



Village Genealogical Society Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 4

Hot Springs Village, Arkansas 71909

December 2008

VGS General Meeting:

The Coronado Center, 2 p.m.
First Thursday of each month

VGS Breakfast Meeting:

Ramona's Kitchen, 9:00 a.m.
Third Thursday of each month
(September to June)

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VGS Programs

December 4, 2008 - "The Origins and Meanings of Christmas Traditions"

We all have Christmas traditions, but we probably don't very often think much about them. Did your father read the Christmas story from the Bible on Christmas Eve? Did you go to a candlelight service at your church on Christmas

Announcements

VGS 2009 Spring Family History Workshop

Sat. March 21, 2009

Speaker
Michael John Neill

See page 7 for application and details.

January meeting is on the second Thursday

Eve? Did you open your presents on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning? When was the Christmas tree put up and decorated? When was it taken down? Was it real or artificial? Did you buy it at a lot or cut it yourself? Did your family have the traditional dinner of my family: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberries, and pumpkin pie with whipped cream?

Beverly Vlassek will be our speaker. She is originally from Alabama and has a master of arts degree and master of science degree in English from the University of Memphis. She taught English at a college in Memphis for 27 years.

January 8, 2009 - "Documentation and Citation"

Marilyn Mertens, a member of VGS and a retired political science professor, will be presenting this program.

VGS Officers:

President..... Valerie B. Hartnett
V.P. Programs..... Marcia Clark
Asst. V.P. Prgrms..... Gordon Bard
Treasurer..... Marlene Wilson
Secretary..... Kathy Dotson
V.P. Membership..... Paul Harkins
Librarian..... Judy Robbins
Historian..... Marcie Guise

Board of Directors:

Newsletter Editor..... Mitzi Hunter
Assistant Editor..... Barbara Baker
Member Resources... Paul Harkins
Past President..... Jeanette Frahm
Webmaster..... Larry Smith

She was scheduled to speak at the September meeting which had to be canceled due to the hurricane.

"Documentation" is the act of, or instance of, authenticating documents. It is also the provision of footnotes, appendices, or addenda referring to or containing documentary evidence.

"Citation" is to quote by way of example, authority, or proof; to bring forward or call to another's attention especially as an example, proof, or precedent.

In other words, documentation and citation are noting the where, when, what, why, and who of a document.

Knowing how to do this is very important and will save the genealogist time and trouble in not having to look up the information a second time and will enable the reader of the document to go to the

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original source. However, we all know that doing the recording is not nearly as exciting as finding the document!!!

February 5, 2009 - "Joining a Lineage Society"

Our speaker will be Mary Reid Warner, who is a long-time member of VGS. She also has been presenting programs to our Society for many years. A graduate of Oklahoma State University, she also has a master's degree from Southern Methodist University and has been collecting information on her ancestors for over 30 years.

She also is a member of the Akansa Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, as well as the Colonial Dames XVII Century. These are lineage societies. In order to be accepted as a member one has to be a descendant of someone who fits the category. These Societies have a position on their Board whose job it is to help you find your ancestor who, for these particular Societies, was in the American Revolution or was a Colonial Dame. So, it really is not a difficult feat to accomplish.

Please let us know if you would like to hear a speaker on a particular topic or if you have a speaker you would like to recommend or if you have a topic you would like to speak about at an upcoming meeting. We would love to hear from you.

*Marcia Clark, V.P. Programs
Gordon Bard, Ass't. V.P. Programs*

From the President

Soon we will be tearing off the December page of the calendar and quickly will realize that the year has ended. The year 2008 is gone! If you are like a lot of people you will have a passing thought of your

2008 New Year's resolutions. If you are one of the lucky ones, you achieved them. Many of us don't. I still don't exercise enough. I still have the same pounds to lose. I could go on and on. So I have given some thought to different resolutions. I was thinking that I could use some of the ideas of our past programs. I could use some of Susan Broyles's ideas and dig through immigration records, I could organize and preserve my 'papers' with some of Bob Edwards' great tips, and the list goes on. I could be more specific and have one genealogy goal. I could really try to find my Baker line. Do you have a specific genealogy goal? I am not saying that I won't put some of the other resolutions on my list, exercise more, etc., but hopefully at the end of 2009 I will have achieved at least my genealogy goal.

Speaking of the year 2008, many meteorologists have written that this has been a year of terrible hurricanes and tornadoes. When you gather with your family during the holiday season, hopefully you will have many of your older family members with you. Ask the older members if they remember a bad snowstorm, or tornado or hurricane, and let them give you an insight into how it affected your family. Who knows they might remember some family member that had never been mentioned before. Those old memories are worth recording.

I wish each of you a wonderful Christmas and a blessed 2009. I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

*Valerie B. Hartnett
VGS President*

Civil War Pensions

Historical records subscription site Footnote released its first digi-

tized Civil War Widows' Pension files.

Footnote's collection has 5,257 record images so far. They're part of a pilot project, announced about a year ago, to work with the National Archives and Records Administration (which holds the original pension records) and FamilySearch to digitize 3,150 pension files of Civil War widows.

FamilySearch and Footnote plan to digitize all 1,280,000 pensions in the series. Pension records were never microfilmed, so until now, your only option to get your ancestor's record was to travel to NARA in Washington, DC, hire a local researcher, or order copies for \$75 or more.

The digitized records are part of Footnote's \$69.95 annual subscription, [or \$11.95 for one month at www.footnote.com].

You can view the records free at Family History Centers and at NARA facilities. A Civil War pension index is free on the FamilySearch Record Search pilot site.

*Genealogy Insider
Diane Haddad
October 16, 2008*

Online Computer Backup

There is an online program that will backup your files so you may retrieve your lost data and files. Here are their claims:

Mozy makes online backup possible for everyone with an affordable, secure solution that's easy to use.

Mozy is a simple and safe way to back up all the important stuff on your computer. A copy of your data is stored in a secure, remote location for safekeeping, so that in the

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event of disaster your data is still retrievable.

MozyHome Free will store up to 2GB, and MozyHome Unlimited will store unlimited data for \$4.95/month. For further information, go to their website: <http://mozy.com/>.

Shared by Glenn Shelley

Irish and UK Research

A list of contact information for various agencies in Ireland and the United Kingdom is listed on page five of this newsletter.

Research Websites

VGS has members who are just beginning their genealogy research. Here are some of the common databases used by researchers.

Ancestry, a subscription database, www.ancestry.com. Censuses, death indexes, hundreds of databases. AncestryLibrary is a library subscription version of Ancestry, and can be accessed, free, in the Saline County Library, and Arkansas History Commission.

Heritage Quest Online, an in-library subscription, free to users at home. At the libraries listed, enter your library card number to access. At Garland County Library, <http://garland.lib.ar.us/>, click Heritage Quest. At Saline County Library, <http://www.saline.lib.ar.us>, click Genealogy & Local History, then Online Databases.

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/, a free website. On the home page click various links, including the Social Security Death Index. Click Family Trees at the top, then click Advanced Search, to see if an ancestor is listed. Or, at the top, click Web Sites. In the Regional Resource list, click United States of

America, click on a state, then on a county.

FamilySearch, a free site, www.FamilySearch.org, click Search Records, Advanced Search or Record Search Pilot. The Advanced Search accesses transcribed records, or LDS member submissions; or the 1880 U.S. Census. The Search Pilot has 1900 U.S. Census images and various other records.

Google, a search engine. www.google.com, search for your ancestor's name, or a location, etc. For best results use quotes to keep the searched text together ("John Doe" "Johnson County Iowa").

Sound Familiar?

1. The grave stone does not agree with the family bible.
2. The names and dates in the bible were written in well after the fact, and are the best recollection of whoever wrote them. We can't read their handwriting.
3. The ship's captain couldn't spell any better than ggggg—grandpa.
4. "Standard Spelling" is a relatively recent invention.
5. The census worker couldn't spell and had really bad handwriting that day.
6. The newspaper misprinted the names and dates in the obit.
7. The courthouse burned down and/or was flooded, so the original records are not available.
8. Translation from old high German to modern English is not an exact science.
9. The church records were destroyed in the same fire/flood.
10. We have the person's name on four different documents and it is spelled 4 different ways.
11. Some information appears to have been altered or excised by little old ladies whose sensibilities

were offended.

12. Military records are maintained by staff clerks who can neither write nor spell.

13. The ink has faded, and you wouldn't believe the stains on these documents.

14. Not every girl knows who the father was, or tells. The fathers are even less certain. We are going by the official family story until the DNA tests come back.

15. Mandatory reporting of births, deaths, and marriages is a relatively recent invention.

16. The entire census for this county was lost. (It was probably legible.)

17. Rather than research which John or Abraham was their ancestor, someone guessed.

A Preface by Gary D. Smith

Shared by Glenn Shelley

Coonskin Cap

Is it true that Daniel Boone wore a coonskin cap?

No, the grandson of an English Quaker, Boone never wore a coonskin cap, preferring the broad-brimmed beaver hat that was a family tradition.

Strange Stories, Amazing Facts of America's Past (Reader's Digest)

Cheap Research

A man visited a professional genealogist and asked how much it would cost to have his family tree traced.

"That depends on how far back you want it traced and how difficult it is to search the records. It might cost several hundred dollars or several thousands."

"That sounds expensive," the man said. "Isn't there a cheaper way?"

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“Oh, sure,” said the genealogist, “the easiest way to have your family tree researched is for you to run for public office.”

Author unknown, published in “Delta County Genealogical Society” December 2003 Newsletter. Escanaba, Michigan.

What is a Genealogist?

A full time detective
A thorough historian
A snoop
A confirmed diplomat
A keen observer
A hardened skeptic
An apt biographer
A qualified linguist
A part-time lawyer
A studious sociologist
An accurate reporter
A hieroglyphics expert
and ...
A complete nut

*Original source unknown
VGS Newsletter, Sept. 2004*

Marriages Made in Heaven?

Sept. 19, 1737: Charles Carroll of Annapolis, son of Charles "the Settler," and his cousin Elizabeth Brooke, had a son, named Charles. Charles and Elizabeth were not formally married, and would not marry until 1757, when their son was almost 20 years old. At the time of their marriage, Charles and Elizabeth signed a pre-nuptial contract by which she waived all claims to Carroll's property, and accepted an annual stipend of 100 pounds sterling, about one-tenth of Carroll's wealth.

“Marriages are Made in Heaven, But Where are They Recorded, Part One: Direct Records of Marriage,” by Robert Barnes.

In Remembrance

James Crider, age 71, of Hot Springs Village, died Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2008, at a local hospital. He was born May 8, 1937, in Scranton, Penn., to James E. Crider and Edith Jones Crider.

Mr. Crider was an elementary school teacher. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Jim joined the Village Genealogical Society in February 2008.

From the Librarian

The VGS subscribes to three magazines for our members. The newest issues are always on the magazine rack. They could be placed at the “Family Tree” spot on the rack or at the “Genealogy” spot when the Library makes the change.

The January 2009 issue of *Family Tree Magazine* has several interesting articles. They are: Find your Roots in a Hour! 14 Quick Research Ideas; How to locate relatives' letters, post cards and telegrams; Trace your Mexican Ancestors; Recipes for disaster: Reader's Ickiest Family Dishes; Facebook for the deceased; 13 Google tricks for genealogists; and Guide to deciphering old handwriting. West Virginia and South Dakota are the states discussed this month in the state research guide section.

The December 2008 issue of *Discovering Family History* has an interesting article on – Special Delivery! We show you how sealing wax, stamps, and postcards can benefit your genealogy research! Additionally, some of the other subjects covered are: Basic Training in Military Records; Genealogy Myths Busted!; 15 Family History Flubs; and What's a GEDCOM? There is also a feature article on Making Genealogy Fun for Kids!

The December 2008 issue of *Family Chronicle* has a very interesting article on: Jail and Criminal Records - From Alcatraz to the Old Bailey, we look at record resources for locating your jailbird ancestors! Also covered in this issue – Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness; Tracking Down Living Relatives; Prisoner of War Records; Deciphering Military Gravestone Abbreviations; Mining Church Archives; and much more.

Past issues of these three magazines are filed in 3-ring binders in the genealogy section, located near the genealogy computer. The VGS has purchased several books that could be very useful in your research. You may find a listing of these books on our web site and from the library. Additionally, I always have CDs with me at the meeting that can be checked out for 30 days and extended for longer if needed.

*Judy Robbins
VGS Librarian*

Arkansas Cemetery Indexing Project

The Medlock Cemetery in Garland County has completed on FindAGrave.com and ArkansasGravestones.org. There are a few cemetery plots that need to be turned in to Joy Stefan. The Glazier Peau Cemetery has been completed.

If you would like to participate in this worthwhile project but have not yet signed up, notify Joy Stefan at joybob1969@sbcglobal.net.

VGS Website

Be sure to visit the Village Genealogical Society website. There is much information on it, including our VGS library list and past VGS newsletters.

<http://pages.suddenlink.net/hsvgs/>



Helpful Websites

The web links in the VGS Newsletters, beginning September 2006 to current, are live/active links. Click on the link to open the website.

Contact information for United Kingdom and Ireland research.

Note: Dialing Codes in order: International code from U.S., Country code, City code, then local number.

The National Library of Ireland, 2/3 Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

Fax: 011-353-1-676-6690; E: info@nli.ie; W: <http://www.nli.ie/>

The Representative Church Body Library, Braemor Park, Churchtown, Dublin 14, Ireland

T: 011-353-1-492-3979, F: 011-353-1-492-4770; E: library@ireland.anglican.org; W: www.ireland.anglican.org

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, 66 Balmoral Avenue, Belfast, BT9 6NY, Northern Ireland.

Tel: 011-44-28-9025-5905; Fax: 011-44-28-9025-5999; E: proni@dcalni.gov.uk; W: <http://www.proni.gov.uk/>

General Register Office (GRO) Northern Ireland, Oxford House, 49/55 Chichester Street, Belfast, BT1 4HL, Northern Ireland. Tel: 011-44-28-9025-2000; e-mail contact on home page: <http://www.groni.gov.uk/>

General Register Office [England & Wales], P.O. Box 2, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 2JD, United Kingdom.

Tel: 011-44-845-603-7788; Fax: 011-44-170-455-0013; E: certificate.services@ons.gsi.gov.uk;

W: <http://www.gro.gov.uk/>

General Register Office for Scotland, New Register House, 3 West Register Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3YT, Scot-

land. Tel: 011-44-131-334-0380; use contact form for e-mail: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/contacts/contact-form.html>; W: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/>

The Family Records Centre, 1 Myddelton Street, London, EC1R 1UW, England.

T: 011-44-208-392-5300; F: 011-44-208-487-9214; E: frc@nationalarchives.gov.uk;

Contact form: <http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/contact.asp>; W: <http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/>

The National Archives of Scotland, H M General Register House, 2 Princes Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3YY, Scot-

land. T: 011-44-131-535-1314; F: 011-44-131-535-1328; E: enquiries@nas.gov.uk; W: <http://www.nas.gov.uk/>

Library of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Ireland, Quaker House, Stocking Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Ireland. T: 011-353-1-495-6888; F: 011-353-1-495-6889;

E: office@quakers-in-ireland.ie; W: <http://www.quakers-in-ireland.org/>

The Information Office, Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Church House, Belfast BT1 6DW, Northern Ireland.

Tel: 011-44 -28-9032-2284; Fax: 011-44-28-9041-7301; Email: Info@PresbyterianIreland.org;

W: <http://www.presbyterianireland.org/>

The Huguenot Society of Great Britain & Ireland, Mrs Barbara Julien, Hon. Secretary, The Huguenot Library, The Huguenot Society, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, England (as of 11/2008).

W: <http://www.huguenotsociety.org.uk/family/>;

Contact How-to: <http://www.huguenotsociety.org.uk/family/A-HowToProceed.pdf>.

Submitted by Robert "Rip" Phillips

Melting Pot Genealogical Society Library

649-B Ouachita Ave.
Hot Springs, AR 71901

Hours:

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Monday & Friday, 2nd Saturday

Call 501-624-0229 to confirm that the library is open before going to visit.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~armpgs/>

Family History Center Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

2765 Malvern Ave.
Hot Springs, AR
501-262-2782 (during open hours)

Hours:

Tuesday 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Closed Holidays

There is also a FHC at Otter Creek, just off I-30 in Little Rock.

Memphis Central Library

3030 Poplar Ave., Memphis, AR
901-415-2700

Hours:

Mon.-Thu. 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sun. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

www.memphislibrary.org/

Garland County Library

1427 Malvern Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901
(501) 922-4483

Hours:

Mon., Fri., Sat.
9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs.
9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sun. 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

<http://www.garland.lib.ar.us/>

Visit the "Genealogy" Room D

Coming Events

FSG Conference

Passages Through Time

Sept. 2-5, 2009
Little Rock, AR

Hosted by
Federation of Genealogical Soc.
Arkansas Genealogical Soc.

See website for more information:

www.fgs.org

Reminders

If your email address, home address, or phone number changes, please let one of the officers know so that you will continue to receive the Newsletter.

From the Editors

Thanks to all of you who contributed articles to the Newsletter.

If you have a bit of genealogy news, trivia, or hint, please e-mail it to the editors at mitzibitzi2@hotmail.com or mbbaker@suddenlink.net.

Be sure to give the source so we can give credit where credit is due.



Arkansas History Commission

One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-682-6900

Hours: (call to confirm)
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Saturday
www.ark-ives.com/

On your first visit you must register and obtain an admission card.

Directions:

- Take I-30 to I-430 north
- Take the I-630 east exit
- Take the 2B exit
- Turn left toward the Capitol
- Turn left on the 1st street
- At the next street turn right
- At bottom of hill park in the large parking lot
- Enter through door on ground level.

The History Commission and State Archives are on the 2nd floor.

You must sign in to enter the building. And sign out when you leave.

Arkansas Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 17653
Little Rock, AR 72222

New web address:

www.agsgenealogy.org/

Saline County Library

Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library
1800 Smithers Dr.

Benton, AR 72015

(501) 778-4766

(800) 476-4466

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tues. & Fri.

9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

<http://www.saline.lib.ar.us/>

Visit the Genealogy Room



Village Genealogical Society
Hot Springs Village, Arkansas



Presents

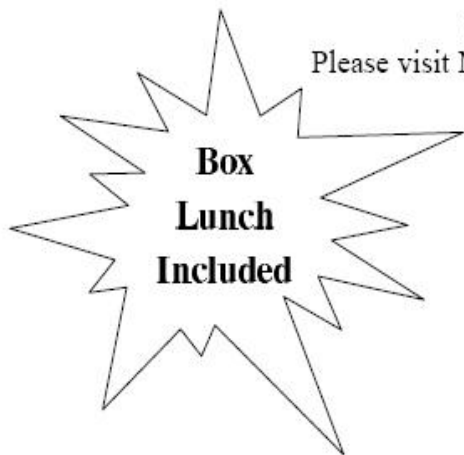
2009 Spring Family History Workshop

Featuring

Michael John Neill, M.S.

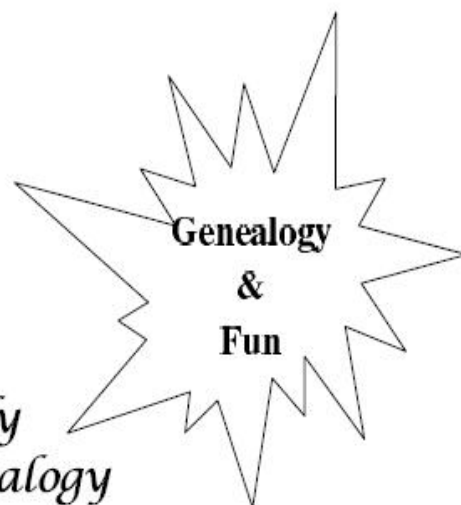
Genealogy Researcher, Author, & Speaker

Please visit Michael John Neill's Genealogy Site at www.rootdig.com



**Box
Lunch
Included**

Saturday, March 21, 2009
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Workshop: 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Coronado Center
150 Ponderosa Lane
Hot Springs Village, Arkansas



**Genealogy
&
Fun**

Topics for the Day

Researching the Entire Family
Problem Solving Applied to Genealogy
I Found it; Now what?
Tried and Tested Tidbits

See VGS website for addition information and directions

<http://pages.suddenlink.net/hsvgs/>

Or call: Jeanette Frahm at 501-922-9220 E-mail J44F65@yahoo.com

REGISTRATION FORM:

Seminar Fee \$35.00

Box lunch included with fee

Send this form and check payable to Village Genealogical Society to:

Village Genealogical Society, 19 Fachado Drive, Hot Springs Village, AR 719 09

Please mail by March 5, 2009 to ensure lunch and syllabus. No refunds after March 5, 2009

Please Print

Name _____
 Address _____ Amount Enclosed _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____