



FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Meeting is February 21, 2025

Presentation is **Fencing and Wildlife** by Kathie Jermstad



Territorialism is common among animal species. Humans may be the only species that mark territory with a physical barrier, namely fences. This presentation describes how many styles of fencing unintentionally cause harm to wildlife. Some tips on how to mitigate existing fences, and designs of purpose-effective fencing will also be shared.

Most of Kathie's 27-year career with the Pacific Southwest Research Station (USFS) was spent on conducting genomic research in conifers, mapping genes that control important adaptive traits like dormancy release and cold-hardiness, and genes responsible for resistance to the fungal pathogen that causes white pine blister rust in five-needled pines. Near the end of her career, she went from working with trees to working with wildlife, which was her original desire and training. She worked in California fisher and western pond turtle conservation, and avian nesting and reproduction. Prior to retirement in 2016, she collaborated with researchers from various agencies in road ecology and landscape connectivity, which she continues to this day. Fences are anthropogenic barriers that have a significant effect on wildlife on multiple levels, including physical harm, food and water deprivation, the inability to escape wildfires, and genetic isolation leading to inbreeding.

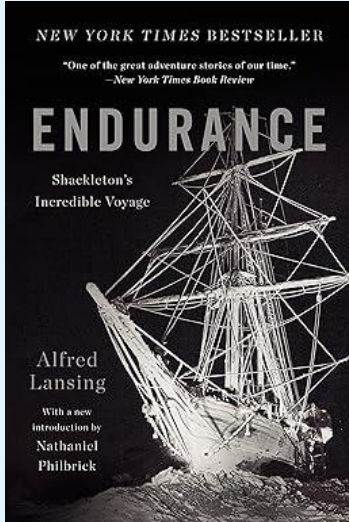
The **Genealogy Group** will meet on February 4th and March 4th. They meet at the LDS Family History Center (3275 Cedar Ravine Rd, Placerville) on **the 1st Tuesday** of each month 1-3 p.m.

The Book Group meets on February 13th

They meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Placerville Main library
(345 Fair Lane, Placerville) from 1-3 PM

Endurance by Alfred Lansing

February Book



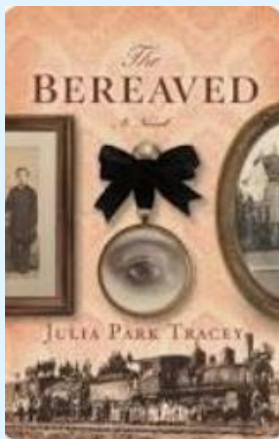
Experience “one of the best adventure books ever written” (Wall Street Journal) in this New York Times bestseller: the harrowing tale of British explorer Ernest Shackleton's 1914 attempt to reach the South Pole.

In August 1914, polar explorer Ernest Shackleton boarded the *Endurance* and set sail for Antarctica, where he planned to cross the last uncharted continent on foot. In January 1915, after battling its way through a thousand miles of pack ice, and only a day's sail short of its destination, the *Endurance* becomes locked in an island of ice. Thus began the legendary ordeal of Shackleton and his crew of twenty-seven men. When their ship was finally crushed between two ice floes, they attempted a near-impossible journey over 850 miles of the South Atlantic's heaviest seas to the closest outpost of civilization.

In *Endurance*, the definitive account of Ernest Shackleton's fateful trip, Alfred Lansing brilliantly narrates the harrowing and miraculous voyage that has defined heroism for the modern age.

The Bereaved by Julia Park Tracey

March Book



Based on the author's research into her grandfather's past as an adopted child, and the surprising discovery of his family of origin and how he came to be adopted, Julia Park Tracey has created a mesmerizing work of historical fiction illuminating the darkest side of the Orphan Train.

In 1859, women had few rights, even to their own children. When her husband dies and her children become wards of a predator, Martha-bereaved and scared-flees their beloved country home taking the children with her to the squalor of New York City. She manages to find them shelter in a tenement packed with other down-on-their-luck families and then endeavors to find work as a seamstress.

But as a naive woman alone, preyed on by male employers, she soon finds herself nearly destitute. Her children are hungry with no coal for their fire. Illness lays them low and Martha begins to lose hope.

Sierra Renaissance Society of El Dorado County Calendar		
2025 Dates	Presentation Subject	Speaker
February 21, 2025	Fencing and Wildlife	Kathie Jermstad
March 21, 2025	Researching Ancestral History for My Historical Fiction Novel, <i>The Bereaved</i>	Julia ParkTracey
April 18, 2025	From There to Here, the Role of the El Dorado Community Foundation	Bill Roby, Amy Pooley
May 16, 2025	How To Get More Out Of Art and Life!	Deborah Pond-Hinde
June 20, 2025	Travels to Bhutan, Nepal & India	Steve and Dickson Schwarzbach
July 18, 2025	Ice Cream Social	
August 15, 2025	American Inspirations: Where Music and Art Meet	Keith Atwater
September 19, 2025	The History of ARC's Wakamatsu Farm	Melissa Lobach
October 17, 2025	The Future of Healthcare in Western El Dorado County	Mindy Danovaro et al
November 21, 2025	Veteran Panel Discussion	Dick Morris & Panel
December No Meeting	No Presentation	
All meetings will be held at the Mother Lode Lions Hall 4701 Missouri Flat Rd. Diamond Springs 1-3 PM		

For those who have yet not paid your dues for 2025, they are due.

It's **Renewal Time** for 2025. If you haven't renewed already, you have three options:

- Pay by check or cash at the February meeting,
- Send a check to EDCF, PO Box 1388, Placerville, Ca. 95667 by the end of February. Please: make check payable to EDCF and put Sierra Renaissance Society on the memo line,
- Or go to the EDCF website and pay by credit card. The URL is listed below.

The dues remain at \$20 for the year and we thank you for your support.

Link  [Renew your membership online](#)

What's Happening this Month

Tuesday
February 4th

Genealogy Group meets 1-3 PM
Church of the Latter-Day Saints Family Center
3275 Cedar Ravine Rd. Placerville

Thursday
February 13th

Book Group meets 1-3 PM
Placerville Main Library
345 Fair Lane, Placerville

Friday
February 21st

Monthly meeting Fencing and Wildlife
by Kathleen Jermstad
4701 Missouri Flat Rd. Diamond Springs
Mother Lode Lions Hall 1-3PM

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March 4th

Genealogy Group meets 1-3 PM
Church of the Latter-Day Saints Family Center
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Link to You Tube videos of previous presentations:

<https://www.youtube.com/@sierrarenaissancesociety6812>

A PDF of the newsletter can be found on the SRSEdc.com website
at the link below:

[Newsletter in PDF link](#)