

STANISLAUS



RESEARCHER



Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County



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June Program

19 June 2025

6:00 P.M. Ice Cream Social

7:00 P.M. April Dunham-Wilson presenting family history memories using scrap books.

Presidents Message

by Karen Souza

Happy Memorial Day! GSSC is celebrating the holiday by helping families find the graves of their loved ones in Citizens' Cemetery. I am thankful for all of the members who are continuing this GSSC tradition. We have a great board of directors which is working toward spreading genealogy throughout Stanislaus County.

On the 15th of May, Katherine Borges educated us on artificial intelligence (AI). She was absolutely amazing in her knowledge of the subject and connected its use to genealogy. Please join us for the ICE CREAM SOCIAL at 6:00 pm on Thursday, June 19, 2025. We will have our regular meeting at 7.

I hope you are all well. Until next time,

June Program

By Amy Mowery

Sadly this will be Amy's last official announcement. She has advised the Board that she is resigning and moving to Tennessee. We thank her for her service to the Society and wish her well on her new adventure.

She will be introducing April Dunham-Wilson, a Creative Memories scrapbooker from Denair, who will show us how easy it is to save our family history memories.

Genealogy Scrapbooking

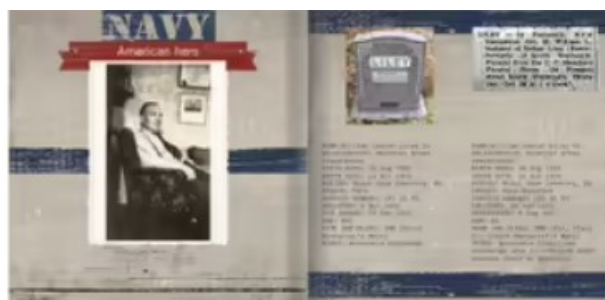
While searching for relevant material related to our June meeting topic I found the following information on "How Stuff Works" under 10 Tips for Genealogy Scrapbooking an article by Alia Hoyt.

<https://people.howstuffworks.com/culture-traditions/genealogy/10-tips-genealogy-scrapbooking.htm>

The information found on this webpage is well laid out and perhaps useful for a member of our Society.

Contents

10. Start With Existing Family Members
9. Less Is More
8. Select a Theme
7. Make it Interactive
6. Keep It Current
5. Preserve the Originals
4. Do Digital
3. Be Discerning
2. Include Heirlooms
1. Think Outside the Page



Themed books are a good way to go. For instance, you could do one that honors the servicemen and women in your family.

KATHLEEN WARR AT
OLDDEADPEOPLE.COM/



Instead of a bunch of pictures on a page, just use one or two for better effect.

NANCY MERRILL

Contribution from afar

Elizabeth Cook, our distant Alaskan member, sent me the following demonstrating her continued interest in and support for our society.

"Mr. Ruddick,

Looking for some of my elusive relatives along the Ohio River and came upon this reminder of the 'good old days', possibly a filler for the newsletter.

Hope you and your fellow gen soc members have taken the time to contact your representatives about the cuts to our nation's treasures: libraries, museums, humanities, science, etc. etc.

I try to not sit and cry about where this will all end up, but it's very difficult not to.

Sometime, I hope to get back to CA to do more on the ground research.

All for now, Elizabeth"

Newspapers
by Ancestry

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/161575323/>

Pomeroy Weekly Telegraph (Pomeroy, Ohio) · Tue, Feb 14, 1860 · Page 3
Downloaded on May 16, 2025

POMEROY MARKETS.		
MONDAY, Feb. 13, 1860.		
Flour.....	\$6.25@6.50	per bbl.
Wheat.....	1.20@1.25	per bush.
Oats.....	45c.	per "
Potatoes.....	75c.	per "
Dried Peaches.....	3.50	per "
Dried Apples.....	8c	per lb.
Butter.....	15c.	per lb.
Cheese.....	8@12½c.	per lb.
Eggs.....	15c.	per doz.
Molasses.....	55@60c.	per gal.
Sirup.....	75@1.00	per gal.
Sugar (N. O.).....	10@11c.	per lb.
Coffee.....	14@15c.	per "
Rice.....	6@7c.	per "
Soap.....	8@10c.	per "
Candles (tallow).....	15c.	per "
Fish (Cod).....	6½c.	per "
Fish (Mackerel).....	8@10c.	per "
Fish (White).....	7c.	per "
Pickled Pork.....	10c.	per "
Shoulders.....	10c.	per "
Sides (smoked).....	10c.	per "
Hams.....	12½c.	per "
Crackers.....	ret. 7c.; wholesale 5½c.	per "
Hoop Poles.....	6.00	per 1,000.
Salt.....	retail 25c.; wholesale —c.	per bush.

Clipped By:
ejcook
May 16, 2025

GSSC Writing Group

by Joann MacDonald

August 14, 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.

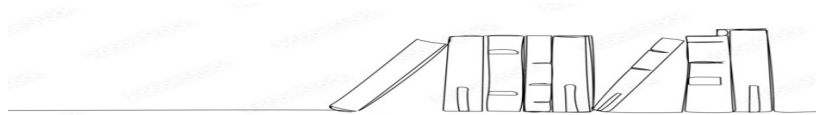
Never written before, no matter, they are here to assist.

Contact Joann MacDonald if you can attend or are interested:

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



REMINDER



REMINDER

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

Should you need Library assistance please contact 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

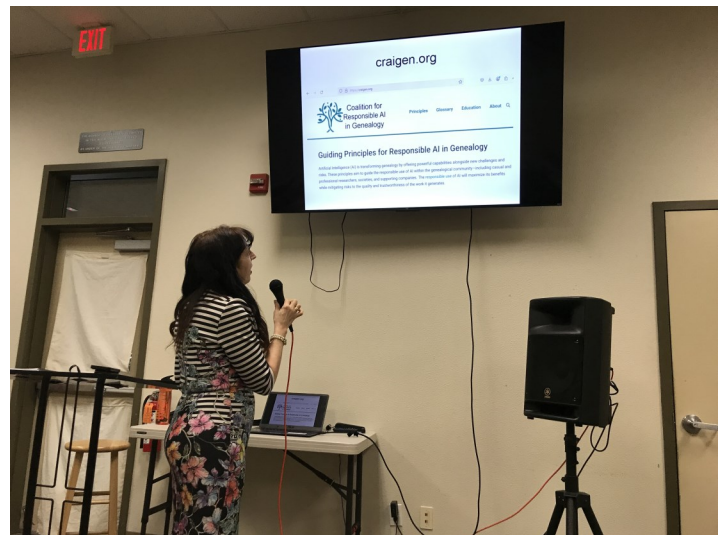
4300 Geer Road
Turlock
209-402-4085
Open Wed. 10—1

GSSC Activities Photos

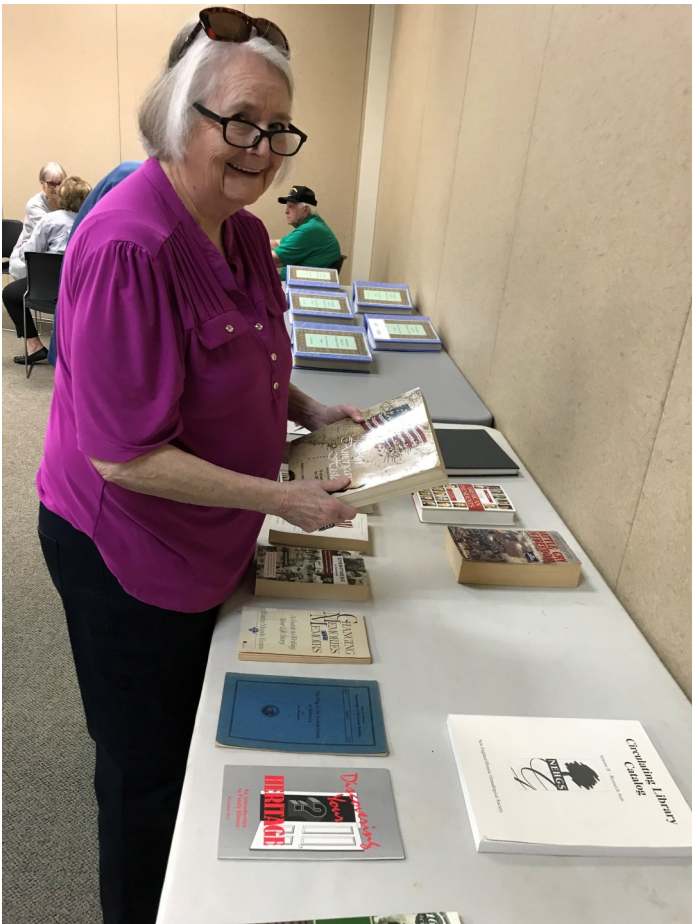
By Heidi Arno



Katherine Borges showing her May AI talk Reference



Katherine explaining craigen.org



Our GSSC Booth, Pride Day, Graceada Park, Modesto, May 17th



Ceres Street Fair, May 3



Earth Day, Modesto, April 19

Your Genealogical Society is trying hard to make its presence better known to the greater Stanislaus County community!





D-Day

by Lewis M. Ruddick

Holidays and important calendar days have different meanings for people. D-Day is one of those to me. First it is my second birthday. I grew up in the shadow of World War Two. All of my immediate family was somehow involved in this great conflict. As a little boy I well remember the family having its ear closely tuned to the radio for any information to be heard regarding the great conflicts both in Europe and in the Pacific. Some of it came very near home. My uncle Al Parker was in the U.S. Navy and on the USS Ogalala when Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941. I heard that Uncle Al was at Pearl Harbor very early in my life. He was manning one of the vessel's machine guns firing at attacking Japanese aircraft when the vessel was struck by a bomber dropped torpedo rupturing her hull. She capsized and sunk next to the dock and the adjacent USS Helena. My uncle survived that attack and went on to the end of the war discharging as Naval Warrant Officer. Al was my mother's nearest sister's husband. My mother's brothers both entered the service with both joining the US Army. My favored uncle "Dutch" (Harry Noel Alexander) joined with my father (Robert Lewis Ruddick) at Hamilton Field in Marin County on July 31, 1940. They both had a goal of becoming pilots. Uncle Dutch was successful becoming rated a pilot and co-pilot to fly both the B-17 and more difficult B-24 multi-engine heavy bombers. Dad washed out of pilot's training to become an aircraft maintenance officer. My father's brother joined the Army and became a master pilot rated to fly anything the US Army Air Corp had flying. Mom's oldest brother was ultimately assigned the General Patton's Army unit (and learned that he had mapped the Army's path through France and into Germany). Completely unknown to the family during the war.

I remember how patriotic our Nation was growing up.

On November 26, 1944, my maternal grandparents got that message that no family wanted to receive during the war. Uncle Dutch was missing in action. It took a period of time but we would learn that he was killed in action on that day while lifting off from a successful bombing run near Hanover, Germany, and the B-24 he was co-piloting, named Pugnacious Princes Pat, took a direct hit and went down in a field at Altwarmbüchen, Germany. Four of the members of the crew survived, became POWs and came home at the end of the war.

Our flag had a special meaning and we saluted it proudly every day in school at the beginning of class along with our pledge of allegiance. I still get that special feeling when I view a good military parade and our National Flag passes. My related life events leading to D-Day and since all have inspired my intense patriotism. It guided me to immediately enlist in the US Army upon my graduation from high school, June 10, 1960. On June 13, 1960, I was processed in Oakland and on June 14, 1960, I began my US Army experience at Ft. Ord, California.



Oglala capsized at Pearl Harbor,
USS Helena is on the left.



Al Parker, Lewis and Harry N. Alexander

Getting Started Using AI for Genealogy

AI apps to use (visit websites with caution): ChatGPT, Claude, Copilot, Gemini, Grok, Perplexity, Poe
AI desktop – privacy focused: Venice
Browser & app – privacy focused & uses AI: Brave.com

Coalition for the Responsible Use of AI in Genealogy (CRAIGEN)

Print out Principles and read examples at craigen.org

Podcasts

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-family-history-ai-show/id1749873836>

Books

"Research Like a Pro with AI" Nicole Elder Dyer & Diana Elder

Digital copy only: <https://familylocket.com/product/research-like-a-pro-with-ai-workbook-digital-only/>

"Co-Intelligence" by Ethan Mollick (AI history book, but not a genealogy book)

Blogs

Steve Little's

<https://aigenealogyinsights.com/blog/>

FamilySearch's "AI Developments in Genealogy"

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/ai-developments-genealogy>

Ethan Mollick's "One Useful Thing" - AI blog but not genealogy

<https://www.oneusefulthing.org/>

YouTube

Genealogy with Dana Leeds

<https://www.youtube.com/@DanaLeeds>

RootsTech AI Lectures

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/search?f.language=en-US&f.text=AI&p.index=0>

Genealogy and Artificial Intelligence Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogyandai>

Steve Little's ChatGPT Transcription Tool:

<https://chatgpt.com/g/g-whySf1mMU-steve-s-transcription-tool>

FamilySearch AI Full Text Labs Search

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

FamilySearch AI Research Assistant

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/match/ade/aiassistant>

National Archives Revolutionary War Pension indexed with AI

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/300022>

"Sam Altman Admits That Saying "Please" and "Thank You" to ChatGPT Is Wasting Millions of Dollars in Computing Power"

<https://futurism.com/altman-please-thanks-chatgpt>

"AI Meets IGG: How Indago is Scaling Cold Case Solutions" - ISHI News - 12 May 2025

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJjY8U8_qA

Shared cM Tool

Since 2015, Blaine Bettinger has been crowd-sourcing data on the number of **centimorgans** (cMs) of DNA shared for known relationships. The result is an incredibly useful dataset that helps genealogists start to figure out just how they might be related to an unknown match. His following tool may assist you to identify your DNA relative. Blaine collaborated with Jonny Perl to improve this tool. Remember you must still do genealogy!

March 2020

Blaine T. Bettinger
www.thegeneticgenealogist.com
More about this project
CC 4.0 Attribution License
Interactive version v4 by Jonny Perl at DNA Painter
Click here to contribute data to the shared cM project
Last updated 26th March 2020

Enter the total number of cM for your match:

reset

or enter %

Then any relationships that fit will stand out below

[Read more about cousin relationships](#)

How to read this chart

Relationship
Average
Range
(low to high;
99th percentile)



Other versions

New: with option to add a second amount
Beta with updated probabilities
With editable boxes
Shared cM 3.0 (2017) version

						Great-Great-Grandparent		GGGG Aunt / Uncle			
						Great-Great-Grandparent		GGG Aunt / Uncle			
Half GG-Aunt / Uncle 208 103 – 284	Great-Grandparent 887 485 – 1486					Great-Great-Aunt / Uncle 420 186 – 713		1C3R 117 25 – 238	2C3R 51 0 – 154	Other Relationships	
Half 1C2R 125 16 – 269	Half Great-Aunt / Uncle 431 184 – 668	Grandparent 1754 984 – 2462				Great-Aunt / Uncle 850 330 – 1467		1C2R 221 33 – 471	2C2R 71 0 – 244	3C2R 36 0 – 166	6C 18 0 – 71
Half 2C1R 66 0 – 190	Half 1C1R 224 62 – 469	Half Aunt / Uncle 871 492 – 1315	Parent 3485 2376 – 3720		Aunt / Uncle 1741 1201 – 2282		1C1R 433 102 – 980	2C1R 122 14 – 353	3C1R 48 0 – 192	4C1R 28 0 – 126	6C1R 15 0 – 56
Half 3C 48 0 – 168	Half 2C 120 10 – 325	Half 1C 449 156 – 979	Half Sibling 1759 1160 – 2436	Sibling 2613 1613 – 3488	SELF	1C 866 396 – 1397	2C 229 41 – 592	3C 73 0 – 234	4C 35 0 – 139	5C 25 0 – 117	6C2R 13 0 – 45
Half 3C1R 37 0 – 139	Half 2C1R 66 0 – 190	Half 1C1R 224 62 – 469	Half Niece / Nephew 871 492 – 1315	Niece / Nephew 1740 1201 – 2282	Child 3487 2376 – 3720	1C1R 433 102 – 980	2C1R 122 14 – 353	3C1R 48 0 – 192	4C1R 28 0 – 126	5C1R 21 0 – 80	7C 14 0 – 57
Half 3C2R 27 0 – 78	Half 2C2R 48 0 – 144	Half 1C2R 125 16 – 269	Half Great-Niece / Nephew 431 184 – 668	Great-Niece / Nephew 850 330 – 1467	Grandchild 1754 984 – 2462	1C2R 221 33 – 471	2C2R 71 0 – 244	3C2R 36 0 – 166	4C2R 22 0 – 93	5C2R 18 0 – 65	7C1R 12 0 – 50
Half 3C3R	Half 2C3R	Half 1C3R 60 0 – 120	Half GG-Niece / Nephew 208 103 – 284	Great-Great-Niece / Nephew 420 186 – 713	Great-Grandchild 887 485 – 1486	1C3R 117 25 – 238	2C3R 51 0 – 154	3C3R 27 0 – 98	4C3R 19 0 – 60	5C3R 13 0 – 30	8C 11 0 – 42

Questions? Go to Jonny Perl's webpage and research his detailed information. The link is below.

Also found on DNAExplained – Genetic Genealogy April 9, 2020

<https://dna-explained.com/>

<https://blog.dnainter.com/blog/introducing-the-updated-shared-cm-tool/#:~:text=Since%202015%2C%20Blaine%20Bettinger%20has%20been%20crowd-sourcing%20data,they%20might%20be%20related%20to%20an%20unknown%20match.>

23 and Me

From Newsweek

by Amanda Castro 5/19/25

Biotech giant **Regeneron** announced Monday that it would acquire DNA testing company **23andMe** for \$256 million following a bankruptcy auction. The deal includes access to 23andMe's massive personal and genetic data trove from more than 15 million customers.

Regeneron, whose experimental antibody cocktail was used on President Donald Trump during his COVID-19 illness, says it will use the data to accelerate drug development.

Newsweek contacted Regeneron via email for further comment on the acquisition.

Why It Matters

The acquisition gives Regeneron, a major player in the biotech industry, access to one of the largest databases of consumer DNA. While the deal promises advancements in personalized medicine and drug discovery, it raises concerns about protecting sensitive genetic data, especially after a recent 23andMe breach compromised millions of user profiles.

What To Know

The \$256 million deal allows Regeneron to acquire nearly all 23andMe's core business assets, including its Personal Genome Service, Total Health and Research Services divisions. The struggling Lemonaid Health subsidiary will be excluded and wound down separately.

Regeneron pledged to process all personal data according to privacy policies, and user consent is already in place. A consumer privacy ombudsman will review the deal's impact on customers and present a report to the court by June 10.

23andMe filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy earlier this year after a data breach exposed the genetic information of 7 million customers. The company made compliance with its privacy policies a requirement for all auction bidders, hoping to ease public fears about misuse or resale of personal data.

Regeneron has used genomic data to develop breakthrough treatments for cancer, infectious diseases and chronic illnesses. The company said it would apply its "high standards for safety and integrity" to the 23andMe database and services.

Regeneron reports Regeneron Enters into Asset Purchase Agreement to Acquire 23andMe® for \$256 Million; Plans to Maintain Consumer Genetics Business and Advance Shared Goals of Improving Human Health and Wellness

May 19, 2025 at 7:07 AM EDT

Purchase is subject to bankruptcy court and regulatory approvals Regeneron will prioritize the privacy, security and ethical use of 23andMe's customer data; stands ready to work with independent, court-appointed Customer Privacy Ombudsman Planned purchase to strengthen Regeneron's ongoing leadership in genetics-guided research and drug development to help people with serious diseases

A detailed 3 page PDF report can be found at <https://newsroom.regeneron.com/node/31021/pdf>

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: lrুদ্ধick@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
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Director at Large 2	Joann MacDonald	Mentor:	Joann MacDonald
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
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		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

55 Members for 2025

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

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donations are welcomed and appreciated.



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



REMEMBER D-DAY JUNE 6, 1944

