

Serving family history of the Livermore, Pleasanton and southeastern portion of Alameda County, in the beautiful San Francisco Bay Area of California



Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society P.O. Box 901, Livermore, California 94551

Web: <http://www.L-AGS.org>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Livermore.Amador.Genealogical.Society/>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1142643925760388/>

May 2025

While we work to find a new editor, this bulletin will feature articles on the last page.

Member News



Tom Mathews, L-AGS Program Chair, presented "My Heart's in the Highlands: A Week at Aigas Field Centre Scotland" on April 10, 2025. The meeting was well-attended and everyone loved to hear about Tom and his wife's trip to Scotland.

General Meeting: Navigating Find a Grave and Creating Virtual Cemeteries With: Karen DaLuca

Date: Monday, May 12, 2025 7:00 p.m. (Zoom chat starts at 6:30 p.m.)

Location: Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton, CA and via Zoom- Preregister via ZOOM below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsduiorjgsG9HuhQRKgpaR5Nh3fb9Y91tW>

Chair: Program Chair, <mailto:program@L-AGS.org>

Cost: No Charge - Visitors welcome

Details: Please see page 2

Other Special Interest Groups and Meetings

NEW!---~~Fourth~~ Fifth Friday Finds

Topic: *Genealogy Friends and Finds*

Join virtually to delve into family history stories, finds, and resources.

Date: Friday, May 30, 2025
at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual via Zoom. Register here:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/YjDAbRzeRaapUzEH3ud2uA>

Chair: Debbie Mascot,
<mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>



Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2025
at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Contact Chair for the Link

Chair: President, <mailto:President@L-AGS.org>

The Master Genealogist Software

Topic: Database Management

Date: Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 24, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Contact Chair for the link

Chair: Duncan Tanner
<mailto:tvtnmg.chair@L-AGS.org>

General Meeting: Navigating Find a Grave and Creating Virtual Cemeteries With: Karen DaLuca

This presentation explores the powerful tools and techniques available on FindaGrave, an online platform dedicated to preserving the memory of loved ones through virtual memorials. Attendees will learn how to effectively navigate FindaGrave, search for ancestors, and contribute to the preservation of family heritage by creating memorials or requesting additions to existing memorials. Learn to create virtual cemeteries for your own family by linking to existing memorials even if they are interred in many different cemeteries. These can be made public or kept private. Use this website to help safeguard your family legacies for future generations.

Karen LaDuca received a BS in Math and Elementary Education with a minor in French from NY State College at Oswego and MS. Ed at Buffalo State College. She taught school in the city of Buffalo and in the Rochester NY area. Her interest in genealogy began in the early 1980's when her paternal grandmother's sister shared all of her genealogy research. She was hooked, took her first genealogy classes right away, and began researching her mother's ancestors while still living in the area where they had settled. She and her husband and children relocated to Pleasanton CA in 1993.

Karen joined the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society in 2019 after doing a presentation on Italian genealogy for the group. She served as Recording Secretary November 2021- June 2024 and is currently 1st Vice President. She also is a member of the Program Committee and is the leader of the German and Italian SIGs. Karen has been volunteering weekly at the Family Search Center in Livermore for almost 10 years.

For additional information contact: Tom Mathews, Program Chairperson, email: program@L-AGS.org



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<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYscOyrrD4pGdI88N7xDMAS1gextKvMASJ6>

Chair: Program Chair,
<mailto:program@L-AGS.org>

Cost: No Charge - Visitors

Topics of Future General Meetings

<i>Month</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
June 2025	Tips, Techniques, and Surprises Using the FamilySearch Website	Jamie Lee McManus Mayhew
July 2025	Look Locally: Finding the Women in Our History	Candice Buchanan
August 2025	Travel Your Tree: Where Ancestry Meets Adventure	Lisa M. Vogele
September 2025	Germans to America's Midwest, 1848-1900	Scott Norrick
October 2025	Fishing in Every Pond: Cousin Baiting	Christine Cohen
November 2025	Finding Ancestors' Occupations and Business Records, Part 1	Madeline Yanov
December 2025	Finding Ancestors' Occupations and Business Records, Part 2	Madeline Yanov

Share Your Genealogy

I was recently contacted by a second cousin because she read one of my stories in the Roots Tracer. I had posted a photo of my great grandfather and me in a rocking chair. SHE HAS THAT ROCKING CHAIR!. Although we do not have an editor for the Roots Tracer (VOLUNTEER NEEDED!), we are still publishing stories that will be archived on our website for all to find when doing Google searching. Please feel free to send your stories to me: Debbie.Mascot@gmail.com. And check out stories in the last page(s) of these ebuletins!

Board Meeting Summary- April 22, 2025

Tom Mathews will be offering training for volunteers for Heritage Happenings in July. Volunteers are needed to continue this valuable service! Watch for emails with specifics and please participate if available.

The May General Meeting, May 12, on Navigating FindaGrave and Creating Virtual Cemeteries will be via Zoom only. Register to attend (link is on the flyer).

With a pause on publishing the Roots Tracer, articles by members can be published in the L-AGS Bulletin. Send articles to Deborah Mascot, debbie.mascot@gmail.com.

Research Locations

Livermore California FamilySearch Center

Location: 950 Mocho Street, Livermore, California

Phone: (925) 443-2750

Web: <https://locations.familysearch.org/en/us/ca/livermore/950-mocho-st?qp=Livermore%2C+California%2C+United+States&lat=37.68202&lng=-121.76837&r=50>

Special Notes: The entrance is in the front of the building on the right—there is a sign on the door. If the parking in front of the building is full, there is a large parking lot in the rear of the building.

Pleasanton Genealogy Center

Location: 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, California

Email: docents.chair@L-AGS.org for appointment with docent

Special Notes: The Pleasanton Genealogy Center, jointly supported by L-AGS, the Friends of the Pleasanton Library, and the Pleasanton Public Library, contains the largest collection of genealogy books, CDs and online databases in the Tri-Valley. Access to Ancestry.com (Library-edition) and Heritage Quest (also available at home with your library card)

L-AGS Leadership

Role	Name, Email
President.....	Julie Liu, president@L-AGS.org
First VP and Program Chair.....	Tom Mathews, program@L-AGS.org
Second VP & Membership Chair.	Denise Barr, membership@L-AGS.org
Corresponding Secretary.....	Penny Couser
Recording Secretary.....	Susan Davis
Business Manager.....	Felicia Ziomek, business.manager@L-AGS.org

L-AGS Membership

Thank you to our Members, Benefactors and Patrons for the continued support of L-AGS.

Patrons (*Contribute \$100 above and beyond the Household Membership Level*)

Alleda (Sandy) Clark
Susan & Greg Davis
Dick & Wanda Finn
Dick & Jean Lerche
Tom & Natasha Matthews
Duncan Tanner

Benefactors (*Contribute \$40 above and beyond the Household Membership Level*)

Kristina Ahuja
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Vicki Cuncliffe
Patrick M. Lofft
Cindy McKenna
Ilene J. Peterson
Peggy Weber
Felicia Ziomek

L-AGS Members 65 active memberships

Mother's Day

Shared by Kate Penney Howard to include in genealogy bulletins and newsletters.

Mother's Day: Sunday, May 11, 2025 (US & Canada)

By Kate Penney Howard - www.katepenneyhoward.com

Ann Reeves Jarvis was an Appalachian homemaker and Sunday School teacher. She was an activist, and her concern about the high infant mortality rate led her to organize "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach parenting skills to mothers. She also organized "Mothers' Friendship Day" to promote reconciliation between Union and Confederate families after the Civil War.

When her mother died in 1905, Ann sought to honor all mothers for their sacrifice and service. The first official Mother's Day celebration took place through a service of worship at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, on May 10, 1908. The observation quickly gained attention: in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day, and Canada followed suit in 1915.

Mother's Day can also trace some of its inspiration to poet and activist Julia Ward Howe, who wrote "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Around 1870, Howe called for a "Mother's Day for Peace" dedicated to celebrating peace and eradicating war. Her vision emphasized mothers' unique position to understand the tragic costs of conflict.

Anna Jarvis initially conceived of Mother's Day as a simple observation between mothers and families, but shopkeepers began filling their storefronts with cards, candies, flowers, and other gifts for Mother's Day. By 1920, Jarvis had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards, and candies. She even launched lawsuits against businesses using "Mother's Day" in their advertising, spending much of her fortune on legal battles and lobbying efforts.

More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than on any other day of the year. Modern celebrations increasingly recognize diverse forms of motherhood, honoring all women who take on nurturing roles.

Mother's Day can be a difficult day for those of us who are grieving the death of a mother or grandmother. No family is perfect, and no mother is perfect; Mother's Day can be complicated for those whose families struggled with dysfunction. For those of us who are mothers, it can be difficult if a child has died or is separated by distance or disagreement.

I find it healing to take the afternoon to plant my garden and write a reflection about my mother, my grandmothers, my great-grandmothers, and my great-great-grandmother.