



## Arkansas Genealogical Society

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AGS Ezine

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### THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Thanks to all who attended the AGS September 19 and 20. Without YOU the Conference would not have been the success that it was! And, thanks to all the Board Members involved for the countless hours of excellent work you performed! Thanks to the Benton Event Center staff for the great service. They have a beautiful facility and a good location. It will be even better when the adjacent hotel opens.

I was unable to take advantage of Russell's presentations Friday night, but I understand he did a fine job. A large THANKS to Russell.

Now, to Cyndi. I learned so much from her and I hope you did as well. Cyndi is an extremely accomplished presenter, knowledgeable online resource expert, and excellent communicator. And funny. It was so easy to listen to her, but you do have to listen fast! Cyndi knows her subject and was very well prepared. Cyndi's content is definitely current. As is common with internet services, Google made some changes to their map product a few days before the conference. Cyndi was updating her lecture her last day at home and the night before the lecture. What a professional!

**Thank you, Cyndi!**

#### 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!

## Inside this issue

Coming Events	3-5
Free NGS Webinar	6
Online Searchable Death Index	7-8
Tennessee State Public Library Adds Family Bibles online	9
Are Your Bookshelves Overburdened?	10
S.C. Libraries Get Help Digitizing	11
New Column on Arkansas Toothpick	12-13
How to Copy & Paste	14
Making Digital Archiving Happen	15
New Website for Ellis Island	16-17
Administrative Stuff	18

## Tidbits –

Have you ever been to the Saline County Library in Benton, Arkansas? The actual name is the Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library and it is located at 1800 Smithers Drive in Benton, Arkansas. Steve Purdue is the Head of Genealogy/Local History for the library, and he is also on the board of the Arkansas Genealogical Society. Steve has developed the genealogical section into a great place to do research. You can even become a member and use their subscription databases online from home. Visit them at [www.salinecountylibrary.org](http://www.salinecountylibrary.org).

There was an article in the August edition of the Ezine about Preserve the Pensions: War of 1812. I was informed by one of the AGS Conference attendees about an offer from the Illinois State Genealogical Society. The Illinois Genealogical Society has issued the **ISGS \$10,000 War of 1812 Pension Match Challenge**. ISGS will MATCH any donation up to the first \$10,000 that is made before **January 31, 2015**. Their website details how a \$100 donation could be turned into an \$800 donation. See [ISGS website](#) for the details. Thanks to Jane Haldeman, President of the Illinois State Genealogical Society for permission to include this notice in our Ezine.

Arkansas Monument to be placed in Franklin, TN, October 25, 2014. It will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Winstead Hill. You can go to the [ArkansasToothpick](#) website for contact information. Information about Winstead Hill is at this [LINK](#).

## Coming Events

October 4, 2014

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society Fall Seminar will be October 4, 2014 in Oklahoma City.

October 9, 16, and 23, 2014

Free Genealogical Workshop: The Basics of Genealogical Research. Presented at the Argenta Branch of North Little Rock's Laman Public Library, 420 Main St. Thursday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. The teacher is Russell P. Baker. Seating is limited so call 501-687-1060 to reserve your place.

October 11, 2014

The 54th annual Orphan Train Riders Celebration will be held on Saturday, October 11, in Little Falls, Minnesota. It will include a silent auction, meeting, entertainment, lunch, and orations by orphan train rider descendants. Details about the conference may be found at <http://www.orphantrainridersofminnesota.com/>. Thanks to Eastman's Online Genealogical Newsletter.

October 24, 2014

Oakland and Fraternal (Cemeteries) Twilight Tours at 5:15 p.m. Call 501-372-6429 for more information and to make reservations. The cost is \$15. Funds will be used to repair and clean up newly discovered markers.

## Coming Events continued

October 27, 2014

Heritage Seekers meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Laman Library. Bill Lindsey will present “The Book you Don’t Realize You are Writing: Turning Genealogical Research into a Book”

November 7-8, 2014

Join experts from Ancestry and the Oklahoma Historical Society for Ancestry Day in Oklahoma. Registration is only \$40. Space is limited, [register today](#).

January 4-11, 2015

NGS research trip to Salt Lake City, Utah. Registration opened March 17, 2014. Registration deadline is 15 November 2014. Click [HERE](#) for more information. The trip is SOLD OUT.

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.

## Coming Events continued

March 14, 2015

The 10th Annual **Genealogy For You Seminar** is scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2015, at the Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library at 1800 Smithers Drive, Benton, Arkansas. Make your plans to come to this all Virginia Research Day featuring Barbara Vines Little.

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. Follow this [LINK](#) to their website.

May 13-16, 2015

The NGS Family History Conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri, at the St. Charles Convention Center. It is not too early to make hotel reservations, the Embassy Suites is sold out. Follow this [LINK](#) to the NGS website for hotel information. Conference registration begins December 1, 2014.

June 11-13, 2015

Cumberland Gap 5th annual Genealogy Jamboree and Pioneer Day to be held in Cumberland Gap, TN (Very rich historical area). Street festival, live music, vendors, speakers, genealogy clubs, dna groups, and authors. Three counties, three states, one event. For more information go to <http://genealogyjamboree.us>.

October 2-3, 2015

The Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Conference will feature Josh Taylor. The location is to be announced. Watch our website for the details. [www.agsgenealogy.org](http://www.agsgenealogy.org)

## NGS Free Webinar Viewing Period

The following is from the NCGS Journal

NCGS presented its first LIVE Webinar on September 19, which featured J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA, presenting “NC Taxes: People, Places, Time, and Delinquency.”

The webinar was recorded and the free viewing period of the recorded webinar will be October 3-5, 2014. To view the recording, go to the NCGS website at <http://www.ncgenealogy.org>.

After 5 October, the “NC Taxes: People, Places, Time, and Delinquency” video will only be accessible on the website to NCGS members as a member benefit. NCGS members and non-members will also be able to purchase the webinar on a CD, which includes the syllabus, from the NCGS online bookstore.

## Online Searchable Death Index & Records

The following article is from Genealogy Gems by Delia Bourne. The Genealogy Gems Newsletter is published by the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center. To subscribe to "Genealogy Gems," simply use your browser to go to the website: [www.GenealogyCenter.org](http://www.GenealogyCenter.org). Scroll to the bottom, click on Department E-zine, and fill out the form. You will be notified with a confirmation email.

Evidence of a death can often be the first link to a person's life, be it a death record, an obituary or cemetery listings. Online Searchable Death Indexes & Records, [www.DeathIndexes.com](http://www.DeathIndexes.com), is often my first stop when seeking 20th- and 21st-century deaths in the United States. The main page also includes links to various Social Security Death Index sites, a general Online Obituaries Guide and Genealogy Records & Resources.

The page is very easy to navigate. Select the state you wish to search, or one of the Big City Guides (Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York and St. Louis). Information varies from state to state. First on the state's list are links to statewide death and obituary indexes. Then links are listed by county. The links are to a wide variety of sites. These include, but are not limited to, USGenWeb pages, the websites of genealogical and historical societies and libraries (like The Genealogy Center), and large database sites, such as [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com). The entries often include the dates of coverage as well as a notation indicating whether it is linking to a subscription (fee-based) website.

Of course, what is found can actually provide more information than might be expected. For example, there is a link for Daviess County, Kentucky, which led to the Owensboro Area Obituary Index and Abstracts, 1842 to present, a database hosted by the Daviess County Public Library Kentucky Room. A search of the surname Daly provided a number of hits, including one for an Owensboro Messenger obituary for Nar-

## Online Searchable Death Index & Records *continued*

cisus Daly, who died in 1947 in Pleasant Ridge at age 91. A note on the abstract also cites an Owensboro Inquirer article on page 5 in the January 16, 1898, issue which notes that “Miss Delia Daley (sic) of the Pleasant Ridge neighborhood & E. M. Holt of Galveston, TX will be married on 18 January 1898 in Owensboro, she is a niece by marriage of Dr. E. B. McCormick of Owensboro.” No mention is made that Delia Daly was the daughter of Emilius and Narcissa Daly (the subject of the obituary), and married Edward M. Holt, though family members in the know will be pleased to have the citation for the 1898 article.

The same group that created [www.DeathIndexes.com](http://www.DeathIndexes.com) has also started Online Birth & Marriage Records Indexes for the USA at [www.GermanRoots.com/VitalRecords](http://www.GermanRoots.com/VitalRecords), which also divides the country into states, then provides links to birth and marriage indexes and abstracts. However, neither the Online Deaths or the Online Births and Marriages site links to [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org), another great source for vital records.

Editors note: the [www.GermanRoots.com/VitalRecords](http://www.GermanRoots.com/VitalRecords) link in the last paragraph of the article did not work for me. You can go to the main GermanRoots web site at the following link: [www.GermanRoots.com/](http://www.GermanRoots.com/)



## Tennessee State Public Library

### Tennessee State Public Library Adds more than 1,500 Digitized and Searchable Family Bibles Online

Thanks to Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter for the following:

Before the 20th century, Tennessee and many other states did not keep comprehensive records of births, marriages, and deaths. Families recorded their own vital records in family Bibles that were passed down through generations. The Tennessee State Library and Archives holds hundreds of family Bible records in several formats and within many collections. The Bible records recently placed online were taken from photocopies in TSLA's vertical files; additional records will be added as they are donated or discovered in manuscripts collections. The bulk of the records in this collection date between the late 18th and early 20th century. Many prominent Tennessee families are represented here; some records even include the names of families' slaves. The Bibles may be found at <http://tnsos.net/TSLA/Bibleproject>.

Dick gives thanks to EOGN reader Noel Kersey for informing him of this resource.

## Are Your Bookshelves Overburdened?

I suspect having more books than space to store them is a common problem for many of us. It can become a greater problem when a person downsizes to smaller living quarters. Some books we can do without, but there will be certain genealogical source books that are essential. How to solve this problem?

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter published an article June 29, 2014, that may help. There is a company which provides the service of converting books to digital format. Notice they "convert to digital" as opposed to making a digital copy. Your book is destroyed after the conversion.

Dick Eastman's article is too long to republish here, so I am provided a link to the article in the EOGN. If this is some thing you might be interested in reading about, click here: <http://blog.eogn.com/2014/06/29/scan-and-digitize-your-books-for-1-each/#more-1766>.

I find that Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter is a very useful source for genealogists. You might find it a resource you will want to subscribe to. The cost is only your time. He also provides a "plus" version for a monthly or annual fee. The free version will likely be sufficient for most of us.

## South Carolina Libraries Get Help Putting Historic Materials Online

The following is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

The South Carolina State Library is offering Digitization in a Box to the state's libraries to put their historic photos and documents online. The hope is that soon a person doing historic or genealogy studies thousands of miles away from South Carolina will be able to find what they're looking for in the state's libraries.

"Almost every public library in South Carolina has their own local history collection, their own South Carolina room, or someone who has donated photographs or other historical information about their community," said Digital Project Supervisor Amanda Stone. "A lot of times these small public libraries don't have the expertise to do anything with them."

Stone oversees the program, which provides the library with the equipment, software, and expertise to scan the documents and put them online so they are easy to find. Libraries get the service for two months, with an option for a third month.

You can read more in an article in the WIS-TV web site at <http://www.wistv.com/story/25799909/sc-libraries-get-help-putting-historic-materials-online>.

What a great idea!

## Arkansas Toothpick Welcomes New Column on the Red River Campaign

The following content was taken from [Arkansas Toothpick](#).

With the battlefields of Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove receiving center stage in the state through their parks, visitor centers and large operating budgets, the other Civil War campaigns that occurred in Arkansas are sometimes overlooked. However, they were no less deadly, their outcomes often affecting the path Arkansas followed during the rebellion.

Such was the case in the Saline River bottoms 150 years ago when two vast armies snaked their way across Southern Arkansas. One was an army of blue, desperately seeking to return to the safety of Little Rock. The other, an army of grey, was seeking to destroy their foe at any cost. The resulting Battle of Jenkins' Ferry was the culmination of the failed 1864 Camden Expedition.

It was the largest, and deadliest conflict of the Arkansas portion of the Red River Campaign.

It was a battle that saw six generals go down that day in those muddy river bottoms - four of them would be mortally wounded, that battle being their last. It was a battle where horrific atrocities occurred - on both sides.

I have devoted over thirty years reading and researching the Battle of Jenkins' Ferry. I have walked that battlefield hundreds of times, standing in that deadly space where 150 years ago war raged.

## Arkansas Toothpick Welcomes New Column on the Red River Campaign *continued*

In the coming months, I will introduce you to the Battle of Jenkins' Ferry in a new light, to bring forth facets of the battle that will cause you to rethink what you know, or don't know about one of Arkansas' largest, and least talked about, Civil War battles.

Joe Walker is the author of "Harvest of Death: The Battle of Jenkins' Ferry, Arkansas," the first major work in fifty years focusing on one of the largest and bloodiest Civil War battles in Arkansas history. Through the use of previously unpublished photographs and stories, Walker brings the battle to life as never before.

For more information, visit Joe Walker's website: <http://www.1864arkansas.com> and his blog: <http://blog.1864arkansas.com>

## How To Copy and Paste Only the Text?

As we research and find information on the internet, we often want to copy the text and paste it into our document or genealogy program. Most web pages have special formatting, so we get “formatting characters” too. That is not a good thing. What is the solution? For Windows users, there is Windows Notepad. Windows Notepad is a basic word processor. A very basic word processor. The price is right; it comes free with Windows. Text is pasted into Notepad, with no formatting carried over from the original source. Then, from Notepad, you can copy and paste into the program you are using. It works in most cases; however, I did try with a web page I had saved as a PDF. That did not work. I originally read about this subject on Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter. He has a more detail discussion, and he also address the solution for Mac users. [You can read Dick’s article at http://blog.eogn.com/2014/07/28/remove-text-formatting-when-copying-and-pasting/](http://blog.eogn.com/2014/07/28/remove-text-formatting-when-copying-and-pasting/).

If you are an Evernote user, that works, too. You “clip” an article directly from your Browser and save it in Evernote. From there, you can copy and paste to your document. I like that better because you still have the whole article in Evernote for future reference.

I should take this opportunity to remind us about copyright violations. You might be inclined to think you are not violating a copyright, if you are only doing “your” family research. BE ABSOLUTELY SURE! I am not an attorney, but Judy G. Russell is an attorney and a genealogist. You might want to visit her at [The Legal Genealogist](#).

## Digital Archiving: Making It Happen at a Library

I came across a very interesting blog post from May while reading the [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) earlier this year. The story is about one librarian's personal action plan. Here is a paragraph from the post by Samantha Thomason, web developer at the [Central Rappahannock Regional Library](#) in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

After viewing a Library of Congress webinar presented during Preservation Week last year, Welborn was inspired to create a personal digital archiving program for her library customers. Undaunted by a small budget, Welborn got a six-week pilot program up and running in the fall of 2013 for less than \$300 by using an existing library laptop, purchasing an inexpensive video capture device, picking up a VCR at Goodwill and partnering with a local historical society to purchase a scanner.

You can read the complete post at <http://blogs.loc.gov/digitalpreservation/2014/05/digital-archiving-making-it-personal-at-the-public-library/>.

I never cease to be impressed by how great an impact one person can have. The huge investment in time and commitment by Jordan Welborn, technology librarian at Virginia's [Campbell County Public Library System](#), is apparent. It is impossible to know just how many people will be helped and how many photos and videos will be preserved for future generations due to her efforts.

## New Website for Ellis Island

The following is a September 23, 2014, article by Michael J. Leclerc on the [Mocavo](#) blog.

I remember the first time I ever saw the Statue of Liberty. It was the summer of 1986. The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation (SOLEIF) was formed by President Ronald Reagan in 1982. Lee Iacocca, head of Chrysler Corporation, led an effort that raised \$600 million for the repair and preservation of the Statue, Liberty Island, and the immigration facilities on Ellis Island.

The foundation spent four years renovating the statue. Architects and engineers worked with historians to develop the plans implemented by almost 1,000 laborers. Liberty's torch was replaced, her insides strengthened, and new elevators were installed. Liberty Island was closed for four years while they conducted the restoration.

Liberty Weekend was held over the Fourth of July in 1986 to celebrate the reopening. Activities were held over four days. The largest flotilla of tall ships in modern times passed by to honor her in Operation Sail. The Closing Ceremonies were held on July 6 at Giants Stadium. A number of my friends performed in the Liberty Band, with representatives of colleges and universities around the country. Some of us went down to see the ceremonies in person. I had never seen such festivities. In addition to the band, we got to see Gene Kelly, Shirley Maclaine, Liza Minelli, Patti LaBelle, the Pointer Sisters, the Four Tops, and more. I didn't get to visit Ellis Island that weekend (way too many people trying), but I did get to see her from the shore for the very first time. Even from the distance, she was quite imposing (I finally got to visit the statue in 1988, and paid a return visit on the Fourth of July this year).

Four years later, Ellis Island was reopened, and in 2001 a website was established that provided access to more than 51 million passenger arrival records. After more than a decade in service, the website itself is undergoing a renovation. SOLEIF recently launched a beta version of the new website.

The new site is cleaner and easier to navigate. You can search by passenger's name or by ship. Results include a textual transcription of the manifest, an image of the original manifest, and information about the ship



## New Website for Ellis Island

(including images of ships that docked here). If you see mistakes in the way your ancestor's name was indexed, you can request a correction to be made.

If you have an existing account on the old website, you will need to select a new password when you log in to the new site. Other than that, you should have no problems accessing the site.

Remember that this is a beta site, which means some things may not always be working. And other parts may change as they conduct tweaks. The good news is that OLEIF is actively soliciting feedback about the site, and welcomes your comments. Check out the new site at [www.libertyellisfoundation.org](http://www.libertyellisfoundation.org).

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## **Administrative Stuff**

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it! [doug44mann@gmail.com](mailto:doug44mann@gmail.com) –Thanks!

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

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