

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/>

February 2025

While we work to find a new editor, this bulletin will feature articles by L-AGS members. Please submit your stories or you're just going to be stuck with Debbie's...



ROOTS TRACER EDITOR

Our illustrious Roots Tracer Editor, Patrick Lofft, has retired from the Roots Tracer. We need someone to come on-board asap to our RootsTracer. 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!

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: Grandma Said What? Gathering and Verifying Your Family's Oral History With: Sara Cochran

Date: Monday, February 10, 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 Friday Finds

Topic: *Genealogy Friends and Finds*
Join virtually to delve into family history stories, finds, and resources.

Date: Friday, February 28, 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>

Some notes from last month: In our Fourth Friday Finds chat last month, we made a trip out to New Jersey! We used the new FamilySearch feature for full-text searching. We pulled some patent records and then had ChatGPT summarize them for us. We looked at a historical society and we were able to browse through Ancestry for some will and probate indexes from the 1700s and 1800s. Not sure we knocked down any brick walls, but we had fun trying! Join us in February--- What will we explore next!?

Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 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, February 7 and Saturday, February 22, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Contact Chair for the link
Chair: Duncan Tanner
<mailto:tvtnmg.chair@L-AGS.org>



General Meeting: Grandma Said What? Gathering and Verifying Your Family's Oral History With: Sara Cochran

We will define what oral history is and talk about strategies to interview your family; then, go through the process of verifying a family story.

Sara Cochran is a full-time professional genealogist with thirty years of research experience. Her research has taken her to nearly every state in the USA and Ireland. She especially enjoys breaking down brick walls, discovering the stories of black sheep ancestors, and helping individuals preserve their photographic legacy.

Sara holds a Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate, a bachelor's degree in library science, and is an alumna of the ProGen Study Group. She is a member of DAR and other lineage societies, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Genealogical Speakers Guild.

You can find her online at TheSkeletonWhisperer.com.

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



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7:00 p.m. (Zoom 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/tZYscOyrrD4pGdl88N7xDMAS1gextKvMASJ6>

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>
March 2025	Forget me not: The Story of a Milwaukee Pioneer	Jean Wilcox Hibben – PhD, MA
April 2025	Squeezing All the Facts out of Your DNA Matches	Kate Penney Howard
May 2025	Preserving Family Heritage: Navigating Find-A-Grave and Creating Virtual Cemeteries	Karen LaDuca

Board Meeting Summary- January 28, 2025

The benefactors of L-AGS will now be featured in each eBulletin. Please see the next page for more information.

The financial audit has been completed and approved. A draft of the 2025 budget was presented to the Board and, after approval, will be presented to the membership in March.

With a pause on publishing the Roots Tracer, articles by members can be published in the L-AGS Bulletin. Send articles to Debbie Mascot, <mailto:bulletin.manager@L-AGS.org>

The Zoom discussion group, Let's Chat, has been changed to Fourth Friday Finds, chaired by Debbie Mascot. The link will be sent to the membership.

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
Denise Barr
Kenneth Bredlau
Annette Breingan
Penelope Clouser
Linda & Walt Crawford
Vicki Cunniffe
Patrick M. Lofft
Cindy McKenna
Ilene J. Peterson
Peggy Weber
Felicia Ziomek

L-AGS Members 65 active memberships

Member Stories

These Are a Few of My Favorite Things

By Marilyn Luella Conner (Debbie Conner Mascot's mother)

(preamble by Debbie Conner Mascot)

When I was nine, turning ten, we lived in a "town" in Northern California called Platina. It was a beautiful ranch without electricity or hot running water and the best place to be a kid. I always thought that, as much fun as it was for my little brother and me, it must have been so hard for my mom. She had to drive to town (90 minutes away) to do laundry and shop. She had to heat water for baths, fill kerosene lamps, build fires, and so on. A while back, Mom sent me the below that she'd written for a family friend (Walt, of the Sourdough Walter, if you have been following along!) and made me realize she loved it there as much as I did.

Favorite things by Marilyn Luella Conner

Sitting on the front porch in Platina watching the kids play with their Hot Wheels in the dirt.

Sitting on the back porch watching the deer in the meadow.

Listening to the coyotes as we head off to bed.

The kids naming each chicken.

Going to the city every 2 weeks to do laundry and grocery shopping and stopping at the library and then to enjoy an ice cream cone.

Heating water on the stove for baths. Taking a bath just once a week.

Picking raspberries in the wild.

Cousins pretending to be ice skating on the frozen pond.

Cutting down an ugly Christmas tree from the woods.

Keeping perishables in a garbage can buried in the snow.

Watching the flowers pop up in Spring after seeing black and white all winter.

Naming the outhouse mouse "Milton".

Exchanging Milton from Duff's mouth for a Vienna Sausage.

THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS!