

# WINEPRESS

NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
and LIBRARY

NVGS Library 707-252-2252  
1701 Menlo Avenue, Napa, CA 94558-4725

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Research requests. [info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

Email: [info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

Web: [www.napagensoc.org](http://www.napagensoc.org)

Volume 51

No. 6

Nov. Dec. 2023

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President: Sandra Hoover  
[president@napagensoc.org](mailto:president@napagensoc.org)

V. Presidents:  
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[vicepresident@napagensoc.org](mailto:vicepresident@napagensoc.org)

Secretary: Linda Jesmok  
[secretary@napagensoc.org](mailto:secretary@napagensoc.org)

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[treasurer@napagensoc.org](mailto:treasurer@napagensoc.org)

## Directors:

Computers and Web:  
Ruth Jenkins-McIntire  
[webmaster@napagensoc.org](mailto:webmaster@napagensoc.org)

Librarian: Sandra Hoover  
[info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

Membership:  
Jeanine Layland  
[info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

Publications: Sue Ziemski  
[publications@napagensoc.org](mailto:publications@napagensoc.org)

## Committees:

Programs: Chris McKenzie &  
Sue Ziemski  
[programs@napagensoc.org](mailto:programs@napagensoc.org)

Publicity: Sally Perkins  
[publicity@napagensoc.org](mailto:publicity@napagensoc.org)

Research: Mary Herzog &  
Chris Burditt  
[info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

Staff: Sally Perkins  
[info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

Wine Press Newsletter:  
Sandra Hoover & Chris McKenzie  
[info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org)

## Mission Statement

*The Napa Valley Genealogical Society is dedicated to the promotion of genealogical, historical, and biographical research, and the preservation of family history. The society serves as a medium to share knowledge through workshops and educational programs.*

**Napa Valley Genealogy Society presents...**

**Nov. 16, 2023 1:00 pm**

**“What You Can Learn From Lineage Societies  
Without Being A Member”**

**By Elizabeth O’Neal**

**On Zoom from Home or In-person at the NVGS Library**

## What’s inside this issue:

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**Napa Valley Genealogy  
Society presents...**

**Dec. 6, 2023  
12 noon - 2:00 pm**

**Holiday Reception  
at the  
NVGS Library**

**1701 Menlo Ave.  
Napa, CA**

## NAPA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY CALENDAR of EVENTS

### November 2023

Nov.6, (1st Mon) **Round Table Discussion Group: “Recipes from Family”**  
11:00am Zoom meeting

Nov. (Every Wed)\* **Library Committee Work Party**, 10am to 1pm

Nov. (2nd & 4th Tue) **Family History Writing Group**, Noon, at the NVGS Library.

Nov. 10, (2nd Fri) **Board Meeting**, 10:30am, at the NVGS Library.

Nov.16, (3rd Thurs.) **Program: “What You Can Learn From Lineage Societies Without Being A Member” presented by Elizabeth O’Neal.**

Zoom Meeting or In-person at the NVGS Library, 1pm

### December 2023

Dec. 4, (1st Mon) **Round Table Discussion Group: “Holiday Celebrations”**, 11:00am Zoom

Dec. (Every Wed)\* **Library Committee Work Party**, 10am to 1pm

Dec. (2nd Tue)\* **Family History Writing Group**, Noon, at NVGS Library.

Dec. 6, (In lieu of a Program) **Holiday Reception at the NVGS Library**, Noon - 2:00pm

Dec. 8, (2nd Fri) **Board Meeting**, 10:30 am, at the NVGS Library.

*\*Please note the NVGS Library will be closed for the holidays on the following dates:*

*Nov. 17, 2023 through Nov. 26, 2023*

*Dec. 15, 2023 through Jan. 8, 2024*

**WinePress deadline**, Articles to Editor Sandra Hoover, due 26th of each month

E-mail articles to: [info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org) In subject line state: Newsletter item.

**Correction:** The link to the article in our last issue, “**Black Sheep:10 Things to Know**”, did not work. Please use the link below to read the article:

<https://www.ancestrycdn.com/aainstcommons/2027/researchAids/black-sheep-10-things-to-know.pdf>

We apologize for the error.

## Upcoming Events



Napa Valley Genealogical Society Presents:  
**What You Can Learn from Lineage Societies...  
without Becoming a Member!**

Zoom Talk by Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal

**November 16, 2023 - 1:00 pm**

(Brief business meeting precedes presentation)

Lineage societies have collected and preserved family histories for more than 125 years. Some of these resources can be accessed online for free! From DAR databases and documents to lists of pioneers and soldiers, this presentation will show you the gems that are available online and how to find them.



View at home or attend in-person at the NVGS Library, 1701 Menlo Ave., Napa. Library attendees do not need to register and will enjoy a big screen, popcorn, and camaraderie.

**Guest Zoom Registration:** Click "What You Can Learn..." on the home page of [napagensoc.org](http://napagensoc.org) to receive the link. Last day to register - Nov. 14.

**NVGS Members** will receive a Zoom link and do not need to register.

Elizabeth Swanay O'Neal is a professional genealogist, writer, educator, and national speaker. She specializes in methodology, technology, and online research. Her website *Heart of the Family* ([www.thefamilyheart.com](http://www.thefamilyheart.com)) helps others make the past part of their present.

### A Reminder

Did you miss our speaker last month? If so, you may view the recording now on our website. Log in to the Member portal at [napagensoc.org](http://napagensoc.org), then click on *Program Videos & Handouts*.

## Upcoming Events (cont'd.)

### Holiday Reception at the NVGS Library

Wednesday, December 6, 2023



#### CELEBRATION OF FAMILY, FOOD, & LIGHT

1701 Menlo Ave, Napa, CA

12 noon to 2 pm

- In honor of our diverse family traditions, we invite you to bring a special holiday food or treat to share.
- Food is optional - holiday cheer and good wishes essential!
- Prepare to see our library in a *new light* - illuminated by candles and readied for the New Year as the revitalized hub of our Society.
- A door prize awaits some lucky guest.
- Monetary donations of any amount will be accepted for the NVGS holiday gift to *Cope Family Resource Center*, a non-profit based in Napa with the mission to "provide parents with the education, resources, and support they need to raise children who thrive."

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Our annual member meeting with officer elections will be held Thursday, January 18, 2024.

Keep an eye out for future emails with further details including ballots and proxy forms.

## Ongoing Event

### *City of Immigrants: An American Story*

**An Exhibit Showing at the Napa County Historical Society**

**October 13, 2023 through March 30, 2024**

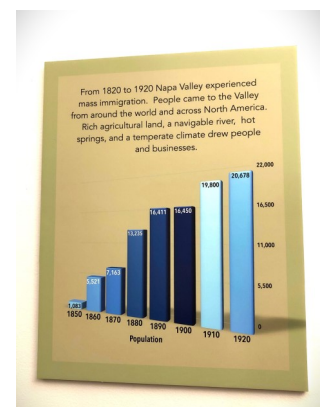
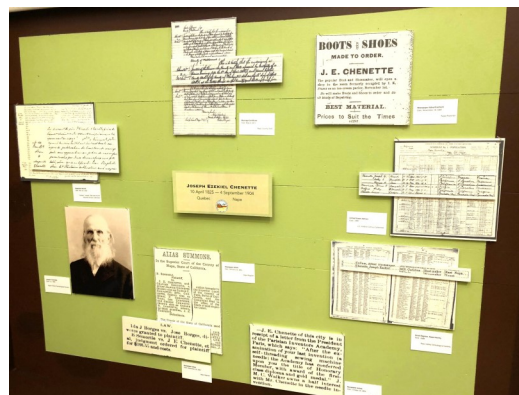
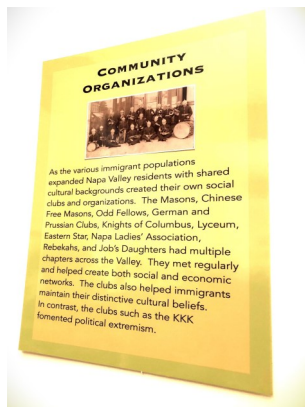
The Napa Historical Society's new exhibit "City of Immigrants: An American Story" explores the many waves of immigration into the Napa Valley during the 100 years from 1820 to 1920. These waves of immigration created a rich tapestry of ethnicities and cultural blending.

The period is examined thematically through cuisine, community organizations, religious celebrations, leisure activities, place names, and skills and technology. These topics are illustrated by photos, news articles, statistical charts, and objects on display that relate to the themes. A timeline in the entry hall adds context by associating Napa Valley events with world events.

In the course of several weeks of meetings, planning participants had an opportunity to watch Historical Society staff develop the exhibit from bare walls to a rich display of information and artifacts, a feast for eyes and mind.

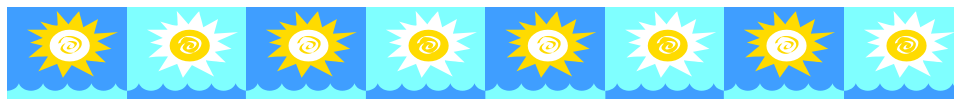
The Napa Valley Genealogical Society worked in partnership with the Napa Historical Society and many other local stakeholders to add depth to this exhibit. Four Napa pioneers, researched by NVGS volunteers Sue Ziemski and Linda Jesmok, highlight the kind of documentation that can illuminate the lives of our own ancestors and enhance our understanding of history.

The Napa Historical Society is located at 1219 First St., Napa, and is open Tues/Weds/Thurs 10 AM-3 PM and Fri-Sat 10 AM-5 PM. A sister exhibit will be displayed at the St. Helena Historical Society, located at 1255 Oak Ave., St. Helena, beginning in November. Call 707-967-5502 for additional information. Visit the exhibits at both venues through March 30, 2024. No charge for admission, although donations are welcomed.



*Photos from Opening Night of the "City of Immigrants: An American Story" Exhibit*





## Welcome New Members !

Name

Surname Searches

Peni Dean  
Mary Gilstrap  
Virginia and John McBroom  
Cap Sykes

None given  
Gilstrap  
None Given  
Ellis (Delights & Warren), Wurz

### MEMBERS MAY SCHEDULE A LIBRARY ORIENTATION

Email to: [info@napagensoc.org](mailto:info@napagensoc.org) or call 707-252-2252

### Membership Cards

If you would like to print your membership card:

1. Put card stock or a heavy sheet of paper in your printer.
2. Log in to the website. ([napagensoc.org](http://napagensoc.org))
3. Click on your name (right hand upper corner) to go to your profile.
4. Click on the **Membership Details**.
5. Click on the **Printable PDF**. It will download to your download folder.
6. Print and cut it out – there will be two printed, one with square corners and one with rounded corners.

### BE SURE TO LET US KNOW

If you change your E-mail address, phone number or street address let us know.

We have been getting some emails and mail as returned or undeliverable.



NVGS has an ongoing fundraiser of collecting aluminum cans and plastic bottles (no glass please) to recycle for cash. Please remember us when recycling those items. You can collect them in a plastic bag and bring them by the Library any-time. If you come to drop off when the Library is not open, just toss your bag over the fence at the back of the building. It's surprising how your recycling donations can add up!

## Mary's Book Corner



***“Revelation: A Memoir of Deep Family Secrets,  
Discovery and Identity”***

***by Richard (Rick) Gary Kaye and Annette Schwarz Kaye***

A mesmerizing book about family secrets, surprises, and identity crises. The authors treat the multi-faceted issues of DNA surprises and ethics in the sperm donor business with information and thought provoking questions.

*Happy reading, Mary*

## DNA: The Building Blocks of Life

When you first look at your DNA results, you might be surprised, particularly if you compare your results to a sibling. After all, if the two of you have the same parents, then your DNA should be pretty close. Right? Not necessarily!

You probably already know that you inherit half of your DNA from your father and half from your mother. But your DNA carries so much information that there can be a lot of variation in what gets passed on. Let's try looking at it in a different way and use names and letters as a metaphor for the DNA that family members share.



Imagine someone whose DNA “name” is ANDREW. When he and his wife, SANDRA, have children, he can only pass on half of that name to each child. In one son's case, we'll say he passes on the D, the E, and the W. SANDRA passes on the letters, A, D, and R and those six letters combine to give their son the genetic “name”, EDWARD.



*(Continued on following page)*

## DNA: The Building Blocks of Life (cont'd.)

Meanwhile, another couple, GRAHAM and ELAINE, have a daughter named ANGELA. She inherited the G and two As in her name from her father and the E, L, and N from her mother.

Now let's take this a step further. A few years down the line, EDWARD and ANGELA get married and have kids of their own. Their DNA mixes to produce three children.



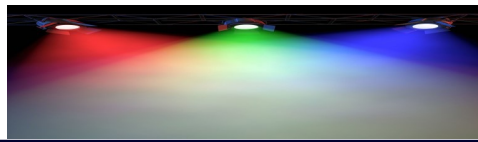
What is interesting is that even though all three of these children have the same two parents and the same four grandparents, the DNA they inherited is distinct. Some information (letters) show up in each child but other pieces are nowhere to be found.



Of course, actual DNA is much more complex than this example. Here we're just looking at six-letter names, while the DNA that is tested to make up your "genetic name" has hundreds of thousands of letters. That's why testing many people in your family can be helpful. Your father's results might show an ethnicity that yours did not. Your sister's results might connect you to even more cousins. By looking at your DNA results alongside your family's, you can achieve a more complete view of your genetic history.

*Adapted from a post on ancestry.com*





## Volunteer Spotlight: Sharon Tiburzi

We would like to give special thanks to Sharon for her work on indexing our microfilm and microfiche collection. She has spent countless hours on our new ScanPro3000 scanner cataloging these films which include tax assessments, birth and death records, obituaries, and individual family records. Her diligence on this project is greatly appreciated!



## ***LIBRARY HAPPENINGS***

Garden Gurus from our volunteer members have worked out a collaboration with a few wonderful Napa Master Gardeners to provide assistance and guidance in improving the Library's outdoor landscaping area and ensuring the long-term health of the plantings.

The goals we want to accomplish are:

- Prepare the California Blvd. side of the Library with cardboard and compost so that drought-tolerant native plants can be planted alongside existing healthy plants.
- Repair and refurbish the irrigation system; either by re-working and using what is already in place, or replacing with new parts as needed.
- The last immediate goal is to plant our new native plants and provide drip irrigation where needed.

To date, our first goal has been accomplished. One of the Master Gardener experts is currently being scheduled to come to the Library to problem solve and repair our irrigation system which has not worked for years. Many have tried to fix it, to no avail, but this individual is well-versed in electrical issues as well as irrigation problem solving. (Shout out to Bente Shoar for all the hand watering and gardening chores she has done for years -THANK YOU!) Three other Master Gardener volunteers are planning the native plants to purchase as soon as irrigation work is complete to be put into the area along California Blvd. that has been prepped. The timeline for this to be done is by the middle of November.

After planting, next steps will be to prune as necessary for winter and wait for the new plants to emerge with color alongside existing plants on California Blvd.

Beyond these goals, we do need ongoing assistance to help the Garden Gurus with the usual gardening chores such as cleaning up debris, pruning plants, weeding, etc. Anyone who can join us for an hour or two a month will be much appreciated! It takes a village to restore a landscape.

As we head into 2024 marking our 50th anniversary, we look forward to a rejuvenated outdoor space at the Library!

# November 2023

| Sun       | Mon                                  | Tue   | Wed                            | Thu   | Fri   | Sat       |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|-----------|
|           |                                      |   | <i>1</i> Library<br>Open 10-1  | <i>2</i> Library<br>Open 10-1                         | <i>3</i>  | <i>4</i>  |
| <i>5</i>  | <i>6</i> Round Table<br>11am on Zoom | <i>7</i>                                      | <i>8</i> Library<br>Open 10-1  | <i>9</i> Library<br>Open 10-1                         | <i>10</i><br>Board Meeting<br>10:30am at the<br>Library                             | <i>11</i> |
| <i>12</i> | <i>13</i>                            | <i>14</i><br>Writing Group<br>Noon at Library | <i>15</i> Library<br>Open 10-1 | <i>16</i> Library<br>Open 10-1<br>Program 1pm<br>Zoom | <i>17</i>   | <i>18</i> |
| <i>19</i> | <i>20</i>                            | <i>21</i>                                     | <i>22</i><br>Library Closed    | <i>23</i><br>Library Closed                           |  | <i>25</i> |
| <i>26</i> | <i>27</i>                            | <i>28</i><br>Writing Group<br>Noon at Library | <i>29</i> Library<br>Open 10-1 | <i>30</i> Library<br>Open 10-1                        |   |           |

# December 2023

| Sun       | Mon  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu                            | Fri  | Sat       |
|-----------|--|---|--|--------------------------------|--|-----------|
|           |  |   |  |                                | <i>1</i>   | <i>2</i>  |
| <i>3</i>  | <i>4</i> Round Table<br>11am on Zoom   | <i>5</i>                                      | <i>6</i> Library Open 10-1<br>Holiday Reception<br>Noon at Library | <i>7</i> Library<br>Open 10-1  | <i>8</i><br>Board Meeting<br>10:30am at the<br>Library | <i>9</i>  |
| <i>10</i> | <i>11</i>  | <i>12</i><br>Writing Group<br>Noon at Library | <i>13</i> Library<br>Open 10-1                                     | <i>14</i> Library<br>Open 10-1 | <i>15</i>  | <i>16</i> |
| <i>17</i> | <i>18</i>  | <i>19</i>                                     | <i>20</i> Library Closed   | <i>21</i> Library Closed       | <i>22</i>  | <i>23</i> |
| <i>24</i> | <i>25</i><br> | <i>26</i> Library<br>Closed                   | <i>27</i> Library Closed   | <i>28</i> Library Closed       | <i>29</i>  | <i>30</i> |
| <i>31</i> |  |   |  |                                |  |           |