

STANISLAUS



RESEARCHER



Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County



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February Program
 20 February 2025
 6:00 PM Souper Super
 7:00 P.M. Roundtable discussion of our
 GSSC genealogical issues for 2025.

Presidents Message

by Karen Souza

Here we go! A great start to the New Year's programs! We had Rebecca Ellefsen tell us the story of the Ship Brooklyn pioneers that came from New York around the Horn to California in 1846. She even provided us with a glimpse of the glass rolling pin that made the trip over 150 years ago!
 February will be a continuation of California history with Carol Lee speaking on the gold rush. And don't miss the Souper Supper at the General Meeting in February; it starts at 6:00 pm.
 I want to also remind you to save the following dates: March 13, a short presentation by Daniel Horowitz from MyHer-

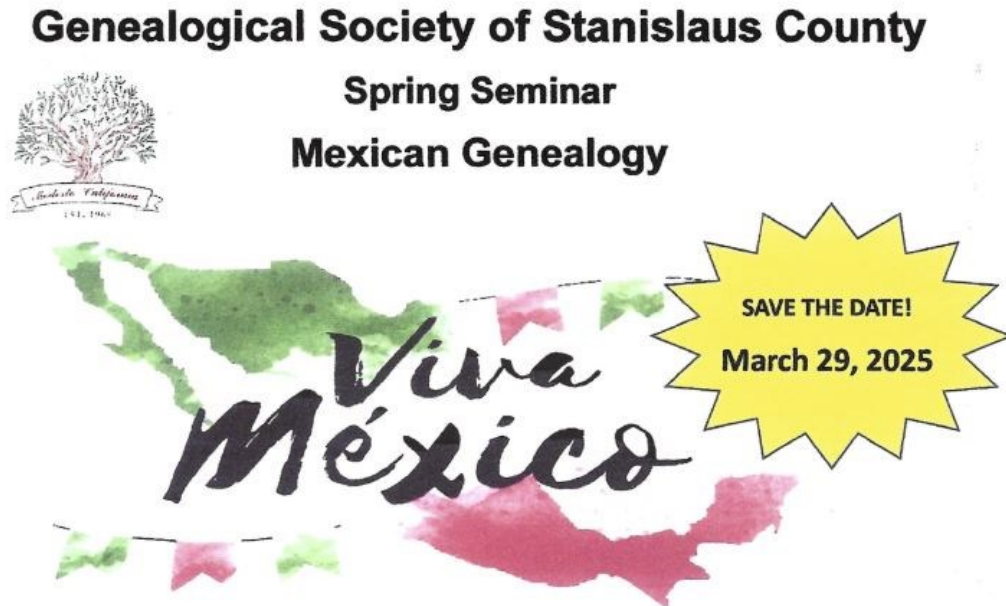
itage; March 20, the regular general meeting, and March 29, the Mexican Records seminar by Lisa Medina! Invite your friends and relatives so that they can learn more about researching their family!

Your Board of Directors is working hard to arrange many more opportunities for growth in 2025! Keep an eye out for the progress!

of Stanislaus County. Invite your friends and bring your relatives to our meetings and seminars in 2025 at Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Telle Center in room #502 at 1600 Carver Road, Modesto, CA., on the third Thursday of the month @ 7:00 P.M.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

See Page 3 for the Daniel Horowitz announcement flyer



You are **reminded** of our March Spring Seminar on 29 March 2025. Emphasis will be on **Mexican Genealogy** presented by Lisa Medina, Administrative Analyst/Specialist, California State University, Stanislaus.

To be covered:

- Introduction to Mexican Genealogical Research
- Key U.S. Records for Mexican Research
- Mexican Civil Registration
- Sacred Archives

Tell all your Mexican American friends about this outstanding Hispanic genealogical research opportunity.

Full Announcement and Application Pages 5 & 6

Now is the time to Renew Your GSSC Membership
If you do not see 2025 by your name on your email address line it IS time to renew

Extraordinary GSSC Meeting on March 13th, 2025



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

By the GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

MARCH 13, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Trinity United Presbyterian Church

1600 Carver Rd, Modesto CA

Maximizing MyHeritage Technologies for Family History Research

Daniel Horowitz

Genealogist, Public Speaker, and Project Manager in Israel

IS GOING TO SPEAK IN MODESTO CALIFORNIA!!

COME AND JOIN THE Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County for this special time. Seating is limited. Please arrive early.

Mr. Horowitz is a Genealogy Expert at MyHeritage, providing key contributions liaising with genealogy societies, bloggers and media, as well as lecturing, and attending conferences around the world. Dedicated to Genealogy since 1986, he was the teacher and the study guide editor of the family history project "Searching for My Roots" in Venezuela for 15 years. Daniel is involved in several crowdsource digitization and transcription projects and holds a board level position at the Israel Genealogy Research Association (IGRA).

Members: _____ Free _____ Non-Members: \$10 cash or check at the door

NOTICE

Our normal General Meeting will occur on February 20, 2025

6:00 P.M Souper Supper

7:00 P.M: Round Table Discussion on a variety of topics of current genealogical interest chaired by

Monday, February 17, 2025

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Presidents' Day, officially Washington's Birthday at the federal governmental level, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February. It is often celebrated to honor all those who served as presidents of the United States and, since 1879, has been the federal holiday honoring Founding Father George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, presided at the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and served as the first U.S. president from 1789 to 1797.[1]

GSSC Writing Group

by Joann MacDonald

February 13, 2025, 10:00 A.M. The GSSC Writing Group is looking for members. If you are needing assistance writing your family's history this is the group to join. All have written something and are here to help.

Never written before, no matter, they are here to assist.

Contact if you can attend or are interested:

(209) 521-2140 or jmastergardner@aol.com



Library Assistance - The Stanislaus County Main Library is closed now until 2026

Should you need Library assistance please contact Jackie Niemeyer Library Assistance - The Stanislaus County Main Library is closed now until 2026j Jackie Niemeyer jackie.niemeyer@prodigy.net

You can also get assistance from the LDS FamilySearch:

4300 Dale Road
Modesto
209-402-2268
Open by appointment

713 El Vista Ave.
Modesto
209-968-4796
Open by appointment

4300 Geer Road
Turlock
209-402-4085
Open Wed. 10—1
Thursday 6:30—9

Rebecca Ellefsen **email address correction:** rebeccaellefsenauthor@gmail.com

After Rebecca's outstanding presentation it was discovered we had been given an incorrect email address.



Rootstech 2025

6–8 March 2025

You may attend on – line <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registration/>

Thu, Feb 29, 2024 – Sun, Mar 3, 2024

NOTE!

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January General Meeting Photos

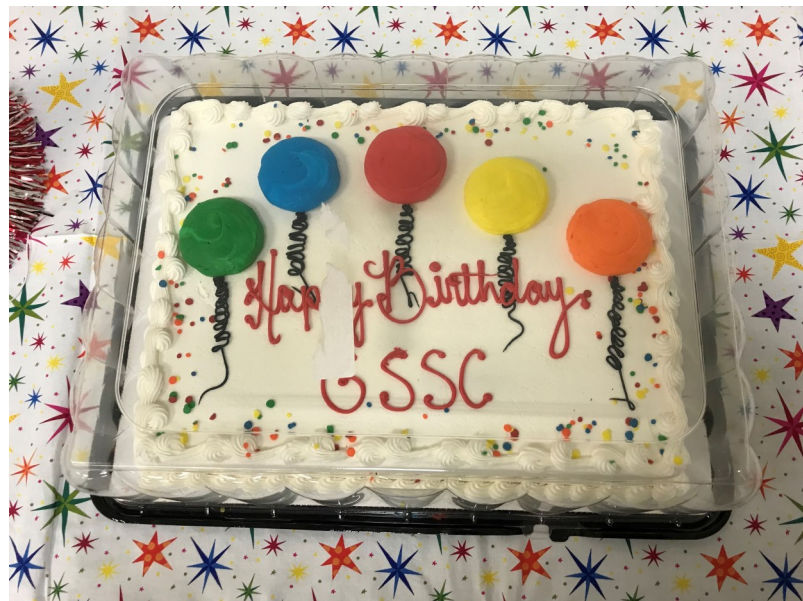
by Heidi Arno



Our program presenter Rebecca Ellefsen and a rolling pin that came around "The Horn".



Happy Birthday Vicki Wolff!



Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County

SEMINAR ON MEXICAN GENEALOGY



Speaker Lisa Medina

Lisa Medina is a professional genealogist and experienced lecturer. She is an alum of several genealogical institute's programs (ProGen, SLIG, Gen-Fed), and her expertise is in Mexican genealogy. When not researching, Lisa is the Director of Admissions & University Registrar at a California State University.



- DATE:** Saturday, March 29, 2025
- WHERE:** 1600 Carver Rd, Modesto, Telle Center, Trinity United Presbyterian Church
- TIME:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- COST OF SEMINAR:** \$50.00 per person

For additional information visit our website at stanislausgenealogy.org, or call 209-529-9430.

Limited seating, so register early.

REGISTRATION FORM (Please register by Monday, March 24th)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

How Many to Attend _____

Make Check Payable to GSSC and send registration to:

Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County
 P.O. Box 1352
 Modesto, CA 95353

Food will be catered for an additional fee. You will also have the option of finding food offsite. A list of restaurants will be available at the seminar.

Hero Sandwich (roast beef, turkey, ham, cheddar) \$15.00 \$ _____

Chef Salad \$15.00 \$ _____

(Meals include drink, chips & cookie)

Registration Fee \$50.00 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Summary

This full-day seminar is interactive and jam-packed with the tools necessary for successful Mexican genealogical research. The day will begin with an introduction, including an overview of Spanish language tools, historical context, jurisdictions, and fundamental resources and records. As the seminar proceeds, we will explore relevant U.S. records, Mexican civil registration and catholic church records, as well as a variety of additional resources. Finally, the day will wrap-up with a case study to demonstrate the application of the tools and information presented throughout the seminar.

Detailed Description

The full-day seminar is comprised of multiple interactive lectures, each with supplemental material (handout and/or in-class activity). Participants will gain fundamental knowledge and tools necessary to begin (or continue) research of their Mexican ancestors. The following topics will be covered:

Introduction to Mexican Genealogy Research An introduction into important foundational concepts in Mexican genealogy research (names, jurisdictions and governmental entities, language resources, etc.), as well as a brief overview of records available online.

Key U.S. Records for Mexican Research: An overview of U.S. records from the 20th century that contain information about Mexican immigrants, as well as tips for finding clues for tracing them to their origins in Mexico.

Mexican Civil Registration: A Deep Dive Mexican Civil Registration began in the 1860s. Since that time, these vital records have offered researchers an excellent resource for tracing ancestry in México. Learn about their history, what information you will find, as well as where to find them.

Sacred Archives: An Exploration of Mexican Catholic Church Records From the colonial period to the 20th century, parish sacramental records represent a treasure trove of genealogical information for family history researchers. In this presentation, we will review the historical context of these records, as well as practices for analyzing them to advance your research.

A seminar where your Mexican—American genealogical heritage answers can be found.

Please inform any of your interested connections of this valuable seminar

Alta California

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Alta California ('Upper California'), also known as **Nueva California** ('New California') among other names,^[a] was a province of [New Spain](#) formally established in 1804. Along with the [Baja California peninsula](#), it had previously comprised the province of [Las Californias](#), but was made a separate province in 1804 (named *Nueva California*).

^[1] *Following the [Mexican War of Independence](#), it became a territory of [Mexico](#) in April 1822^[2] and was renamed *Alta California* in 1824.*

The territory included all of the present-day U.S. states of [California](#), [Nevada](#), and [Utah](#), and parts of [Arizona](#), [Wyoming](#), and [Colorado](#). The territory was re-combined with [Baja California](#) (as a single *departamento*) in Mexico's 1836 [Siete Leyes](#) (Seven Laws) constitutional reform, granting it more autonomy.^{[3][4]} That change was undone in 1846, but rendered moot by the outcome of the [Mexican–American War](#) in 1848, when most of the areas formerly comprising Alta California [were ceded](#) to the U.S. in [the treaty which ended the war](#). In 1850, California joined the union as the [31st state](#).

The [El Camino Real](#) trail established by the Spanish extended from [Mexico City](#) west to [Santa Fe](#), and California, as well as east to [Florida](#). To the southeast, beyond the deserts and the [Colorado River](#), lay the [Spanish settlements in Arizona](#).^{[b][c]} Spanish soldiers, settlers, and missionaries invaded the homelands of the [Indigenous peoples of California](#), [people of the Great Basin](#), and the [Pueblo peoples](#) in the establishment of Alta California.^[1]

Evidence of Alta California remains in the numerous Spanish place names of American cities such as [Las Vegas](#), [Los Angeles](#), [Sacramento](#), [San Bernardino](#), [San Diego](#), [San Francisco](#), [San Jose](#), [Santa Ana](#), and [Santa Rosa](#).

Our 1st Vice President's Father Passes

Rodney Burl Mowery

December 26, 1939 - January 2, 2025

Modesto, California - Rodney passed away at age 85, on Jan. 2, 2025. He was a lifelong resident of Stanislaus County, born Dec. 26, 1939 in Modesto, CA. The family lived in Knights Ferry and he graduated from Oakdale High School in 1958.

He was a machinist for 40 years at several machine shops: Hypower Hydraulics, LA Engineering, Circle A&W, and RMC.

He leaves behind his sister Georgia Hopson, daughters: Amy Mowery and Lori Murphy (David), grandsons: Ryan Murphy, Joshua Murphy, Zachariah Murphy, and Sean Mangas, and several nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents: Burl and Roseland "Fern" Mowery, and his brother James "Jimmy" Mowery.

A grave side service will be held on Friday, January 17, 2025 at 11:00 AM in the Citizens Cemetery, Modesto, CA

Free Genealogy Web Sites

www.L-AGS.org Homepage of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. Online search lists of local cemeteries, census, obituary, mortuary and pre-1905 death records. Index to the large Schellens Papers collection of newspaper clippings. Contains links to many other internet sites of genealogical interest.

www.sfgenealogy.com Homepage of San Francisco Genealogy, a vast collection of genealogical databases related to San Francisco.

www.familysearch.org Homepage of the Family History Library (LDS). This site will ask you to sign in with a membership name and password. Membership is free. This is "The Genealogical Library of the World".

www.usgenweb.com Homepage of the USGenWeb Project. This site is organized by State and County, and is the result of the efforts of volunteer transcribers throughout the country.

www.stevemorse.org Homepage of Stephen P. Morse's many helpful web pages, far too many to list. Steve has made presentations to our group in the past.

www.glorerecords.blm.gov Homepage of the US Bureau of Land Management. Great source of land patent (homestead) records.

www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm Homepage of the National Park Service Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System. If you believe that your ancestors served in either the Union or Confederate Army, you should find them here.

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 Anna Keppel at: GSSC, P. O. Box 1352, Modesto, CA 95353-1352 Email: gssc-founded1968@gmail.com Telephone: 209-324-7147 (Anna Keppel)
GSSC web page:	http://stanislausgenealogy.org/ Stanislaus Researcher 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: lruddick@ix.netcom.com by the 15th of each month. 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, 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

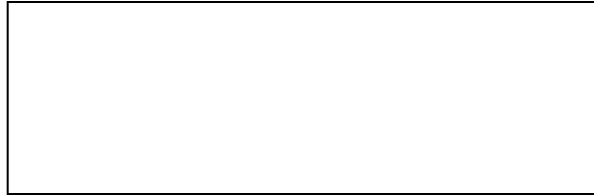
2025 Officers		2025 Standing Committee Chairs	
President	Karen Souza	Acquisitions:	Vacant
1st Vice President	Amy Mowery	Audit:	Board of Directors
2nd Vice President	Joyce Hickman	Budget:	Roxie Ferrari
Secretary	Pam Atherstone	Historian:	Judy Byrne
Treasurer	Roxie Ferrari	Membership:	Anna Keppel
Director at Large 1	Linda Turley	Memorial Day:	Vacant
Director at Large 2	Joann MacDonald	Mentor:	Joann McDonald
Director at Large 3	Martha Carter Bhatti	Newsletter & Website	Lewis M. Ruddick
Director at Large 4	Lauren Hastings	Planning:	Marge Scheuber
Director at Large 5	Jackie Niemeyer	Seminar:	Vacant
Past President	Vicky Wolff	Programs:	Amy Mowery
		Publicity:	Vacant
		Queries:	Colleen Norby
		Refreshments	Joann MacDonald Carol Lee
		Registrar	Jackie Niemeyer
		Research & Publications	Vacant
		Research Day Trips	Vacant
		Seminar & Workshops	Joyce Hickman debbie loyd Lauren Hastings
		Social Media	Pam Atherstone
		Special Collections	Jackie Niemeyer
		Sunshine	Joyce Hickman

27 2025 Members

[GSSC Website](#)**We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donations are appreciated.**



Genealogical Society of
Stanislaus County
P O Box 1352
Modesto, CA 95353-1352



February 14, 2025

