



Colorado Genealogical Society

Newsletter

September 2026 Volume 51 Issue 09

Nancy Dierker, Editor



President's Message

Dear CGS Members,

It's a pleasure to see the generosity of members who designate additional funds, beyond their membership dues, to help CGS support related genealogical causes.

One such program is the **Malcolm H. Stern-NARA Gift Fund**, managed by the National Genealogical Society (NGS). The Fund finances the imaging and preservation of records housed at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, D.C.

When the Stern Fund was established, government funding for the preservation of NARA records was sparse. Then and now, the Fund provides financing to image records that might otherwise be ignored or forgotten. Microfilmed and digitized records are then made available for researchers.

Projects supported by the Fund have included:

- **1920 Census rolls (T1224)**, digitized and placed in twelve regional archives.
- **Canadian Border Crossings (1895-1954)**, with indexes placed in six northern regional archives.
- **Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, ca. 1879-ca. 1903 (M1845).**
- **Record Cards of Carriers Separated from the Postal Service, 1863-1899 (M1846).**

Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern was a leader in fostering genealogical organizations, especially within the Jewish community. He was a prolific author of works on Jewish genealogy, most notably *Americans of Jewish Descent*,

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documenting the family trees of Jewish families in America during the pre-1840 period.

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He founded the conference that became the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, and in 1980 brought together leaders of national genealogical organizations to encourage greater collaboration and advance the study of genealogy.

You can learn more about the Fund through the [National Genealogical Society](#).

Thank you, CGS donors, for supporting work beyond our Colorado borders and contributing to the preservation of records that benefit family history researchers everywhere.

Bobbi King

Members Update

We are grateful to have you all as members of the Colorado Genealogical Society!

New Members

Deniece Cook
Dyna Duncan
Jennifer Eaves
Carolyn Ewald
Daniel Gilbert
Joanne Gilby
Sherry McElwain
Jay Montgomery
Kim Schaefer
Candace Thatcher
Michael Thompson

Renewing Members

Gretchen
Darlington
Anne "Andy"
Lawrence
Fred Trail
Margie Yevara

Let's Do Lunch

There are 2 opportunities to have lunch with fellow genealogists each month. Everyone is welcome!

Zoom Lunch Bunch

Hosted by Carol Darrow

September 17, 2026 at 11:30

Register at [The Colorado Genealogical Society](https://www.cogensoc.us/)

This is a virtual event so make your lunch and settle in for great discussion.

In-Person Lunch Bunch

Hosted by Kelly Glenn

Sept 24, 2026 at 11:30 am

Kelly is still on the hunt for a location so stay tuned. It will be announced in a coming email and on the Events page at [The Colorado Genealogical Society](https://www.cogensoc.us/).

Would you like to suggest a lunch location? Send an email to lunchbunch@cogensoc.us and tell us about it. We do require that the location agree to separate checks for our party. In-Person Lunch Bunch usually draws between 4-24 guests.

RSVP: lunchbunch@cogensoc.us

Celebrating Grandparents & Ancestor Appreciation Days

by Doug Short

Grandparents Day – September 13, 2026

Grandparents Day is observed in the United States on the first Sunday after Labor Day, which makes September 13 this year's celebration. The holiday has relatively modern origins. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation officially designating National Grandparents Day, following years of advocacy by West Virginia resident Marian McQuade. She wanted to encourage families to recognize the contributions of older generations and preserve the wisdom and stories they could share. The holiday was intended not simply as a celebration, but as an opportunity for younger generations to connect with their grandparents.

For genealogists, Grandparents Day provides a perfect reminder that our grandparents are often the bridge between living memory and historical records. They may remember the names and stories of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins who never appeared in our own memories. They may also know where family photographs came from, who is pictured in them, why the family moved from one place to another, or which stories have been passed down through generations. Even seemingly ordinary memories—favorite foods, childhood homes, occupations, traditions, and family celebrations—can add human details that records alone cannot provide.

The day also offers an opportunity to preserve those memories before they disappear. A conversation with a grandparent can become a recorded oral history. A collection of

photographs can be identified and digitized. A box of family papers can reveal names, dates, addresses, and relationships.

Consider asking open-ended questions rather than simply requesting dates and names: *“What was your childhood home like?”* or *“What do you remember about your grandparents?”* Such questions can produce stories that lead to new research clues and make a family tree much more than a collection of names and dates.

Ancestor Appreciation Day – September 27, 2026

Ancestor Appreciation Day, observed on September 27, is an informal modern observance rather than a traditional national holiday with the established history of Grandparents Day. Its purpose is straightforward: to set aside a day to remember, honor, and appreciate the people whose lives came before our own.

For genealogists, the concept fits naturally with the purpose of family history—the effort to discover not only who our ancestors were, but also how they lived, what challenges they faced, and what experiences shaped the generations that followed.

Ancestor Appreciation Day can encourage researchers to look beyond the familiar names on a pedigree chart. Every ancestor was a real person who lived within a particular historical time and place. They worked, raised families, moved from one community to another, celebrated holidays, experienced hardships, and made decisions that ultimately affected descendants they would never meet. Researching their occupations, neighborhoods, military service, immigration experiences, religious communities, and historical events can help us understand the world in which they lived.

The two September observances complement one another beautifully. **Grandparents Day encourages us to capture the memories of people we can still talk with, while Ancestor Appreciation Day encourages us to seek the stories of those who can now speak only through records and artifacts.** Together, they remind genealogists that family history is both a living tradition and a historical investigation.

This September, take time to interview a grandparent or older relative, identify an old photograph, revisit an ancestor’s records, or write down the story of someone whose life deserves to be remembered.

Back to School

While kids are heading back to school, this is a good time to document your own educational journey. Besides capturing the schools you attended and when, consider capturing a few memories:

- Favorite teacher or subject
- Earliest classroom memory

Legendary Ladies Program a Great Success

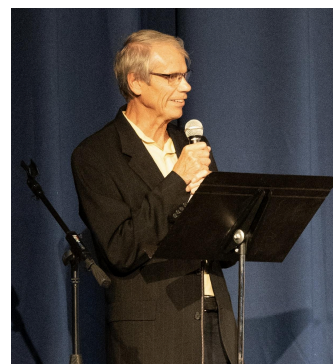


The **Legendary Ladies** event, held Sunday, August 23, was a tremendous success, celebrating the 135th anniversary of the Historic Elitch Theatre and 150 years of Colorado statehood.

Kelly Glenn produced the program, which drew

approximately **510 attendees**. Theatre staff reported that it was one of the largest events hosted there since productions resumed about two years ago.

Despite a very warm theatre, the **Legendary Ladies** held the audience's attention as they brought notable women from Colorado's past to life, sharing their stories and highlighting their contributions to the state's culture and prosperity.



The program was presented in partnership with the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies and several local genealogical societies, including CGS.

CGS hosted a table near the theatre entrance, where many attendees stopped to pick up society brochures and talk with members about genealogy. It was a wonderful opportunity to introduce family history to people already interested in Colorado history.

Congratulations to Kelly for creating a terrific program that brought together genealogy, history, and one of Denver's historic treasures.



Thanks to Gary and Nancy Ratay for the great photos of the event.

CGS Welcomes New FamilySearch Liaison

CGS was invited to participate in the FamilySearch Chief Genealogical Office Influencer Social, and we were happy to accept.

Bonnie Emmert has accepted the new volunteer position of FamilySearch Liaison. Bonnie will attend quarterly meetings and report back to CGS about developments at FamilySearch. An active member of the Mesa County Genealogical Society who lives in Grand Junction, Bonnie is also an experienced FamilySearch user. CGS will be well represented!

The Influencer Social brings together FamilySearch managers and genealogists who use FamilySearch to exchange information and ideas about its future, including updates to search tools and other enhancements.

From Bonnie's August Report: Community Trees

At the August meeting, Bonnie learned more about **Community Trees**, an option that allows researchers to upload their own GEDCOM files to FamilySearch Genealogies. Unlike the collaborative FamilySearch Family Tree, an uploaded tree belongs to its creator and cannot be changed by other users.

Bonnie provided these instructions for finding the feature:

1. Sign in to your account at **FamilySearch.org**.
2. Click **Search**, then **Genealogies**.
3. Scroll to "**How is FamilySearch Genealogies Different from FamilySearch Family Tree?**"
4. Click "**Upload Your Individual Tree.**"
5. Follow the prompts to upload your GEDCOM file.

Give your tree a meaningful name and description when you upload it. As with FamilySearch Family Tree, information about living people remains private. You can maintain up to ten uploaded trees and easily switch among them.

FamilySearch also provides a video in **Help** explaining how to find and use the Community Trees feature.

Our thanks to Bonnie for this helpful information. We look forward to hearing more from her about developments at FamilySearch in the months ahead.

Genealogy Software User Group Reports



Researching genealogy at the Terrace Café on the Place du Forum in Arles, France. Painting by Van Gogh.

Ancestry.com User Group

By Kimberly Weed

Next Meeting: Saturday, September 12 at 2:00pm

The Ancestry.com User Group met August 8 for another informative, hands-on session. We explored recent Ancestry features, compared changes to ThruLines, and learned some easy ways to get those boxes of family photographs and documents into our Ancestry trees.

A New Feature on the Ancestor Profile Page

We started by looking at a new feature appearing on the Ancestor Profile Page called **Description**. This AI-powered feature creates more detailed descriptions for some events in an ancestor's timeline.

When available, a blue **Description** button appears with a timeline event. Selecting it provides two options: **Abstract** or **Biographical**. Ancestry then generates a paragraph about the event using information from multiple sources attached to the ancestor.

As with any AI-generated content, review the resulting description and verify it against your sources. Think of it as a helpful starting point rather than a substitute for your own research and analysis.

ThruLines Gets an Update

We also looked at changes to **ThruLines**. Several members of our group participated in beta testing, giving us firsthand observations as we compared the classic and new versions and discussed how information is presented.

One reminder is especially important: **ThruLines is a hint, not proof**. Suggested connections can be extremely useful for identifying research leads, but they are not necessarily correct. Every suggested relationship should be evaluated and supported with appropriate records and evidence.

Getting Your Family Documents Into Ancestry

The most hands-on portion of our meeting focused on something many genealogists have in common: a growing collection of family photographs and documents.

We learned how to upload these materials to our trees using both the Ancestry website and mobile app. While the website offers more powerful tools overall, the mobile app has some useful advantages for working with photographs and documents.

With the mobile app, you can:

- Scan photographs and documents.
- Edit, restore, and colorize photographs.
- Scan a scrapbook page and separate the individual photographs.
- Scan multiple pages of a document and keep them together when uploaded.
- Create audio recordings associated with uploaded photographs and documents.

The audio feature offers particularly interesting possibilities for preserving family memories. Imagine attaching a recording of a family member telling the story behind a photograph or identifying the people pictured in it.

What's Coming Up

Our next meeting will be **September 12 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Mountain Time.**

We plan to take a deeper look at the Ancestor Profile Page and explore some questions concerning Find a Grave, another service in the Ancestry family.

As always, bring your questions and share any Ancestry features or techniques you've discovered that might be useful to the rest of the group.

We look forward to seeing everyone in September—and discovering what else Ancestry has changed, added, or occasionally hidden from us by then!

Family Tree Maker (FTM) User Group

By Doug Short

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00pm

August Meeting Presentation and Highlights

Linda Wyman presented a detailed demonstration on how to create a Source from family documents then create a Citation for that Source. This process is for documents that do not have a source citation. Linda also demonstrated how to attach Media to a Citation then attach that Citation to a Fact. Linda provided notes to the group that documented all the processes she demonstrated with detailed steps. During and after there were many questions for Linda from the 15 attendees, as this is an advanced process for FTM users.

News and Next Meeting

The September 16th workshop (via Google Meet at 7pm) will have Anne “Andy” Lawrence provide a presentation of her family reunion in early August, what worked, what did not work and how the family tree charts she produced in FTM were received by her relatives. I will be on vacation, and Sandy Ronayne will be the host/facilitator for September.

MacFamily Tree User Group

Hosted by Chip Morris and submitted by Becky Clark

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 17 at 7:00pm

Last month, we explored MacFamilyTree (MFT), taking a further look at defining sources.

This month, we'll talk about the different ways to use individual trees to explore family members more closely and keep information tied to specific individuals. We'll also look at various themes, styles and backgrounds to make your reports more interesting.

Reminder: You don't need to be a Mac user to attend—everyone is welcome!

WriteNOW! Is back for its new season of writing.

The first meeting of CGS's WriteNOW! 2026-27 group is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 13, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm MDT. Attached to this newsletter (last page) is the schedule for this year. All meetings are on Zoom and are free.

This is your opportunity to commit to an organized family writing program with regular assignments to encourage you to make progress in your dream of writing a family story.

We will discuss writing introductions and conclusions. We will talk about writing in chronological order but also building in some drama and interest in our stories. We will also talk about technical issues including grammar, punctuation, capitalization and footnotes and cover inserting photos and maps, table of contents and page numbers. Most importantly, we will help you progress from just thinking about writing to actually putting your thoughts down on paper.

There will be assignments to turn in, corrections to be made, and participation in class discussions. You will also have to learn to cheerfully take criticism and kindly offer suggestions to others.

So the question is - are you interested in participating in this year's WriteNOW! program. If you want to join us in this adventure, send an email to Carol Darrow at cdarrow944@yahoo.com. You must register for the meeting each month on the [CGS Events page](#).

Record of the Month School Records

It's back-to-school time, and kids seem to be everywhere you look. One place they can be surprisingly difficult to find is in genealogical records, where children often appear only briefly between birth and adulthood. This month, we're going back to school to discover what education records can tell us about our ancestors—and how researching the schools they attended can lead us to records we might otherwise never find.

Start with whatever clue you have—a yearbook, report card, diploma, photograph, newspaper item, census entry, family story, or even just the name of a school. Then investigate the institution as an entity:

School name → school district → community → successor institution → repository

That trail can lead to public libraries, state and local archives, historical societies, school-district archives, university special collections, alumni associations, museums, and the school itself.

And don't overlook archival finding aids. Denver Public Library, for example, has thousands of collections of original papers, photographs, organizational and governmental records, most of

which aren't digitized. Searching its finding aids can reveal materials that would never appear in a normal genealogy database search.

Here in Colorado, we are lucky to have a variety of excellent local libraries and archives, historical societies, school districts, university special collections, state archives, and digital repositories.

Where to Look

[Denver Public Library's Colorado School Records & Resources Guide](#) - Searching by the school's name rather than only by an ancestor's name could uncover photographs and other contextual material.

The [Colorado State Library's CVL Collections](#) is another interesting avenue because it brings together digital collections maintained by Colorado institutions and specifically mentions yearbooks, photographs and oral histories.

Nationally, **FamilySearch's Digital Library and Internet Archive** are worth teaching people to search by school name, location and year rather than simply typing an ancestor's name.

[FamilySearch's own community guidance](#) points researchers toward its Digital Library/Books collection and Internet Archive for yearbooks.

Remember: Your ancestor's name may not be indexed. Their school probably is.

AI Query of the Month:

"Help me identify the schools my ancestor might have attended."

After reading the Record of the Month article above, you may be looking for a practical way to begin that process when you don't know the school's name. For example, the underlying task could be:

My ancestor was a school-age child living in this community in this year. What schools might they have attended?

With this approach you will be using AI to develop leads, not to establish the fact that an ancestor attended a particular school. A good query could ask AI to identify likely schools, school districts, denominational schools, academies, etc., and—crucially—provide sources where the researcher can verify that those institutions existed at the relevant time.

When you have a list of possibilities consider asking for more information for the next stage of research:

For each school identified, suggest archives, libraries, historical societies, school districts, or digital collections that might hold surviving records.

Upcoming Genealogy Activities

Don't Miss the Colorado Archives Workshop — September 19

If you're researching Colorado ancestors, the Colorado State Archives may hold records you haven't yet considered.

Join us **Saturday, September 19, at 10:00am - 1:00pm on Zoom** for the **Colorado Archives Workshop**, an in-depth look at Colorado-specific resources held by the State Archives. This workshop will occur in lieu of the CGS Monthly Meeting and Program.

Our presenter, **Dina Carson**, volunteered at the Archives for many years and has extensive experience with its collections and research methods. She'll introduce us to what's available, how records are organized, and how to navigate the collections efficiently so you can make the most of your research time.

When a group of CGS members toured the Archives a few months ago, we were astonished by the breadth of what we found: records, documents, and photographs spanning Colorado history. From county and court records to institutional files and photographic collections, the depth and variety surprised even experienced researchers.

Whether you're just beginning to trace Colorado roots or have hit a research wall, this workshop may open some new doors.

No Colorado ancestors? Come anyway. Learning how one state archive organizes and preserves its records can help you become a better researcher elsewhere. While collections differ from state to state, understanding the kinds of records held by the Colorado State Archives may prompt you to investigate what treasures are waiting in the archives where your own ancestors lived.

Grab your coffee or tea, join us on Zoom, and discover what you may have been missing at the Colorado State Archives.

Preserving Family Photos — Keeping Images Safe

Presented by Roger Dudley

Tech on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00pm

Family photographs may be among the most treasured items in our genealogy collections—but are we preserving them properly?

Roger Dudley will explain how different types of photographic prints and negatives should be handled and stored to protect them from deterioration and damage. He'll also cover best practices for preserving digital images so that today's family photographs remain accessible to future generations.

About the Speaker

Roger Dudley is a retired archivist and reference librarian from the Denver Public Library's Western History and Genealogy Department, where he worked until his retirement in 2019. A second-generation Colorado native, he has been researching his own family history since 1974.

Roger's great-grandfather was given the honor of naming the eastern Colorado community of Karval when a post office was established there. The community remains home to an active post office and hosts the Kravig family reunion every four years. Roger published a history of the Kravig family in 2011.

He is also the author of *In Their Time*, written to help genealogists place their family research within its historical context.

Roger has presented at the NGS Conference in the States and to numerous genealogical and community organizations throughout Colorado and Wyoming.

Family History Discovery Day in Longmont

The Longmont Genealogical Society invites you to attend their Family History Discovery Day.

Drop in anytime on Saturday, September 19, 10AM to 4PM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1721 Red Cloud Road, Longmont CO (corner of 17th & Alpine).

This **FREE** event welcomes everyone, from those who are brand new to genealogy to experienced family historians. No registration required, just bring your curiosity!

Enjoy short, beginner to intermediate level classes, exhibit tables & even refreshments. There will be 1 to 1 sessions to help you explore your ancestors. Bring what you know (names, dates, locations, etc.) and we will help you build your family tree.

Visit LGSCO.org for more details on the Society & their Discovery Day events. We look forward to meeting you.

The St. Vrain Valley Pioneer Association's 121st Annual Meeting

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Hygiene United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

7542 Hygiene Road

Hygiene, Colorado

Registration begins at 12:45 PM; Potluck served around 1:15 PM; Short business meeting after the meal. Following the business meeting Tim Plass, Executive Director of Historic Boulder, will present:

The Lost Town of Altona



When it was founded in the 1860s, the town of Altona had grand plans. Located upstream from the mouth of Left Hand Canyon, the town was to serve as a gateway to the mining towns of Ward, Gold Hill and Jamestown. In its heyday in the 1880s, Altona featured a hotel, a bank, a general store, a bakery, a restaurant, a blacksmith shop, a stage stop and a school. The grand dreams for Altona were never realized, however. Tim's presentation will explore what became of Altona.

The Altona Grange #127

As the town of Altona transitioned from being a gateway to the mining towns up the canyon to a more agricultural community on the lands near the mouth of Left Hand Canyon, it made sense to construct a grange. Located at 39th and Nelson Road, the grange has a fascinating story. Built in 1896, the grange has served the surrounding community ever since. Boulder County designated the building as a local landmark in 1999. Tim will present the interesting, and sometimes unexpected, history of the grange.

Please bring your own table service and a potluck dish. Drinks will be provided. A collection will be taken to help with expenses

The St. Vrain Valley Pioneer Association includes all of Boulder County, Weld County west of the Platte River and Larimer County south of the Poudre River.

For more information, please email, text or call:

Judy (Gould) Dayhoff pansydaisy@aol.com or (303) 859-1894



Mesa County Genealogical Society



FALL CONFERENCE 2026

Discover Your Roots

Where Stories Come Alive

SATURDAY



October 24, 2026
8:15 AM - 2:30 PM

**Community Hospital
Monument View Medical
Plaza Conference Rooms**

2351 G Road
(West Side of Hospital)
Grand Junction, Colorado



**EVERYONE
WELCOME!**

Whether you are just
beginning your journey
or a seasoned researcher,
this conference is for you!

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Melissa Guziak

Genetic Counselor, Community Hospital
Same DNA, Different Answers

What Genetic Testing Is Really Telling Us



Genetic testing is more accessible than ever—but what
do the results really mean?

Explore the evolution of genetic testing, from
ancestry kits to clinical and research-based testing.
Learn what genetic tests can—and can't—tell us, how
to interpret results, and how different tests answer
different questions.

ADMISSION & MEMBERSHIP

FREE for Mesa County Genealogical Society Members
\$10 at the Door for Non-Members

 Not a member? Join today or at the conference
and enjoy free admission plus year-round
genealogy resources!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

Individual Membership - \$20
Family Membership - \$25

REGISTER TODAY!

CONFERENCE SESSIONS INCLUDE

- ★ You've taken the DNA Test - Now What?
- ★ The Emotional Life of Family Trees
- ★ AI for Genealogy: Tools You Can Use Today
- ★ Help Me! It's in There Somewhere!

FEATURED CLOSING SPEAKER

Zebulon Miracle

CEO of Roice-Hurst Humane Society

Discovering Family History Through Maps

Discover how historical maps can help uncover where our
ancestors lived, how communities developed, and how
landscapes have changed over time.



REGISTER EARLY * SPACE IS LIMITED

Scan with your phone's camera and register on Eventbrite



Scan the QR Code to Register!

Quick, Easy, Secure

ON Eventbrite →



Don't feel comfortable scanning the QR Code? Email us at mcgsvicpres@gmail.com



Follow us on Facebook
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stay up to date!



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JUST FOR FUN: Unique Genealogical Celebrations in September

By Doug Short

September 8 — Be Late for Something Day

“Be Late for Something Day” may be one of the few holidays genealogists can celebrate without changing their schedules! Genealogy research often requires us to stop and investigate why Great-Grandpa was suddenly five years younger, why Grandma’s birthplace changed from one census to another, or why an ancestor apparently managed to be in two places at once. Instead of becoming frustrated, take a step back and remember that old records were created by humans—and humans occasionally got things wrong. A little patience may uncover the explanation hiding in another record. After all, in genealogy, being “late” can sometimes mean discovering something you would have missed by rushing.

September 10 — Swap Ideas Day

“Swap Ideas Day” is practically a genealogy holiday because family historians love to swap stories, theories, sources, and, of course, brick walls. Your latest mystery may seem impossible until another genealogist says, “Have you tried looking there?” and suddenly a new research path appears. Sharing ideas can introduce you to obscure records, unusual research techniques, or a completely different interpretation of the evidence. Just remember that when exchanging theories, it is perfectly acceptable to say, “That’s a great idea—but let’s find a record to prove it!” The best genealogy conversations often begin with one researcher saying, “I have absolutely no idea where to look next.”

September 28 — Ask a Stupid Question Day

Genealogists know that there is no such thing as a stupid question—although there are plenty of questions that begin with, “This may be a dumb question, but...” Asking why an ancestor disappeared from a census, changed a surname, moved across the country, or suddenly acquired a different age can open the door to an important discovery. Sometimes the question we are embarrassed to ask is exactly the question that exposes an incorrect assumption in our family tree. Even experienced researchers occasionally need to ask questions that send them back to the beginning. So on September 28, ask away—you might just discover that your “stupid” question is actually your smartest research move.

September 28 — Good Neighbor Day

Good Neighbor Day gives genealogists permission to do something they should probably be doing anyway: snoop around neighborhood census records! The people living next door to your ancestor may have been grandparents, cousins, in-laws, friends, employers, or members of the same church or immigrant community. Following those neighbors through census records, city directories, land records, and newspapers can reveal connections that your ancestor’s records never mention. In genealogy, the family next door may turn out to be the family you were looking for all along.

Reminders

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.

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?

If you have questions about any of the excellent archives around the state, we recommend you contact them directly. They will have the latest information on their catalog and how to access the information you are looking for.

Generally, Our Offerings Are FREE

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/>

Membership

There are great benefits to being a member of the Colorado Genealogical Society. If you know someone who would love to get this newsletter or access to our quarterly journal, *The Colorado Genealogist*, please encourage them to join CGS! They can sign up on the [CGS website](#) for as little as \$25 a year.

The articles in this newsletter have been written by the people in the know. The articles may have been edited by ChatGPT to add clarity and consistency.

90 Days of Genealogy with CGS - Mark Your Calendars

To register for any of this month's events, go to www.cogensoc.us. To join the In Person Lunch Bunch, email lunchbunch@cogensoc.us. Future months are subject to change.

September	October	November
9 - 10:00am Master Genealogist Users 12 - 10:00am Beginning Genealogy 12 - 2:00pm Ancestry.com User Group 13 - 1:30pm WriteNOW! 14 - 6:00pm CGS Board Meeting <i>Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month begins</i> 16 - 7:00pm Family Tree Maker Users 17 - 11:30am Zoom Lunch Bunch 17 - 7:00pm MacFamilyTree User Group 19 - 10:00am Colorado State Archives Workshop by Dina Carson (3 hours) 22 - 7:00pm Preserving Family Photos - Keeping Images Safe by Roger Dudley 24 - 11:30am Lunch Bunch In-Person - TBD <i>27 - Ancestor Appreciation Day</i>	<i>Family History Month</i> <i>Italian-American Heritage Month</i> 8 - 10:00am Master Genealogist Users 10 - 10:00am Beginning Genealogy 10 - 2:00pm Ancestry.com User Group 11 - 1:30pm WriteNOW! 12 - 6:00pm CGS Board Meeting <i>Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month ends</i> 15 - 11:30am Zoom Lunch Bunch 15 - 7:00pm MacFamilyTree User Group 17 - 10:00am Women Owning Property: A Historical Perspective by Carol Darrow 21 - 7:00pm Family Tree Maker Users 22 - 11:30am Lunch Bunch In-Person - TBD 27 - 7:00pm A Wealth of Websites: Deciphering German Handwriting by Katherine Schober	<i>Native American Heritage Month</i> 8 - 1:30pm WriteNOW! 9 - 6:00pm CGS Board Meeting <i>11 - Veteran's Day</i> 12 - 10:00am Master Genealogist Users 14 - 10:00am Beginning Genealogy 14 - 11:00 Introduction to Beginning Genealogy 14 - 2:00pm Ancestry.com User Group 18 - 7:00pm Family Tree Maker Users 19 - 11:30am Zoom Lunch Bunch 19 - 7:00pm MacFamilyTree User Group 21 - 10:00am Program TBD by TBD 24 - Tech on Tuesday Cancelled due to the Thanksgiving holiday <i>26 - THANKSGIVING</i> No Lunch Bunch In-Person

2026-2027 WriteNOW!

Family History Writing Group Schedule on Zoom

Meets 2nd Sunday from September - May, 1:30-3:30 pm MST

Carol Darrow, Facilitator (cdarrow944@yahoo.com)

Schedule and Assignments

September 13, 2026

Topic: Personal introductions, writing styles, possible projects.

Assignment for October: Write 500 words about one ancestor (or continue on your current project). Send assignments to Carol no later than Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026.

October 11, 2026

Topic: Narrative style, third person, past tense, dealing with conflicting evidence.

Assignment for November: Add at least 500 words to your ancestor's story (or continue on your current project). Send to Carol no later than Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026.

November 8, 2026

Topic: Adding details and historical information into your story.

Assignment for December: Add at least 500 words to your ancestor's story (or continue on your current project). Send to Carol no later than Thursday, December 10, 2026.

December 13, 2026

Topic: Discuss tone, transitions, pace in your story. Rearranging your story for dramatic intro.

Assignment for January: Add at least 500 words to your ancestor's story (or continue on your current project). Send to Carol no later than Thursday, January 7, 2027.

January 10, 2027

Topic: Discuss clarifying confusing family relationships and handling sensitive topics.

Assignment: Add at least 500 words to your ancestor's story (or continue on your current project). Send to Carol no later than Thursday, February 18, 2027.

February 21, 2027 (3rd Sunday)

Topic: Discuss photo editing, copyrights, illustrations including maps, post cards, diagrams.

Assignment: Add at least 500 words to your ancestor's story (or continue on your current project). Send to Carol no later than Thursday, March 11, 2027.

March 14, 2027

Discuss manuscript preparations including layout, fonts, margins, page numbers, footnotes.

Assignment: Use layout form to design your book allowing for copyright page, dedication, acknowledgments, maps, and family trees. Send to Carol no later than Thursday, April 8, 2027.

April 11, 2027

Discuss electronic publishing including Office Depot and Lulu.com.

Assignment: Write a conclusion to your project. Send to Carol no later than May 13.

May 16, 2027 (3rd Sunday)

Presentation of projects. Assignment for the summer: Finish your current project; plan for your next project.