



May/June 2025

Volume 30 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!

Warmer days are coming!
Time to Plan Your Upcoming
Genealogy Adventure – Visit an
Ancestral Town and/or
Cemetery.



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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Do you have any military ancestors to honor this Memorial Day??



ONGOING RGS ACTIVITIES

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

Maidu Library Dates

May (Thurs)

- 1 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 8 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 15 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 22 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 29 -1:00pm–3:00pm

Martha Riley Library Dates

May (Wed)

- 7 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 14 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 21 -1:00pm–3:00pm
- 28 -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.

2023	Format		Date	Topic
RGS	D	IP & Z	May	How do you resolve conflicting issues you encounter? How do you communicate or correspond with others about genealogy?
RGS	S	IP & Z	May	Richard Hansen, “Writing and Publishing Your Family History.”
RGS			NO Meeting in June	

Coming later this fall – 4 genealogy sessions taught by Mary J. Sayles. More information in the next newsletter.

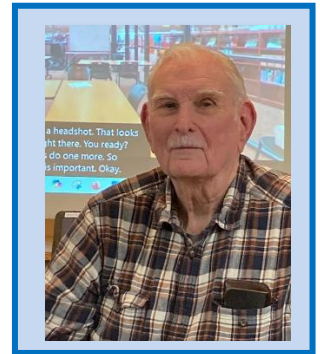




Member Spotlight by Linda Reiner Vose

Our Spotlight for this issue will be our RGS Membership Chairman, Alan Vanatta.

Alan was born and grew up in Turlock, CA where his father was a wholesale/retail feed salesman. He graduated from Turlock High School in 1957 and went on to Modesto Junior College where he met his wife Gail who was also from Modesto. They had three children Dana, David, and Rob.



Alan worked for the railroad for a short time in 1960. When he and Gail married, he switched to the Solar Cell Division of Lockheed, and they moved to the Bay Area. He was not happy there and decided to go back to the Southern Pacific Railroad as a Brakeman and they moved to Roseville. Alan eventually became a Conductor. He was responsible for all the paperwork for the train, worked with the engineer, and oversaw mechanical issues the train might have. He was on call everyday, every month, and all year. Alan worked for Southern Pacific which later became Union Pacific for 44 years, 10 months and 10 days.

Alan became interested in genealogy because of his mother who was a member of the Roseville Genealogical Society. She had kept all of the family letters and pictures. When she got older, Alan made trips to her home in Elk Grove to help her, and he would learn about various genealogical information. He joined RGS when Pam Dallas was President in 1997, and he took over the RGS database shortly thereafter.

Today, Alan prefers to house his genealogical research in his personal RootsMagic database. His mother's maternal ancestry extends into the 1700s in England. One ancestor was a sexton named Peter Priestly from Wakefield, West Riding, Yorkshire who had a wig that caught fire!

Alan's grandparents were the first immigrants to come to America. They settled in Cleveland, Ohio. His grandmother was from Batley, Normanton, West Riding, Yorkshire. His grandfather was from Aston, Magna, Gloucester. Desiring warmer weather, they moved into the home of his grandmother's aunt and uncle in Delhi, California and later moved to Turlock, California. His uncle had been a "rough rider" with Teddy Roosevelt and part of the brigade that chased Pancho Villa back to Mexico.

Alan can often be seen at all RGS meetings and discussion groups operating the projector and setting up Zoom. He offers his valuable genealogical expertise with everyone at all meetings and during RGS volunteer presence at the Maidu and the Martha Riley Library lobby several times a month while answering questions from the public.



"The history of our grandparents
is remembered not with rose
petals but in the laughter and
tears of their children and their
children's children. It is into us
that the lives of the grandparents
have gone. It is in us that their
history becomes a future."

-Charles and Ann Morse

© Teach Me Genealogy

Tip

Alan Vanatta's tip for beginners to genealogy is to "Just do it – Start with yourself and work backwards."

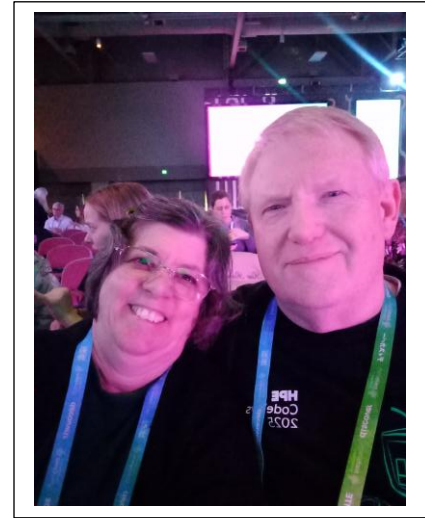
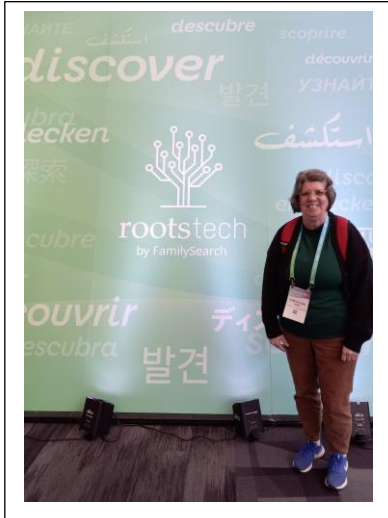
RGS member, Shannon Walker's tip for learning about your own family heritage is "Begin with what you know and use sound genealogical research methods."

RootsTech 2025

RGS member, Carolyn Lewis, celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary by attending RootsTech with her husband, Dan, in Salt Lake City, March 6-8, 2025. RGS member, Shannon Walker, was also there. Both Carolyn and Shannon attended a reunion for their FamilySearch Tree-Building Internship group at the



same location on the evening of March 6. They learned many things at RootsTech!



- If adults and parents are doing family history, so are the children and youth! There were classes discussing generational involvement in family history research.
- AI is getting traction and making searching easier. There were multiple classes on this topic.
- Over 4 million people connected to RootsTech online from all over the world.
- Over 16,000 attended in person! It was an experience to be among so many people searching for more genealogical tips and skills.
- There were classes on mental and emotional strength from doing family history research.
- Classes that presented case studies and tips in family history research were presented by professionals in the field and they were amazing!
- Famous guests spoke at RootsTech and shared some of their family history discoveries.
 - Paralympic gold medalist Hunter Woodhall and his wife, Olympic Gold Medalist Tara Davis-Woodhall, discussed the importance of marriage & family and shared some of their family history discoveries live on the mainstage.
 - NYC based artist and designer, Dana Tanamachi, shared her multi-generational family's individual experiences using art as a healthy expression of themselves.
 - A pre-recorded message from author Ndaba Mandela, grandson of Nelson Mandela, was also presented at RootsTech.



- They wished they could be in many places at the same time in order to participate in as many classes and events that were available.
- However, it is still possible to see digital recordings from RootsTech: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>
- RootsTech has a presence on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RootsTech/>
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sponsors RootsTech. This is their summary of RootsTech 2025: <https://www.thechurchnews.com/members/2025/03/15/look-back-rootstech-2025-discover-families-familysearch-keynotes-classes/>
- Carolyn was blessed to have full professional American Sign Language interpretation provided so that she could understand all the classes and mainstage events at RootsTech. RootsTech is known for its multi-cultural and multi-lingual inclusion for many people.
- Carolyn received a tip from a deaf, professional family history researcher, David Samuelsen, about a record collection to look into regarding her 4th great-grandfather, Wilhelm Schneider, who lived in Schalkenmehren, Daun, Rhineland, Prussia and later died 17 April 1814 in Schleidweiler-Rodt, Trier, Rhineland, Prussia.

Congratulations Graduate!

Congratulations to RGS member, **Shannon Walker**, who graduated this year from Brigham Young University-Idaho with a Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Studies which also included two certificates in Family History Research! She successfully completed both the beginner and the advanced Family History classes. In Fall of 2023, Shannon was part of the FamilySearch Community Tree-Building Internship. Her project was “Lost and Found in Lancaster”, using records from “The Mayor’s Register of Coloured Persons.” The inspiration for her project came from knowledge that there were records in Lancaster County which did not exist online. Reflecting on her personal family history research that included a family reunion trip to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, she knew her work needed to be in that area. She wanted to support FamilySearch’s desire to help underserved populations. With the support and permission from the Lancaster Historical Society, Shannon managed a project that would add information from this collection for the years 1820 to 1849. She organized, taught, and led 25 volunteers and added 800 new individuals to the FamilySearch Family Tree. Some of the volunteers were RGS members. The historical records she used were created at a time when it was the law that those of African descent had to register with the mayor. This



applied even to those who had been freed. Shannon has a passion for family history and honoring ancestors by finding their stories. She plans to continue research into her own family in the United States, Germany, and Scotland. She will continue her education by seeking better understanding of new research methods involving AI and DNA. She plans to continue her involvement with genealogical organizations and help foster stronger family connections.

Where is your genealogy journey taking you today?

Educational Opportunities

Note: In our area, there is a large variety of genealogical classes and seminars to choose from. This month's newsletter has a long listing of Genealogical Classes available to RGS members. The classes are taken from the Sacramento Regional Genealogical Council's website and the Sacramento Family Search Center's website to show members what types of opportunities are available in our area. Upcoming months will have a shortened list showing the above website and other websites for members to search.

Spring Seminar – The Legal Genealogist

with Judy G Russell, JD,CG, CL RUGA

Saturday, May 31, 2025 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Roseville Maidu Community Center

Click here for more information: <https://rootcellar.org/>

May 3 – 10:00am-2:00pm – Auburn Family Discovery Day – a genealogy and family history fair; onsite at Auburn Family History Center. For information click here: https://srgcouncil.org/upload/files/Flyer_PDF_1-activities.pdf

May 3 – 11:00 am – **Genealogical Research with the Witkin State Law Library** – Virtual; Solano County Genealogical Society. For more information visit: www.scgsca.org

May 6 – 11:00 am & 7:00 pm - **Finding Elusive Records on Family Search.org** – Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center. For more information:
https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes

May 12 – 11:00 am & 7:00 pm – Privacy on FamilySearch – Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For more information:
https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes

May 13 – 11:00 am & 7:00 pm – **Solutions Gallery** – Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For more information:
https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes



- May 20 – 11:00 am – **Genealogy: Getting Started Part 1**; In-Person only at Sacramento FamilySearch Center 2745 Eastern Avenue, Sacramento; For more information: https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes
- May 20 – 1:00 pm – **Solving Complex Genealogy Puzzles using DNA**; Hybrid; For more information click: https://srgcouncil.org/upload/events/files/1745620712_FLYERLong_Jonathan2025-05-20.pdf
- May 21 – 12:00 pm-2:00 pm – **One-Step Webpages: a Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools**; in person, Genealogical Society of Sacramento at 5600 South Land Park Drive at Belle Cooledge Library.
- May 27 – 11:00 am **Exploring the World of Maps**
- May 29 – 7:00 pm **Exploring the World of Maps**
Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For more information: https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes
- June 03 – 11:00 am **Beginning Family Tree**
- June 05 – 7:00 pm **Beginning Family Tree**
Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For more information: https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes
- June 05 – 1:30 pm – **Geography of Genealogy**; Virtual, Genealogical Society of Vallejo-Benecia; For more information: <https://gsvb.org/eventListings.php?nm=34>
- June 10 – 11:00 am **FamilySearch Home Page & Navigation**
- June 12 – 7:00 pm **FamilySearch Home Page & Navigation**
Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For more information: https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes
- June 17 – 10:00 am **Putting Your American Ancestors on the Map**; Virtual; San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society; For more information & to request admission: <https://srvgensoc.org>
- June 17 – 11:00 am **Pedigree and Family Tree Views**
- June 19 – 7:00 pm **Pedigree and Family Tree Views**
Virtual: Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For information: https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes
- June 18 – 12:00 pm-2:00 pm – **Smarter Strategies for Genealogy**; in person, Genealogical Society of Sacramento at 5600 South Land Park Drive at Belle Cooledge Library; For more information: <https://srgcouncil.org/eventListings.php?nm=139>



June 24 – 11:00 am **Details/Person Page**

June 26 – 7:00 pm **Details/Person Page**

Virtual; Sacramento FamilySearch Center; For more information:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/centers/sacramento_california/classes

June 26 – 7:00pm – 9:00 pm – **Unusual Places to Find Births and Naturalization – Irish Edition**; Hybrid, Placer County Genealogical Society. For more information:

https://srgcouncil.org/upload/files/Debra_Dudek_Flyer.pdf

Ongoing Information Sites

- ✚ Allen County Public Library - Genealogy Center offerings:
<https://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>
- ✚ Conference Keeper – Genealogy Calendar of Events by National Genealogical Society – Online/Virtual Events only: <https://conferencekeeper.org/calendar/>
- ✚ Sacramento FamilySearch Center's class offerings at:
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Sacramento_California_FamilySearch_Center/Classes.
- ✚ Sacramento Regional Genealogical Council website for presentations offered by other area Genealogical Organizations: <https://srgcouncil.org/index.php>.

Check the area in which your ancestor lived. The Genealogical and/or Historical Society of the area may hold virtual conferences or seminars, which will help you learn more about the area in which your ancestor lived.

The Roseville Genealogical Society Newsletter
is published bi-monthly.

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

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