



Village Genealogical Society Newsletter

Volume 16 Issue 1

Hot Springs Village, Arkansas 71909

March 2009

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

March 5, 2009 - "Preserving and Sharing Genealogical Facts and Family History"

History is important. Some might say that passing the history of mothers and fathers and their children to the younger generations is essential to civilization. Remember all those "begots" and stories about the people in the Bible? A fair amount of that well-known revered Book is family history. Children have a much better idea of who they are and

Announcements

VGS 2009 Spring Family History Workshop

Sat. March 21, 2009

Speaker

Michael John Neill

See page 6 for application and details.

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Beginning Genealogy Class

See page 2 for details.

VGS Officers:

President Valerie B. Hartnett
V.P. Programs Marcia Clark
Asst. V.P. Prgrms..... Gordon Bard
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Secretary Kathy Dotson
V.P. Membership..... Paul Harkins
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Board of Directors:

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

can be when they know about their ancestors. Grandchildren probably will only remember for a very short time the sweater or iPod they receive as a gift. However, the dates and places and stories about the lives of their grandparents or parents, creatively put together, will be a treasure long cherished. Beverly Vlassek will be our speaker at the March meeting. She will share with us her ideas and techniques for presenting family history in an interesting way. The goal will be to enable each of us to create a memento that will be read and looked at and enjoyed by our descendants. This will ensure the preservation of our personal and family history. Beverly is originally from Alabama and was an English professor at a Memphis college for 27 years before retiring with her husband Stefan to Hot Springs Village. Her daughter and three young grandsons live in southern California. She is a member of the Hot Springs Chapter of the

United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Akansa Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Hot Springs Village Audubon Society, and the Blount County Historical Society in her Alabama hometown.

April 2, 2009 - "Was Grandpa Really Grandpa?" Using DNA Identification in Genealogy"

DNA testing contributed to the evidence indicating that the father of Sally Hemming's children was Thomas Jefferson, who was the third president of the United States. In addition to establishing relationships, DNA testing can reconstruct families, indicate ethnic origins and migration routes, and prove or disprove disputed paternal events. Our speaker on this fascinating subject is Dr. Buford Suf-ridge, Jr. He spoke on this topic at the February 2006 meeting of the Village Genealogical Society. Many

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members have joined VGS since then and some have been asking for more information in this area. In addition, Dr. Suffridge says that there have been several interesting developments along these lines in the past three years. Dr. Suffridge is a resident of North Little Rock where he practiced orthodontics for 26 years until his retirement in 2000. He has written a weekly article for the *Perry County Edition of the Petit Jean Country Headlight*, entitled "Glimpses from the Past," for over six years and has served as president of the Perry County Historical and Genealogical Society. He is co-author of the book *Perry County, Arkansas: Its Land and People*.

May 7, 2009 - "Genealogy Question and Answer Panel"

Some members of the Village Genealogical Society are new to genealogy. We all have been stumped and have hit that brick wall on a particular line or two. This meeting will be an opportunity to get some help. Other VGS members have been researching family history for many years and have expertise in particular areas of genealogy. Some from this group will make up the panel. Panel members will research the questions and look into locating the records that will provide the answers and the information. The questions and answers will be the program at the May meeting. Please submit questions to Marcia Clark at the March or April meeting or via email at marciar-clark@suddenlink.net or telephone 915-9024. We look forward to hearing from you.

June 4, 2009 - "The Surprises and Rewards of Writing Family History"

You have spent countless hours researching your family and countless hours filing all the information and/or

inputting all the information into your family history computer program. There is one problem. At this point very few people have access to this information. Getting the information on the internet or into a book or journal is necessary for the information to be available to others. At our June meeting Lynda Childers Suffridge will speak on writing a family history. The article she wrote for the 2007 Arkansas Genealogical Society Family History Writing Contest Bobbie Jones McLane Award is entitled: "Descendants of Reuben Searcy and Isabella McDonald." This article also won the Arkansas Historical Association Walter L. Brown Best Family History in a County or Local Journal Contest. This was quite a surprise as she did not know it had been submitted! Lynda is vice president and chair of the Awards Committee of the National Genealogical Society, secretary of the Arkansas Genealogical Society, co-editor of the AGS Ezine, editor of the Perry County (Arkansas) Historical and Genealogical Society Newsletter, and lecturer in Course III at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. She will be lecturing at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina in May and at the FGS Conference in Little Rock in September.

Thanks to all of our recent speakers. They all have done a wonderful job. 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, Asst. V.P. Prog.*

Beginning Genealogy Class

Dates: Mondays, April 20, April 27, and May 4

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m. each day
Location: Coronado Center, Room 6
Instructor: Jeanette Frahm
Fee: \$15 (pay the first day)
Registration: call Jeanette at 922-9220 or e-mail J44F65@yahoo.com
Class size is limited.
Sponsored by VGS

From the President

One year ago, I wrote that I was stunned, nervous, and excited to be your President. How time flies. VGS has an election on the horizon, and the nominating committee needs you to volunteer to serve on the board. VGS needs you to step forward and make a commitment to assure the continued growth of our organization—our organization, yours and mine. Every organization needs a board with new faces and new ideas. God has given each one of us talents to share. I am asking you to accept a leadership role in the society and share your talents with this organization.

If you haven't already signed up for VGS workshop that is featuring Michael John Neill, sign up now. It will be on Saturday, March 21. This workshop might be the answer you or I need to get over the brick wall. I am looking forward to seeing you at the workshop.

Oh, I still get some of those feelings that I had a year ago, but I know that whatever I do or don't do the organization will strive. VGS is an organization of strong individuals that share a common interest--genealogy.

*Valerie B. Hartnett
VGS President*

Revolutionary War Research

Do you have a Revolutionary soldier in your family tree? If you have an

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ancestor born between 1720 and 1763, there is a good possibility that he may have served in the revolutionary effort. Here are a series of steps and resources that you will want to use to establish whether or not your ancestor served or received bounty land or a pension, as well as background information to help you fill in the picture about the world in which your ancestor lived.

There are many resources, both in print and online, to help you answer this question. Your ancestor may have had service in the Continental Army, authorized by the Continental Congresses, or may have served in a state militia, so you may find records both in national and in state archives.

*Excerpt from blog
by Carolyn L. Barkley
July 2008*

For the complete article click:

<http://www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com/?p=43>

1911 UK Censuses

36 million people living in England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man were recorded in the census taken on the night of Sunday, 2 April 1911. Today, after nearly 100 years, these census records are available to the public online. This is three years earlier than the originally scheduled release date of 2012 - a great boon for family historians!

The new 1911 census site offers transcribed text versions, as well as high quality digitized images of the original handwritten census returns - fully searchable by name or address. Searching is free, but transcripts and images can only be viewed by purchasing credits. I was glad to see that credits purchased on FindMyPast.com can be used for the 1911 Census site as well, but was disappointed that my annual FindMyPast subscription package doesn't appear to apply. Paying by the credit could make viewing a single

census image (which requires 30 credits) cost as much as £3.48, which is just a little over \$5 U.S. dollars. That can get pretty pricey in a hurry unless you know exactly where to find the individual you're looking for.

Excerpt from Kimberly Powell's Genealogy Blog, Jan. 13, 2009

For the complete article copy link:

<http://genealogy.about.com/b/2009/01/13/1911-uk-census-now-online.htm>

Or click the link below:

<http://genealogy.about.com/b/2009/01/13/1911-uk-census-now-online.htm>

English & UK Research

English Family History & Genealogy created by professional genealogist Nathan W. Murphy, MA, AG®. If you are doing English research, this site contains hundreds of links to England and the United Kingdom information sites.

http://www.pricegen.com/english_genealogy.html

German Research

VGS is grateful for the following offer of assistance:

“While I have no particular interest in genealogy, I might be able to help some of your German researchers. I speak fluent German, and can read (most of the time) and translate the old style writing. You can contact me if your people need help.”
Hilde Simmons, HSV, 847-502-5701.

German Surname Map, overview: “Geogen is the short form for “geographical genealogy” which means location based ancestor research. On this website you can create maps which show the distribution of surnames in Germany and Austria. Significant concentrations can point to a local root of the family or of the family name.”

Type in a surname and click Research. If you get a result, then click on the Absolute Map link and see where the current concentration of the surname is these countries.

<http://christoph.stoepel.net/geogen/en/Default.aspx>

Or click the link below:

<http://christoph.stoepel.net/geogen/en/Default.aspx>

South Dakota Censuses

Dick Eastman reports in his latest issue of Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter that the LDS FamilySearch Pilot Site has now completed indexing the 1915 and 1925 South Dakota state censuses. The 1905 SD state census is also available, and you can access the original census cards. This may prove useful for anyone whose ancestors were living in South Dakota in those years.

*Allyn Brosz, by e-mail
Submitted by Joy Stefan*

<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html>

In Remembrance

George W. Wharton, age 81, of Hot Springs Village, Ark., died Friday, Jan. 16, 2009 at a Hot Springs hospital.

He was born May 8, 1927, in Pueblo, Colo., to the late Ira F. and Annie Edmiston Wharton.

He was a veteran of the United States Army and served his country from 1945 to 1947, and spent a year in Korea on occupation duty. He received a degree in engineering from Colorado School of Mines.

George was a member of the Christ of the Hills United Methodist Church, the Village Genealogical Society (since 2005), the HSV Computer Club, the HSV Concerts Association, and was part of the DeSoto Square Dancers. He was also a former member of the HSV Roadrunner RV Club and the HSV Camera Club.

From the Librarian

The VGS subscribes to three magazines for our members. The newest issues are always on the magazine rack – look for the marker “Family Tree” or “Genealogy.”

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Family Tree Magazine, March 2009 articles: Cheap Thrills, three articles on economical research; Catalog Shopping, using the library catalogs, by Rick Crume; Tale Spin, writing successful family stories, by Sunny McClellan Morton; and Great Danes, a helpful guide to discovering your Danish roots, by David Fryxell. Highlighted state research: New Hampshire and Idaho.

Discovering Family History, February 2009 articles: 1850: When the US Census Gets Good!, by David Norris; Focus on Your Cemetery Research, by George Morgan; Cyrillicizing Your Computer, by Matthew Bielawa and Lisa Alzo; Has Your Family History Been Published?, by Marian Press; An Introduction to Military Pension Records, by David Norris; If I Were to Start My Genealogy Now, by Diane Richards; When Up is Down: Colonial Canada Research, by Beverly Smith Vorpahl; Getting Started on German Research, by Leslie Albrecht Huber; Sounding Off for Soundex, by Emily Croom; What's Coming in Discovering Family History!; No, It Can't Wait!, by Carol Richey; the Basics of GEDCOM, by Bill Puller; and Downside of the Digital Age, by Nancy Nally.

Family Chronicle, February 2009, articles: Toronto Genealogy Resources, by Janice Nickerson; Czech and Slovak Research, by Lisa Alzo; African-American Research, by Michael Hait; What is Family?, by Mary Clement Douglass; Tracking "Injun Joe"; Fact or Fiction, by Constance Cherba and Edward Deckert; Working in Archives, by Janice Nickerson; WWII British Guest Children, by John Reid; Research Advice from Literary Sleuths, by Emily Croom; Law Officers in the Family, by David Norris; Finding Libbie Cole: Data in the Details, by Barbara French; Dating Old Military Photos, by Maureen Taylor;

Norwegian Farm Names, by Erica Olsen; Picture Show Pizzaz for Your Family Tree!, by Barbara Tripp; Websites Worth Surfing; and Three C's of Genealogical Research, by F. H. Fonkert.

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. There are two new books coming in March. They are *Google Your Family Tree* and *FTM State Research Guide Book*. You may find a listing of all our books on the VGS 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

Free Downloads

Discovering Family History magazine free download (2008 Preview):

www.discoveringfamilyhistory.com/freepreview.htm

Family Chronicles magazine free download (June 2007):

http://familychronicle.com/FC_Free.htm

Family Tree Magazine downloads & links:

Downloadable forms:

www.familytreemagazine.com/freeforms

Best Websites:

www.familytreemagazine.com/101bestwebsites08/

Relationship Chart

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gentutor/chart.html>

Relationship Cousin Chart & Info:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cousin_chart

Links to free charts:

<http://www.genealogysearch.org/free/forms.html>

Cemetery Research

Don't forget to look in cemetery records for your ancestors. Someone may have added them to FindAGrave, www.findagrave.com, or in a state cemetery record site. Try typing in

your state name followed by Gravestones.org. Sample:

<http://iowagravestones.org/>

Remember, even if there is a photo of a gravestone the information is not always correct, especially if the stone was purchased several years after the death of the person. If there is no gravestone photo the information may not be transcribed correctly. The burial information will give you the name of a cemetery where you can write for more information, or the county where you can send for records.

Arkansas Cemetery Indexing Project

Spring is coming along with warmer weather. It is time to get involved with photographing cemeteries again. Nearby cemeteries are Shiloh Cemetery on Hwy. 7, north of Home Plate Restaurant, and Mountain Valley Cemetery on W. Glazypeau Rd., one-half mile west of Hwy. 7. These photos will be cropped, uploaded and transcribed on the ArkansasGravestones.org site.

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/>

* Link note: some live links have been reduced in font size to keep it on one line, so link is kept whole and working properly. Magnify the online newsletter to read link if needed.

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

2009 FGS Conference

Passages Through Time

Sept. 2-5, 2009
Little Rock Statehouse
Convention Center
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

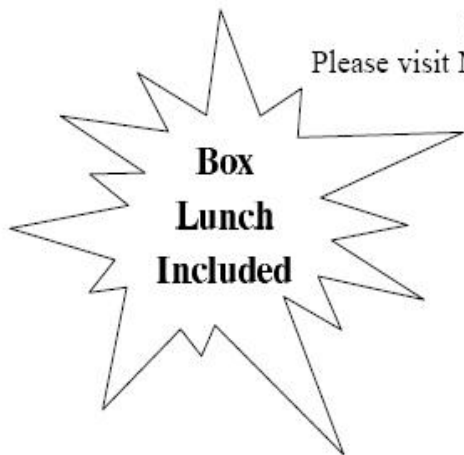
2009 Spring Family History Workshop

Featuring

Michael John Neill, M.S.

Genealogy Researcher, Author, & Speaker

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



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



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 _____