



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 10, No. 2, February 2015

Johnny Mann, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

You Got Any Ideas?

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!

I am sure that you have many ideas, so let me focus in a little. On the Arkansas Genealogical Society web page, under the “About AGS” tab is the statement of our purpose. Part of our purpose is “to preserve and make accessible historical, genealogical, and biographical sources pertaining to Arkansas.” So now ... do you have any ideas? When you go to the “publications” tab on the AGS site, you will see the “fruits” of your AGS for sale. These resources are the result of countless hours donated by many current and prior members of the AGS. There are two projects currently in progress. The Prior Birth Records CD complete edition “Volume I-XV” and the Naturalization Records index.

Please take the time to review the publications offered on the AGS website and review your own research needs. Mull it over for a few days or weeks and let us know if you have any historical, genealogical, and biographical sources pertaining to Arkansas project you would like to see the AGS membership undertake. Something future searchers would find valuable.

Did I mention that you could be a volunteer? Yes, I mean you! See the “Get Involved” tab on the [AGS website](#).

Inside this issue

Coming Events	3-6
The Roots of African American Education in Arkansas	7
FGS Global Family Reunion	8-9
Arkansas History Commission New URL	10
Documents Waiting to be Discovered	11-12
New Records Online from the Archdiocese of Louisiana & the Floridas, 1576-1803	13
A Family Relationship Chart	14-15
Our Shrinking Resources	16
Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness is Coming Back!	17-18
Administrative Stuff	19

Tidbits –

Looking for photos from 1935 to 1945? [Photogrammar](#) is a web-based platform for organizing, searching, and visualizing the 170,000 photographs from 1935 to 1945 created by the United States Farm Security Administration and Office of War Information. (FSA-OWI). It was produced by a group from Yale.

The [Flat River Community Library](#) in Greenville, Michigan has created an electronic, searchable database of actual newspaper pages dating back to 1857, as reported by [Mike Taylor in the Greenville Newspaper](#). Go to the Flat River Community Library site and click on the “Research” tab, then “collection’s” under Genealogy & Local History. The newspapers from 1857 through 1923 are open to anyone. You must be on-site to search from 1924 forward, still free.

The Indiana Genealogical Society has made the [Grand Army of the Republic Members Appointed in Indiana \(1885\)](#) database available to everyone free of charge. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was a fraternal organization for Civil War veterans, formed in 1866. This is a listing of the appointments of GAR members to various positions in 1885.

Coming Events

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.

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. Make your reservation online or by calling 501-778-4766, as seating is limited.

March 21, 2015

[Arkansas Historic Preservation Program](#) “Walks Through History” is in the Benton Commercial Historic District.

March 27-28, 2015

Hill Country Family History Seminar, Boerne, Texas. For more info www.gskctx.org.

Coming Events continued

March 28, 2015

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society Spring Seminar 2015 will be held at the Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., OKC. The featured speaker will be Judy G. Russell, the Legal Genealogist.

Early Bird Registration: Jan 5 through Feb 28 2015 (postmarked by Feb 28) OGS Member \$40/2nd Family Member \$45 (includes syllabus and lunch) Non-Member \$50. Regular registration is March 1 through 26 online or at the door. Visit the OGS website: <http://www.okgensoc.org/>.

April 11, 2015

The NWA Family History Conference is being held in Springdale, Arkansas from 8 am to 5 pm. Please see their website for all the information. www.familyhistoryconferencenwa.org.

April 18, 2015

The Hot Springs Village Family History Workshop “Finding the Impossible” is scheduled at the Coronado Center, Hot Springs Village, AR. The featured speaker is Diane L. Giannini. Visit Diane’s website at www.ancestrysleuth.com. For the workshop registration form, visit hsvgs.org. Look under “classes and workshops.”

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.

Coming Events continued

April 25, 2015

Ohio Chapter Palatines to America 2015 Spring Seminar. For more information [CLICK](#).

May 2, 2015

The Arkansas Genealogical Spring Workshop will be held as a joint event with the Arkansas History Commission. Watch for more information in the next issue of the Ezine or on our website www.agsgenealogy.org/

May 13-16, 2015

The NGS Family History Conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri, at the St. Charles Convention Center. Many of the hotels are completely booked. Follow this [LINK](#) to the NGS website for hotel information. Conference registration is now open with [Early Bird pricing](#) through March.

June 5 & 6, 2015

The Searcy County Historical Society is sponsoring the 26th North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, *What Are You Doing With Your Civil War Information?* More information is available at: www.ancestorfair.us

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>.

Coming Events continued

June 26-27, 2015

Palatines to America 2015 Conference, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. For more information [CLICK](#).

July 31- August 2, 2015

The Sheldon Family Association will gather for the 76th Annual Meeting and Reunion July 31- August 2, 2015 at LaQuinta in Sacramento CA. The host, Betty Knopf, will arrange lectures about Sheldon history and trips to Sheldon sites. Information from the 121,000 descendant database will be available. See our web site Sheldonfamilyv2.org.

October 2-3, 2015

The Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Conference will feature Josh Taylor. The conference will be at the Wyndam North Little Rock. Watch our website for the details. www.agsgenealogy.org

October 18-28, 2015

11th Annual Genealogy Conference and Cruise hosted by [Heritage Books, Inc.](#) in consultation with Wholly Genes, Inc. For more information please see page 7 in the January Ezine or click the link above.

May 4-7, 2016

The NGS 2016 Family History Conference will be held 4-7 May 2016 in Fort Lauderdale, FL, at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center.

The Roots of African American Education in Arkansas

Announced January 8, 2015 by Danyelle McNeil of the Arkansas History Commission

Little Rock - The Black History Commission of Arkansas and The Arkansas History Commission will be hosting a symposium on Saturday, February 7, at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The symposium's theme, "The Roots of African American Education in Arkansas," will feature speakers, Peggy Lloyd, Dr. Joseph Hale, Amanda L. Paige and Gwendolyn Twillie. Topics will include Ila Upchurch, the history of the Colored Industrial Institute, the Jeane Teacher Program and a living history presentation about the life of Charlotte Stephens.

The seminar is free but registration is required. Check-in will begin at 9:15 a.m. Teachers can earn up to four professional development hours through attendance. Lunch will be provided. Registration is limited and deadline for registration will be February 2, so be sure to make reservations soon.

The mission of the Black History Commission of Arkansas is to collect materials pertaining to African American history for the Arkansas History Commission, to encourage research in the state's African American history, and to cooperate with the Arkansas Department of Education to develop materials that support the teaching of African American history in our public schools. The Arkansas History Commission, located in Little Rock, is the official archives of the state of Arkansas and maintains the largest collection of historical materials on Arkansas in the world.

For more information about the symposium or to register, contact us at tatyana.oyinloye@arkansas.gov or call us at 501-682-6892.

FGS Global Family Reunion Announced

The following was received by email:

Dear FGS Member,

The Federation of Genealogical Societies is thrilled to be working with the Global Family Reunion on what we think will be an amazing world-wide event that will spark massive interest in genealogy. We believe that it will be a great opportunity to attract thousands of new people to genealogy, and help local societies add plenty of new members.

The Global Family Reunion will take place June 6, 2015. The main event is in New York, but there will be simultaneous events around the world called branch parties which is how your society can take part. FGS and the Global Family Reunion would love to have your society either participating in or organizing a satellite event in your area.

There is a great line-up of genealogists, scientists and entertainers who will be giving presentations, including myself and other FGS Board members, David Rencher and Randy Whited. Also, Sister Sledge will be singing “We Are Family” live. All of those talks can be live-streamed to your local event for free. The full line up of speakers, entertainers and activities may be found at <http://globalfamilyreunion.com/>.

In addition to hosting your own event, there is another way to get involved: In the run-up to registration, thousands of people have family information (including grandparent’s names and birth dates) given to the Global Family Reunion. These are people who want to know more about their ancestry and how they are connected to the World Family Tree. Both FGS and the GFR are working on how best to work with you to connect the folks in your area to bigger trees. Please contact us about this. These people could be great leads for new membership.

FGS Global Family Reunion Announced *continued*

Please visit <http://globalfamilyreunion.com/global-at-a-glance/> for more information about Global Family Reunion. For more information about hosting a Branch Party, please visit <http://globalfamilyreunion.com/volunteer/branch-party-faq/>.

Thanks in advance. Please reach out to us, we'd love to discuss further.

D. Joshua Taylor
President, Federation of Genealogical Societies

A.J. Jacobs and the Global Family Reunion Team
GlobalFamilyReunion.com

New url from the Arkansas History Commission

January 20, 2015 press release from Danyelle McNeill

The Arkansas History Commission is announcing a new url for the agency's online digital archives. The url, <http://ahc.digital-ar.org/> , will direct patrons to a variety of digitized collections of archival material.

The online digital archives was re-launched last year 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.

Digitized collections currently include World War I/Camp Pike material, all five Arkansas Constitutions, historic maps and postcards, material from Arkansas's multicultural heritage, music clips from our Ozarks Folk Life and Culture collection, the history of the Arkansas state flag, Arkansas History Commission resource guides and educational lesson plans.

Future collections will contain material pertaining to Arkansas women's history, Arkansas sports, religion and spirituality in Arkansas, the 1927 Flood, World War II oral histories, and in celebration of the AHC's 110th anniversary this year, the agency will have a digital collection of 110 unique things picked by its staff.

The Arkansas History Commission, located in Little Rock, is the official state archives of Arkansas and maintains the largest collection of historical materials on Arkansas in the world.

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

Documents Waiting to be Discovered

The following is republished from [UpFront with NGS](#)

A recent article in the [Ottawa Citizen, Auditor General: Federal archives sitting on mountain of unsorted documents](#), states ...

The federal archives is sitting on a backlog of 98,000 boxes of undocumented government records, some dating to 1890, says Canada's auditor general...

There is a wealth of material to be sorted, including: 24,000 boxes of military records, 9,800 boxes from Transport Canada, 7,200 boxes from Industry Canada, 6,400 from Public Works and Government Services Canada, and 5,200 from Justice Canada.

Let's now multiply a version of this by all Federal Archives, State Archives, and more and that is a LOT of documents that are waiting to be discovered by us and future genealogists!

A 2008 Prologue Magazine article, [Attacking the Backlog - NARA Archivists Mobilize to Make Unprocessed Records Available to the Public](#), states ...

One million cubic feet. Two million boxes. Billions of pieces of paper. No, this isn't the cumulative total of records held by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). It's only the amount of records we received in our two Washington, D.C.-area facilities from 1995 to 2005.

Of course, the above doesn't include private collections, religious records, and a whole bevy of other types of records which are archived also! The University of Central Florida Libraries has a page on its web site titled [Un-](#)

Documents Waiting to be Discovered *continued*

[processed Special](#) Collections which explicitly lists such collections. Though other archives may not have such a web page, they do maintain internal lists with the same types of information.

This reminds us that for all the resources that have become more readily available online (either directly or via an index or finding aid), there is so much more which we don't even know exists.

What way to get a look into the holdings which have not been processed or made publicly available is to see if there have been inventories created for an archive or collections held by it. For example, when I wonder if the NC Archives has certain "historical" records that I am not seeing in the available catalogs (online & on-the-ground) or finding aids (online & on-the-ground), I check into inventories that were made showing what the "counties" had in their possession. One was made in the 1960s and is physically at the archives and an earlier version (1938), [The historical records of North Carolina: the county records, Volumes 1-3](#), is available via Internet Archive.

Such inventories are helpful because they also give a window into whether any records "disappeared" between 1938 and the 1960s or between the 1960s and today. Some losses are explained by record retention policies and others by ... possibly misadventure. Odds are that any facilities which might hold the records that interest you, might similarly have "inventories" created at various points in time. Do ask.

So, as you do your research, recognize that every archive and records repository has a huge iceberg of records and we are only "seeing" the tip!

copyright © National Genealogical Society, 3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22204-4370. <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

Archdiocese of Louisiana & the Floridas, 1576-1803 are now Online

The following comes from an article in [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) of January 22, 2015.

Another great resource is now available online: [Records from the Archdiocese of Louisiana and the Floridas - 1576-1803](#).

The database contains two entries for each record: (1.) an image of the original hand-written record in French and (2.) an image of an accompanying 3" by 5" index card that was created some years ago.

In addition to the images of original records, a lengthy and detailed history of the records and detailed explanations of the records are also included. For more information or to view the records, go to <http://archives.nd.edu/mano>.

My thanks to newsletter reader Lynna Kay Shuffield for telling me about this great resource.

A New Family Relationship Chart and Infographic

The following is a January 19, 2015 article in [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#).

Crestleaf has created a family relationship chart to explain how you're related to other people and start asking yourself questions, including:

How exactly am I related to Uncle Bob, who I only see once a year?

There are a bunch of kids running around these days - how do they fit into the family tree?

How in the world do I fit into all of this?

Boy, these people are weird. Am I completely sure I'm related to them?

I have seen many other relationship charts before but must say this is one of the easier ones to read and understand. Take a look at <http://crestleaf.com/blog/relative-family-relationship-chart/>. (Once you arrive on the site, double-click on the image to view a larger version.)

The Arkansas Genealogical Society also received an email from Mark Subel of [Crestleaf.com](#) in reference to this chart. Mark also writes: *"About us: With over 90 Million family records in the United States alone, Crestleaf.com is a leading provider of free genealogy information and free online collaboration tool for families to document their family history - create family trees, digitally preserve family photos, documents and oral traditions."*

I will plan to spend some time reviewing this site. If you do, please share your thought with me. As with any new service, it is necessary to read the rules!!! The following is a quote from the [Crestleaf.com terms of service](#).

A New Family Relationship Chart and Infographic *continued*

7. Unauthorized Use of Materials

Subject to our Privacy Policy, any communication or material that you transmit to this site or to us, whether by electronic mail, post, or other means, for any reason, will be treated as non-confidential and non-proprietary. While you retain all rights in such communications or material, you grant us and our agents and affiliates a non-exclusive, paid-up, perpetual, and worldwide right to copy, distribute, display, perform, publish, translate, adapt, modify, and otherwise use such material for any purpose regardless of the form or medium (now known or not currently known) in which it is used.

Please do not submit confidential or proprietary information to us unless we have mutually agreed in writing otherwise.

We all know there is nothing in life that is free, so we should expect and respect the right to generate a profit. Always know what your costs are before you “buy.”

Actually, there is one thing that is free, this newsletter. Thanks for reading!

Our Shrinking Resources

Here is another example of losing our resources, the subject of the January 2015 Ezine. If you did not read it, you can find it on our [website](#).

The following is a January 22, 2015 article in [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#).

This could be a huge loss to genealogists: the new Indiana state budget bill proposes a 24% cut in funding to the Indiana State Library. This proposal would eliminate the Genealogy Department, as well as reduce the staff at ISL by 10%.

The Indiana Genealogical Society has posted information about this on their blog, and includes links to an analysis by the State Librarian, the contact info for the House Ways and Means Committee, and committee chair Rep. Timothy Brown. You can read more about the proposal at: <http://indgensoc.blogspot.com/2015/01/proposed-elimination-of-genealogy-at.html>.

My thanks to Amy Johnson Crow for telling me about this proposed loss to genealogists.

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness is Back!

The following is a January 4, 2015 article in [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#).

Great news! Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness appears to be back online.

The original Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) website was created by by Bridgett and Doc Schneider. More than 4,000 volunteers in every U.S. state and many international locations used the site to help other genealogists. The volunteers agreed to do at least one free genealogy research task per month in their local area as an Act of Kindness. The RAOGK volunteers agreed not to charge for their research time; however, researchers were required to reimburse the volunteer for expenses incurred in fulfilling the research request (e.g., copies, printing fees, postage, film or video tape, parking fees, gasoline, etc.).

The original Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) website was in operation for more than a decade, benefitting thousands of genealogists. In mid-October, 2011, Bridgett Schneider sent an email message to all registered users stating that major problems had developed with the site's hard drive plus the overall health of the administrator was not favorable. The site went offline.

Sadly, Bridgett Schneider passed away Nov. 12, 2011. The site never came back online, until now.

The <http://www.raogk.org> web site now states, "RAOGK is a global volunteer organization. At one time we had over 4000 volunteers in every U.S. state and many international locations, and helped thousands of researchers. We are trying to rebuild the RAOGK site. It will take a little more time to get it back to its former glory. Our volunteers take time to do everything from looking up courthouse records to taking pictures of

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness is Back! *continued*

tombstones. All they ask in return is reimbursement for their expenses (never their time) and a thank you.”

It's great to see <http://raogk.org> back online. I strongly urge all genealogists to check it out and also to volunteer your efforts to help others. In the long term, you will benefit also.

My thanks to newsletter reader Russell Houlton for telling me of RAOGK's return

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.