



May/June 2026

Volume 32 Issue 3

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!

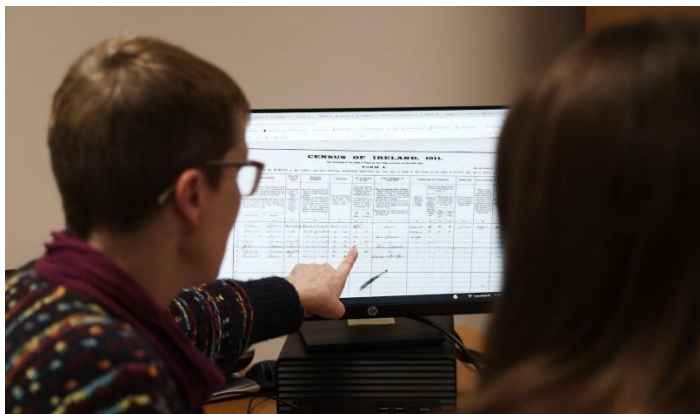
If at first you do not succeed, search and search again. That is why we call it re-search.



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.

Sign for a genealogist's home office:
"Family research zone.
Disturb at your peril."



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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	May 5	AI Discussion
RGS	S	IP & Z	May 12	Nancy Calhoun, "Researching the Five Tribes of Oklahoma"
RGS	S	IP & Z	July	Kim Hayden, Archivist from the Center for Sacramento History, "TBD."

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

- May 6 - 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- May 27- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Maidu Library Dates

- May 21 - 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- May 14 - 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

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



Full Text Search: An Amazing Tool Released by FamilySearch

By Carolyn Lewis

Since February 2024, Full-Text Search was a tool in experimental testing in the “FamilySearch Labs” that users of FamilySearch could use and give feedback about their experience using it. Users tried Full-Text Search and gave a lot of feedback since it was introduced in 2024 with records from the United States and Mexico. It was an experiment whose existence was not a secret for very long because it worked really well. At RootsTech 2026, FamilySearch officially announced its release from the Lab Experimental phase and presented a new official placement under the “Search” tab on your FamilySearch home page.

Now the vital religious birth, marriage, and death records and other records like taxes and probate records including deeds and wills that were written in long hand format are found in a quicker search than using unindexed images alone. These records were often found in unindexed image collections because they were originally written in long hand or a foreign language such German and Latin in U.S. church records. To index them all would have taken massive amounts of time. Full-Text Search used Large Language Model (LLM) recognition and was a form of early AI that transcribed images into text. FamilySearch improved the algorithm then officially released the best working version of Full-Text Search earlier this year.

The goal was not just to find a name in a document but to fully transcribe the record context, hence the “Full-Text” moniker. Users are allowed to fine tune the AI transcriptions when it is compared with the original document that they see. Some records can be searched from home and for other records, researchers will have to go to a FamilySearch Center to look them up due to contract limitations with the record owners.

This tool allows researchers to expand discoveries from one individual in a simple vital record index to many related persons whose names are also written in a newly uploaded long hand record collections. Full-Text Search now includes 7,244 collections as of today. They include hundreds of collections from English speaking countries such as Ireland, Australia, and the UK. Foreign language collections are also being added daily, weekly, and monthly. The discoveries are also exploding in places like Brazil, Italy, and Japan. A researcher’s traditional search changes to creative searching because you can search by place, year, and record type before you even search for a name. You can also search using + symbol to link two people or link a person and phrase,



or the – symbol (dash or minus sign) to exclude terms and filter which results you do not want. Different spellings can be found using the ? symbol and different forms of a root word can be found using the * symbol. David Ouimette gave a fabulous presentation and demonstration of how Full-Text works in these creative ways. If you have not yet seen his presentation, look here:

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/session/familysearch-full-text-search-your-golden-path-to-ancestral-discovery> .

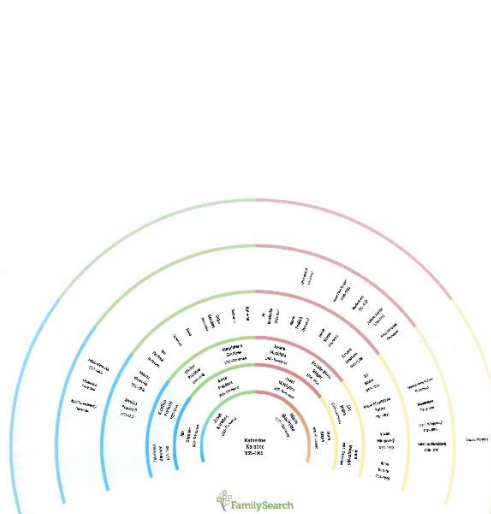
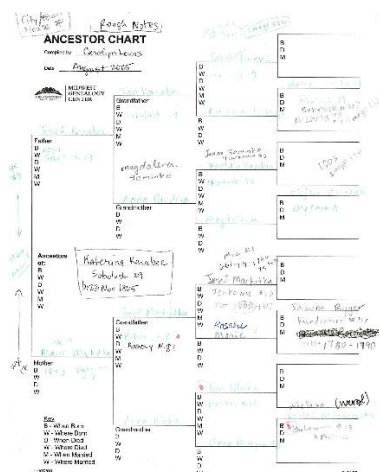
Or you can see this presentation by Edward A. Rueda:

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/session/how-full-text-search-can-uncover-latin-american-genealogy>

For some collections created by Full-Text Search, FamilySearch sometimes says “This is a dynamic, computer-generated collection. As the collection's contents grow, the collection title, descriptive data, and citation may change.” This means that researchers have to understand how the collection was created, collected, and transcribed in order to give a correct citation. Your searches can begin with a single word or name, then you can narrow down with filters, then you review in order to adjust searches to give you better quality records or manageable quantity to search from. This is so much better than having to hunt and search for the standard Catalog items intuitively, thus saving genealogists a lot of time.

Genealogy Practices

Sometimes it is not the research log that is needed, but the family tree itself to visualize people and places. Sometimes a split screen is used, but a simple print out in front of you can help you keep focused. This allows a split screen to be used for other parts of your work. The tree can be rough or formal as shown below. The rough draft has names with town and house number. The fan chart has names and dates only. The last one is a simple three generation list.



- Abstract of Maria Machyka
4 May 2026
- Generation 1
1. Maria Machyka: born 29 Mar 1843 in Bukovina, Brank Parohija, Bohemia, Austria; died in Bohemia, Czechoslovakia.
- Generation 2
2. Josef Machyka: born 23 May 1815 in Bystre, Seana, Bohemia, Austria.
 3. Anna Blaha: born abt 1821 in Rasov, Herick Parohija, Bohemia, Austria.
- Generation 3
4. Josef Machyka: born abt 1796 in Kuzdovitz, Kottlerov, Samaly, Czechia; married 9 Jun 1813 in Kuzdovitz, Samalov, Bohemia, Austria.
 5. Rozalia Maria Rieper: born 25 May 1794 in Kuzdovitz, Stankovitz, Bohemia, Austria.
 6. Jan Blaha: born abt 1790 in Bukovina, Austria.
 7. Anna Mitejevská: born 23 Sep 1794 in Bukovina, Austria.



May Celebration – 14th May

May 14, 2026, will mark 419 years since 104 men and boys arrived at Jamestown (Jamestowne), America's first permanent English settlement, on 14 May 1607. The celebration of this event is known as

Jamestown Day. Learn more about the historic preservation of this site at <https://historicjamestowne.org/>.



Revolutionary War Burial Index on Fold3 has added 67,000 records for veterans who died between 1775 and 1875. Searching the Index is Free and may be done from home using the URL:

<https://www.fold3.com/publication/1464/revolutionary-war-burial-index> .

But viewing the documents requires a subscription.

Fortunately, we live near the Sacramento FamilySearch Center where this premium website is available to visitors searching for family history information.



Professional Tip: Diane Hendriks, author of a genealogy blog, shared an excellent checklist of ways to troubleshoot a brick wall:

<https://www.knowhowearsthegenesinyourfamily.com/blog/brick-wall-troubleshooting-checklist-a-quick-reference-guide-for-stuck-research>

Root Cellar Genealogy Workshop is focusing on the origins of Mother's Day and the women in our family. They invite people to bring a photo of a woman in their family and share her story in 5 to 10 minutes!

Wednesday, **May 13**

1:00pm to 3:00pm

Sylvan Oaks Library

6700 Auburn Blvd, Citrus Heights



Spotlight: Suzanne DeFoor



By Linda Reiner Vose

Suzanne was born in San Mateo, California, and raised in West Sacramento, where her roots—and many of her fondest memories—remain. She graduated from Washington High School in West Sacramento, continued her education at Sacramento City College, and later completed coursework at MIT Western Business College in Sacramento.

Her early career included a wide range of experiences, from door-to-door sales to clerical roles in a dental company, as well as work with the Department of Food and Agriculture and volunteer service in an accounting office for a state agency based in Sacramento.

In 1993, Suzanne began her career with the State of California, starting with the Employment Development Department. Over the next 22 years, she served in multiple state agencies, retiring in 2015 from the Department of Transportation as a Staff Services Analyst.

In 2017, she moved to Roseville, enjoying a few years there before feeling the pull of home and returning to West Sacramento, where she lives today.

Suzanne's life is rich with interests and activities. She enjoys attending concerts and Broadway musicals, following sporting events, traveling, crocheting, and—of course—researching her family history. In 2025, she achieved a longtime dream by publishing her family story in book form, preserving generations of history for years to come.

Though she is not married and has no children, Suzanne treasures her close relationships with her niece, nephew, and great-nieces and nephews.

Her journey into genealogy began in the early 1980s and has grown into a lifelong passion. She expanded her knowledge through genealogy classes at Sierra College, including courses on land management records and effective research techniques using resources like Find a Grave.



Today, she utilizes platforms such as Ancestry, MyHeritage, and Family Tree to build and share her family tree with relatives. Her research spans the United States, the United Kingdom, Scandinavia, and France. On her father's side, she has traced her lineage back to the late 1500s in England—reaching her 11th great-grandparents.

Among the notable figures she has discovered in her family tree are author Daniel Defoe, astronaut Buzz Aldrin, and country music artist Sonny James.

Suzanne also cherishes meaningful family heirlooms passed down through generations, including photo albums, her parents' vinyl record collection, a delicate set of teacups and plates, and crocheted shawls lovingly made by her aunt.

She became a member of RGS in 2017 and continues to share her enthusiasm and knowledge with others. If you do not see her in person, look for her on Zoom!

Her best advice for those just beginning their genealogy journey is simple but powerful: start by asking questions. Talk to parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Ask about their early lives, their memories, and their stories—because you will never know what you might discover until you begin.

Thanks for sharing, Suzanne!

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<https://www.facebook.com/RosevilleGenealogicalSociety/>

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