



# Colorado Genealogical Society



## Newsletter

April 2026 Volume 51 Issue 04

Nancy Dierker, Editor

### President's Message

Dear CGS Members,

Lately, I've been thinking about something many of us share—what to do with all the “stuff” that comes with family history.

If you've spent any time doing genealogy, you've likely become the keeper of photographs, papers, heirlooms, and items passed down from relatives. At first, it feels like a privilege. Over time, it can begin to feel like a responsibility—and sometimes even a burden.

I recently came across the concept of Swedish Death Cleaning, a thoughtful approach to deciding what to keep, what to share, and what to let go of so that those who come after us are not left with difficult decisions.

As genealogists, this idea feels especially relevant. We are not just preserving the past—we are also shaping what will be passed forward.

In this month's newsletter, I share some of the steps I've begun taking to thoughtfully manage the materials in my care. I hope it encourages you to reflect on your own collections and consider what truly matters to preserve.

*Bobbi King*

*See page 3 for the full article.*

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## CGS at Family Discovery Day

On Saturday, March 28, CGS members Doug Short and Bobbi King represented the Colorado Genealogical Society at **Family Discovery Day**, held at the Boulder Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Louisville.

The event, organized by local leaders including Quinn Remund, drew approximately **110 attendees** and was supported by about **70 volunteers**. The gymnasium was filled with activity, including FamilySearch assistance tables, tours of the research center, and opportunities for attendees to explore their family history.



At the CGS table, Doug and Bobbi connected with several individuals interested in learning more about the Society. They shared information about CGS programs and Zoom offerings, distributed event flyers, and handed out past issues of *The Colorado Genealogist* along with CGS stickers.

The FamilySearch Tree “Cousin Finder” feature was especially popular during the event, helping participants discover potential family connections in real time.

CGS also had the opportunity to connect with representatives from the Longmont Genealogical Society and other attendees, including the mayor of Erie, who stopped by the table.

The event provided valuable visibility for CGS within the local genealogy community, and there is potential for participation in future FamilySearch-sponsored events.

## April Lunch Bunch — In Person

*Facilitated by Kelly Glenn*

Thursday, April 23 | 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**New York Deli News**

**7105 E Hampden Ave. Denver, CO**

Review the [Menu](#). We hope to see you there.

Please RSVP by sending an email to: [lunchbunch@cogensoc.us](mailto:lunchbunch@cogensoc.us)

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## Swedish Death Cleaning — A Genealogist's Perspective

*By Bobbi King*

If you've never heard the term *döstädning*—Swedish Death Cleaning—it's the practice of intentionally going through your belongings and deciding what should be kept, shared, or let go, so that your loved ones are not left with the burden of sorting through a lifetime of accumulated things.

Like many of you, I've become the unofficial family keeper of “stuff.” I have happily accepted boxes of old photographs, church certificates in languages I can't read, funeral cards, newspaper clippings with no source or date, copies of Bible pages with no context, and even a tin box of small business pins of uncertain origin. Artifacts passed down from relatives when I didn't quite have the wherewithal to say “no.” Over time, the piles have grown.

I've finally decided that it's time to act—to deal with these things in a thoughtful, deliberate way. Here is what I've been doing:

### **Digitize.**

I've scanned hundreds of photos and, once safely stored on my computer, I've let many of the originals go. That would have been unthinkable ten years ago. Now, I feel a sense of relief when I walk into the basement and see open space instead of stacks of shoeboxes asking for attention.

### **Identify and Label.**

Every photo I keep is labeled. I use archival sleeves and boxes and write identifying information on the back using permanent ink. The value of an item increases dramatically when its story is preserved.

### **Share.**

Not everything needs to stay with me. I recently sent my brother his high school graduation portrait and his baby picture—framed and preserved. Not only did they leave my basement, but they returned to someone who cherishes them. It was worth every penny in postage.

### Let Go with Grace.

This is the hardest part. Marie Kondo suggests we thank our possessions before letting them go. I actually do that. I no longer have my grandmother's cracked sugar bowl, but my memories of her remain just as strong. Honoring our ancestors does not require us to keep every object they have touched.

### Make a Plan for Your Own Materials.

I'm mindful that my own papers and keepsakes could become the next generation's burden. I've labeled boxes clearly and left notes explaining what items are and why they matter. Those who come after me can decide what to keep—and I trust them to do so.

Swedish Death Cleaning may sound a bit grim, but at its heart, it is an act of love. It says: I care enough about the people in my life—and the people who came before me—to handle these things with intention rather than leave confusion behind.

I wish you all success in making new discoveries about your family—and in choosing, when the time is right, to gently release what no longer serves that story.

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## It's All About AI These Days

By Anna Phillips

I attended the RootsTech 2026 conference in Salt Lake City from March 5-7, and one theme stood out above all others: artificial intelligence in genealogy.

There has been a lot of talk about AI “taking over the world.” In a way, it has—just not how people expected. AI isn't running our computers, but it is quickly becoming a central part of the conversation in genealogy.

At this year's conference, AI was the primary focus in 32 in-person sessions and appeared in 57 online presentations. Topics ranged from using FamilySearch's AI-powered search tools to more advanced techniques that go far beyond basic prompts.

Familiar speakers such as Steve Little, Mark Thompson, and Nicole Elder Dyer returned this year, but the conversations have clearly evolved. The focus is no longer just *what AI can do*, but *how to use it effectively in real research*.

One standout session, “Beyond the Prompt,” explored the many ways AI can generate output—text, documents, spreadsheets, images, video, and even code. In my own work in investigative genetic genealogy, our team has already begun applying this. Using Claude, we described the tool we needed, and through a series of prompts, it created a small application to evaluate DNA matches by surname and locality.

AI won't replace genealogy—but it is quickly becoming one of the most powerful tools in our research toolbox.

Another session by Nicole Elder Dyer highlighted the use of AI within the Goldie May browser extension. In testing it, I was able to identify two FamilySearch trees connected to DNA matches and ask the AI to locate a common ancestor. Within seconds, it suggested a likely connection—work that might otherwise take hours. As always, the results still require careful verification, but the time savings are significant.

It's easy to see why AI is becoming such a prominent topic in genealogy. It excels at handling data-heavy tasks, giving researchers more time to focus on analysis, records, and problem-solving.

I'm already looking forward to seeing how these tools evolve by next year's conference.

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## CGS Attracts Members from Across the Country... And Beyond

*By Kelly Glenn*

The Colorado Genealogical Society is proud to be a growing community that extends well beyond state lines. While our roots are firmly planted in Colorado, our reach now includes members from across the United States and even internationally. Several states are represented by multiple members:

California — 5 members

Arizona — 3 members

Florida — 2 members

Texas — 2 members

Idaho — 2 members

In addition, we are pleased to have individual members from a wide range of other states, including North Carolina, New York, Washington, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Illinois, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Virginia, Missouri, and Oregon.

Our international presence is also noteworthy, with a member joining us from Sweden.

This broad geographic representation reflects the growing appeal of the Colorado Genealogical Society and the value of staying connected through shared interests in family history. No matter where our members live, they are united by a common purpose, discovering, preserving, and sharing their stories.

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## National Ellis Island Day, April 17

*Compiled by Nancy Dierker and Patrick Purcell*

When Americans think about immigration records, Ellis Island often comes to mind first. For millions of immigrants, it was the gateway to a new life in the United States—but it represents just one part of a much larger story.

Ellis Island opened as the nation's primary federal immigration station on January 1, 1892, replacing earlier processing in New York. Over the next 62 years, more than 12 million immigrants were inspected there before the station closed in 1954.

But here's an important point for genealogists: not all immigrants passed through Ellis Island—and not all who arrived in New York were processed there.

Before 1892, immigrants were processed at Castle Garden (1855-1890), and earlier arrivals were recorded mainly in passenger lists created by ship captains and customs officials. In addition, many immigrants entered through other ports, including Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Galveston, and San Francisco.

Even during the Ellis Island years, the experience varied widely depending on how your ancestor traveled. Most immigrants in third class (steerage) were ferried to Ellis Island, where they underwent medical and legal inspections that could take several hours—or longer if issues arose. In contrast, first- and second-class passengers were usually inspected aboard the

ship and allowed to disembark directly into New York unless concerns required further review.



For genealogists, this distinction matters. If your ancestor traveled in cabin class, you may not find them in Ellis Island processing records at all—even though they arrived during the same time period.

The key is to match your ancestor's arrival date, port, and travel class to the correct records. Passenger lists,

regardless of processing location, often contain valuable details about last residence, family members, and final destination.

National Ellis Island Day, observed each year on April 17, is a perfect reminder to revisit these records. They may hold the clues that connect your family to their place of origin—and to the story of how they began their lives in America.

Photo courtesy of [The New York Public Library](#)

## Research Tip: Ellis Island Passenger Lists

Passenger manifests became much more detailed beginning in 1907, when immigration forms expanded to two pages. These later records often include valuable clues such as:

- Last residence in the home country
- Name and location of the closest relative left behind
- Final destination in the United States
- Name of the person the immigrant was traveling to join
- Physical description and health inspection notes

These details can help connect immigrants to family members overseas and pinpoint their hometown.

You can search Ellis Island passenger lists online at:

- [Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation](#) (free)
- [FamilySearch.org](#) (free)
- [Ancestry.com](#) (subscription)
- [National Archives](#) (NARA)

If you find your ancestor in an index, be sure to view the entire passenger manifest, including the second page and any handwritten annotations added later by immigration officials.

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## Don't Forget the Brothers and Sisters

When researching family history, it's natural to focus on our direct ancestors—parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents. But sometimes the most important clues come from the people standing right beside them in the family tree: their siblings.

If you've ever hit a brick wall with an ancestor, try researching their brothers and sisters. Siblings often leave records that your direct ancestor did not. A brother's obituary might name the family's hometown. A sister's marriage record may reveal a mother's maiden name. A sibling who moved to another state might appear in records that help you trace the family's migration.



The Family of John and Mary Hampy, taken on the event of their 50th wedding anniversary. 1923, Colorado Springs, CO. Used with permission from Nancy Dierker.

Census records are especially helpful for identifying sibling groups. Looking at the entire household can help you reconstruct the family and track each child as they grow up, marry, and move away.

Studying siblings can also help distinguish between individuals with the same name—a common challenge in genealogy. When you understand the full family cluster, it becomes much easier to determine which John, Mary, or William belongs to your family.

This April 10, in honor of Siblings Day, take a moment to look beyond your direct ancestor and explore the lives of their brothers and sisters. You may discover that the missing piece of your research puzzle has been there all along.

## Research the Whole Family

13		Leonard F	Son
14		Glean B	Son
15		Basil J	Son
16	2130 5 5	Hansen, Christian D	Head
17		Mary	Wife
18		Charles D	Son
19		Harry E	Son
20		Klara	Daughter
21		Ella	Daughter
22		Hazel	Daughter
23		Laura	Daughter

If you're stuck on an ancestor, try expanding your research to include their siblings. These steps can often reveal new clues:

### 1. Identify all siblings in census records.

Start with the earliest census where the family appears together and list every child in the household.

### 2. Trace each sibling forward in time.

Look for marriages, residences in later census records, military service, and death records.

### 3. Check obituaries and probate records.

A sibling's obituary may list surviving brothers and sisters, their locations, and sometimes even the family's place of origin.

Following the lives of siblings often reveals migration patterns, family connections, and records that your direct ancestor never left behind.

Iowa State Department of Health 678-118  
 RETURN OF MARRIAGE TO CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

1. Full name of GROOM Arnold D. Hansen  
 2. Place of Residence Arnold, Iowa  
 3. Occupation Lawman  
 4. Age next birthday 47 yrs. Color white Nationality American  
 5. Place of Birth Shelby County, Iowa  
 6. Father's name Christian D. Hansen  
 7. Mother's maiden name Mary Ann Anderson  
 8. Number of Groom's marriages None  
 9. Full name of BRIDE Clara J. Hansen  
 Maiden name, if a widow widow  
 10. Place of residence Arnold, Bluffs, Iowa  
 11. Age next birthday 47 yrs. Color white Nationality American  
 12. Place of birth Shelby County, Iowa  
 13. Father's name Charles D. Hansen  
 14. Mother's maiden name Anna M. Hansen  
 15. Number of Bride's marriages None  
 16. Witnesses to marriage John F. Hansen  
Malvin Millard

WE HEREBY CERTIFY, That the information given is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.  
 I hereby certify that the above is a correct return of a marriage solemnized by me, on this 22 day of May, 1916 at Arnold, Iowa

## Thomas Aaron Entzminger, Jr. — 2025 David Vogels Award Honoree

By Kelly Glenn



The Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies is honored to recognize Thomas Aaron Entzminger, Jr. (1926-2019)—a man whose work helped ensure that thousands of lives, once nearly invisible in the historical record, would be remembered.

As a key contributor to the Denver Riverside Cemetery Database of African American Burial Records (1876-2004), Thomas helped transform thousands of fragile burial cards into a permanent, searchable record. Through his efforts, more than 5,000 African American burials were documented and preserved at the Denver Public Library—restoring names, stories, and dignity to individuals whose histories might otherwise have been lost.

Thomas's impact extended far beyond his research. As a teacher and mentor, he strengthened the Black Genealogy Search Group by sharing practical knowledge, building systems, and helping ensure the organization's long-term sustainability. His generosity in teaching reflected a deep commitment not just to history, but to community.

He was also a respected author, including *Genealogies of African American Families in Southwestern New York State (1830-1955)*, a work that traces generations of families and



affirms the enduring presence and contributions of African Americans across that region. His contributions to *Ensminger of Alsace and Pennsylvania* further demonstrate his dedication to preserving family histories across time and place.

The David Vogels Award, one of the most prestigious honors in Colorado genealogy, recognizes individuals whose work leaves a lasting imprint on our field. Thomas Aaron Entzminger, Jr. exemplifies that legacy. Through his scholarship, his leadership, and his

heart for preserving the stories of others, he has helped ensure that history is not forgotten, but carried forward.

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## Family Tree Maker (FTM) Workgroup

All CGS members are welcome to join this monthly gathering, held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. via Google Meet. The agenda will be split between:

- 1) a live demonstration of an issue or function that will enable members to expand their knowledge or solve a concern, and
- 2) a Q & A session where experiences, pitfalls, lessons learned, or discovered gems can be shared with the group. From this part of the program hands-on demonstrations could occur the following month.

Registration is required and attendance is limited to CGS members. Please visit the [CGS website](#) to reserve your spot.

### March Review

Linda Wyman presented an outstanding and informative session on working with adopted children and foster parent relationships in Family Tree Maker. The presentation sparked thoughtful questions and a lively discussion among attendees.

April Program - April 15 - 7:00-8:30 p.m. (MDT) and facilitated by Doug Short

At our next meeting, Len Richter will demonstrate how to use Relationship Charts, and Doug will show how to insert photos of relatives into Family Tree Maker using family images.

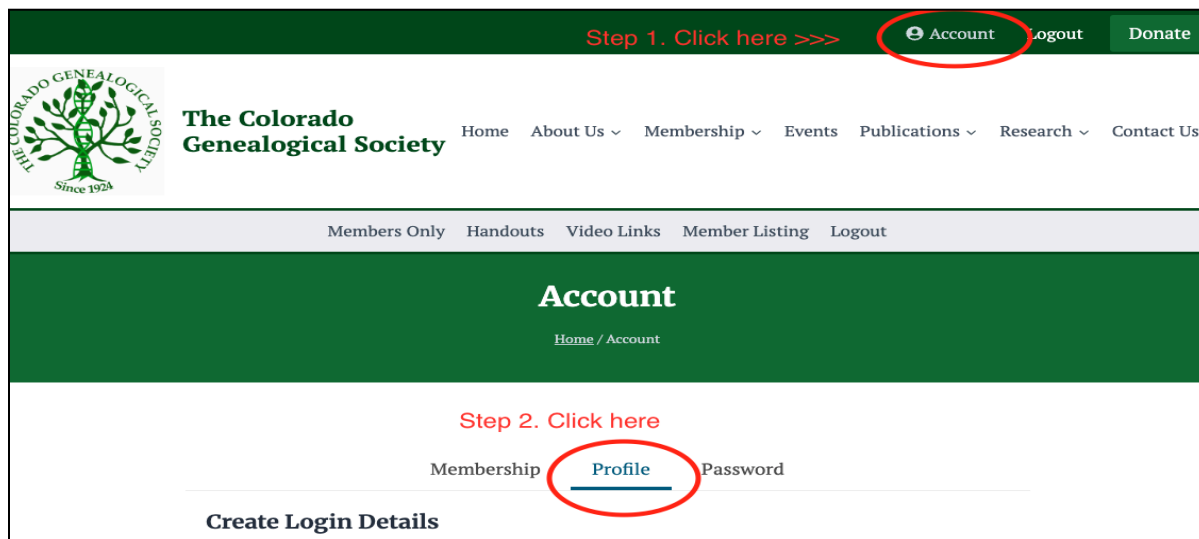
### April 16 - FTM Workgroup Luncheon

An informal, in-person luncheon is planned for Thursday, April 16 at 11:30 AM at the Ponti Restaurant, located in the Denver Art Museum. All are welcome—please RSVP to Doug at [programs@cogensoc.us](mailto:programs@cogensoc.us).

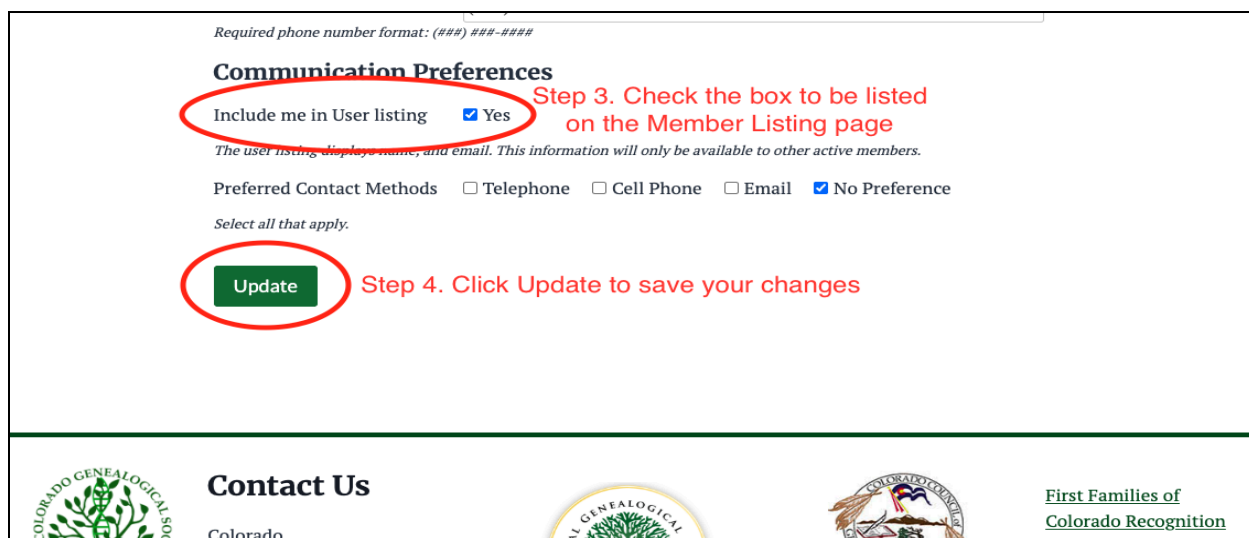
## Who Is Listed on the Membership List on the CGS Website

Have you ever wondered how your name appears on the membership list on the CGS website? Or perhaps you would prefer **not** to be listed. The good news is that **you control this setting yourself** in your member profile. It only takes a moment to update. Follow these four easy steps:

**Step 1.** After logging into the [website](#), click on Account in the upper-right corner of the page.



**Step 2.** On the Account page, click the Profile tab to view your profile details and scroll to the bottom of the page.



**Step 3.** Scroll down to Communication Preferences and locate the option “Include me in User listing.”

- Check the box if you want your name included in the Member Listing.
- Leave the box unchecked if you prefer not to appear in the listing.

**Step 4.** Click the Update button at the bottom of the page to save your changes.

## Ancestry.com User Group

*Facilitated by Kimberly Weed*

### Exploring Ancestry's AI Transcription Tool

Our March meeting of the Ancestry.com User Group focused on experimenting with Ancestry's new AI-powered transcription tool, designed to convert handwritten historical documents into searchable text. Participants explored:

- How the AI transcription tool performs on handwritten records
- Common limitations, including errors in names and dates
- The importance of verifying AI-generated transcriptions
- The new "Ask AncestryAI" feature for interpreting documents and images

While the potential of AI transcription is exciting—especially for those who struggle with difficult handwriting—we found that the tool is still evolving. Accuracy issues, particularly with names and dates, mean that manual verification remains essential.

We also explored the "Ask AncestryAI" feature, which provides historical context and insights about documents and images. To access it, open an item in the Gallery and look for "Insights" and "Ask AncestryAI" on the right side. This feature proved to be both informative and engaging.

In addition, the group discussed "floating trees"—how they occur, how to identify them, and strategies for correcting or merging disconnected individuals within your tree.

### Join Us Next Time

Saturday, April 11 | 2:00-4:00 PM (MDT) Zoom Only. [Registration](#) is required each month.

Our next session will focus on exploring the DNA tools within Ancestry, including how to use matches to strengthen and expand your family tree.

Whether you're new to Ancestry or an experienced researcher, there's always something new to learn. Join us, share your experiences, and continue building your skills.

For questions or suggestions, contact Kimberly at [kimberlyweed1@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyweed1@gmail.com).

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## April Program Presentation - Western Migration: Basic Tools for Charting Their Course

*presented by Sylvia Tracy-Doolos*

Saturday, April 18 - 9:30 - 11:30am

How do we track a family constantly on the move in search of their corner of paradise? FAN research is the answer. Let me show you how to effectively research your ancestors' Friends, Associates, and Neighbors.

## About the speaker:



Sylvia has over 40 years of genealogical experience as a researcher, teacher, lecturer, and writer. She is a member and officer of the Colorado Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the International Society of British Genealogy and Family History (ISBGFH), and the Wales, Ireland, Scotland, England Family History Society (WISE-FHS), plus a member of the Colorado Genealogical Society and others.

She has a BA in History with a minor focusing on linguistics to better understand the role of language change and its effect on record keeping.

To see a full list of CGS-sponsored events, turn to the last page of this newsletter!

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## Foothills Genealogical Society Using FamilySearch and FamilySearch Labs to Further Your Research

Join the Foothills Genealogical Society for an informative program featuring Barbara Elliott, who will explore practical ways to enhance your research using FamilySearch and the innovative tools available through FamilySearch Labs.

### Event Details

Wednesday, April 8 at 1:00 PM (MDT) at Applewood Valley United Methodist Church. A Zoom option is also available.

### What You'll Learn

- How to go beyond basic searches in FamilySearch
- Using the Catalog and browsing image-only collections
- Applying flexible search strategies to uncover hidden records
- Exploring new tools in FamilySearch Labs for record discovery, image analysis, and transcription

This program is especially helpful for researchers who want to get more out of FamilySearch's expanding tools.

### About the Speaker

Barbara Elliott is an experienced family historian and educator known for her clear, practical presentations. She has extensive experience using FamilySearch and stays current with emerging technologies, including the evolving tools in FamilySearch Labs. Her goal is to help researchers at all levels gain confidence and make meaningful discoveries.

### Registration

To attend or receive the Zoom link, register at [foothillsgenealogy.org](http://foothillsgenealogy.org)

Guests are always welcome. Individual and family memberships are available, and donations are appreciated.

## Are you curious about the history of your home?

Join Liv Wisnewski, Temple Buell Assistant Curator of Architecture at History Colorado, in-person to learn the basics of researching your property's past. Whether you're interested in previous owners, architectural evolution, or neighborhood changes, this session will guide you to, and through, available tools and resources.



Topics will include public records, historical maps, and online databases. No matter if you live in a century-old property or a more modern residence, every home has a unique history waiting to be explored.

This program will be held in-person in the Stephen H. Hart Research Center at the History Colorado Center in Denver.

### Event Details

Date: April 11 at 11:00am - 12:30pm

Location: History Colorado Center, 1200 North Broadway, Denver

[Register here!](#)

Contact Info: Amanda Vestal at [amanda.vestal@state.co.us](mailto:amanda.vestal@state.co.us)

General ticket price: \$5.00 Member ticket price: \$3.00 Wheelchair accessible: Yes

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## Colorado Chapter, Palatines to America - Spring Seminar

The Colorado Chapter of Palatines to America invites you to their Spring Seminar on Saturday, April 18, 2026, featuring guest speaker Fritz Juengling, Ph.D.

This full-day seminar will be offered both in person and virtually, making it accessible to all who are interested in German genealogy and research.

### Event Details

Saturday, April 18, 2026, 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Location (In-Person): Highlands Ranch Senior Center

### Featured Speaker

Dr. Juengling holds degrees in German studies, education, and German philology—a field that combines language, linguistics, paleography, and history. He is well known for his engaging presentations and depth of knowledge in German research.

### Seminar Topics

- Historical Events: How They Affect Your Genealogical Research
- Geography of the Austro-Hungarian Empire
- A History of the Low German Language

### Palatines of America

The purpose of this society is to promote the study of Germanic immigration to North America, to publish information of general interest, preserve information relating to early German immigrants and to provide a means for members to exchange information and share research.

- Extracting Information from German Church and Civil Records
- Understanding German Handwriting

#### Additional Highlights

- Genealogy books available for purchase
- Door prizes throughout the day

#### Registration

To learn more and register, visit: [www.copalam.us](http://www.copalam.us)

#### Questions

Contact: Sandy Carter-Duff at [sandy@carduff.com](mailto:sandy@carduff.com)

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## Tour of History Colorado: Library & Archives Experience

Join the Colorado Genealogical Society for a special behind-the-scenes tour of the History Colorado Center library and archives, led by archivist Shaun Boyd.

This exclusive opportunity offers a closer look at one of Colorado's premier historical research collections. Participants will gain insight into archival resources, preservation practices, and how these collections can support your genealogical research.

Event Details: Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway, Denver

Group Size: Limited to 15 participants

Eligibility: Open to CGS members only

We will meet in the lobby of the museum.

Parking is available at:

- Cultural Center Complex Garage (65 W. 12th Avenue)
- Art Garage (1200 Lincoln Street)
- Street parking in the surrounding area

After the tour, participants are invited to continue the conversation over lunch at the café located on the main floor of the History Colorado Center. To reserve your spot, please send an email to: [jamesxavierkroll@gmail.com](mailto:jamesxavierkroll@gmail.com)

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## Decorating Eggs for Easter

*By Doug Short*

Decorating eggs for Easter is a tradition that blends ancient spring customs with Christian symbolism—and it has deep cultural roots that may connect to your own family history.

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Long before Christianity, eggs were widely seen as symbols of new life and fertility. Across Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, people exchanged and decorated eggs during spring festivals to celebrate renewal and the return of life after winter.

As Christianity spread, these traditions became part of Easter celebrations. The egg came to symbolize the resurrection of Jesus Christ—new life emerging from the tomb, much like a chick breaking through its shell.

Another influence comes from the season of Lent. In medieval times, many Christians avoided eating eggs during the forty days leading up to Easter. When the fast ended, eggs were once again enjoyed—often cooked, decorated, and shared as gifts.

Over time, decorating eggs became a cherished folk tradition. In Eastern Europe, particularly in Ukraine and Poland, artisans developed intricate wax-resist techniques to create beautifully detailed eggs. By the nineteenth century, decorating eggs had become a common family activity in both Europe and North America.

Today, whether simply dyed or elaborately decorated, Easter eggs remain a familiar symbol of the season—representing renewal, celebration, and the traditions passed down through generations.

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## In the Researcher's Inbox - From Brittany, France!

*By Nancy Ratay*

An interesting request came into the CGS researcher's inbox late last month. The inquirer, who lives in Brittany, France, is looking for descendants or others who may have information about the Jacques family. Here is the request that was sent (edited):

My name is Michel MAILLARD, and I am conducting in-depth family history research on the Jacques family, originally from Brittany, France. My objective is to locate descendants or anyone with knowledge of this family's history, particularly members of genealogical societies in Denver, Colorado or other interested researchers.

Here are the key details of my research:

The Jacques family emigrated from Brittany, France to the United States in July 1886.

They settled in parts of the Midwest and West, including Nebraska, Colorado, and California.

During the 1930s through the 1950s, members of the family owned and operated a stone monument business called "Jacques Bros", specializing in monuments (stonecutting and memorials).

I am trying to determine whether:

1. Any descendants of the Jacques family are members of genealogy societies in Denver or Colorado.
2. Anyone among your members or contacts has information, records (e.g., census, directories, business licenses, newspaper mentions, cemetery listings), or family connections related to the Jacques family or the Jacques Bros business.

As a researcher I have directed him to search in the Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection since I located an obituary there for one member of the family which I sent to him. The stone monument business is also advertised a great deal. I also directed him to the Denver Public Library, particularly the online directories and their other online resources. What he really wants now is to find descendants with whom he could correspond.

The obituary that I sent him lists several members of the family in Denver and other places:

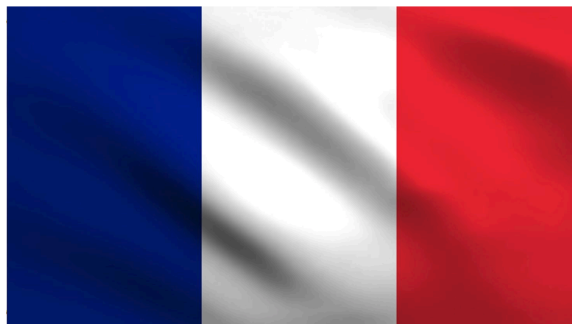
*Rocky Mountain News, 19 March 1921, p9*  
**Fourth Member of Denver Family Dies Within Year**

Death completed a harvest of four in one family Thursday when Frank Jacques, for thirty-six years a resident of Denver, died.

March has been the fatal month for the Jacques family. Mrs. Jacques died in March of last year and their 8-year-old daughter expired on March 4 of this year. Francois Jacques, father of Frank Jacques, died last October.

Frank Jacques was 59 years old and was a member of the firm of Jacques Brothers, monument builders. He is survived by four children, Frank, Walter, Anna and Marie and his four brothers, Celestine, with whom he was associated in business, and Louis Jacques of Pueblo; Arthur Jacques of Jerome, Ariz., and Capt. H. L. Jacques of Los Angeles and three sisters; Miss Eulalia Jacques of Denver, Mrs. T. F. Chouquete of Hastings, Neb., and Mrs. H. L. Plamondon of Denver. The funeral will take place Monday morning at 9 o'clock from St. Joseph's church. Interment will be in Mt. Olivet cemetery.

What an opportunity for a descendant here in Colorado to correspond with someone actually in France! He has genealogical information, including photographs and historical documents, about the family in France that he is willing to share. His English is excellent. He also has his data in GEDCOM format which can be opened in virtually any of our software. If you are a descendant of this family or have personal information about this family, you may contact me at [researcher@cogensoc.us](mailto:researcher@cogensoc.us) and I will send you his email address.



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## Fun & Unique Days in April

By Doug Short

*A few lighthearted observances—with a genealogical twist*

### Read a Road Map Day - April 5

Before GPS, our ancestors relied on paper maps to navigate unfamiliar places. Old maps can be valuable tools for genealogists, helping you understand migration routes, changing boundaries, and the communities where your ancestors lived. Take a moment to explore a historical map of an area you're researching—you may see your family's journey in a whole new way.

### Reach as High as You Can Day - April 14

Genealogy often requires persistence. Whether you're working through a brick wall or learning a new research skill, this day is a great reminder to set a goal and keep going. Try revisiting a problem you set aside—you may be closer to a breakthrough than you think.

**National DNA Day** is a United States holiday celebrated on April 25.

It commemorates the day in 1953 when James Watson, Francis Crick, Maurice Wilkins, Rosalind Franklin and colleagues published papers in the journal *Nature* on the structure of DNA.

### Zipper Day - April 29

When Gideon Sundback patented the modern zipper in 1913, it changed everyday life in small but meaningful ways. Details like zippers, buttons, and fabrics can even help date old photographs or clothing in family collections. Sometimes, it's the smallest details that help tell a bigger story.

### See What You Might Have Missed

Members of CGS have access to [Video Links of Programs and Classes](#). These recorded programs will be available, at least for a limited time (usually around 30 days), in the Members Only section of the CGS website.

### Questions??

Do you have questions for or about the Colorado Genealogical Society? Did you know you can email us at [cgscontact@cogensoc.us](mailto:cgscontact@cogensoc.us)?

If you have questions about any of the excellent archives around the state, you can save time by contacting them directly.

### Newsletter Submissions

Have something you'd like to share in the newsletter? Submissions must be received by the **20th of the month** to be considered for the next issue. While publication isn't guaranteed, all submissions will receive a response from the newsletter team. Send submissions to: [newsletter@cogensoc.us](mailto:newsletter@cogensoc.us).

Unless otherwise noted, all Colorado Genealogical Society meetings are free and open to the public. Please remember to [register in advance](#) for all Zoom activities, as attendance is limited to 100 connections. If you're unable to attend, kindly cancel by clicking the "cancel" link in your registration email.

**Don't forget to register for events at <http://www.cogensoc.us/>**

The articles in this newsletter have been written by the people in the know. The articles may have been edited by ChatGPT 5.0 to add clarity and consistency. Our feature, AI Query of the Month, is written in conjunction with ChatGPT.

[Calendar of Upcoming Events - next page](#)

## 90 Days of Genealogy with CGS - Mark Your Calendars

To register for any of this month's events, go to [www.cogensoc.us](http://www.cogensoc.us). To join the In Person Lunch Bunch, email [lunchbunch@cogensoc.us](mailto:lunchbunch@cogensoc.us). Future months are subject to change.

April	May	June
8 - 10:00am Master Genealogist Users	2 - 3:00pm Intro to Genetic Genealogy	8 - 7:00pm Monthly Board Meeting
11 - 10:00am Beginning Genealogy	5 - 10:00am Tour History Colorado	10 - 10:00am Master Genealogist Users
11 - 2:00pm Ancestry.com User Group	9 - 10:00am Beginning Genealogy	13 - 10:00am Beginning Genealogy
12 - 1:30pm-3:30pm WriteNOW	9 - 2:00pm Ancestry.com User Group	13 - 2:00pm Ancestry.com User Group
13 - 7:00pm Monthly Board Meeting	11 - 7:00pm Monthly Board Meeting	14 - 1:30pm-3:30pm WriteNOW
15 - 7:00pm Family Tree Maker Users	13 - 10:00am Master Genealogist Users	17 - 7:00pm Family Tree Maker Users
16 - 11:30am Zoom Lunch Bunch	14 - 11:30am Zoom Lunch Bunch	18 - 11:30am Zoom Lunch Bunch
18 - 9:30am-11:30am CGS Monthly Meeting <b>Westward Migration</b> by Sylvia Tracy-Doolos	16 - 9:30am-11:30am CGS Monthly Meeting <b>Family Reunions: Bringing Genealogy to Life</b> by Roberta "Bobbi" King	20 - 9:30am-11:30am CGS Annual Meeting <b>Walking Where They Walked: The Joy of Visiting Ancestral Towns</b>
23 - 11:30am In-Person Lunch Bunch New York Deli	17 - 1:30pm-3:30pm WriteNOW	23 - 7:00pm Tech on Tuesdays <b>Future Proofing Your Genealogy</b> by Mark Rabideau
28 - 7:00pm Tech on Tuesdays <b>The Right Tool for the Job</b> by Sylvia Tracy-Doolos	20 - 7:00pm Family Tree Maker Users	25 - 11:30am In-Person Lunch Bunch
	21 - 11:30am In-Person Lunch Bunch	
	26 - 7:00pm Tech on Tuesdays	