix.netcom.com](mailto:lrduddick@ix.netcom.com) if you can assist with this great task.

## Latest ancestryDNA Update

### Ancestry Updates February 2024: AncestryDNA's New Paywall

Expect to pay more for ancestryDNA services. The following reported out of the RootsTech event.

#### Now ONLY Included with AncestryDNA Test Kit

- Ethnicity estimate
- DNA Communities
- View DNA Matches
- View up to 3 Shared DNA Matches
- Message/Contact Matches
- Create Match Notes
- Edit Your Match Relationships
- Organize Your Matches
- DNA Compare
- See up to 3 Shared Matches
- SEE (only) if Matches Have a Family Tree
- 3 Traits (unless you purchase AncestryDNA + Traits Kit)
- Compare up to 3 Traits with Someone

#### Now Included ONLY with AncestryDNA Plus Membership

- Shared Matches Tool
- Match Surnames in Matches' Trees
- Match Birthplaces in Matches' Trees
- Preview of DNA Match's Trees, up to 7 Generations
- View Common Ancestors
- ThruLines
- Access to Public Trees and Trees Invited To
- All Traits
- View Matches by Parent
- View Ethnicities by Parent
- View Communities by Parent
- View Traits by Parent
- Ethnicity Chromosome Painter (by Parent)

#### Now Included ONLY with Ancestry Family History Membership

- All the Above
- See Match's Full Trees

And according to Ancestry, any that are associated with family trees or traits are subject to change and may require an Ancestry membership in the future.

From <https://www.knowhowearsthegenesinyourfamily.com/blog/>

### DNAeXplained – Genetic Genealogy

#### Discovering Your Ancestors – One Gene at a Time

By Roberta Estes <https://dna-explained.com/2024/03/>

### RootsTech 2024 – MyHeritage is ON FIRE with 13 Announcements

Posted on March 7, 2024

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I've got to tell you, MyHeritage has outdone themselves.

I had a hard time just keeping track of their announcements, which totaled 13 – a baker’s dozen.

You can watch the MyHeritage RootsTech keynote by Aaron Godfrey, here.

However, there are a few things not in the video, so let’s take a look at a quick summary of what’s new.

### DNA Uploads with Free Advanced Tools Forever Extended Until March 10th

MyHeritage just extended their DNA upload that includes ALL ADVANCED TOOLS FOR FREE, forever, to March 10th so click here now to upload every kit you manage. This is a great deal. Hint – new ethnicity results are coming soon and you’ll be saving \$29 on each kit you upload.

### 20+ Billion Records

MyHeritage has just passed the 20 billion record mark and is continuing to add. That’s billion, with a B. These records are available to customers with a MyHeritage subscription. If you don’t have a subscription, you can try a MyHeritage Subscription with a Free Trial, here.,

Additionally, right now, subscriptions are 50% off, but I don’t know how long that price lasts.

I love my MyHeritage subscription, and if you try it and don’t like yours, you can cancel and be charged nothing during the 14-day trial period.

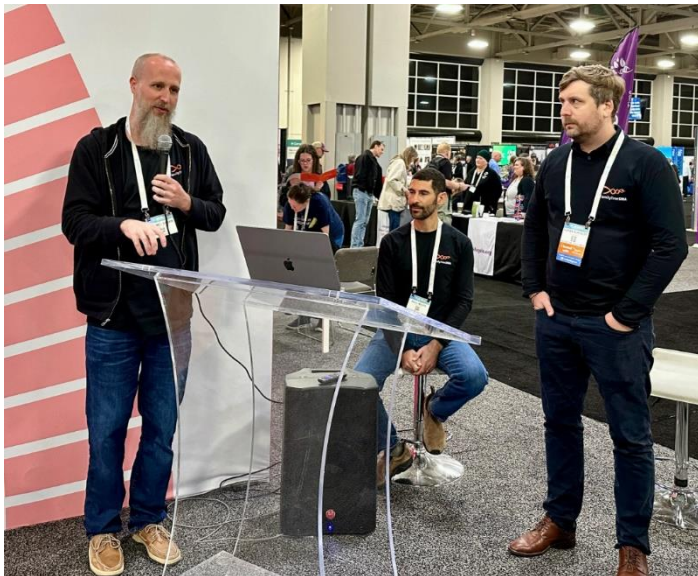
I particularly like that the local newspaper where my grandparents lived is available on MyHeritage, and no place else. In addition, MyHeritage has integrated with FamilySearch, which is digitizing and indexing records like wildfire. That collaboration has provided me with information from European sources, including archives.

### MyHeritage Wiki

MyHeritage has been working on their new Wiki, a community encyclopedia for genealogy and DNA, for almost a year now, although it was only recently released.

### Y-DNA Ask Me Anything at FamilyTreeDNA

The Y-DNA “Ask Me Anything” session began at 10:30. I don’t think attendees realized that FamilyTreeDNA brought the R&D brain trust and you could literally ask them anything. What an opportunity!



Left to right, Michael Sager, FamilyTreeDNA’s well-known Y-DNA phylogeneticist, Dr. Paul Maier, seated, population geneticist, and Goran Runfeldt, standing at right, Head of R&D.

*Editor: I was very fortunate to have been able to sit with, talk to and listen to Michael Sager at the FTDNA Conference in Houston in November. He IS the real deal!*

Thank you Roberta Estes for this great photograph of the FTDNA R&D team!

# Celebrating the life of Frances (*Schuster*) Jackson



**When:** Saturday April 6, 2024

**Where:** The LDS Church  
731 El Vista Ave Modesto, CA 95354

**Time:** 12:00P.M.-3:00P.M.

Please RSVP by Friday March 15, 2024

Jennifer McDonald 209-621-9822

Jenni.GenieDetective@gmail.com

Let's celebrate potluck style.

*Please bring a dish.*

If you have pictures of Fran, please send them to Jennifer ASAP.

A religious ceremony will **not** take place.  
We will be hosting the event in the Gym at  
the Church.

Please bring memories of Fran to share.

# Italian Immigration

## Basic Italian Genealogy

Nick Bloise – Italian Genealogical Society of Sacramento  
Email: [victoriousnick95608@gmail.com](mailto:victoriousnick95608@gmail.com)

1 March 2024

### 1. FREE Passenger List Websites

<http://stevemorse.org/>

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

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

- ▣ [www.ciseionline.it](http://www.ciseionline.it) (Italian website/ Also shows USA & NonUSA immigration)

### 2. US Citizenship and Immigration / Naturalization Websites

[www.uscis.gov/historyandgenealogy](http://www.uscis.gov/historyandgenealogy)

[www.archives.gov/research/naturalization](http://www.archives.gov/research/naturalization)

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

[www.cyndislist.com/](http://www.cyndislist.com/)

### 3. Book

Colletta, John P. They Came in Ships. Nashville: Turner Publishing Co. 2002. Print.

### 4. Italian First Names

[http://www.20000-names.com/male\\_italian\\_names.htm](http://www.20000-names.com/male_italian_names.htm) --both male & female

<http://www.babynames.org.uk/italian-boy-baby-names.htm>

### 5. Free Newspaper Websites

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

### 6. Italian Language Classes (Carmichael, CA Area)

[www.italiancenter.net](http://www.italiancenter.net)



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

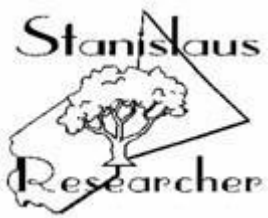
Address changes:	Send address, email and phone number changes to Joyce Hickman at: GSSC, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95353-1352 Email: <a href="mailto:gssc-founded1968@gmail.com">gssc-founded1968@gmail.com</a> Telephone: 209-422-3653 (Joyce Hickman)
GSSC web page:	<b>Stanislaus Researcher</b> Published 10 times per year by Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95353-1352. Delivered via email. Submit articles for publication to the editor via email: <a href="mailto:lruddick@ix.netcom.com">lruddick@ix.netcom.com</a> by the 15th of each month. The newsletter is posted at this website <a href="http://stanislausgenealogy.org">http://stanislausgenealogy.org</a> along with other interesting society-related items.
General meeting:	7:00 p.m. on the 3rd <b>Thursday</b> of each month, except July and December at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Telle Center, 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

2024 Officers		2024 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	Vicky Wolff	Acquisitions:	Vacant
1st Vice President	Karen Souza	Audit:	Board of Directors
2nd Vice President	Jackie Niemeyer	Budget:	Roxie Ferrari
Secretary	Pam Atherstone	Historian	Heidi Arno
Treasurer	Roxie Ferrari	Membership	Joyce Hickman
Director at Large 1	Joyce Hickman	Newsletter & Webpage	Lewis & Logan Ruddick
Director at Large 2	Amy Mowery	Publicity	Vicky Wolff
Director at Large 3	Joann McDonald	Queries	Colleen Norby
Director at Large 4	Martha Carter Bhatti	Registrar	Marge Scheuber
Director at Large 5	Julie Condrin	Seminar:	Vacant
Past President	David Wolff	Research Trips	Heidi Arno
		Mentor	Joann McDonald
		Resources	Vicky Wolff
		Acquisitions:	Vacant
		Special Collections & Workshops	Jackie Niemeyer
		Social Media	Pam Atherstone
		Sunshine	Martha Carter Bhatti

Updated March 27, 2024.

We have 59 members for 2024

[website GSSC](http://www.gssc.org)



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