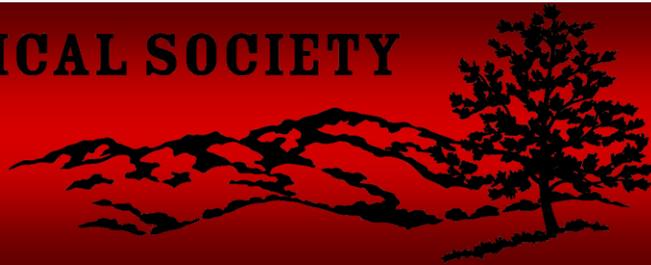


# MT. DIABLO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## The Digger



July/August 2015

### 2015/16 MDGS BOARD MEMBERS



**President**  
Stan Wells

**Rec Secretary**  
Shirla Klenk

**Treasurer**  
John Gilbert

**Directors**  
Bob Wolf  
Margaret Ready

**Program Chair**  
Mary Ellis

**Publicity Chair**  
Susan Rush

**Membership Chair**  
Nickie Allen

**Newsletter**  
Carol Wegener

### The President's Message

By Stan Wells

New Officers and Board Members were elected and Committee Chairs were set up at the June meeting. While many of these hard workers have agreed to continue to direct the society's activities some of their roles have changed and we are pleased to have new volunteers take on important positions.

On behalf of the membership, I wish to express our thanks to those that have served on the board and committees this past year as well as those that have agreed to assume the responsibility for the coming months.

MDGS has been given the opportunity to present to The Rossmoor Computer Club about our organization and the enjoyment of experiencing genealogical research. The presentation will be in the Fireside Room at Gateway on July 15 at 2:00 P.M. It would be nice to have many MDGS members attend so that you can help in delivering the message about the fun, excitement and benefits of family research. Come join us!

And here's your Board of Directors!

President - Stan Wells

Treasurer – John Gilbert

Recording Secretary – Shirla Klenk

Director – Bob Wolf

Director – Margaret Ready

Program Chair – Mary Ellis

Publicity Chair – Susan Rush

Membership Chair – Nickie Allen

Newsletter Editor – Carol Wegener

### Welcome New Members!

#### Donna Downey

Researching:  
Downey, Carruthers, Eakle and Thurber

#### Pat Shanahan

Researching:  
Shanahan and Manly in OR, CA and Ireland  
Weiman and Hess in WI, NY, IA, and Germany

#### Joan Resnikoff

Researching: Hubbert in Brooklyn and Canada

#### Shirley Pugh Thomson

Researching: Thomson, Pugh, Harris, Clouse, McAllister (IN); Thomson (NY)



# MDGS News

## New MDGS Mailbox

Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society now has a club mailbox in the Rossmoor Administration Bldg. at Gateway. Members can now drop off applications, dues, correspondence in the mail box titled "Mt. Diablo Genealogy." For those who mail in applications, dues, correspondence, the new address is:  
Mt. Diablo Genealogy, 1001 Golden Rain Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

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## There will be NO meeting in August.

Just a reminder that our society goes on hiatus in August. There will be no meeting or newsletter. See you in September!

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## July Meeting

Our July meeting will feature Francine Lloyd from the Daughters of the American Revolution, who will speak on "DAR Resources". The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political, volunteer women's service organization, formed in 1890 for the purpose of preserving American history, investing in education, and promoting patriotism.

Francine will talk about the variety of DAR resources that are available to the public, through the Genealogical Research System, the organization's national online genealogical portal, which includes collections of databases the organization has made available. The Information in their Ancestor, Member and Descendants Databases, is derived from approved DAR member-related applications. Other records, including the DAR Library Catalog, and DAR Genealogical Records Committee Database, are also available online.

# From Our Members

## What Does Cousin Twice Removed Mean?

*Contributed by Peggy Johnson*

Sometimes particularly when you are working on your family history it is handy to know how to describe your family relationships more precisely. Maybe the following explanation will help.

If you and another person are cousins of each other, you share a common ancestor.

If you and the other person are not of the same generation, counting generations from that common ancestor, your cousin relationship involves a removal.

If you are separated from your cousin by one generation, counting from the common ancestor, then you are once removed.

If your separation is two generations, then you are twice removed.

For example you and your first cousin share a grandparent.

You and your second cousin share a great grandparent.

You and the child of your first cousin are first cousins once removed.

You and the child of your second are second cousins, once removed.

You and the grandchild of your first cousin are first cousins, twice removed.

You and the grandchild of your second cousin are second cousins twice removed.

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# In The News

## How to Find Cemeteries in Google Earth

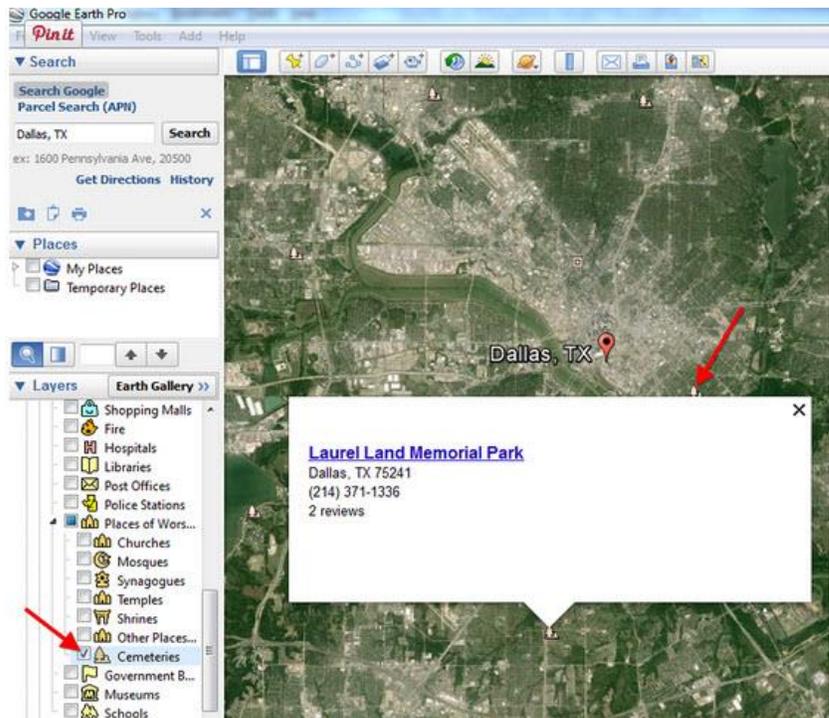
by Lisa Louise Cooke

Do you ever wish there was a master map of all the cemeteries in the world? Well, there is something like that. Let's talk about how to find cemeteries in Google Earth!

If you use Google Earth, you know it's more than just one single awesome dimensional map of the world. There are lots of Layers. Literally. And one of those shows cemeteries in Google Earth.

Google Earth Layers are collections of points of geographic interest that have been curated by Google Earth or its content partners. When you click on a Layer, it brings up all those points of interest on your current view of Google Earth.

You'll find the Layers panel on the bottom left side of your screen. To display all points of interest within a Layer, click the box next to the Layer title. To open a Layer category, click the plus sign next to the label to open the Layer folder, and the minus sign to close it.



There are lots of genealogically-interesting Layers, including Cemeteries. You will find Cemeteries by selecting the following:

- More >
- Place Categories >
- Places of Worship
- Make sure to check the box next to Cemeteries.
- Next, input a location in the Search box at the top left of the screen to "fly" to a neighborhood in Google Earth where you'd like to find nearby cemeteries.

While not every cemetery is shown, it's an excellent start! Click on a cemetery icon. This will open a dialog box containing relevant information about the cemetery, often including the address and telephone number. If the cemetery title is hyperlinked, click it for even more useful information.

## Top 100 Genealogy Websites of 2015

*GenealogyInTime Magazine Newsletter January 2015*

The annual GenealogyInTime Magazine Top 100 is the definitive list in genealogy. It profiles and ranks the best ancestral websites based on their internet traffic as measured by Alexa, the internet traffic people. This results in a list that is objective, comprehensive and (most importantly) impartial. This year represents our fourth annual survey on the state of genealogy. Discover some interesting websites to help you find your ancestors and stay up to date with the latest trends in genealogy. See more at: <http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/top-100-genealogy-websites-of-2015-page01.html#sthash.QwAAXDF3.dpuf>

# In The News

## 4 Common Genetic Genealogy Myths

By Tyler Moss, *Family Tree University*, May 13, 2015

There's little doubt that DNA your family history research. RootsTech and you'll notice everywhere, and any number of down the topic for a wider

And that's just the problem. No complex and complicated. In right for you, what you can (and be applied to your research takes can be a big investment in both Family Tree Magazine and elements I find flummoxing.



testing is an excellent supplement to Attend a genealogy conference like genetic genealogy booths headlining presenters trying to break audience.

matter what way you wrap it, DNA is order to understand which test is can't) expect to learn, and how it can careful planning-after all, these tests time and money. Heck, I work for readily admit that there are still

Although genetic genealogy can add valuable information to your family tree, it does have some limitations. To help you understand the benefits and limitations of genetic genealogy testing, here are a few of the most common misunderstandings. Mastering these will help you avoid the most common mistakes that beginner genetic genealogists make.

### 1. A DNA test can fill in my family tree.

Although DNA testing is powerful, it is merely one of many tools in the genealogist's toolbox. DNA test results alone cannot fill in your family tree or break through your brick walls. For example, although a test can determine the genetic relatedness of two or more individuals, it usually cannot reveal the exact genealogical relationship between those individuals.

### 2. I'd like to test my great-grandfather's DNA, but he died years ago.

You don't need to exhume your ancestor to get useful information from a genetic genealogy test! Genetic genealogists use their own DNA to learn about their ancestors. For example, a man's Y-DNA was given to him by his father, who received it from his father, and so on back through time. And every one of us has autosomal DNA that we inherited from our grandparents, great-grandparents and beyond.

### 3. Since I'm a woman, I can't learn about my deceased father's Y-DNA.

Although as a woman you did not inherit your father's Y chromosome, there is a very good chance that there is another living source of that Y-DNA. For instance, do you have a brother who would have inherited Y-DNA from your father? Or does your father have a living brother? There are usually several different sources for the DNA you're looking for; to identify those sources you'll need to understand how Y-DNA is passed from one generation to the next.

### 4. DNA testing will reveal medical information about me.

With the exception of companies that intentionally test for medical data, most genetic genealogy testing does not uncover or share any important health information about the test-taker. However, test-takers should understand that some limited medical information can inadvertently be revealed by a genetic genealogy test, especially as new scientific discoveries uncover previously unknown connections between health and DNA.

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## Reading the Blogs

by Gena Philibert-Ortega, *Your Genealogy Today* and *Internet Genealogy* author

What blogs are you following? Consider following blogs for genealogy websites such as the Ancestry Blog <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/>, GenealogyBank <http://blog.genealogybank.com/> and the FindMyPast blog <http://blog.findmypast.com/>. Follow the blogs for repositories such as Library and Archives Canada <http://thediscoverblog.com/> or The National Archives UK blog <http://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>.

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# In The News

## Free Access to 60 Issues of a Ancestry Genealogy Magazine

By Lisa Louise Cooke, [Genealogy Gems](#)

Would you like to have instant access to ten years worth of genealogy packed pages from a nationally renowned genealogy magazine? Then turn to Google Books.

Although no longer in publication, *Ancestry* magazine is still available in a fully digitized and searchable format on Google Books! Here's how to gain access:

1. [Go to http://books.google.com/](http://books.google.com/)
2. Type "Ancestry magazine" in quotations marks into the search box. The quotes tell Google Books that this phrase must be included in each and every result in the results list.
3. Add a keyword or phrase you want to find, such as "Ellis Island", in the search box.
4. The results list will contain all the digitized issues of Ancestry magazine that include your search words.
5. Feel free to incorporate *search operators* from my handy ebook that we sent you when you first signed up for this newsletter because they will work too! Premium Members can also review my **Google Search videos** in the Premium Video section of the website for more search strategies.
6. In the left hand column, just below the search box, click the "About this magazine" link
7. From this page you can add *Ancestry* magazine to your Google Books "My Library", and if you scroll down you can easily browse issues.



And yep, you heard me right: every word in every issue is keyword searchable!

**Just to speed things up**, I've created a special "Tiny URL" just for you to give you quick access: <http://tinyurl.com/ancestrymagazine>.

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## Four Tips for Citing Genealogy Sources

*Family Tree Magazine Genealogy Insider, February 2015*

Genealogy research without source information isn't reliable - but the process of creating source citations can be time-consuming and confusing. Here are some tips for creating source citations:

- **Cite the version of the source you use.** If Uncle Bob sends a photo of a family Bible page, cite the photo of the Bible. If a family history is on several digitized book websites, cite the book on the site where you found it.
- **Document the source of the source.** If you use a marriage record from MyHeritage.com that was digitized from FamilySearch's microfilm copy of the original, your source citation should document each of these "steps" in the publication process.
- **Note whether you're using an index or an actual record.** Source citations for information from an online index generally include the word "database" after the title of the work. Citations for online collections that include record images generally include the words "digital images."
- **Use automatically generated citations as a starting point.** Some websites provide source citations for records you view. Others may include general source information for a whole collection. You can copy these citations, but check for completeness: Does it include the date you accessed it? The name on the record you're citing? Add any missing information.

# For Your Information

## 10 Types of Apps Every Genealogist Should Have

By Diane Haddad, *Family Tree Magazine*, *genealogyinsider* e-newsletter, May 14, 2015



When I first got my Android tablet, I thought I'd be able to use it like a computer, and I was disappointed when I couldn't. Although my tablet is a lot easier to carry around than my bulky laptop, it spent a few genealogy conferences at home. Then I discovered that powerful apps optimized for mobile devices are a big part of what can make your tablet or iPad an essential genealogy tool.

Here are 10 types of apps every genealogist should have on his or her mobile device, along with suggestions for each:

- **Note-taking:** [Evernote](#) is highly popular with genealogists for taking and organizing notes (which can include record images), and it includes a web clipper. [Microsoft One-note](#) also is popular.
- **File storage and transfer:** When you use your device to photograph records or microfilm at a library, you'll want a way to easily transfer those images to your computer at home. [Dropbox](#) and File Transfer ([iPad/Phone](#) and [Android](#)) are two options.
- **Tree-viewing (and editing):** See if the software or family tree website where you track your research has a mobile app. If you're looking for a place to put your tree, look for an option that includes an app so you can check your tree from a library, family gathering, cemetery, etc. [Ancestry.com](#), [MyHeritage](#) (which [just announced a major redesign of its app](#)), [FamilySearch Family Tree](#), [RootsMagic](#) and Legacy Family Tree (the app is called [Families](#)) all have mobile apps.
- **Scanning:** Apps that turn your tablet camera into a scanner (great for "photocopying" records) include [CamScanner](#), [Genius Scan](#), [Scannable by Evernote](#), and more. [Here's an article listing scanning apps to consider](#).
- **Translator:** Google Translate ([iPad/Phone](#) and [Android](#)) is the go-to translation tool for many researchers. [Here are some other options](#).
- **Library searching:** [WorldCat has a mobile app](#) available in beta for iPad/Phone and Android. See if libraries in your ancestral locales have mobile apps, too, which might let you search the catalog and find your way around the library.
- **Conference-going:** Many genealogy conferences have mobile apps that show you the class schedule, an exhibit hall map and more. Here's [one for the National Genealogical Society conference](#) this week. The [Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree app will be available soon](#).
- **Recording:** [Interview](#) (iPad/Phone) is a good app for recording oral history interviews.
- **Blog reading:** Feedly is great for keeping up with genealogy blogs, as is [Flipboard](#).
- **Storytelling/keeping:** [FamilySearch Memories](#) lets you take photos, record memories and interviews, write stories, and add them to your FamilySearch family tree. [Storypress](#) (for the iPad/Phone) and [Keepy](#) let you take a picture and record audio or video to go with it.

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### German Abbreviations

If you are translating German documents, the following may be helpful: <http://www.german-translation-tips-and-resources.com/german-abbreviations-1.html>

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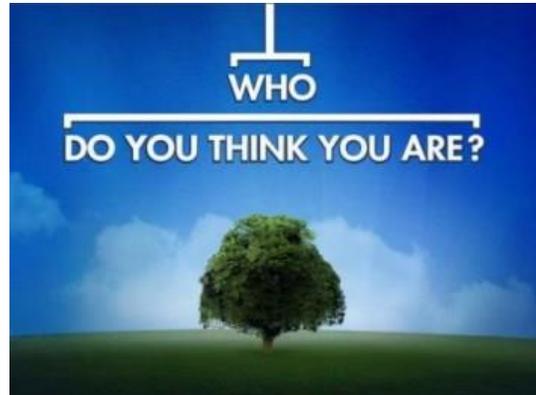
# For Your Information

## U.S. Version of *Who Do You Think You Are?* to Premiere July 26

*From Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*

The two-time Emmy nominated series *Who Do You Think You Are?* returns this summer to share more stories of the real life family history of celebrities. The new season premieres Sunday, July 26 at 9pm Eastern/8pm Central time. The contributors featured in the upcoming season include:

- Tom Bergeron, who is aware of his French Canadian roots on his paternal side, but wants to know what brought his ancestors to North America. He goes as far back as his 10x great grandmother to find the answer.
- Bryan Cranston, who comes to discover an unfortunate pattern amongst the men in his family.
- Ginnifer Goodwin, who sets out to learn about her mysterious paternal great grandparents, whom her father, regrettably, does not know much about either.
- Alfre Woodard, who strives to find out more about the paternal side of her family, and explores how her surname came to be.



Additionally, TLC will air the U.S. premiere of J.K. Rowling's episode of the series, where the best-selling author sets off to uncover her maternal French roots. She finds that a family war story might not be what she thought when military records reveal a surprising twist.

You can find information about the new series on the show's web site at <http://www.tlc.com/tv-shows/who-do-you-think-you-are/about-the-show/about-the-show/>.

## "Finding Your Roots" on PBS Postponed

*From Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*



**finding  
your  
roots**  
with  
HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

The "Finding Your Roots" television program hosted on PBS by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. has been postponed after a controversy involving guest Ben Affleck.

In April, a leaked Sony Pictures email published on WikiLeaks revealed the "Gone Girl" actor had asked the show's host Henry Louis Gates, Jr. not to mention the fact that his distant relative owned slaves. Gate apparently agreed. After a lot of publicity about the leaked email, Sony boss Michael Lynton issued a statement that the series'

producers chose to focus on other parts of Affleck's family history, but the actor later admitted he urged producers to exclude the story because he was "embarrassed" by the revelation.

Executives at PBS subsequently launched an investigation, and the results found that producers violated network standards by allowing Affleck to have "improper influence" on the show and "by failing to inform PBS... of Mr. Affleck's efforts to affect program content."

The show's producers now say they have not made a decision whether the show will return for a fourth season. In the meantime, they say it has been "postponed", but are not using the word "Finding Your Roots" on PBS Postponed canceled."

# For Your Information

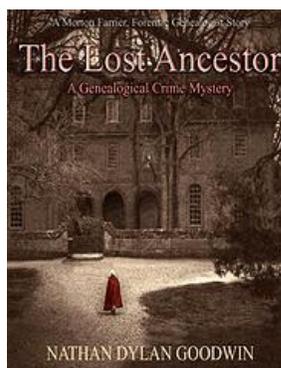
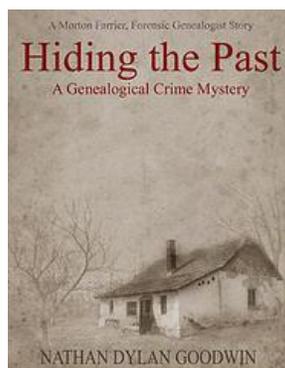
## Forensic Genealogy

Maybe you weren't able to attend our June meeting, or you did join us and enjoyed Janice Sellers' presentation and want more information on Forensic Genealogy. You might want to check out "The Forensic Genealogist" series by British author Nathan Dylan Goodwin, including "Hiding the Past" and "The Lost Ancestor".

**Hiding the Past:** Peter Coldrick had no past; that was the conclusion drawn by years of personal and professional research. Then he employed the services of one Morton Farrier, Forensic Genealogist – a man who uses whatever means necessary to uncover the past. Morton faces his toughest and most dangerous assignment yet, however, others are also interested in the Coldrick family, people who will stop at nothing, including murder, to hide the past. As Morton begins to unearth his client's mysterious past, he is forced to confront his own family's dark history.

**The Lost Ancestor:** Morton is called upon by Ray Mercer to investigate the 1911 disappearance of his great aunt, a housemaid working in a large Edwardian country house. Morton must use his not inconsiderable genealogical skills to solve the mystery of Mary Mercer's disappearance.

You can find them at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) or [the author's website](http://theauthor'swebsite.com).



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## Quick-Tip of the Month for Preservation--Portable Scanners

by John D. Beatty, *Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library*, June 30, 2015

Have you ever been somewhere and needed a tool to make a quick scan of a photograph or document? Maybe you are at a family reunion or visiting the home of a relative, and someone has pulled out a family photograph that you have never seen. You would like to copy it, but your cell phone camera isn't quite good enough, and of course you don't have your large, flatbed scanner with you, the one you keep at home by the computer. A very handy device in such situations is a portable scanner. One example is a FlipPal. It can scan photographs or documents, and it is small in size, fitting easily in a briefcase or purse. It will even knit together a larger-sized photograph or document, if you take care to make overlapping scans. This preservation tool is highly recommended for any genealogist one the go. <http://flip-pal.com/>

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## Free Download: Find Ancestors in the Census

*Family Tree Magazine, genealogyinsider online e-newsletter, June 11, 2015*

Do you have ancestors missing from the census, or want to get more out of the census records you've already gathered? Download your copy of [Find Your Ancestors in US Census Records](#) for tricks, hints and hacks to unlock new federal and state census discoveries. This free e-book contains five helpful guides for leveraging the US census in your genealogy.

# For Your Information

## California Genealogical Society & Library 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland

CGS has an outstanding line-up of classes to offer over the next two months.

Gena Philibert-Ortega will be teaching "Her Name Wasn't Unknown: Researching Your Female Ancestor's Life" on July 18. Follow the link to get details about Gena's noteworthy career. In short, Gena is a nationally recognized and widely published expert on the topic of researching female ancestors. Her current research interests include women's social history and researching women's lives using material artifacts.

Also Susan Goss Johnston is back with her excellent series "Advancing Your Skills". The first of five classes starts on July 30th. Susan is a frequent speaker in the Bay Area and has been involved in teaching and researching for more than thirty years.



- Thursday, July 16 [Writing Non-Fiction: An Informal Discussion](#)  
Marvin Shepard, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **FREE**  
For more on our speaker - see the [CGS Blog](#).
- Saturday, July 18 [Her Name Wasn't Unknown: Researching Your Female Ancestor's Life](#)  
Gena Philibert-Ortega, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
For more on our speaker - see the [CGS Blog](#).
- Thursday, July 23 [Japanese American Discussion Group](#)  
Linda Harms Okazaki, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **FREE**
- Saturday, July 25 [Using Ancestry Family Tree Maker Genealogy Software](#)  
Ron Madson, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Thursdays on, July :  
Aug 6 [Advancing Your Skills: Research Methodology & the Genealogical Proof Standard](#)  
Aug 13  
Aug 20 TBA  
Aug 27 TBA  
Susan Goss-Johnston, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug 1 [Intro to Genealogy](#)  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **FREE**
- Saturday, Aug 8 [Lives of the Dead: Mountain View Cemetery \(in Oakland\) Walking Tour](#)  
Michael Colbruno, author and Mountain View Cemetery Docent, will lead a tour of the cemetery discussing some of his favorite topics including gypsy history, prominent women and famous headline makers. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **FREE**
- Saturday, Aug 29 [Finding Your Japanese Roots in the U.S. and Japan](#)  
Linda Harms Okazaki, 12:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For additional events check out the [San Francisco Bay Genealogy Calendar](#).

Also [visit our Eventbrite profile page](#) to see the latest class additions and descriptions.

The library volunteers have sold numerous books on eBay which were either duplicates or readily available in digital format. If you are interested in clearing out your own collection of genealogical materials, considering donating them to CGS for our eBay sales. Other great reads:

- [Photographing and Scanning Old Photos and Documents](#)
- [Storing and Archiving Digital Photos](#)
- [Reading hard-to-read gravestones](#)
- [African American family records from era of slavery to be available free online](#)
- [My Grandfather's Driver's License](#)

# MDGS Calendar

**Friday, July 17, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Creekside Clubhouse, Rossmoor**

**Speaker: Francine Lloyd**

**Program: "DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Resources"**

**2015 MDGS Schedule**

**August** No Meeting

**Sep 18:** To Be Announced

**Oct 16:** Susan Goss Johnston, topic to be announced

**Nov 20:** Lisa Gorrell, "City Directories"

**Lunch with our Speaker**

Each month (except August and December), members and guests are invited to attend lunch with that month's speaker, held at 11:30 a.m. at the Rossmoor Diner, located at 1908 Tice Valley Blvd., in the Rossmoor Shopping Center. Lunch reservations need to be made by the Thursday before the meeting. Contact Susan Rush at 925-674-0929 or e-mail her at [gen4you@astound.net](mailto:gen4you@astound.net).



**MDGS**  
**1001 Golden Rain Road**  
**Walnut Creek, CA 94595**