



September/October 2026

Volume 31 Issue 5

MISSION: Our mission is to stimulate an interest in studying family history and genealogy, and assist persons who are researching their family history. Whether a person begins their search with documents and a name, or through a DNA test, searching for family members is what we do.

VISITORS WELCOME!

"When we connect and belong to each other,
we treat each other differently." - Steve Rockwood
CEO FamilySearch International

Join us for:

- ❖ **Discussion Group** – First Tuesday of the month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, In-Person at the Roseville Main Library Conference Room (225 Taylor Street) and also using ZOOM – Genealogy questions welcome, plus sharing of genealogy ideas.
- ❖ **General Meeting with Speaker** – Second Tuesday of the month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. In-Person and Zoom at the Maidu Community Center (1550 Maidu Drive in Roseville) and an occasional evening Zoom meeting. A brief general meeting will be followed by a presentation on genealogy research topics.

"I thought I discovered a new branch of
my family tree ... Then I realized I was
barking up the wrong root!"

-Ed, *Family History Daily*, comment 11 August 2023



"A Family Tree that does not
look right."

-Maegor_Targ
@Reddit r/memes, 2019.



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Roseville Genealogical Society Newsletter

Contact us by e-mail: rgsca3@gmail.com



RGS Meeting Calendar - Upcoming RGS Speakers and Workshops

C=Class D=Discussion IP=In Person S=Speaker Z=Zoom

Email RGS at rgsca3@gmail.com for Zoom access information.

2026	Format		Date	Topic
RGS	D	IP & Z	Sept 1	Workshop: Brainstorm “What topics or skills others need or want to learn about?”
RGS	S	IP & Z	Sept 8	Betty Lemley: AI - A Powerful Tool with a Warning Label
RGS	D	IP & Z	Oct 6	Workshop: TBD
RGS	D	IP & Z	Oct 13	Susan Rogers: Timelines: Your Brick Wall Blaster

ONGOING RGS ACTIVITIES

Ask A Genealogist at the Library – Come by to talk or ask questions. Or schedule an appointment for a one-hour session at another time. Saturday dates will return in the summer.

Martha Riley Library Dates

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ○ Sept. 16 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | ○ October 14 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. |
| ○ Sept. 30 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | ○ October 28 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. |

Maidu Library Dates

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ○ Sept. 10 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | ○ Oct. 8 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. |
| ○ Sept. 24 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | ○ Oct. 22 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. |

📅 **BOOK-A-GENEALOGIST** Schedule a **FREE** one-hour appointment with a genealogist. Send an email to rgsca3@gmail.com with the subject line: Book-A-Genealogist.

📅 **LENDING LIBRARY (MEMBERS ONLY)** Send an email to rgsca3@gmail.com with the subject line: Lending Library



35 Years in the Roseville Community

This year marks the 35th year of the Roseville Genealogical Society's presence and service within the Roseville community! A wonderful milestone that reflects decades of shared learning, research, and a commitment to preserving family history.

From our earliest meetings to today's programs, RGS has grown alongside Roseville, helping residents discover their roots, connect across generations, and keep local stories alive.

As we celebrate this anniversary, we are grateful to the members, volunteers, and partners who have shaped our journey, and we are looking forward to the future, to new discoveries, new connections, and many more years of serving our community.

John Sessano, President

NARA Announced Two Planned Closures

News leaked out at the end of June 2026 about planned closures of the federal record centers known as National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) at the San Francisco/San Bruno and Chicago sites and the beginning of moving material out of the Seattle site.

There has been public backlash on social media sites such as Facebook and Instagram. Local leaders, historians, and community organizations such as Save Our National Archives (SONA) have strongly protested the closures due to the loss of physical access to irreplaceable regional history.

Bipartisan federal legislation like the *National Archives Protection Act* has been introduced by Congressman Kevin Mullin, D-California District 15 working with Rep. Judy Chu, R-California 28th District, to block closures and require congressional approval.

Genealogists and Californians should understand that the San Bruno facility houses over 750,000 cubic feet of material that includes immigration case files, Angel Island records, Chinese Exclusion Act documents, and Japanese American incarceration records. Records from places such as northern California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada (except Clark County), American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands are held.

Please write to your local congressional leaders to share how you feel about these developments and why there needs to be better accountability with regard



to planning and care for our nation's records. Many feel that the material, without finding aids and detailed transport accounts, will be lost and genealogical and historical research will be set back.

Sources:

Federal News Network <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/facilities-construction/2026/06/national-archives-to-transition-out-of-three-federal-records-centers/>

California Rep Kevin Mullin on Instagram
<https://www.instagram.com/p/DceKEzFhkNX/>

Congressman Kevin Mullin California 15
<https://kevinmullin.house.gov/2026/08/20/lawmakers-work-to-save-national-archives-historic-records/>

Hannah Wiley, *San Francisco Chronicle*, online, 24 August 2026
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/san-bruno-national-archives-closure-22401270.php>

Jen Schaffer, *The Formidable Genealogist*,
<https://www.facebook.com/TheFormidableGenealogist> and
<https://www.instagram.com/theformidablegenealogist>

Sacramento Archives Crawl

On 17 October 2026 from 10 am to 4 pm the archives and special collections libraries from throughout the Sacramento region will be open to the public and showcase some of their special holdings during their annual Sacramento Archives Crawl. Cost is free.

The Crawl is held at four host institution sites in downtown Sacramento:

- California State Archives
- California State Library
- Center for Sacramento History
- Sacramento Room at the Sacramento Public Library.

Free bus transportation is provided between all four locations.





San Diego Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

On September 12, 2026, local RGS member **Mary Sayles** is presenting at the San Diego Genealogical Society's Fall Seminar.

4 sessions on different topics.

Program: 10 am - 3:30 pm (PST)

Location: Virtual on Zoom and In-Person

Prices will vary depending on a person's membership and whether it is viewed online or in person.

Here is the link to learn more. <https://casdgs.org/event-5720466>

America's 250th Anniversary: My Heritage Blog

On June 8th, the MyHeritage Blog published, "My Heritage Celebrates America 250: Explore Your Family's Connection to U.S. History."

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2026/06/myheritage-celebrates-america-250-explore-your-familys-connection-to-u-s-history/>

This Blog provides a link directly to their website section, "Explore your American family story." <https://america250.myheritage.com/>

There is a hub within MyHeritage which has a collection of "American Family Stories" inspired by real family history discoveries.

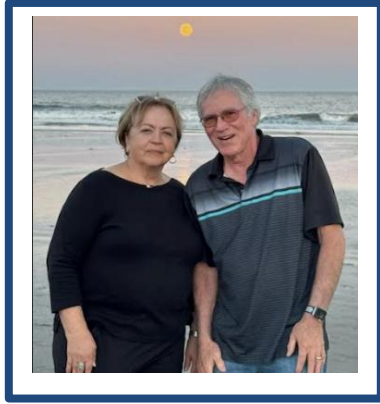
<https://america250.myheritage.com/american-stories/>

They have more content such as:

- Major U.S. historical record collections
- Resources relating to Colonial America, the Revolutionary War, and early U.S. history
- Articles and collections relating to 19th century American history
- Immigration sources
- Genealogical Information about famous Americans and Founding Fathers
- Content helping to clarify how names, identities, languages and families have evolved over time.



Spotlight: RGS members, Steve and Rita Barker



Hello Roseville Genealogical Society!

We are Steven and Rita Barker, and we share an interest in genealogy and local history. We began researching our family history several years ago, first as a gift for Steve's parents' 50th Anniversary in 1996, when research tools were far more limited than they are today.

We both grew up in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, where we fell in love, married, and raised our two sons, Bryan and Matt. Steve's relatives came from England and Canada, while Rita's family roots extend to Germany and Italy.

Our chance of coming to Roseville was through a company transfer from Massachusetts and with places like Lake Tahoe, Napa and the coast, we couldn't be happier about our decision. As we are now both retired, we would like to take this opportunity to expand from the kitchen table to RGS with the hope that our experiences could be a benefit.

Rita worked in purchasing at Gulfstream and learned the importance of "parts traceability" in the aerospace industry. Steve was a Project Manager at HP introducing new products to the world. We are learning more about the resources, expertise, and programs RGS offers and have decided to become members.

Our research has led to several meaningful discoveries, including a connection between our grandchildren and Mayflower passenger John Howland. We have also found and connected with relatives through this work. Along the way, we learned more about Lowell, Massachusetts' textile industry and how the water-powered loom developed in Waltham, Massachusetts, influenced



Kidderminster, England, helping transform the carpet industry and textile industry in which our relatives were deeply involved.

For anyone beginning family research, we suggest starting with what you already know and building from there. Many free tools can help you get started, but the greatest value is not just finding relatives—it is uncovering the stories behind them.

Rita has a deeper relationship with her older brother through sharing their findings together on their side, while Steve and his brother for the Barker side. This has led to both having an updated bucket list of places to visit!

Kind regards,

Steve and Rita

Education News

A member asked RGS about learning to use DNA. There was a virtual presentation done on Aug 12 by Crista Cowan at Ancestry® and it will be posted on You-Tube soon. In the meantime, you can check out their Ancestry Academy here for past virtual presentations.

<https://www.ancestry.com/c/discover/education>

Also, there are people who track Ancestry's rolling updates and provide videos and explanations of those updates. For example, Ancestry Aimee talks about Ancestry's newest Hint Tool that changes user experiences.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHbflozkT2w>

Another one is Genealogy TV® which made a video about AncestryDNA's New ThruLines and Family Tree Views which they began to roll out about a month ago. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdhNtw0-72s>

Using DNA Matches as Clues to Build Your Tree
- SKCGS Genetic Genealogy/DNA Interest Group
Mon Sep 14th 1:00pm - 2:00pm (PDT)

Free and Virtual - Presented by South King County Genealogical Society
See Dare to Grab the Gold Ring: skcgs.blogspot.com/2024/04/dna-dare-to-grab-gold-ring.html

How to Use DNA Relatives Clustering at
23andMe: customercare.23andme.com/hc/en-us/articles/38509301730839-How-to-Use-DNA-Relatives-Clustering-at-23andMe



& Building Family Trees with DNA Evidence: Beginner's

Guide: www.gedmatch.com/blog/building-family-trees-with-dna-evidence-beginners-guide/

More about the society at www.skcg.org

We are genealogists who use DNA data as part of their research. Join the free email group for meeting notices and discussion.

For details see www.skcg.org/groups.io/g/Genetic-Genealogy

Sierra College's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) is offering in person and virtual family History classes during the Fall 2026 semester. Check out their classes:

<https://www.campusce.net/sierraolli/course/course.aspx?catId=609>

Explore the RGS Library!

Did you know the Roseville Genealogical Society has a library of **more than 1,900 genealogy books** available to our members?

Our collection covers far more than California research—you'll also find resources for many other states, plus specialty topics like **Mayflower genealogy, heraldry, maps, how-to guides**, and more. New materials are added regularly!

You can browse the full catalog online anytime at:

<https://www.librarything.com/catalog/rgsca>

Our books are located on the back wall of the **downtown Roseville Public Library** (225 Taylor Street). While they aren't part of the circulating public library collection and can't be checked out, members are welcome to use them on site.

Next time you're at the library, take a look—you may find just what you need to move your research forward! Questions or need help finding a book or a "Box File" (journals and pamphlets)? Email us at rgsca@gmail.com, and put "Librarian" in the subject line. We're always happy to help!

RGS Intermediate Genealogy Classes

RGS is pleased to announce that Mary Sayles and other RGS member assistants will present some Intermediate Genealogy Classes. See the next page flyer for details.



Roseville Genealogical Society Intermediate Genealogy Class

ROSEVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY'S MISSION is to stimulate an interest in studying family history and genealogy, and assist persons who are researching their family history. Whether a person begins their search with documents and a name, or through a DNA test, searching for family members is what we do.

Roseville Genealogical Society (RGS) presents a 4-session class on **INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY** – Thursdays: 08, 15, 22, 29 October 2026 from 12:15 pm – 2:15 pm. Sessions will be held at the Raley's Community Room at 6845 Douglas Blvd., Granite Bay, California. **NO outside food/drink is allowed in the room per Raley's requirements, unless purchased there at the store.**

Class Overview

- ❖ 4 Sessions: in-person only; free to RGS members; \$10.00 for non-members
- ❖ Each Session lasts 2 hours – 1 hour lecture/discussion with 1 hour workshop for questions and help with research

GENEALOGY CLASS SESSIONS

Session One

Review of Research Steps & Topics

Session Two

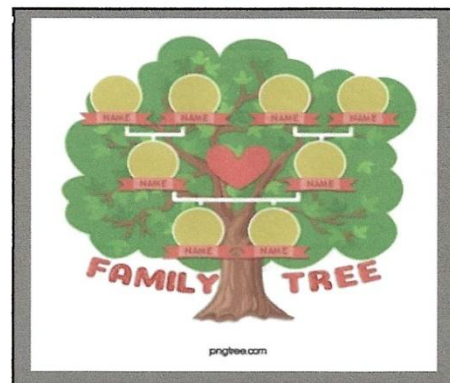
Genealogy Proof Standards & Writing a Research Plan

Session Three

Searching for Land Records

Session Four

Emigration, Immigration, & Naturalization



To register: Email rgsca3@gmail.com with Intermediate Class in the Subject line. Please include your name, telephone number, and email address, plus level of experience in genealogy. Registration confirmation will be received by email. If registrant is not an RGS member, payment may be made the day of class attendance.



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Visit us on the web at: <https://srgcouncil.org/cpage.php?pt=24> or at
<https://www.facebook.com/RosevilleGenealogicalSociety/>

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