

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/>

March 2026

Future General Meetings

Last month we reported that beginning in May our General Meetings would be entirely virtual. Due to technical difficulties with hosting hybrid meetings, this will commence now. All General Meetings will be virtual.

General Meeting: Finding Your Canadian Ancestors

With: Kathryn Lake Hogan, U.E., PLCGS

Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 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/t_POa5aQ2-hl2p5z2r1dQ

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~~ **Second** Friday Finds

Topic: Canadian Genealogy

Due to scheduling conflicts, Fourth Friday Finds will be on the second Friday this month. Join virtually to delve into your Canadian ancestor's stories, finds, and resources.

Date: Friday, March 13, 2026

Location: Virtual via Zoom. Email Chair for Zoom invite.

Chair: Debbie Mascot,

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

Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026
at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Contact Chair for the Link

Chair: Program Chair,

<mailto:program@L-AGS.org>



General Meeting: Finding Your Canadian Ancestors With: Kathryn Lake Hogan, U.E., PLCGS

Even if you think they were never in Canada, discover why your American or immigrant ancestors may have been there. Whether they passed through or settled down, they left behind clues. Dive into Canadian records and piece together the missing details of your family's story.

Kathryn Lake Hogan: Hailing from Southwestern Ontario, Kathryn's lineage includes a mixture of Canadian, Loyalist and New England branches and roots connecting her to England and Wales. But her passion doesn't stop at her own genealogy; Kathryn's mission is to help others discover their Canadian ancestral connections.

Kathryn's dynamic presentations, ranging from society meetings to genealogical research institutes in Canada and the United States, have earned her a reputation as one of the leading voices in Canadian genealogy. Whether you've attended one of her sessions or tuned into her "Genealogy with a Canadian Twist" webinars, you've likely felt the excitement of Kathryn's dedication.

Kathryn's commitment goes beyond her business. She believes in nurturing and growing the genealogy community. Having served in leadership roles for notable organizations such as Ontario Ancestors, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada, she continues to champion greater accessibility, inclusivity, and diversity in family history.

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



Date: Monday, March 9, 2026, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom starts at 6:30 p.m.)
Location: via Zoom- Preregister via ZOOM below:
[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsduiorjgsG9HuhQRKgpR5Nh3fb9Y91tW](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsduiorjgsG9HuhQRKgpR5Nh3fb9Y91tW)
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>
April 2026	Genetic Genealogy Case Studies	Dawn Kosmakos
May 2026	Missing: Reward! Locating Widows, Spinsters, and Bachelors	Sara Cochran

Board Meeting Summary- February 24, 2025

- L-AGS has changed to virtual meetings only (NO in-person meetings) beginning in March.
- There has been some difficulty in uploading corrected flyers to the website, but the link to register for the Zoom meeting is still correct.
- Felicia Ziomek, Business Manager, reported that L-AGS has passed the 2025 financial audit.
- Current Board Members elected at the January meeting are as follows:
 - President: Tom Mathews
 - Program Chair: Tom Mathews
 - Membership Chair & First Vice President: Denise Barr
 - Corresponding Secretary: Pennie Clouser
 - Recording Secretary: Sue Davis
 - Board members at large: Deborah Mascot, Julie Liu, Nancy Rodrigue

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 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)*

Matthew Berry
Annette Breingan
Pennie Clouser
Sue and Greg Davis
Richard and Wanda Finn
Richard and Jene Lerch
Julie Lui
Thomas and Natasha Mathews
Peggy Webber

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

Denise Barr
Linda Driver and Walt Crawford
Linda Hoffman
Catherine Johnson
Ileen J. Peterson
Nancy Rodrigue
Felica M. Ziomek

L-AGS Members 50 active memberships

An Astounding 30th Birthday

By Felicia Ziomek

On my 30th birthday, I learned I had five half-brothers that I didn't know existed. Here's the research story: In 1987 I began tracing my family history to find medical information about my father's branch of my family tree. My husband and I were ready to start a family and wanted to learn about any medical conditions that run in my family. I had never met my biological father; all I knew was his name, and his month and day of birth (but no year). I contacted Congressman Pete Stark's office, gave him this information, and asked if they could help me. They replied, indicating they found Social Security records reported that he died on May 22, 1985, in Chicago, Illinois.

I requested a copy of his death certificate. When it arrived, it listed his son as the informant and included his address. If this person was his biological son, then he would be my half-brother. This came as a shock to me, as I had no knowledge of any siblings. I wrote a letter to him, indicating we appear to be related, and asked him to contact me. When he didn't reply, I sent another letter with more specifics and explained that if the man on the death certificate was his father, then he and I were half-siblings.

On my 30th birthday, when I got home from work, I saw the blinking light on my answering machine, and I hit the "play" button. It was a message from the man who is my half-brother. "You got my attention," he said. He promised to send information about himself and his four other brothers. This was the day I learned I had five half-brothers!

And this was just the beginning. Out of my five half-brothers, one had already died, and three remained in the Chicago area. One of my half-brothers was a Chicago police officer in an area where I used to live. The four oldest half-brothers were born to one mother, the fifth half-brother was born to a second mother, and my own mother was the third woman