



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 10, No. 5, May 2015

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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!

Have you noticed, during your research, that you sometimes encounter unexpected circumstances? The census records are one data set that is valuable and extensively utilized by most of us. It is easy to believe the censuses were taken for the benefit of genealogy research. According to *Finding Answers in U.S. Census Records* by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Matthew Wright, it was “to fairly apportion the number of federal representatives from each state as well as to decide on the amount of direct taxes to be levied.”

We glean much information about our ancestors and learn about their relationships and community from the census. There are many instances of families living with their parents or other relatives and also parents living with their children or grandchildren. I have seen 3 generations living together. I have seen a man and his son living with the family of his cousin’s son.

The most curious circumstance was shared by Russell Baker. The 1830 census of Chesterfield County, South Carolina, indicates the residents lived in alphabetically order. One wonders whether it was an ethnic choice or a requirement of the local government. Actually Russell determined a diligent and helpful census taker decided it was a good idea to alphabetize the census at the end!

As you look at data, be careful of the assumptions you make!

Inside this issue

Coming Events	3-6
Walks Through History, Berryville	7
Squeeze It All Out	8
A Successful Spring Workshop	9
AHC Press Release	10-11
Upcoming Red River County Texas Book	12-13
Looking for a Course?	14
What About My Stuff?	15
A Dover, England Resource	16-17
Request for Articles	18
Administrative Stuff	19

Tidbits –

GenealogyInTime Magazine has a collection of classic images free for your personal use. Visit this link http://www.genealogyintime.com/GenealogyResources/Wallpaper/free-images.html?awt_l=8H8HA&awt_m=leZE6lBjAk.Vy to see their policy regarding the use.

Here is a link to the Ancestry Genealogy Toolkit page. It contains links to Ancestry resources you may find helpful. <http://c.ancestry.com/cs/media/social-research-genealogy-toolkit.pdf>

The FamilySearch Blog announces the Free Historic Book Collection Online Hits 200,000th Milestone. Read about it at this link <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/free-historic-book-collection-online-hits-200000th-milestone/>.

IrishGenealogy.ie. Restores Access to civil records such as birth records. Last July access to these records was removed due to privacy concerns. Read the Dick Eastman's article about this information at <http://blog.eogn.com/2015/04/08/irishgenealogy-ie-restores-access-to-records/#more-6816>.

The National Library of Ireland has announced the upcoming online access to a collection of Catholic parish registers. According to GenealogyInTime Magazine the records span from the 1740's to the 1880's. Please read their article at www.genealogyintime.com/records/newest-genealogy-records.html.

Coming Events

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.

May 14, 2015

The Central Arkansas Genealogy & Historical Society will meet at 6:00 pm in the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies. The new entrance is at 407 President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock, Ark.

May 16, 2015

The Mary Place Chapter, Colonial Dames XVII Century is marking Friendship Cemetery in Prescott, Nevada County Arkansas, as a historical Site. The dedication will take place at 1:00 pm. A reception will follow at the Cale Community Building which is located one and a half (1 1/2) miles from the cemetery. Contact Shirley Ann Bennett Barham at shirsh.barham@conwaycorp.net or 501-513-9316 for more information.

May 16, 2015

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Project *Walks Thru History* will be Downtown Berryville. See page 8 for the details. (Berryville is East of Eureka Springs in Northwest Arkansas)

June 5, 2015

Best-selling author A. J. Jacobs is planning the world's largest family reunion. Visit this website, <http://blog.myheritage.com/2015/03/global-family-reunion-get-your-tickets-now/> for the information.

Coming Events continued

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>.

June 19-20, 2015

The 15th Annual Chapman Family Association Convention will be at the Bricktown Hotel and Conference Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Hotel reservation can be made at 405-235-1647. Visit <http://www.chapmanfamilies.org/> for complete details.

June 25, 2015

Presentation by Tim Welch, Home Video Studio for the Heritage Seekers Genealogy Club monthly meeting: *Saving & Archiving Your Heritage & Memories in the Digital Age*. Will be 6:30 at the Hillary Rodham Clinton Children's Library, 4800 W. 10th St., Little Rock, Arkansas. 501-978-3886

June 26-27, 2015

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

Coming Events continued

July 18, 2015

Summer Lock In 6:00 pm - 12:00 am (midnight) held by the Genealogical Society of Craighead County, Jonesboro Public Library, 315 W. Oak Ave, Jonesboro. Contact gacca@suddenlink.net for more information.

July 25, 2015

Lisa Louise Cooke (www.genealogygems.com) is presenting a free summer workshop at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies. Registration is required: www.butlercenter.org/conference/index.html.

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 their web site Sheldonfamilyv2.org.

August 18-22, 2015

The National Genealogical Society research trip to the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, will be under the guidance of research consultants Janet A. Alpert, FNGS, and Patricia Walls Stamm, CGSM, CGLSM. For more information visit http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/research_trips.

Coming Events continued

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 click the link above.

November 1-6, 2015

NGS Guided Research Trip to Washington, D.C. under the guidance of Patricia Walls Stamm, CGsm, CGLsm, Craig Roberts Scott, CG, FUGA, and Shirley Langdon Wilcox, CG, FNGS, FVGS. For more information, or to register for the trip, visit http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conferences_events/research_tips/dc_research_trip.

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.

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

The Walks Through History for May 16, 2015

The "Walks Through History" program is a series of monthly outdoor walking tours that seeks to familiarize people who live and work in communities outside of central Arkansas with the historic structures and sites around them. Presented by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, the tours begin at 11 a.m., unless otherwise noted, on Saturdays, and last between one and two hours. An AHPP staff historian leads the tour, delivering a brief lecture about the properties visited and their history.



Downtown Berryville

Begin at the Carroll County Courthouse, Eastern District, west side of Public Square, Berryville. Co-sponsored by the Carroll County Historical Society.

Named for early resident and town co-founder Blackburn Henderson Berry, Berryville became a trading and educational center for the area's subsistence farmers. In 1875 the Carroll County seat was moved to Berryville. The 1880 courthouse, enlarged in 1905 to ensure Berryville's position as county seat, faces the public square.

Squeeze It All Out

Research is fun! It is easy to collect all kinds of documents and photos from a web site or a physical site. It is so much fun to find and collect, find and collect, find and collect. Then, we stop because we have to do something like buy groceries, cook dinner, vacuum the carpet, or some similar activity. Or, the library closes and we have to pack up and leave. If we do not return to the records collected and “squeeze out all the goodies,” we have not finished the job. Do you know what I mean? Of course you know.

Consider the obituary for a minute. We all know some of the information in the average obituary is not entirely accurate. How is an obituary best used? How do we separate the clues from the facts? The obituary is not an original record. It can be used to support the items that we wish to prove. It can provide clues to information we were unaware of and give us questions to further research. Clues like locations of children and sibling, spouses for siblings and children, time in a location, membership in an organization, and the like. One of those siblings may have all the family photos or the family records and history. It appears that you have some more work to do!

Take a look at this page, <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/family-history-detective-3-pro-tactics-finding-obituaries/> for some good suggestions from some very knowledgeable professionals.

A Successful Spring Workshop

On May 2 the Arkansas History Commission and the Arkansas Genealogical Society joined together to put on a Spring Workshop. There were 58 attendees and presenters. Those present were treated to four great presentations and, in addition to that, I witnessed, and participated in, a lot of visiting and sharing. Sometimes a fellow genealogist will share a very interesting family story. I was treated to two by two different people. Both stories, I believe, could be developed into good articles for the Arkansas Family Historian. It was all good!

Lauren Jarvis, with the AHC, did a fine job with *Beginning Genealogy & AHC Resources*. After listening to Lauren, those who are just beginning the search will be better prepared to take on the challenge. She distributed several of the forms that we all use in our research and provided a good foundation for methods and procedures.

Jane Wilkerson, with the AHC, made a fine presentation of *Land Records*. Jane covered the types of land records, where to find them, and why they are important to our genealogy research and our family stories.

Russell Baker, previously with the AHC, currently the editor of the AGS quarterly the *Arkansas Family Historian*, and Crystal Shurley, with the AHC, joined together in presenting *Church Records*. Both of them did a fine job. This presentation was very beneficial for me! I was unaware of just how many church records are available in the AHC.

Melissa Nesbitt, new with the AHC in old Washington, wrapped up the day with a presentation about *Preserving Personal Photos*. Melissa is quite knowledgeable in this area and she did a fine job in presenting the subject. There again, I learned a lot.

A big thanks to our presenters and those AGS board members who put it all together.

Arkansas History Commission Press Release

The following press release is from Danyelle McNeill with the Arkansas History Commission

Little Rock - The Black History Commission of Arkansas and the Arkansas History Commission will be hosting a symposium from 10 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, at the Pulaski Technical College Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Institute in Little Rock. The symposium's theme, "The Roots of African American Foodways," will feature award-winning food and nutrition journalist, Toni Tipton-Martin; historian and author, Dr. Cindy Grisham; Executive Chef Evette Brady and Chef Tim Morton from 1620 Savoy in Little Rock; and BHCA Commissioner Joyce Gibson.

Topics will include *The Jemima Code: A Modern Look into the Recipe Files of America's Great Cooks*, *Organic, Wild Harvesting*, *Heirloom Vegetables and Meats: Trends or Tradition?*, and *To Protect and Serve: an Apron Collection*. Chefs Brady and Morton will use traditional African American foods, incorporating Caribbean, Cuban, African, and other ethnic influences on modern African American foodways, into a cooking demonstration that will bring all the research elements presented during the day to a tasty conclusion.

The seminar is free but registration is required. Check-in will begin at 9:00 a.m. Teachers can earn up to four professional development hours through attendance. Lunch prepared by the Culinary Institute chefs will be provided for symposium participants at no charge. Registration is limited and deadline for registration will be June 1, 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,

Arkansas History Commission Press Release *continued*

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 history.commission@arkansas.gov or call us at 501-682-6892.

Upcoming Red River County, Texas, Book

The following is a notice received by email from the author of this new book.

This notice is being sent out to notify as many people and organizations as may be interested, about my upcoming publication. It would help me if I knew the amount of interest, so I could determine how many books to have printed. Please feel free to pass this notice along to others who may be interested, so I can make sure everyone is aware.

The book Red River County in 1890 - The Year of the Missing Census is nearing an end and will soon be ready to send to the printers. It contains 253 pages, with an index containing over 5900 entries, and approximately 12,000 entries in the census section, listing people living in Red River County, Texas in 1890. Some of these individuals were found in as many as five different sources, all listed for future reference. Research on the book began about 2003, and dozens of sources have been searched in the years since. Among the sources searched were the tax records of 1890, as well as marriage and divorce records, deeds, criminal and civil court case files, survey records, marks and brands records, cemetery and death records, newspapers, probate files, commissioners court minutes and church records, just to name a few. The location of each source is noted, if additional information is needed.

The first section of the book contains several stories about life in the county in 1890. Histories were written based on research done from the 1890 era, and include such topics as Statistics from the 1890 census, lists of businesses in the county, histories of roads, railroads, post offices, schools, polling places, newspapers, churches, fraternal organizations, among others.

Upcoming Red River County, Texas, Book *continued*

More information will be provided as the time of publication draws closer. The book will be a perfect bound card stock cover, with a few photos from the era. Also included will be business ads and letter-heads of various businesses which were operating in the county at the time.

The cost of the book is expected to be between \$30 and \$40.

To be included on the interest list please contact Johnie Lee at johnie_lee@hotmail.com
Also, I might add that I am planning to do a pre-publication offer to obtain funds to help offset the publishing cost. Please indicate if you would like to be added to this list.

Thanks,

Johnie Lee

Looking to Take a Course?

[Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) made us aware of the *Virtual Institute of Genealogical Research*. The following is directly from the Virtual Institute Of Genealogical Research website:

The Virtual Institute of Genealogical Research offers courses on a wide variety of genealogical subjects, providing vigorous year-round education for the genealogical community using a virtual platform.

The Virtual Institute provides the perfect opportunity for in-depth genealogical education without the expense of travel and lodging associated with other institutes.

Each institute course consists of:

- six hours of instruction from a nationally recognized expert
- extensive syllabus material
- practical exercises

Courses will be presented in the form of four 90-minute lectures, two each on consecutive Saturday mornings. All paid registrants will receive a complimentary course recording, just in case you have to miss a lecture.

Limited class sizes of only 100 registrants per course allows for a higher level of class participation and instructor feedback than typically offered by genealogy webinars.

I am not implying that you NEED to take a class, however, some may have been looking for an educational course. I have not taken one of their courses, but you can take a look and decide for yourself at <http://vigrgenealogy.com/>.

What About My Stuff?

What am I going to do with all my stuff? What are you planning to do with all your stuff? I have a file drawer, some archival boxes, some non-archival boxes, and loose stuff in the book shelf. I bet some of you have much more than I do. I have my father's high school diploma, an oil company newspaper from the 1930's, the marriage certificate for my paternal grandparents, and I don't even know what else. Besides that, there are all my family photos and some old photos. I doubt that I have very many records which are available nowhere other than my house, although I do have a few. Some of you have a lot of that type of stuff. Oh yes, there are also all the paper or digital files our research has generated.

Who is going to become the curator for your? Some of us do not have an interested younger person. Our children may not be interested now. Our cousins' children may not be interested. This younger generation does not seem inclined to collect and care for stuff. They live in apartments or small houses and move every few years.

If you have been thinking about this, you have likely researched for options. There is an extensive review of this subject on the Society of American Archivists web site. If you are interested, you may visit <http://www2.archivists.org/publications/brochures/donating-familyrecs>.

A Dover, England, Resource

The AGS received the following by email. We can never know just what resources our readers would use, so here it is for your consideration.

Dear Society Secretary,

Devon Family History Society, based in Exeter, Devon, UK, celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2016 and has the largest county FHS membership in the UK.

It is likely that some of your members have ancestors who originated from Devon, so perhaps you would please consider circulating details of our Society as below, or including a link to us on your website. We would love to hear from your members regarding their Devon roots and research.

Our Devon FHS website has a variety of pages, providing information, maps and describing the many Devon parishes.

Our popular WWW board and Facebook pages are available for all to post their Devon related queries and brick walls.

Teachers and students are welcome the use any of the items in our Acorn Club section for young people.

Our extensive Links will guide you to websites which are useful for both Devon research and to many other UK repositories. We are in the process of setting up an interactive Devon DNA page.

A Dover, England, Resource, *continued*

Our Online Shop shows the variety and scope of our publications.

Many of our Devon transcriptions are available on FindMyPast, both <http://www.findmypast.co.uk/> and <http://www.findmypast.com/>

In addition to our quarterly journal, the Devon Family Historian, DFHS members have access to articles in past editions, 1-148 and to a large variety of items, data and presentations related to Devon research. These are on our Members' Area, where 50 members interests may be posted, to encourage contact with others researching these surnames worldwide. There are also photographs of over 500 Devon parish churches, available for members to use, copyright free, to illustrate their research notes. Devon FHS Membership is £20 for overseas members.

With very best wishes from Devon,

Terry Leaman
Devon FHS Chairman

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Request for Articles & a Chance to Win Bucks

One of the benefits of membership in the Arkansas Genealogical Society is receiving your own copy of the *Arkansas Family Historian*, published quarterly by the Arkansas Genealogical Society. Since receipt of our Ezine does not require an AGS membership, some of our readers may not be familiar with the *AFH*. It contains articles of genealogical and historical interest about Arkansas. Past issues (through 2009) of the *AFH* can be accessed on the AGS website. You might wonder who writes the articles that are printed in the *AFH*? It can be anyone. You may submit an article to be considered. Actually, the editor solicits articles to be considered. You might consider reading some of the past editions and determine if you would like to give it a try. Please do.

Now, about the bucks. The following is taken from the Spring 2015 *AFH*.

In order to encourage the research and writing of Arkansas historical and genealogy material, the Arkansas Genealogical Society annually awards prizes to the authors of the best Arkansas family history articles submitted to and published in the *Arkansas Family Historian* during the previous year. Each award is based upon 1) original content and subject matter, 2) innovative use of primary source materials, and 3) demonstration of writing skills. This year's prizes will be \$150 for first place, \$50 for second place, and \$25 for third place. All articles published in the *AFH* during 2014 that meet these criteria will be considered. The names of the winners are usually announced at the AGS annual fall conference and are published in the *AFH*. If you have an article that you would like to submit for publication, contact the editor at gobgob3@mindspring.com.

Allow me to encourage any writers out there to submit an article and to wish you good luck! I know Russell will appreciate some help in filling the pages of the *AFH*.

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>

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