



July/Aug 2025

Volume 30 Issue 4

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!

Are you travelling this summer to historical places of genealogical significance? Be sure to journal your experiences, take pictures, and summarize what you found on your research log! Share highlights with your family members and friends!



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. (Jan-May & Jul-Nov)
- ❖ **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. (Jan-May & Jul-Nov)



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ONGOING RGS ACTIVITIES

Ask A Genealogist at the Library – come by to talk or ask questions.

Maidu Library Dates

July (Thurs)

- 3rd -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 10th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 17th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 24th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 31st -1:00pm–3:00pm

Aug (Thurs)

- 7th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 14th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 21st -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 28th -1:00pm–3:00pm

Martha Riley Library Dates

July (Wed & Sat)

- 2nd -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 9th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 16th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 23rd -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 30th -1:00pm–3:00pm

Aug (Wed & Sat)

- 6th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 13th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 20th -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 27th -1:00pm–3:00pm

BOOK-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

RGS Meeting Calendar - Upcoming RGS Speakers and Workshops

C=Conference D=Discussion IP=In Person

O=Other S=Speaker Z=Zoom

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

2025	Format		Date	Topic
RGS	D	IP & Z	July 1	Workshop
RGS	S	IP & Z	July 8	FamilySearch Library, "FS Wiki"
RGS	D	IP & Z	Aug. 5	Workshop
RGS	S	IP & Z	Aug. 12	Dr. Bob La Perriere, "Gold Rush Medical Care and Challenges During the Gold Rush"
RGS	D	IP & Z	Sept. 2	Workshop
RGS	S	IP & Z	Sept. 9	Richard Hanson, "Publishing Through Lulu"
RGS	D	IP & Z	Oct. 7	Workshop
RGS	S	IP & Z	Oct. 14	Pam Dallas, "Double Dating"



Colonial Occupations

By Mary J. Sayles

Colonial occupations were performed without electricity, power tools, or running water. Think about how that affected your ancestors' lives. Everything was done by hand – chores, regular jobs/occupations, and any sort of business, and it was done in daylight, with candlelight, and/or lanterns. No light bulbs. How would living in a world similar to that affect your life today?

Was your ancestor's occupation a "COOPER"?

In colonial times, a cooper was a craftsman who specialized in making and/or repairing wooden containers, such as barrels, buckets, butter churns, casks, and tubs. These wooden vessels were the mainstay for storage and transportation of goods in every community and business at that time and could be rolled or stacked.

Fashioned from curved or shaped boards termed staves and held together by wood or metal hoops with flattened ends or heads, the result was a vessel for storing and transporting food, liquids, and other materials. Using various hand tools, some of these containers were watertight – to hold liquids such as beer, molasses, spirits, water, and whale oil. Other containers, less tight, were made for dry goods such as flour, grains, salted meats and fish, nails, gun powder, and tobacco, etc.

Some coopers focused on household items such as barrels, buckets, butter churns, and tubs, while other coopers specialized commercial containers. Whichever focus the cooper chose, this line of work was sure to provide the individual with lots of work.

A cooperage is a place of business where wooden barrels, casks, and other containers are made or repaired. The business might be a small community-based business or a large commercial shop. Some coopers focused on household items such as barrels, buckets, butter churns, and tubs, while other coopers specialized in commercial containers.

Major seaports housed large cooperages to meet the demands of seaport customers for barrels and casks. The port of Charleston, South Carolina reported that in the year 1754, 116,000 barrels passed through their port. That was just one seaport, and it does not include the local community demand for household and business barrels.

The Somerset Historical Center (Somerset County, Pennsylvania) offers a weekend class in Cottage Craft Coopering, for anyone 18 years or older who is interested in learning the basics of traditional cottage craft coopering.



For more information on the Cottage Craft Coopering workshop visit:
https://www.somersethistoricalcenter.org/file_download/inline/7a98de0a-3848-4509-b87c-a894436ec2fa.

References

Colonial Sense: The Website for All Things Colonial – The Cooper

https://www.colonialsense.com/Society-Lifestyle/Signs_of_the_Times/Cooper.php

Colonial Williamsburg Digital Library – Coopers

<https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/events/cooper/>
<https://research.colonialwilliamsburg.org/Foundation/journal/Autumn03/cooper.cfm>

Material Matters – Barrels and Buckets: The Cooperage at Colonial Williamsburg

<https://sites.udel.edu/materialmatters/2017/05/22/barrels-and-buckets-the-cooperage-at-colonial-williamsburg/>

New Hampshire Folk Life Craft Traditions – Cooperage (Wooden Barrel Making)

<https://www.nh.gov/folklife/learning-center/traditions/cooperage.htm>

Revolutionary War Journal

<https://revolutionarywarjournal.com/coopers-had-the-colonists-over-a-barrel-18th-century-barrel-cask-production-in-america/>

NOTE: A helpful site to learn about historical occupations in colonial America can be found at Ducksters.com:

https://www.ducksters.com/history/colonial_america/jobs_occupations.php

BCG Certification News

The Board for the Certification of Genealogists released an updated 2025 Application Guide.

https://bcgcertification.org/images/files/BCG_Application_Guide-2025.pdf

They will present a webinar through Legacy Family Tree Webinars on August 5. <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>



RGS Member Spotlight



Mary Sayles, our RGS past president and many times speaker, is being spotlighted this month. Mary was born in Butte County and grew up in Newcastle, Placer County, California. She graduated from Del Oro High School, attended Sierra College, and got her BS in Nursing from the University of Portland in 1978. This was followed later by an MS in Nursing, in 1992. She has resided in Roseville for the last 30 years. During her career as a nurse, she worked in Neurology, Medical-Surgical, and ER. She taught nursing school for seven years and was a telephone advice nurse. Her last nursing position was as a consultant for the State of California before retiring in 2019 just before the pandemic.

Mary started her genealogical journey in the 1970s. Her grandparents were deceased, and her mom had some stuff from her parents and some from Mary's father's side. Mary's mother was the keeper of the family history but did not do much research on her own. Her mother's cousin had a family bible. Mary, the oldest of three, started researching further beginning with a pedigree chart and searching microfilm. Soon she was hooked!

Mary traced her mother's side back to 1700s in Canada. Her father's side dated back to the 1600s in the United States. She found an ancestor, George Soule, who had arrived on the Mayflower. She had proven him and is a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. She also is a member of the D.A.R. and Colonial Dames of the 17th Century. She has 4-5 other Mayflower ancestors, but she has not had time to prove them yet. One even signed the Mayflower compact!

She learned that most of her relatives were either teachers, farmers, or health care practitioners. Her prized heirlooms include a prescription page from a great Aunt who was a physician in the early 1900s, a copy of her grandmother's teaching license from 1917, and her great-grandfather's medical diploma.

Mary has belonged to genealogical societies since the 1980s, but since her retirement in 2019 has been able to devote more time to family history research. In addition to research, she teaches genealogy classes and has taught at the Sacramento FamilySearch Center on Eastern Ave. in Sacramento and at other groups and societies.

She has visited the Allen County Public Library in Indiana, the Sutro Library (California), and local historical societies where her ancestors lived. Last August she completed the certificate in Advanced Skills in Genealogy course through the National Genealogical Society. In November, she will be taking a research trip to Salt Lake City.



Genealogy Tips

Mary Sayles's advice to beginners is: "Genealogy is a journey that takes time. Source everything from the beginning, use timelines, and remember that not everything is online – sometimes you have to read books or journey to a physical place that holds historical information of genealogical significance."

Carolyn Lewis offers a tip to aspiring genealogists to have a love of learning new and updated genealogy skills and celebrate accomplishments as you go. Carolyn also recommends learning how to do citations and at least develop an understanding of a basic template of what is needed in a citation. She recommends asking for peer reviews of your work so you can get feedback.

If you are searching for the Naturalization of someone in Pennsylvania between 1740-1773, they are not available on the Pennsylvania Archives website. Per the Archives, they are available at:

<https://digitalarchives.powerlibrary.org/psa/islandora/object/psa%3Anlscnp>

Naturalization Lists of the Supreme Court and Courts of Nisi Prius, 1740-1773

Naturalization lists created under the provisions of the Act of Parliament passed in the 13th year of the reign of his Royal Majesty King George the Second entitled "Act for Naturalizing such Foreign Protestants, and Others Therein Mentioned, as are Settled or Shall Settle in any of His Majesty's Colonies in America." The records commence at the session of the Supreme Court held at Philadelphia for the Province of Pennsylvania presided over by Jeremiah Langhorne, Thomas Graeme, and Thomas Griffiths on September 25-27, 1740, O.S. Under the provisions of this Act, foreigners seeking to be naturalized must have resided in the colonies for at least seven years, been absent from the colonies no more than two months at a time during those seven years, and produce certificates of taking the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in a Protestant or Reformed congregation located within the Province within the preceding three months. Each applicant was then required to take the prescribed oaths and repeat the declaration prescribed in the Act. Information provided included names of judges presiding, name of person naturalized, place of his residence, and date he took the sacrament. Images are arranged chronologically by date of entry. These records were created under an early government structure of Pennsylvania.



Genealogy Graduates

Congratulations to Mary Sayles who completed an online 18-month class entitled *Advanced Skills in Genealogy* through the National Genealogical Society! This was the first session ever offered by NGS. It was created for students to do at their own pace with some assistance, if needed. There was a forum students could choose to attend. Their graders were different people depending on the assignment and grade weight. Learning modules included reading, practicing skills, assignments, and then submitting their work. Mary took the class at the same time as another RGS member, Mary Beth Glisson. A certificate signed by the NGS Education Director comes in the mail and the final grade is given in the module before the course access is closed. Those who complete the course are eligible to apply to become a certified genealogist. Mary stated,

“The course helped me to put all the pieces together that I had learned throughout the years, a little at a time, and provided a way to do more in-depth research in some areas I had not researched before or just done a basic review on. I applied what I learned to the assignments: case studies and creating a locality file for an area I wished to research, etc. Several assignments in, the course creators told us to focus on American Ancestors in the USA. The big piece I was able to learn was how to cite sources, as this task was not discussed when I began genealogy so many years ago and still is not taught much today. Using Thomas W. Jones’ book and formula for writing basic citations, even for beginning to intermediate researchers, is important. We were the guinea pigs in this first class.”

Congratulations to Carolyn Lewis who finished all the course work for an associate degree in Family History Research from Brigham Young University- Idaho via BYU Pathway Worldwide! She will receive her diploma later this summer. Her semester course work was done online in 14 weekly class modules that included readings, video links, slide shows, quizzes, simple assignments or large research assignments, group projects (online), and field trips. Some instructors provided an office hour via Zoom to discuss concepts and assignments at the beginning of each week. Other courses provided tutoring by advanced students. Carolyn earned two certificates along the way. The first one was for Family History Research and the second one was for Advanced Family History Research. Beginning classes included genealogical standards, paleography, internet skills using files, databases and websites, beginning methodology using census records, city directories & newspapers, basic vital records, evidence analysis and citations.



Advanced coursework included serious genealogical writing, United States geographic specialization in four regions, genetic genealogy, more advanced methodology which included creating quick reference sheets for regions of study, advanced records such as taxes, probate records, land records, books, military records, and production of advanced genealogical reports from start to finish for Instructor “clients” with an accounting of project time. There was also a requirement that reports were peer reviewed after a rough draft was submitted, but before the student created a final draft based on peer recommendations before final submission. Each peer review was turned in to the instructors. The peer review process was extremely helpful and popular among all students.

Carolyn simply wanted to learn how to overcome her genealogical brick walls and got so much more than she bargained for by embarking on her educational journey. She stated,

“Genealogy is a perfect example of what it means to be a life-long learner because there is so much to learn about our world in terms of historical as well as genealogical sources for every region, country, and continent where people live.”

Educational Opportunities

Do you love podcasts? Do you listen as you work or travel? FeedSpot.com has shared a list of the 40 Best Genealogy Podcasts in 2025. Check it out at:

https://podcast.feedspot.com/genealogy_podcasts/

26 August 2025, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Sacramento German Genealogical Society (SGGS). Dr. Roger Minert will present, “German Immigrants to America Church Records Book Series.” Zoom event (registration required in August).

<https://sggs.us/eventListings.php?nm=54&tf=3#er305>

27 September 2025, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Root Cellar will host a Fall Webinar with Lisa Louise Cooke, the owner of *Genealogy Gems* company and podcast of the same name. An attendance fee will be required. Watch Root Cellar website for open registration.

<https://rootcellar.org/eventListings.php?nm=63&tf=6#er832>

Where is your genealogy journey taking you today?



A Blast from the Past

Credit to John Sessano for sharing these pictures from the RGS March 2007 meeting and activity days.

March

MARCH 17

ROSEVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
General Meeting
 Open To All Ages!
March 13
 Speaker: Glenda Gardner Lloyd
"Researching in the County Courthouse"

MARCH 13, 2007 MEETING
 Courthouse Records
 by Glenda Gardner Lloyd

The presentation talks about preparing for a research trip, what you might find in the County Court House and some suggestions for being successful in your research.

Glenda is a 4th generation Native Californian. She was the first president of Root Cellar - Sacramento Genealogical Society. She teaches Beginning Genealogy classes for San Juan Adult Education. Glenda has been a speaker at many family history seminars and for local genealogical societies.

Genealogical Research Day
 Tuesday, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
March 27
 Speaker: Pamela Dallas
"The New Frontier, The Northwest Territory"

MESSAGE FROM RETIRING PRESIDENT
MARILYN LARSON

I want to thank all of the officers and members who have made my job easier the past year. We truly have a great group of members who are willing to help when needed. I know you will all give your support to the club again in 2007 with Joyce Norton as your President.

Marilyn Larson Joyce Norton

2007 Board

Roger Semple Joyce Norton Alan Vanatta Dian Price
 Betty Gilchrist Susie Thompson Elva Christian Helen Astill
 Diana Draper



Invitation to Report Your Discoveries

RGS invites you to submit a well-written half page to one page summary of your genealogical discovery this summer, to be published either in the September/October or November/December RGS Newsletter. A picture or two could be included telling us about what is depicted and the date it was taken. Credit will be given to the author and photographer. Editor reserves the right to correct minor writing errors.

Final Note

RGS will be offering an in-person Beginning Genealogy class consisting of 4 sessions, to start in September or October 2025 for current RGS members. They will be about 90 minutes each—60 minute lecture/discussion followed by 30 minutes with questions and research help. We are still working on the location for the class. More information will be shared in August by email and on the website. Even if you are not currently an RGS member, you are welcome to join and take the class.

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