

Castro Valley Library Genealogy Class Notes
3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546
1st/3rd Wednesdays 10:30-12:30
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November 15, 2023

1. Announcements

- Tips & Talks - Oakland FamilySearch Center
 - i) 6:00 pm – Wednesday, November 15; How to Leave Your Genealogy: Don't Let It Get Thrown Away; Lisa Gorrell
 - ii) 11:00 am – Tuesday, November 28; In FamilySearch, View Memories, Upload and Tag Photos, Add Documents; Denise Plaskett
- Next Meeting: 6 December 2023
- Discuss Homework Assignment

2. Digital Public Library

DPLA (dp.la) is a collaborative website where you can access digitized content from repositories across the United States. Digitized content includes photos, maps, documents, and books. Search by location, occupation, religion, or keyword. Once you find the items you are interested in, DPLA will lead you to the appropriate archive, library, or museum with that item where you can learn more and be able to download the image.

3. What Was There

What Was There (whatwasthere.com) was created in 2010 by the digital agency Enlighten (acquired in 2015) as a social good project with the goal of becoming the largest database of geographically tagged historic photographs in the world. We all believed it was a noble and worthy cause -- to help capture the history of everyday places before that history disappears and is no longer available.

4. Borrowing Online Books at Internet Archive

Internet Archive (archive.org) might be a familiar website to you if you have used it to find digitized books, but did you know that you can also borrow library books? All you need to do is set up a free account. Books may be borrowed for varying time periods from 1-hour to 2 weeks. It is convenient, even if it's only a loan period of an hour. To learn more, see their webpage on borrowing (<https://help.archive.org/help/borrowing-from-the-lending-library/>)

5. Gateway Resources

When you conduct your research, remember to look at some great compiled resources created by fellow genealogists! These web pages will make your family history research so much easier.

- [Cyndi's List](http://cyndislist.com) (cyndislist.com)

Cyndi's List has been a trusted genealogy research site for more than 25 years. *Cyndi's List* is **free** for everyone to use, and it is meant to be your starting point when researching online.

- What exactly is *Cyndi's List*?
 - A categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet.
 - A list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online.
 - A **free** jumping-off point for you to use in your online research.
 - A "card catalog" to the genealogical collection in the immense library that is the Internet.
 - Your genealogical research portal onto the Internet.

- [Linkpendium](http://linkpendium.com) (linkpendium.com)

Linkpendium is a 10,000,000+ resource directory to everything on the Web about families worldwide and genealogically relevant information about U.S. states and countries. We cover both free and subscription sites, with a strong emphasis upon free resources provided by libraries, other government agencies, genealogical and historical societies, and individuals.

- [FamilySearch Wiki Pages](http://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Main_Page) (www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Main_Page; check for the county of interest)

The FamilySearch Research Wiki is a free, online genealogical guide created and maintained by FamilySearch, a non-profit organization. It contains links to genealogy databases, websites, other resources, research strategies, and genealogical guidance to assist in the search for your ancestors. The articles included are locality pages for countries around the world and topic pages that include pertinent genealogy record types explaining how to use the record, what it contains, and how to find it.

- [The Ancestor Hunt](http://www.theancestorhunt.com) (www.theancestorhunt.com; check for a resource type, followed by state and sometimes county)

The Ancestor Hunt website was created to basically “Help people find stuff.” In a nutshell, we find links to Free Online Collections, so you don’t have to. And we create Quick Reference Guides to help researchers know where to look (and what to look for) in order to find all kinds of genealogical materials.

What started as 10,000 links to Free Online Newspaper Titles in 2014 has blossomed to over 240,000 in 24 different Genealogy Record Collection categories.

- **Joe Beine's pages** (www.deathindex.com)

This website is a directory of links to websites with online death indexes, listed by state and county. Included are death records, death certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, wills and probate records, and cemetery burials. You can also find information here about searching the Social Security Death Index online.

6. What's in that Pile? Organization for the Disorganized Genealogist
<https://www.legalgenealogist.com/2020/01/10/note-to-self-get-organized/>
<https://genealogyguys.blogspot.com/search/label/Organization>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_Ea2tl94T8&feature=youtu.be
7. Twelve Rules of Genealogy (per James Tanner)
[https://genealogysstar.blogspot.com/2019/07/annual-review-of-rules-of-genealogy-new.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed:+blogspot/QuFvc+\(Genealogy's+Star\)](https://genealogysstar.blogspot.com/2019/07/annual-review-of-rules-of-genealogy-new.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed:+blogspot/QuFvc+(Genealogy's+Star))
8. Better Note Taking – Amy Johnson Crow
<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/taking-better-notes-in-your-genealogy-research/>
9. Seven TV Shows to Inspire Your Genealogy Research
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/7-genealogy-tv-shows/>
10. New Gmail Tools to Help with Genealogy Tasks and Correspondence
https://news.legacyfamilytree.com/legacy_news/2020/05/new-gmail-tools.html