

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/>

## HELP NEEDED!

November 2024



### ROOTS TRACER EDITOR

Our illustrious Roots Tracer Editor, Patrick Lofft, is retiring from the Roots Tracer at the end of the year. We need someone to come on-board asap to begin the transition. Have you wanted to learn publication and work with a publisher? Are you wanting to assist members in telling their stories? This may be your opportunity! We need YOU!

***While we work to find a new editor, this newsletter will feature articles by L-AGS members. In this issue, please read about stealing tips from waitresses and other Stickney restaurant history.***

## L-AGS Renewal

*It's time to renew your L-AGS membership! For only \$25 per year, you support the amazing monthly speakers, the events L-AGS hosts and participates in, and all the other great things that L-AGS does for the genealogical community. Renew now:*

<https://www.l-ags.org/application.html>

## General Meeting: Bagging a Live One – Connecting with Cousins You Never Knew You Had With: Mary Kircher Roddy

**Date:** Monday, November 11, 2024 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/tZYscOyrrD4pGdI88N7xDMAS1gextKvMAsJ6>

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

**Cost:** No Charge - Visitors welcome

**Details:** Please see page 2

## Other Special Interest Groups and Meetings

### Brickwalls

**Topic:** *Let's Chat is changing! You can come to chat about genealogy, but we are especially asking you to come with a brickwall or help with a brickwall.*

**Date:** On hiatus until January

**Location:** Contact Chair for the Link

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

### Board Meeting

**Date:** **NOTE CHANGE:** Tuesday, November 5, 2024 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 8 and Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Contact Chair for the link

**Chair:** Duncan Tanner,  
<mailto:tvmtg.chair@L-AGS.org>



## General Meeting: Bagging a Live One – Connecting with Cousins

### You Never Knew You Had With: Mary Kircher Roddy

Bagging a live one is often a bigger rush than finding the dead ones. Bagging a live one who knows something about family history is gold. In this webinar Mary will show how you can find distant relatives, perhaps ones you never knew existed. Rather than trolling surname or location lists for other researchers with a common interest, you will come away with the skills to identify specific people to look for. These people may not be active researchers, but might be the ones who inherited the family bible or box of photos, or maybe they can pass on some stories Grandma told them. Collecting and organizing the bits of data & a birthdate, a location, a maiden name & will help you connect with a "new" cousin. If you are as lucky as Mary has been, some of these new cousins will soon become old friends.

Mary Kircher Roddy, CG®, grew up in San Rafael, California. She earned a bachelor's degree in liberal studies from UC Riverside and a master's in professional accounting from Texas. She earned a certificate in Genealogy and Family History at the University of Washington in 2005. She is a board-certified genealogist and trustee of the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

Mary became interested in genealogy in 2000 in anticipation of a sabbatical in Ireland where her husband was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Limerick. She was sure she would complete all her Irish genealogy while her husband taught at UL and her children attended Monaleen school. Two decades later, the genealogy is still a work in progress. But the trip to Ireland awakened something deep in her Celtic bloodlines, the Irish tradition of the Seanachí, the storytellers and historians of yore.

Mary is cofounder of the Applied Genealogy Institute ([appliedgen.institute](http://appliedgen.institute)) along with Lisa Gorrell and Jill Morelli. She is also a member of the National Genealogical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Her web site is <https://www.mkgenealogy.com/>

For additional information contact: Tom Mathews, Program Chairperson, email:



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<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/registrer/tZYscOyrrD4pGdl88N7xDMAS1gextKvMAsJ6>

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

**Cost:** No Charge - Visitors welcome

Topics of Future General Meetings		
Month	Topic	Presenter
December 9, 2024	Comparing Plats of Land with Deeds and Grants	J. Mark Lowe

## Board Meeting Summary

*November Board Meeting will be held 11/5/2025*

## Research Locations

### Livermore Family History 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](mailto: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)

### 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](mailto:president@L-AGS.org)  
Tom Mathews, [program@L-AGS.org](mailto:program@L-AGS.org)  
Denise Barr, [membership@L-AGS.org](mailto:membership@L-AGS.org)  
Penny Couser  
Susan Davis  
Duncan Tanner, [business.manager@L-AGS.org](mailto:business.manager@L-AGS.org)

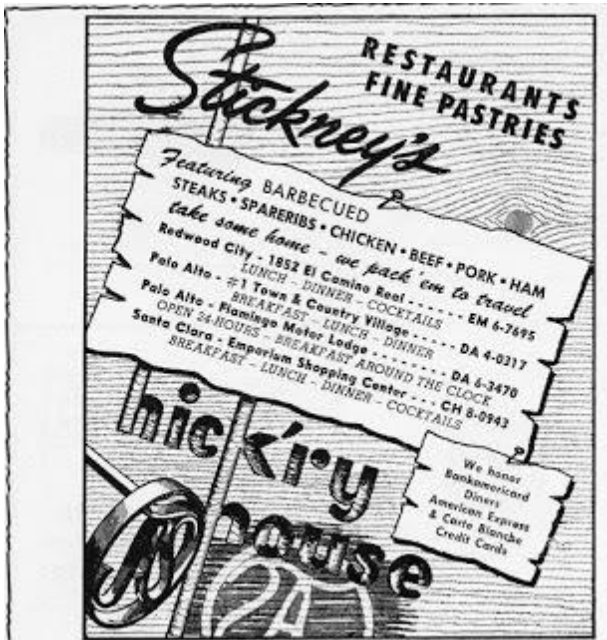
## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

**Renew your  
Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society  
membership today!**

**Visit [L-AGS Membership](#) for more information.**

## You Just Can't Steal Waitresses' Tips

By Debbie Conner Mascot



*Stickney's at Town & Country in Palo Alto.*

I remember the last time I ate there. It was after my grandfather's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration and I went driving around with my cousins and aunts and uncles and we stopped at Stickney's. I remember sliding into the faux leather booth and admiring that they were still as good as new. No worse for the wear after all these years.

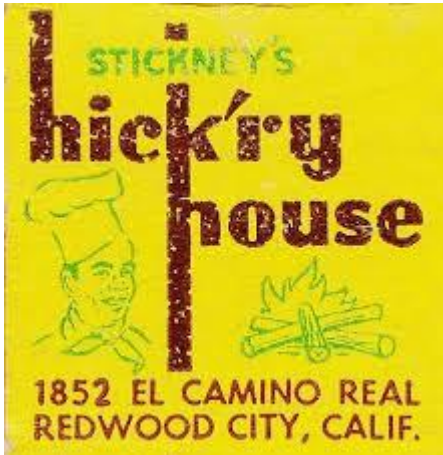
It wasn't a Lyon's or Denny's... it was different-- older and more "vintage". I barely remember the décor other than the maroon booths, but I remember the cakes and pies as you entered. And the waitresses that I think had worked there since it opened in 1953. As a child, I remember eating there as much as at any other restaurant. I don't remember any particular times but I know I always ordered a burger or the chicken soup. The burgers were delicious, large and predictable. The barbecue sauce was super smoky and tangy (more sweet than anything) and the chicken soup had thick, doughy noodles that made it more like a wet casserole than a soup. And the cakes and pies... oh dear lord the cakes and pies.



*A bakery display case at Stickney's Hick'ry House in Santa Clara.*



Sometimes a memory sneaks up on you as you write about something. I remember eating there with Diane before finding my wedding dress at Nordstrom. I sat on the burgundy bench annoyed and bemoaning the hideous sights of horrible dresses we'd been presented with all day. I didn't know at the time that after enjoying the usual delicious and gigantic burger, Norstrom would give me my future bride attire and so all my whining was for nothing. I also ate a huge slice of lemon meringue pie, without worrying about which hip it would settle into for the long haul.. ah the joys of being in your 20s.



The history of Stickney's is one that goes back to a year before the opening at Town & Country. Adrian "Red" Stickney and his wife, Kay, opened Hick'ry House on El Camino Real in Redwood City in 1952. A year later, Stickney's was the first tenant in the new Town & Country Village in Palo Alto. Soon there were six Stickney Hick'ry Houses from San Mateo to San Jose, California. The only one not on El Camino Real was in Valley Fair, San Jose.



El Camino Real, for those who are not from the Peninsula of the San Francisco Bay, was called the King's Highway. It was the only way to travel between San Francisco and San Jose back in the day. Along this highway in the years after Red opened the restaurants, his face could be seen on billboards and on the restaurant signs lining "Restaurant Row," the strip of El Camino in Southern Palo Alto, where travelers would need to "fill up." It was also just barely over a mile and a half from Stanford University, thereby allowing alcohol to be served. Here is where you'd find the old Palo Alto staples—Rickey's Studio Inn, Rick's Swiss Chalet, Dinah's Shack, Ming's, Villa Lafayette, Rudolph's, and drive-ins such as John Barnes Drive-In, the Carousel and Bonander's.

Stickney's also was known for their support of Stanford University's athletes. Chuck Taylor, Stanford coach (yes, the Chuck Taylor of shoe fame), was a close friend of Mr. Stickney. Mr. Stickney had been a great athlete, but had to quit when he had to go to work for himself. He had a big heart for athletes, often employing them so that they could work for meals and extra cash. He sponsored a number of scholarships and Little League teams, as well.

But the best thing ever about that Town & Country Stickney's was that it was where my dad had his first job. For one whole day. He was about 15 or so and he was hired as a bus boy at the recommendation by a friend, who already worked there. If I had been better prepared, I would have found the friend's name before writing this, but I'm not sure I ever wrote it down.



Dad was learning the ropes and his friend said, "Harry! Follow me!" Dad followed him to the men's room and the kid poured his apron on the sink top and a bunch of money came tumbling out. "Look! I got all their tips!" Just then, Red walked in and caught them. He fired them both on the spot.

"You just can't steal the waitresses' tips and expect them to not notice!"

Sources:

- <http://www.emeraldlake.com/portfolio/011800.html>
- [https://archives.stanforddaily.com/1982/01/15?page=8&section=MODSMD\\_ARTICLE25](https://archives.stanforddaily.com/1982/01/15?page=8&section=MODSMD_ARTICLE25)
- <http://www.paloaltohistory.org/restaurant-row.php>
- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/31411679@N08/5704979780>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/103670703313379/search/?q=Stickney>