



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 9, No. 7, July 2014

Johnny Mann, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

JOIN US!

If you are not a member,
this is your official
invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

If you are a member,
look at the back of your
Arkansas Family Historian.
Your membership expires
on the date printed under
your name.

It may be time to renew
your AGS membership dues!

Save the Date
The Arkansas Genealogical Society
2014 Fall Seminar
will be held on
Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20
at the Benton Events Center
Benton, Arkansas
The featured speaker on Saturday will be
Cyndi Ingle
A Genealogist for more than 34 years
Owner and Webmaster of Cyndi's List
Plan on joining us; a good time will be had by all

Inside this issue

Coming Events	3-6
AHC Re-launches Online Digital Archive	7
Walks Through History	8
Where Did it Happen?	9
Archiving the Veteran History Project	10
Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Seminar	11
Build Your Own Website	12-13
Ancestry.com Focuses on Core Holdings	14-15
Ireland Index of Townlands, Now Searchable Online	16-17
AGS Seminar call for vendors	18
Administrative Stuff	19

Tidbits –

Dick Eastman had an interesting item in his May 19th newsletter about Tom Tryniski digitizing 27 million old newspaper pages in his living room. Click on this [LINK](#) to read his article.

Cedar Rapids company under state review after complaints. This is the title of an article in the Cedar Rapids Gazette about Heritage Microfilm and NewspaperArchive.com. You can read the full article on the [Cedar Rapids Gazette](#).

Two important resources for Louisiana researchers are Father Hebert's books and the Catholic Diocese records. Just ask the librarian for Father Hebert's books when you go in. Just about any Louisiana genealogy library will have the books. The Catholic records are important because, at one time, to purchase land in Louisiana and Texas you had to profess to be Catholic. Thanks to Nancy Tribbey of the Texarkana USA Genealogical Society for this valuable information.

Did you know there is a Cloud War? I am talking about The Cloud. Lance Ulanoff has an OP-ED on [Mashable](#) that is worth reading.

Coming Events

July 19, 2014

The 2014 Butler Center for Arkansas Studies Genealogy Conference will be held from 9:00 a.m.—4 p.m. at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater, 100 Rock Street, Little Rock. Due to limited seating, reservations are recommended. This program is free and open to the public. Go to www.butlercenter.org/conference for more information.

July 19, 2014

The Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library will host a Genealogy Lock-In Saturday, July 19 at 315 West Oak St., Jonesboro, AR. 6:00 p.m. to midnight. The speaker will be Dr. Daniel Littlefield. Go to this [link](#) for more information.

July 19, 2014

Walks Through History will be the McCrory Commercial Historic District. See page 8 for details.

July 22, 2014

Civil War Roundtable meeting will be at the Second Presbyterian, 1430 & Cantrell, Little Rock at 7:00 p.m. Tom DeBlack (Ark Tech) will present “Conditions of the Home Front”

July 26, 2014

The Red River Heritage Symposium will be held at Historic Washington State Park.

Coming Events continued

July 28, 2014

Heritage Seekers meeting will be at Laman Library, North Little Rock at 7:00 p.m. Sam Taggart, MD will present “The Public’s Health: A Narrative History of Health & Disease in Arkansas”

August 2, 2014

The Kentucky Genealogical Society Workshop will be held in Frankfort, KY on August 2. Mark Lowe will be presenting. WWW.kentuckygenealogicalsociety.org for more information.

August 9, 2014

Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association Seminar will be held all day Saturday at the Broadmoor United Methodist Church, 3715 Youree Drive, Shreveport, LA. Advance registration recommended due to limited seating. The cost is \$40 which includes lunch. See page 11 or go to their [website](#) for full details.

August 15-17, 2014

The 2014 International Genetic Genealogy Conference will be held in Washington, DC. For more information please visit their website by clicking [HERE](#).

August 20-23, 2014

The NGS research trip to the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, will be under the guidance of research consultants Janet A. Alpert and Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL. This trip is SOLD OUT, but you can

Coming Events continued

get on a waiting list. For more information click [here](#).

August 27 through 30, 2014

The Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas. See the web site for more information, www.fgs.org.

September 19-20, 2014

Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Workshop Benton Event Center Sept 19-20 Friday & Saturday. Cindi Ingel returns to Arkansas. The information is on our website. www.agsgenealogy.org

September 26-27, 2014

The National Standridge Family Reunion will be held in Greenville, SC. See the article on page 16 of the May Ezine for more information.

November 2-8, 2014

NGS research trip to Washington, DC. Registration opened March 3, 2014. This trip is SOLD OUT, but you can be put on a waiting list. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

January 4-11, 2015

NGS research trip to Salt Lake City, Utah. Registration opened March 17, 2014. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Coming Events continued

February 11-14, 2015

FGS is teaming up with RootsTech at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City to share keynotes, activities, and an exhibit hall while offering two separate conferences under one roof. See the [FGS website](#) for the details.

April 25, 2015

The 2015 Indiana Genealogical Society's Annual Meeting and Conference will be in Terre Haute, Indiana. Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist, will be the featured speaker.

May 13-16, 2015

The NGS Family History Conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri, at the St. Charles Convention Center.

History Commission Announces Re-launch of Online Digital Archive

Little Rock, Ark. - The Arkansas History Commission is pleased to announce the re-launch on July 1 of its online digital archive through the Online Computer Library Center's (OCLC) program, Content DM. Content DM is used by archives and libraries across the country to share digitized archival material online.

The AHC initially launched its online digital archive through Content DM in 2006 but with a limited selection of archival material. In recent months, the agency has redesigned the site and added a number of new collections, including all five of Arkansas's constitutions, a collection of historic maps, postcards, World War I material and a collection of Ozark folk music. The project will be ongoing; the AHC will continue to add new archival material and new collections to the site. Some future collections will feature material reflecting the cultural diversity of Arkansas, Civil War era material, flag drawings from the 1913 state competition to design Arkansas's first official flag and oral history interviews with World War II and Korean War veterans.

The redesign of the site and its future additions will allow the AHC to better serve its patrons by providing greater access to special collections materials.

The link to the site will be available through the AHC website, www.ark-ives.com, and through social media.

For more information, contact us at 501-682-6900 or state.archives@arkansas.gov.

Walks Through History July 19, 2014



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program’s July “Walks Through History” will be in the McCrory Commercial Historic District in McCrory, Arkansas.

Co-sponsored by the Woodruff County Historical Society.

Meet at Raney Park at Second & Jackson streets.
The tour begins at 11 a.m.

The Woodruff County town of McCrory incorporated in 1890, just four years after the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Railroad built its east-west Bald Knob branch through Cyrus Wade McCrory’s farm. Mr. McCrory donated fifteen acres for the railroad right-of-way, a depot, and the town site. McCrory’s economy has long been dependent on agriculture, beginning with timber and cotton and expanding to include rice, soybeans, and wheat. The district contains good examples of early 20th century commercial-style architecture, including some buildings with Neoclassical design elements.

Visit the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program’s website by [clicking here](#).

Do You Know Where That Family Historical Event Took Place?

Do you find yourself researching family members and events in your ancestry and wondering where they took place? The name of a town or province, or even a nation no longer in existence leaves all genealogists longing for maps. While we all have ever-growing collections of research atlases and websites, here's one you might not have bookmarked yet: <http://www.loc.gov/maps> - The Library of Congress online site for searching over 12,000 of their maps in digital format. The digitized maps offer color maps of contemporary countries around the globe, historic maps of world exploration, and battlefield maps from the Civil War through World War II. The files can be browsed in gallery format or searched by time period. While you are there, visit the website for the Library of Congress Geography and Map Reading Room for additional information about their maps collection, the largest cartographic collection in the world: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/geomap>

Karen Russ, MLS

Government Information Librarian

Ottenheimer Library/UALR

Archiving for the Veterans History Project

Is there a surviving 20th century veteran in your family?

Or, are you a veteran? Either way, have you considered archiving that person's thoughts on the experience with the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress? Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000 to collect, preserve, and make accessible the firsthand remembrances of America's war veterans from World War I to present. This will allow future generations to hear the stories directly from the veterans themselves. For additional information, including adding your file, visit <http://www.loc.gov/vets/>

Karen Russ, MLS

Government Information Librarian

Ottenheimer Library/UALR

Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association Seminar

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association will host an all day seminar on Saturday August 9, 2014 in Shreveport, Louisiana. Featured speaker will be Kelvin Meyers, professional genealogist and historian. His lectures will include:

- Plowing Through the Land Records to Find Your Ancestor;
- Tax Records or Why did Scarlett Make A Dress of Her Mother's Drapes?
- Probate: More Than A Will
- How Great Thou Art! How Great They Are! Church Records.

Book vendors, including Barnes&Noble, will be on site with a selection of genealogy and history books. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch. Location for the seminar will be the Broadmoor United Methodist Church (Pearce Hall) at 3715 Youree Drive, Shreveport. Advance registration recommended due to limited seating. For more details and a printable registration form, please go to our website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laaltga/>. Online registration and payment through PayPal is also available. Contact Jim Johnson at jjohnson747@suddenlink.net for more information.

Build Your Own Genealogy Website

I learned of this company from reading Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter. I have not tried to use the product nor am I recommending that it is a good product. This is something of interest to me. The following is taken from the Genealone.com website.

Are you looking for a highly customizable, professional and easy to use service in order to create your own family tree? We are sure you have just found your perfect match - Genealone is a genealogy website builder that allows even the people who have no knowledge in the website building area to create, edit and publish pages about their ancestors. Whether you want to start a simple pedigree page, build a large genealogy website with thousand of persons and complicated family relations or you just want to write down your genealogy data in private, Genealone is the right choice for you. Still not sure if Genealone is right for you? Request a free Basic account for testing.

Choose the option that suits you

Let us take care of everything and run your website on our own web server, either with your own domain name (which we can register for you) or inside genealone.net domain. On the other hand, if you have your own web server or webhosting supporting PHP and MySQL (nearly all do), you can buy the Genealone program and run it yourself. Our services are professional and affordable, while also being easy to use, so that you can build your family tree without problems. Compare all options.

Customize your site in a minute

You can easily choose from different built-in page layouts and color schemes or, if you are familiar with CSS, you can customize Genealone from scratch according to your preferences. Additionally, you can choose

Build Your Own Genealogy Website *continued*

what (and where) appears on your homepage. We have thought about everything, so whether you are a newbie or a professional, Genealone is sure to fit your needs. To get a better idea please visit our online demo versions.

Import data from your desktop program

If you have a genealogy program which exports GEDCOM files on your home computer, you don't need to retype everything to put your family tree online. Genealone can easily import GEDCOM files. See? We are aware that we live in a century where time is key, so we have simplified the process for you.

Your privacy is protected

You don't need to worry about displaying sensitive information regarding your family history to the whole world. Genealone has several layers of privacy protection and you can decide what information will be visible and also the people who will be able to see it. If you like, your whole family tree website can be accessible only to logged users. Genealone is safe and can be customized according to your needs and preferences.

Ancestry.com Focuses on Core Offerings

Here is the announcement on their blog.

We're proud of the variety of products we've created over the years that enable people to discover, preserve and share their family history. We recognize that there are a lot of ways that we, as a company, can make family history easier, more accessible and more fun for people all over the world. And we're continually innovating to make it a reality.

We're always looking to focus our efforts in a way that provide the most impact, while also delivering the best service and best product experience to users. To that end, we've decided to retire some of our services: MyFamily, MyCanvas, Genealogy.com, Mundia and the Y-DNA and mtDNA tests.

We will note that the AncestryDNA (autosomal) test is not affected by this change and will continue to be available as we continue to invest in this new technology. Only the y-DNA and mtDNA tests will be retired.

Starting September 5, 2014, these services will no longer be available to access. Genealogy.com is the exception to the rule, and will continue in a slightly different form. If you are an active member or subscriber to one of these services, you will be contacted directly with details of how to transition the information you've created using these services.

We know these services have provided value to you. We think they're pretty cool too, which is why this wasn't an easy decision for us to make. In the end, it came down to priorities and we think our core offerings are a great place to spend our time and resources.

So here's to revolutionizing family history, focusing on providing the best product experience we can offer and to the limitless possibilities that lie before us.

- See more at: <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/06/04/ancestry-com-focuses-on-core-offerings/#sthash.0vi1uJlz.dpuf>

Ancestry.com Focuses on Core Offerings *continued*

The “community” has been “all a buzz” after this announcement, as you might expect. Genealogy.com is a site that I subscribe to, but seldom use. My opinion about the effect this will have on our community would not be informed, however I did find two links that you might be interested in visiting.

The first is GenealogyInTime Magazine at <http://www.genealogyintime.com/news/ancestry-rationalizes-websites-page1.html>

The second is The Ancestry Insider at <http://www.ancestryinsider.org/2014/06/ancestrycom-announces-retirement-of.html>.

Our world is always changing and there is not much, if anything, we can do about it. We will adapt and continue to search the world for our records. One of these soon days I will again come across the article I failed to save. I remember it said “only a small number of records are online.” You MUST visit the court house, library, local genealogy society, and train depot. You may be wondering about the “train depot.”

In August 2012 we were in Danube, Minnesota researching my wife’s family. Danube is a small town, so we stopped at an old train depot that had been moved to a park to ask a question of the men working nearby. Lee Nere and another man were building a band stand that would resemble the one that had been used in the town. The old band stand had been on wheels and would be pulled into the street when it was to be used. In response to the question, Lee invited us into the train depot to research the old tax records that were there among the other holdings of the Danube Historical Society. You never know where you might find the records you need! ALWAYS ASK.

NOW, the important part; that repository is the only place those records were available.

Index of Townlands, Now Searchable Online (Ireland)

The Index to Townlands, the key to identifying all land divisions in Ireland, is for first time being made available online as a fully searchable database. This has only been made possible through the hard work and commitment of two Australians: historian, Perry McIntyre and genealogist, Terry Eakin, both IGRS members. Having spent two years carefully inputting the data from the original 1901 publication, they have very kindly donated it to the Irish Genealogical Research Society.

There are just over 64,000 townlands in Ireland. They are Ireland's most basic - and ancient - land divisions, measuring from just a few acres to several hundred. From the mid-19th century, just before the period of the Great Hunger, Irish land divisions became standard through the introduction of the Poor Law System in 1838. Although the Poor Law was abandoned in the 1920s, the same system of land division is still in use to this day.

Allowing for population density, the Poor Law System provided that across Ireland numbers of townlands were bundled together to form District Electoral Divisions. The residents of each DED paid the poor rate and elected the poor law guardians. Numbers of DEDs were united to form Poor Law Unions (PLU). In due course, as the 19th century progressed, PLU boundaries and subdivisions thereof were also used in the administration of civil registration, census enumeration, health care provision, compilation of electoral rolls, creation of pension boards under the Old Age Pension Act 1908 and land valuation, property registration and local tax collection.

Given that the first Index to Townlands - published in conjunction with the 1851 Census of Ireland - did not note DEDs, the 1901 edition is all the more valuable given that it also notes the DED number required to access data from the 1901 census returns, the earliest complete census for Ireland.

The new database can be use to to either locate a particular townland and the various land divisions it forms part of, or it can be used to identify the names of all townlands which fall into a given District Electoral Division or Civil Par-

Index of Townlands, Now Searchable Online (Ireland) *continued*

ish. Helpful links in the ‘Search Hints & Tips’ section also allow researchers to identify the locality on a set of maps dating from 1935 which denote the various boundaries of land divisions. In addition, Ordnance Survey Map numbers are noted.

Steven Smyrl, IGRS chairman, said: “we are incredibly grateful to the generosity of Perry and Terry for providing the Society with this invaluable new resource. For the first time, genealogists will be able to identify a townland even where they only have a garbled spelling and better still they will be able to establish the names of the other townlands surrounding it, which was just not possible with the original hardcopy index.”

This database is being made available free-to-all on the IGRS website. Click here IrishAncestors.ie or click on the tab “Resources - Unique Resources” on the Society’s website’s homepage.

Arkansas Genealogical Society Call for Vendors

The Arkansas Genealogical Society will be hosting our fall seminar on September 19th - 20th at the Benton Convention Center in Benton, Arkansas. The Center is at 17322 Interstate 30 North, in the Hickory Square Shopping Center. As we have for many past years, we are offering exhibit space for publishers, researchers, and other genealogical/ancestry organizations.

Exhibit space will be available to attendees from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Set up can begin at 2 p.m. on Friday. Tables will be 8 feet long and cost \$20 per table (or equivalent floor space if you prefer to bring your own display racks)

To reserve exhibit space, please fill out the form on our [website](#) and submit it with your check to the address on the form.

To be sure we have enough tables set-up, please confirm your attendance by August 15, 2014.

Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! doug44mann@gmail.com –Thanks!

AGS: To learn more about [Arkansas Genealogical Society](http://www.agsgenealogy.org), visit our website at <http://www.agsgenealogy.org>

Subscribe: If you have friends and relatives who would like to receive this ezine, direct them to the [ezine sign-up link](#) on our website. Membership is not required to receive the AGS Ezine, but we heartily encourage you to join our wonderful organization! [Membership](#) details are on our website.

Comments: If you have suggestions or comments about our ezine, contact ezine@agsgenealogy.org

Un-subscribe: To remove yourself from the AGS Ezine list, [click here](#).

Credit: Items in this ezine are copyrighted by the editors or the author of the piece. If you want to reprint any of the items in this ezine, please give us credit, citing Arkansas Genealogical Society Ezine, (the date), edited by Johnny Mann.