

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/>

November 2025

*While we work to find a new editor, this bulletin will feature articles on the last page.
This month, we learn about four ways to celebrate Thanksgiving.*

General Meeting: What Did Daddy (and Mommy) Do? Locating Family Members in Old Business Records – Part I With: Madeline Yanov

Date: Monday, November 10, 2025 7:00 p.m. (Zoom chat starts at 6:30 p.m.)

Location: 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

Fourth Friday Finds

Topic: *Genealogy Friends and Finds*

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

Date: On hiatus until January 2026

Location: Virtual via Zoom.

Chair: Debbie Mascot,

<mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>



Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 5, 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, November 7 and Saturday,
November 22, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Contact Chair for the link

Chair: TBD

<mailto:tvmtg.chair@L-AGS.org>

General Meeting: What Did Daddy (and Mommy) Do? Locating Family Members in Old Business Records – Part I

With: Madeline Yanov

Our ancestors spent much of their lives at work, and many records reflect their occupations. Whether they were factory workers, farmers, miners, or business owners, a variety of sources—such as business records, licenses, censuses, directories, and newspaper advertisements—can provide insight into their professional lives. This presentation introduces the types of occupational records that exist and where to find them. You'll learn how to uncover these sources and use them to add depth and detail to your ancestors' stories. This is a great session for discovering general occupational records across a range of industries.



Madeline Yanov, the proprietor of Time Travel Genealogy, brings over 35 years of extensive genealogy experience, specializing primarily in American research. Given that many Americans are descendants of immigrants, she possesses a deep understanding of European genealogy, particularly focusing on Irish, British, Slovak, and Russian ancestry, with a little German on the side. She has been instrumental in locating and facilitating reunions between adoptees and their birth parents.

Beyond her professional pursuits, Madeline is passionate about travel, relishing opportunities to meet people, hear their family stories, and share her profound love for history and genealogy with anyone eager to learn.

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

Date: Monday, November 10, 2025 7:00 p.m. (Zoom starts at 6:30 p.m)
Location: via Zoom- Preregister via ZOOM below:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/9tW6h3fb9Y91tW>
Chair: Program Chair, <mailto:program@L-AGS.org>
Cost: No Charge - Visitors welcome

Topics of Future General Meetings

<i>Month</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
December 2025	Finding Ancestors' Occupations and Business Records, Part 2	Madeline Yanov
January 2026	Travel Your Tree: Where Ancestry Meets Adventure	Lisa M. Vogeles
February 2026	Online Resources for Researching British Ancestry	Scott Norrick

Board Meeting Summary- October 15, 2025- Special Session

This in-between meeting was called to discuss L-AGS' President duties, while Julie is recovering. Tom Mathews will be presiding over meetings as First Vice President until next elections occur. Change to board meeting calendar has also been made. Calendar usually notes that we skip October and move the November meeting to the first Tuesday of the month. As this is election day, our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 5. Sue Davis will be taking over the publicity role for now. We are beginning an "Ask a Librarian" activity with the Livermore Civic Center Library and we will provide family history research the first Wednesday of each month beginning in January. Articles by members can be published in the L-AGS Bulletin since publication of the Roots Tracer is on hold. 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

President.....
First VP and Program Chair.....
Second VP & Membership Chair.
Corresponding Secretary.....
Recording Secretary.....
Business Manager.....

Name, Email

Julie Liu, president@L-AGS.org
Tom Mathews, program@L-AGS.org
Denise Barr, membership@L-AGS.org
Penny Couser
Susan Davis
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

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

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Felicia Ziomek

L-AGS Members 71 active memberships

4 Ways to Celebrate Family History this Thanksgiving

By Beth Steury

<https://bethsteury.com>

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The things we love most about Thanksgiving— the family gathered from far and near, the dining table overflowing with favorite foods, and the cherished, passed-down traditions—create a lovely backdrop for a day spent reveling in family history. For the genealogy enthusiast, Thanksgiving is the perfect time to indulge the love of all things family history. For those who don't regularly immerse themselves in sprawling family trees, the Thanksgiving holiday has a way of fanning even the tiniest spark-like interest in family connections into a glowing ember. That's why it's the ideal time to nudge conversations toward family connections. To crack open the chest where generations of family stories and photos and connections have been carefully stored. Here's some ideas for turning any Thanksgiving gathering into a fun, educational, and engaging event that will beckon young, old, and those in between to show off their family-history prowess while creating an atmosphere suited to soaking up a wealth of deeds, details, and dates about their ancestors.

Paper and pen puzzles

- Create generational word searches, one with the names of the aunts and uncles, one comprised of the grandchildren or the first cousins, another with the great-grandchildren or the second cousins. Many online sites make creating these puzzles a snap.
- Put together a family trivia crossword puzzle—a simple one for the kids, a more ambitious version for those willing to take up the challenge. Again, lots of online assistance is available.
- Because a picture is worth a thousand words, create a "Name that Cousin" or "Name that Couple" display using high school graduation photos or wedding photos and invite folks to take a walk down memory lane.

Memories plucked from the Family Recipe Box

What's the story behind the special dishes that have made an appearance on the family Thanksgiving menu for years? Who first made the cornbread stuffing, the cranberry relish, or the special dinner rolls that have earned a favored spot on the dinner table? Share copies of these treasured recipes. Bonus points for copies of recipes penned in a beloved ancestor's handwriting.

Voices from the pages of time

As folks linger over a second piece of pie, bring the eldest family member front and center for a casual conversation interview. Encourage the audience to listen carefully as there will be a quiz with prizes for the high scorers. Include coaxing questions like:

- What was your favorite holiday as a child and why?
- Please share your earliest Thanksgiving memory.
- Did you have a favorite pet while growing up?
- Tell us about the chores that were your responsibility as a young lad or lassie.
- Do you remember a time when you and your siblings got into mischief?

Enlist a cousin or two to take notes to create the quiz. Maybe a simple quiz for the youngin's and a tougher test for adults?

Mischief loves company

There's bound to be folks brave enough to fess up to the antics and shenanigans the ornery cousins managed to keep from their parents or grandparents these many decades. Wrangle a volunteer or two to retell a rambunctious adventure. Enlist others to jot down a real-life escapade and, on the sly, drop it in the "mischief" bucket. Read the noted adventures one at a time and guess to whom the incident belongs.

It's never too early to spark an interest in family history among the youngest family members. And, it's never too late to learn more about the generations that came before us. I'll argue that every day is the right time to engage in conversations about family history. But there's something extra special about spending Thanksgiving reveling in genealogy.