



Village Genealogical Society Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 3

Hot Springs Village, Arkansas 71909

September 2008

VGS General Meeting:

The Coronado Center, 2 p.m.

First Thursday of each month

VGS Breakfast Meeting:

McAuley Center, 8:30 a.m.

Third Thursday of each month

(September to June)

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VGS Programs

September 4, 2008 --

"Documentation and Citation"

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

"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.

Announcements

VGS Picnic

Cortez Pavilion

Thurs., Oct. 16, 2008

4 to 6 p.m.

(details will be emailed)

Community Fair

Sept. 24, 2008

Coronado Center

December 4, 2008

(program change)

"The Origins and Meanings of Christmas Traditions"

"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, though not as exciting as finding the document!!!

October 2, 2008 -- "Did They Come in Ships? Finding and Using Immigration Records"

Finding the record of an immigrant's voyage to America can be a challenge. Susan Boyle's talk may make the job easier. She spoke on this topic at the November 2005 VGS meeting. However, she says many passenger indexes have become available in the last few years.

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

Also, VGS has many members who have joined since then.

In order to find someone in the passenger records, one needs the full name of the person, their probable age, and a probable date of immigration. Knowing the names of family members or neighbors with whom the person may have come can also be very helpful.

Susan lives in Little Rock and has been pursuing her family's history for over 20 years. Her ancestors include, on her father's side, Dutch and English colonists who came to this country in the 17th century and Germans who came in the 18th century; and, on her mother's side, ancestors who came from Ireland in the 1860's and England in the 1870's.

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November 6, 2008 -- "Document and Photo Preservation"

Our speaker will be Robert A. Edwards of Benton, Arkansas. He will be speaking on this subject from experience, his house having been flooded and many of his documents damaged.

He is a Louisiana native who retired in January from his position as manager of technical operations for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) where he supervised 30 people who maintained the electronic equipment and the computers the airline flight controllers used.

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 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, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, green beans, and cranberries?

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. Her husband Stefan Vlassek is originally from Slovakia. She has one daughter and three young grandsons who live in southern California. In her retirement she is fulfilling her life-long commitment

to community service, giving back to society for the advantages, opportunities, and privileges she has enjoyed.

We on the board appreciate all your ideas for programs and speakers. We also appreciate very much the members who continue to volunteer to present programs. Our Society's existence is dependent on all the members who contribute so much of their time and energy!! Thank you so much!!

Marcia Clark, V.P. Programs

From the President

A sure sign that summer is over is seeing the yellow school buses transporting children to school. Summer has flown by. I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer, and I hope that you have had the opportunity to visit locations of your family roots. Perhaps at one of the breakfast meetings you will share with us some genealogical treasure that you found this summer.

This VGS board will work as hard as all the past VGS boards have worked. Some of us are serving another year on the board but I would like to welcome the new board members. Gordon Bard is Assistant Vice President Programs. Gordon will be working with Marcia Clark, V.P. Programs. They will be working very hard to bring interesting, informative programs to our monthly meetings. Paul Harkins is Vice President Membership. Paul will keep our roster updated and welcome new members. Kathy Dotson is Secretary, and will record and submit the minutes of our meetings. Marcie Guise is Historian and will keep records of our meetings, publicity, by-law changes, etc., for future references. Board members that are returning are Marcia Clark, V.P. Programs, Marlene Wilson, treasurer, Judy Robbins, Librarian,

Mitzi Hunter, Newsletter Editor, Barbara Baker, Assistant Newsletter Editor, Jeanette Frahm, Past President, and Larry Smith, VGS webmaster. I am looking forward to working with the new board to make this the best year yet. VGS gets better and better every year because we have the footsteps of many talented, hard working members that went before us to follow.

Don't forget to mark down on your calendar the first Thursday of each month our monthly meeting, and the third Thursday of each month is our monthly breakfast.

George C. Morgan writes the following statement that I think is important.

"Genealogical research is exciting and interesting. My advice to beginners and experienced genealogists is to locate and get involved in a local genealogical society. The people are friendly and helpful, and you will learn a tremendous amount from a society's programs and from individual members. Be prepared to enjoy the thrill of the chase!"

Valerie B. Hartnett

Celebrity Genealogy

NBC Television to Offer "Who Do You Think You Are?" American Style

A genealogy television program in the U.K. has become one of the more popular television programs in that country. In fact, "Who Do You Think You Are?" has also spun off a magazine, computer software, and an annual conference in London that attracts nearly 15,000 attendees. Some American genealogists have wondered, "When will we will get a similar program?" The time is now. Well, this year.

Quoting from NBC's web site: Who Do You Think You Are?

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The answers lie in the past.

*From producer Lisa Kudrow comes a new series that is unlike anything on U.S. television. Based on the popular BBC documentary series, *Who Do You Think You Are?* takes viewers on an inspiring and personal journey into the past of America's best-known celebrities, sharing their emotion and surprise as they uncover stories of heroism, tragedy, love, and betrayal that lie at the heart of their family story. At the same time, the series celebrates the making of our great nation and the people who traveled here in search of freedom and opportunity.*

The same web site promises that the show will spin off an online archive of celebrity ancestry info as well as the ability for users to get started on a personal search into family history.

NBC's version of "Who Do You Think You Are?" will be an all-American show, not reruns of the BBC program. It will feature American celebrities and their ancestry.

*Dick Eastman
Aug. 8, 2008*

Archival Storage

Many people are unsure about how to store the documents they have collected in the course of their genealogical quest. There are a number of considerations in selecting the right storage containers, binders, file folders, and the like. You also have to be aware that anything published on newsprint can spell disaster to documents stored in close proximity to it.

Most of the genealogical items you compile are paper-based materials. These include originals of letters, vital records, land and property records, books, diaries, jour-

nals, forms, and other documents. They also include photocopies you make when you visit libraries, archives, and courthouses. In order to ensure the longevity of these papers, you need to know about and recognize their natural enemies.

Original documents may or may not have been produced using archival-safe paper. Some paper products are manufactured using acids or chemicals which degrade or destroy the paper over time. Newsprint is a prime example of high-acid paper. It has been used in newspapers, telephone directories, and other short-term publications. Other materials it comes in contact with can discolor and/or decompose over time. If this paper comes in contact with other paper documents—even through the air—the other documents become “infected” and begin to discolor. Newsprint should be stored separately from other documents. An excellent solution is to make a photocopy of newsprint items and store the copy instead of the original. However, even photocopies may be a problem because not every photocopy paper is acid-free and archival-safe. Check the box or wrapper that the paper comes in; for these purposes, recycled paper is not a good choice.

*George G. Morgan
June 22, 2008*

[Editor: to view the entire article:
<http://blogs.ancestry.com/circle/?m=200806&paged=2>]

Census Index Info

Familysearch and Ancestry.com team to publish new images and enhanced indexes to the 1900 census images now available on Ancestry.com.

FamilySearch is digitally converting master microfilm copies of the original U.S. Federal Censuses from 1790 through 1930 and, under this agreement, will give these improved images to Ancestry.com. All

census images and indexes will be available on Ancestry.com for subscribers. As projects are completed, images will be available for free in NARA reading rooms and FamilySearch's 4,500 Family History Centers.

The first census exchanged is the 1900 U.S. Census. FamilySearch completed a 1900 index in addition to Ancestry.com's original. In the new index, FamilySearch added several new fields of searchable data, such as birth month and birth year, so individuals can search for ancestors more easily. The two indexes will be merged into an enhanced index, available on both sites. The new 1900 census images are now available on Ancestry.com. The enhanced 1900 index will be available for free for a limited time at Ancestry.com and ongoing at FamilySearch.org.

[Editor: to read the entire article:
<http://blog.dearmrtdc.com/2008/07/familysearch-ancestrycom-team-on-1900.html>]

Census Maps

United States Census Maps from 1790 to 1920. These maps indicate states where censuses were taken, territories for each decade, and land claimed by other countries. You can see the United States being formed.

<http://www.us-census.org/states/map.htm>

Marriages Made in Heaven?

In addition to the usual parish register of marriages, Presbyterians and other denominations recorded baptisms, marriages, and funerals in the Session Minutes or other records of the church. Vestry minutes of the Anglican parishes are also helpful. Consider the following:

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Thomas Phelps, on 26 Aug 1738, with Mark Ford, was summoned to the vestry of St. George's Parish to declare that they both had been married to her who is now called Rose Phelps. She was first married to [-?] Swift, and she eloped from him and Phelps declared he married the said Rose on 18 May 1710 (HAGE:104).

On 11 April 1737: George Farmer, Church Warden, was ordered by the vestry of St. George's Parish to inquire whether Godfrey Vine and Sarah Beddo cohabit together still. On 6 June 1737 Vine and Beddo were summoned to appear at the next vestry and answer their contempt. On 5 July 1737 Vine and Beddo appeared, but could not prove their marriage. "The vestry was pleased to give them until the last Saturday of the month to produce a certificate. On 4 Oct 1737 Godfrey Vine and Sarah Beddo produced a certificate to show they had been married on 14 Feb 1733 by Rev. James Cox, minister of St. Paul's Parish in QA Co (HAGE:104).

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

World Vital Records

Saline County Library now has World Vital Records available for patrons for use in the library, hopefully soon available for remote. They can call me here at the library if they have any questions.

Steve Perdue, Curator
David O. Demuth Arkansas Room
Head of Genealogy and Local
History Department
sperdue@saline.lib.ar.us
(501) 778-4766

Print your Family History

Create your own family history book using AncestryPress. There are many templates to choose from, all related to family history.

Build & Edit - Select the type of book you want and click "Get Started"; Automatically create a book using data in your online family tree; Customize your book by adding images, text and more; Insert pages to add content and include more generations; If you don't have an online tree, you can build a book from scratch.

Print & Publish - Print pages on your home printer for free; or Professional printing and binding.

You do not need a subscription to Ancestry.com to use this service, but you do need to register with the site. Registration is free.

<http://ancestrypress.ancestry.com/>

Check this blog for tips using AncestryPress.

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/circle/?m=200710&paged=3>

Click this link, then click AncestryPress for questions and answers.

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/>

In Remembrance

Deller Scott Hardwick, 91, of Hot Springs, died Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at home. Born January 3, 1917 in Bessemer, Alabama to Romie Rufus and Arlevie Cofer Scott. She was predeceased by her husband, James T. Hardwick.

Deller was a founding member of the Village Genealogical Society.

Janice "Jan" Kendrick, age 74, of Hot Springs Village, Ark., died April 2, 2008. Mrs. Kendrick was born in Clarinda, Iowa, on Sept. 15, 1933, the daughter of the late C.R. (Bill) Kelley and Rae Higgins Kelley. Mrs. Kendrick married Darwin Kendrick of Villisca, Iowa, on

March 9, 1952. Interment was in the Memory Cemetery in New Market, Iowa.

Janice was a member of VGS for several years.

Arkansas Cemetery Indexing Project

The Medlock Cemetery in Garland County has been photographed and continues to be uploaded on FindAGrave.com and Arkansas-Gravestones.org. The Glazier Peau Cemetery has been completed. Volunteers are also helping to plot the cemeteries. Everyone is encouraged to complete their assignments. Joy Stefan is the coordinator for the project, and is doing a great job.

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

VGS Librarian

Judy Robbins has ordered the *Discovering Family History* magazine for the VGS Library. The current subscriptions include the *Family Tree Magazine* and the *Family Chronicles* magazine. These are located in the Coronado Center Library in the magazine section.

A free download of the new magazine is available at (*link**):
<http://www.discoveringfamilyhistory.com/freepreview.htm>

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

October 23, 2008
Saline County Library

Russell Baker
"Looking for Cherokee Family Roots"
6:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information, or to register, call the library at 501-778-4766

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