



# e-Bulletin May 2014

## LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Web: <http://www.L-AGS.org> Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/lagsociety>



### Elected Leadership

President

.....Patrick Lofft

<mailto:president@L-AGS.org>

First VP and Program Chair

.....Patricia Northam

<mailto:program@L-AGS.org>

Second VP & Membership Chair

.....Tom Mathews

<mailto:membership@L-AGS.org>

Corresponding Secretary

.....Cheryl Palmer

Recording Secretary

.....Julie Liu

Business Manager

.....Duncan Tanner

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

### Happy Mother's Day!

This is the e-Bulletin from the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society (L-AGS), provided monthly to our members. If you would prefer not to receive this e-Bulletin or other information, please send a message to <mailto:membership@L-AGS.org> and your address will be removed from our distribution list

Please share your photos and stories of the photos. If you would like the banner to include any of your photos or if you have a story about one of the photos, please send them to Debbie at: <mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>. There are large versions of these photos located on the final page.

If you have a special genealogy or local history event or announcement you would like to see included, please submit via email to: <mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>.

## This Month's Contents

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## !!!IMPORTANT NEWS!!!

### **CHANGE OF DATE FOR FUTURE L-AGS' GENERAL MEETINGS**

Our long-time host for the L-AGS general meetings, Congregation Beth Emek, has asked us to consider changing our meeting date from the second Tuesday of each month to the second Monday of each month. As we appreciate the opportunity to use their marvelous facilities, L-AGS has agreed to this change **beginning with the May 12 meeting** of L-AGS.

# Summary of Meetings

*Visitors are welcome free of charge to each of these meetings.*

- ❖ **General Meeting:** *Writing Your Family History One Byte at a Time*  
When: Monday, May 12, 2014 – 7:30 p.m. **NOTE THAT THE MEETING IS MONDAY!**  
Guest Speaker: Susan Goss Johnston
- ❖ **The Master Genealogist Group:** *2014 Theme- Journal Prompts*  
When: Saturday, May 17, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.  
Chair: Kay Speaks
- ❖ **Writing Group**  
When: Saturday, May 10-, 2014 – 2:30 p.m.  
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Lunch 'n' Learn**  
When: On break until Fall 2014  
Chair: Debbie Mascot
- ❖ **Board Meeting**  
When: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.  
Members are welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact the Membership Chair for location- <mailto:membership@L-AGS.org>

# GENERAL MEETING

*NOTE: Members please sign in at the membership table upon arrival at the monthly general meeting. Your guests should also sign in. Before leaving the meeting site, kindly leave your nametag at the membership table.*

**TOPIC:** *Writing Your Family History One Byte at a Time*

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Susan Goss Johnston

**DATE:** Monday, May 12, 2014 – 7:30 p.m. *NOTE: Meeting is on **MONDAY!***

**LOCATION:** Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton

**Map to the Meeting Site:**

<http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg>

Writing a family narrative is a great way to highlight conflicts and holes in your research; and a fascinating narrative will bring your family to life. If writing your family's story seems a daunting task, all you need to do is write it one byte at a time.

Susan Goss Johnston is a 2011 ProGen alumna, a graduate of the Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis course at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, the National Institute on Genealogical Research, and the National Archives' lecture and lab course, *Going to the Source*. She is a co-editor of the recently published Source Templates for The Master Genealogist. Her personal research focuses on families in New England and the Mid-Atlantic region, and she specializes in military records. A former Maryland resident, she now lives in California, and continues teaching intermediate and advanced genealogy courses. She is a frequent speaker at local meetings and conferences.

For additional information contact: Pat Northam, Program Chairperson, email: <mailto:program@L-AGS.org>.

## TRI-VALLEY TMG USERS GROUP

*The Master Genealogist Software*

**Topic:** Prompt #5: PHOTOGRAPHS AS EXHIBITS – What stories do they tell? How do they speak to you? Pick a photograph and enter its information in TMG. It can be a photo of a person, object, place or time. How does it relate to your family? How does it "speak" to you? Write a narrative story of at least two paragraphs.

**Date:** Saturday, May 17, 2014, 9 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Location:** 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 110, Pleasanton, CA 94566

**Map to the meeting site:** <http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg>

**Chair:** Kay Speaks, <mailto:tvmtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>

**Instructors:** Sue Johnston and Kay Speaks

Using May's "prompt," select a photograph of any subject matter—as long as it relates to your family history in some manner. It can be a person or group photo. It can be a pet, old car, a special or unusual place, a very

special object passed down through the generations. Enter the information it contains in your TMG database, and create a journal report. Write at least two paragraphs. What source type did you use? Did you add the photo as an exhibit in your TMG database? Where will the information in the photo take you in this month's writing adventure? Some wonderfully entertaining stories were written these last few months!

Our new blog (<http://tvtmgadventures.blogspot.com/>) provides the detailed prompt, samples and ideas, and an opportunity for questions and sharing. Don't forget to check it out—even if you don't use TMG!

Please bring a copy of our TV-TMG book, *Source Templates for The Master Genealogists, A Guide for Creating Computerized Genealogical Source Citation Templates*, to all future meetings as it will be our official workshop textbook. You can purchase a copy from:

<http://www.lulu.com/us/en/shop/tri-valley-tmg-users-group/source-templates-for-the-master-genealogisttm/paperback/product-20673683.html>.

Kindly R.S.V.P. to <mailto:tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org> if you plan to attend the meeting and indicate if you will be bringing a laptop. Contact <mailto:tvtmg.editors@L-AGS.org>, if you have questions. Be sure to check our <http://tvtmgreports.blogspot.com/> before each meeting for up-to-date information regarding our meetings, including possible changes to current and future meetings, and meeting notes. From this website you will find links to our other website resources. Sign up and "follow" our blog, *Exploring Custom Reports with TV-TMG Users Group*. This is a great place to record our citation decisions, post notes and ideas from the meeting, as well as ask and answer questions.

Resources:

- Free software demo download: <http://www.whollygenes.com>
- Additional information contact: <mailto:tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org>
- User group e-mail address: <mailto:tvtmg@L-AGS.org>
- Questions about our book, <mailto:tvtmg.editors@L-AGS.org>
- TV-TMG member private blog pre-August 2011:  
<http://tvtmgug.blogspot.com>
- Purchase our TV-TMG book from lulu.com:  
<http://www.lulu.com/us/en/shop/tri-valley-tmg-users-group/source-templates-for-the-master-genealogisttm/paperback/product-20673683.html>

## WRITING GROUP

*Writing Your Personal and Family History*

**Date:** Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** Livermore Civic Center Library- RSVP for room location

**Chair:** Debbie Mascot, <mailto:writing.chair@L-AGS.org>

We will talk about our writing goals and our writing projects. To join the writing group email list, please send a note to <mailto:changes@L-AGS.org> with "Add me to the Writing list" in the subject line.

# LUNCH 'N' LEARN

*On break until Fall 2014*

**Date:** TBD

**Location:** TBD

**Chair:** Debbie Mascot, <mailto:writing.chair@L-AGS.org>

## DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Join this discussion Group to share information with others who are interested in DNA testing for Genetic Genealogy, designing DNA tests to solve genealogical questions, and learning how to understand and use your DNA results. For those members who would like to join the DNA mailing list, please send a note to <mailto:changes@L-AGS.org> with "Add me to the DNA list" in the subject line.

## SUMMARY OF LAST BOARD MEETING

*Board Meeting on April 22, 2014*

The Transcription of the Pleasanton Times from 1929-1934 is ongoing. The July meeting was incorrectly stated that it was on July 7th. It will occur on JULY 14th.

Roots Tracer will be ready for publication the week of May 12th.

The San Joaquin Genealogical Group came to our Writing Group meeting and is forming a group of their own. We will explore some joint small group meetings. The Board has approved the purchase of Family Tree magazine for the Pleasanton Public Library.

## PLEASANTON GENEALOGY CENTER

A L-AGS docent is available at the Pleasanton City Library Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or by appointment, e-mail:

<mailto:docents.chair@L-AGS.org>. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton. 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. Over 100 of the genealogy volumes may be checked out. Obtain information at the reference desk. The L-AGS genealogy reference book collection of 1,000 volumes resides in the Genealogy Section of the Pleasanton City Library. The L-AGS and the Friends of the Pleasanton Library provide access to the following subscription genealogy databases:

- Ancestry.com
- AmericanAncestors.org (formerly New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS))
- Fold3.com (previously Footnote)
- Heritage Quest (in Library & at home)

# ROOTS TRACER NEWS

Do you know that the Roots Tracer is online soon after each issue is published? You can find the current and past issues from 1978 through 2013 here: <http://www.L-AGS.org/tracer/archives.menu.html>.

The May issue of the Livermore Roots Tracer will be available in just a few weeks. Be sure and view Pat Northam's article, "Finding Genealogy Gold in Local Records." She has discovered some interesting records, right here in the San Francisco Bay Area. Susan Goss Johnston and Kay Speaks provide a fascinating array of highly unusual resources. Be sure and check them out.

Please submit all articles by July 14th for possible publication in the August issue. Please note we are accepting summer related articles and photos for the August issue. In addition to summer related articles, we welcome articles with the following subject matter:

- Updated previously published Livermore Roots Tracer articles
- Famous and Not So Famous Ancestors
- Overcoming Brick Walls
- Traveling to Find Your Roots
- Old House & Building Histories
- Family Heirlooms
- Technology Related Articles
- Book Reviews

You can easily submit your article as an email attachment to L-AGS editor at [rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org](mailto:rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org). Articles should be saved in either Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text format. Use footnotes to cite sources for facts that are not general knowledge. No need to worry about knowing how to cite history sources, our editors can assist you with this task. Photographs should also be emailed as separate files and labeled. Please include possible captions for each item. Photographs, when scanned, should be in either .jpg or .tiff format. Finally, provide a short bio (50-60 words) with an email address. Your bio will be placed at the end of your article so that members, readers, and unknown relatives can easily contact you.

By submitting an article for publication in the Livermore Roots Tracer, you agree to grant the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society one-time print publication rights, and the right to publish the article on its website in the Roots Tracer Archive. All other rights not expressly granted in this agreement are fully reserved by you. In addition, you acknowledge that you are the original author and are free to grant publication rights and that your article does not contain material that is consciously libelous or defamatory.

Please feel free to contact L-AGS editor, Teresa Fraser via [rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org](mailto:rootstracer.chair@L-AGS.org) or to discuss article ideas or to answer any questions you may have.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## OTHER LOCAL GENEALOGY GROUP MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The **MacGen group**, a group for Macintosh genealogy users, meets the second Wednesday and the fourth Saturday in Oakland, California at the Oakland FamilySearch Center. Please see <http://www.macgen.org/> for more information.

The **San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society** meets the third Tuesday of every month in Danville, California at the Danville FamilySearch Center. Please see <http://srvgensoc.org/> for more information.

You may visit our L-AGS website for a listing of other local societies:

<http://www.L-AGS.org/lagslinks.html#GenealogicalSocieties>

The San Francisco Bay Area Genealogy Calendar blog also features a number of meetings and events within 75 miles of San Francisco:

<http://sfbagenealogy.blogspot.com>

## COOPERATIVE EFFORTS

*In an effort to provide the local area with the best possible resources and capabilities in genealogy, L-AGS participates in ongoing cooperative endeavors with several organizations.*

### TRI-VALLEY HISTORY COUNCIL EVENTS

A new page on the L-AGS Web site shows some of the upcoming history-related events being staged by member organizations of the Tri-Valley History Council (TVHC).

*History-Related Events:*

[http://www.L-AGS.org/History\\_Events/HC\\_events.html](http://www.L-AGS.org/History_Events/HC_events.html)

*Tri-Valley History Council:*

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

### LIVERMORE LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

L-AGS is not affiliated with the Mormon (LDS) Church. L-AGS does however partner with the Livermore LDS Family History Center (FHC) for various non-denominational genealogical events such as educational seminars, guest speakers, indexing projects and special interest groups.

LDS facilities at their Mocho Street, Livermore complex are often used for these. Several L-AGS members, both LDS and non-LDS, volunteer as docents at the FHC. They are available to assist you in your genealogy research. The FHC has several subscription research sites not readily available elsewhere.

The Mocho Street FSC is open Mondays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday evenings 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. and Saturday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. For further information please contact the center at (925) 443-2750 during these hours.

Center location map: <http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Liv-FHC.jpg>

## HELP WANTED

**Library Docent.** Docent needed one Wednesday morning a month from 10am to 1pm. Contact the docent chair at <mailto:docents.chair@L-AGS.org>.

**Proofreaders.** Multiple projects need proofreaders. Contact Dick Finn at <mailto:rwoffin@yahoo.com>.

**Transcribers.** A few months ago L-AGS initiated a project to transcribe the genealogical information from The Pleasanton Times newspapers, 1929 through 1934. The project got off to a rapid start. A small group of volunteers are working industriously. As there are a few issues remaining which have not yet been claimed, I once again seek to recruit a dozen or so additional transcribers. My original appeal for an army of volunteers achieved a squad, but hardly an army. Contact Patrick Lofft at <mailto:pmlofft@comcast.net>.



# FUTURE L-AGS GENERAL MEETINGS AND OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE

*Note: Some meetings have special schedules and locations during summer and holiday seasons. Check the specific listings above for details or contact the meeting Leader.*

<b>Topics of Future General Meetings</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
June 9	USCIS (U.S. Customs & Immigration Service)	Kay Speaks
July 14	Cemeteries Are Not A Dead Subject	Virginia Kysh
August 11	Western Migration During the Gold Rush Era	Sally Stevens
September 8	Where There's A Will: Probate Records Can Prove Family Connections	Janice Sellers
October 13	Land and Property Records	Vera Broyles
November 10	"It Becomes My Painful Duty..." Uncovering the Stories in Letters of Condolence	Susan Goss Johnston

<b>Regular Scheduled Events</b>		
<i>Note: Some meetings have special schedules and locations during summer and holiday seasons. Check the specific listings above for details or contact the meeting Leader.</i>		
General Meeting Patricia Northam, Program Chair	Second Monday 7:30 p.m.	Congregation Beth Emek 3400 Nevada Court Pleasanton Map: <a href="http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg">http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.jpg</a>
Tri-Valley TMG Users' Group Kay Speaks, TMG Leader	Third Saturday 9 a.m. – Noon <b>(PLEASE CHECK THE SCHEDULE AS THIS FREQUENTLY CHANGES)</b>	7077 Koll Center Parkway Suite 110 Pleasanton Map: <a href="http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg">http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.jpg</a>
Writing Group Debbie Mascot	One Saturday a Month (TBD)	R.S.V.P. for address
Lunch 'n' Learn Debbie Mascot and Kay Speaks	One lunch hour every other month (TBD)	R.S.V.P. for address

## Photos from the Banner on Page 1:



***April 2014 General Meeting with Anne Homan***



***George Anderson – Happy Birthday!***



***February 2014 General Meeting with Loretta Kaskey***



***March 2014 General Meeting with Tim Cox***



***January 2014 General Meeting with Janice Sellers***