



## Arkansas Genealogical Society

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AGS Ezine

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### Have you noticed that we never finish?

I am reminded of a TV commercial from a few years ago. I don't remember the product, but I do remember the commercial. The man was sitting at his computer looking a little dazed and worn out. His wife came into the room and said "I thought you were going to surf the web." His response was "I finished!"

We are just not going to finish researching, compiling, analyzing, or learning. It seems to me that genealogy is not a project, it is a life style. If you are planning to get all your research finished and then write your book, SURPRISE!

Now let's talk about learning. Consuming educational content is similar to eating. I am sad to announce, on both accounts, that one can only hold so much. Our hope is that the Ezine is providing you with good places to learn. There is so much content on line, that it is difficult to know what to read. Reviewing the basics occasionally is worthwhile and learning something new is exciting. Sometimes the sources of genealogical articles surprise me. Such is the case at <http://www.homeadvisor.com/article.show.History-at-Home-A-Guide-to-Genealogy.17370.html> . I have checked out some of links in this article. You can see what you think.

#### 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!

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## Tidbits –

For those readers who have Indiana ancestors, check out the Indiana Genealogical Society’s online databases. From their announcement at <http://indgensoc.blogspot.com/2015/04/igs-now-has-more-than-1500-databases.html>, “The Indiana Genealogical Society is proud to announce that it now has more than 1,500 databases on its website at [www.IndGenSoc.org](http://www.IndGenSoc.org)! These databases are from all 92 counties, plus numerous statewide collections. Some are available to the public and others are accessible to IGS members only.”

The following from [Dick Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter](#). “One of the earliest newspapers in the State of Michigan, the Milford Times was the premiere newspaper in the Huron Valley area. The newspaper is still in publication and has always included news from Milford, Michigan, and many of the surrounding communities, including Highland Township, Commerce Township, White Lake Township, Hartland, Hickory Ridge, Wixom, Clyde, Walled Lake, Novi, and New Hudson. Now the obituaries from 1929 through 1949 have been indexed and made available online. The index is available at <http://milfordlibrary.info/find-information/milford-times-obituary-request>.”

How about reconstructing artifacts from still photos? Here is an interesting article about an actual project! <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/cyber-archeology-may-be-way-preserve-artifacts-destroyed-militants-180955384/>.

## Coming Events

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.

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](http://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 13, 2015

Liz Robbins, Executive Director of the Melting Pot Genealogical Society will present a program exploring how World War II affected Hot Springs at 10:30 at the Garland County Library, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

June 13, 2015

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Programs Walks Through History will be the Marianna Commercial Historic District. See page 7 for the details

## Coming Events continued

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 at 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](#).

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 [gscga@suddenlink.net](mailto:gscga@suddenlink.net) for more information.

July 25, 2015

Lisa Louise Cooke ([www.genealogygems.com](http://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](http://www.butlercenter.org/conference/index.html).

## Coming Events continued

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](http://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, CG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup>. For more information visit [http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/research\\_trips](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/research_trips).

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](http://www.agsgenealogy.org)

October 18-28, 2015

11th Annual Genealogy Conference and Cruise hosted by [Heritage Books, Inc.](http://HeritageBooks.com) in consultation with Wholly Genes, Inc. For more information please click the link above.

## Coming Events continued

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](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. Hotel reservations are now open at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/accommodations>.

## Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Walks Through History

The Walks Through History for June 13, 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.



Marianna Commercial Historic District. Begin at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center, southwest corner of W. Main and S. Church streets, Marianna. Co-sponsored by the Marianna/Lee County Chamber of Commerce and The Gladlands. Located along the L'Anguille River, the Lee County seat of Marianna was home to thriving timber and cotton industries at the turn of the 20th century. Court Square Park is a focal point of the district. Public, institutional and commercial buildings are located in downtown Marianna, providing a rich architectural heritage.

## Four New “Research in the States” Books from NGS

We received the following announcement by email

ARLINGTON, VA, 20 MAY 2015—The National Genealogical Society (NGS) is pleased to announce the publication of four, new books as part of its Research in the States series, which now covers research in more than twenty-two states. The newest volumes are Research in California by Sheila Benedict; Research in Missouri, 3rd edition, by Ann Carter Fleming, cgSM, cglSM, fngs; Research in Oklahoma by Kathy Huber, MLS; and Research in Nebraska by Roberta “Bobbi” King. The books are now available in the NGS store in both PDF and print versions. The print versions will ship after 31 May.

The Research in the States series editor Barbara Vines Little, cg, fngs, fvgs, is a former NGS president and editor of the Magazine of Virginia Genealogy. Other titles in the series includes Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York City, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Additional states guides are planned.

The guides in this ongoing series are available as traditional print books or e-books. The [Research in the States guides](#) are economically priced, so you can buy the print version for your library and the electronic PDF version for your computer. Imagine having the entire collection on your laptop for reference, yet taking up no space in your briefcase or tote bag. Shop the [NGS online store](#) today for the states you need. And don't forget that NGS members receive a discount on purchases made in the NGS online store.



## UT Austin iSchool Can Help Flood Victims Salvage Documents

Another timely article thanks to Dick Eastman and his [EOGN](#). You can read this article from the UT site at <https://news.utexas.edu/2015/05/26/ischool-can-help-flood-victims-save-documents-and-heirlooms>

AUSTIN, Texas – Conservators and students at The University of Texas at Austin's School of Information are available to provide advice and limited disaster recovery assistance to help this weekend's flood victims salvage damaged family treasures.

Wet papers and photographs, textiles, scrapbooks, books and other sentimental objects should be frozen, if possible, and not thrown out, the conservators say.

Losing such items can be devastating after disasters such as floods. Luckily, many things can be salvaged with proper guidance.

Flood victims are urged to contact the iSchool for advice on conservation at 512-903-9564 or [response@ischool.utexas.edu](mailto:response@ischool.utexas.edu).

Faculty members and students also plan to host salvage workshops in areas most affected by flooding during the next few weeks and will schedule those sessions soon. Please contact [response@ischool.utexas.edu](mailto:response@ischool.utexas.edu) if you are interested in hosting or attending a salvage session.

Faculty members are also available for media interviews to discuss document conservation.

For more information, contact: Karen Pavelka, School of Information, 512-903-9564.

## Arkansas History Commission Press Release

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

Little Rock - The Arkansas History Commission and State Archives and the Black History Commission of Arkansas were recently awarded over \$24,000.

In early May, the Arkansas Humanities Council , Department of Arkansas Heritage, and the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the History Commission \$24,050 for public programming and outreach. Throughout each year, the History Commission sponsors various workshops and symposiums for its patrons. The Humanities Council grant will help support workshops and symposiums held during 2015.

The Black History Commission of Arkansas also received a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council as well. The BHCA was awarded a \$1,350 African American Heritage Grant for the purpose of supporting public programming and education. Each year, the BHCA holds two symposiums dedicated to furthering the study of African American history in Arkansas. This grant will assist in funding the June 6, 2015, symposium focusing on the roots of African American foodways.

In reference to the importance of the History Commission receiving this external funding, Dr. Lisa Speer, director of the AHC, said, “Without funding from the Council, the Commission would not be able to accomplish some of its goals. My staff and I are grateful for the support that the Council has provided to the Commission through the years.”

## **Arkansas History Commission Press Release *continued***

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

## Ancestry Launches Ancestry Academy

The following announcement was written by the folks at Ancestry. Thanks to Dick Eastman and his [EOGN](#) for telling us.

New resource will feature high-quality video courses spanning a variety of family history topics; Expert guidance to help experts and novices alike

(PROVO, Utah) - April 22, 2015 - Ancestry, the world's leading family history service, has launched [Ancestry Academy](#), a new educational resource that offers high-quality video instruction from family history and genealogy experts. Covering a wide range of topics of interest in family history research, including Native American ancestry, online US census research, and DNA testing, this new educational content will help anyone, no matter their knowledge, better research and understand their family's unique history.

“Whether you are just beginning your family history research or an expert genealogist, nearly anyone can learn something new from the terrific lineup of expert instructors featured on Ancestry Academy,” said Laura Prescott, Director of Ancestry Academy. “Our goal is to deliver the best online video instruction library of family history courses to as many people as possible to provide an educational and rewarding experience while researching their family history.”

Ancestry Academy courses are divided into smaller lessons enabling self-paced learning, and an easy to use navigation helps members identify topics within a course simply. There is also an opportunity to evaluate your proficiency on a subject through optional tests available after completion of a course.

“Ancestry Academy is a natural next step in our effort to provide the best in education and resources for people interested in researching their family history,” said Brian Hansen, Vice President of Emerging Businesses at Ancestry. “This new resource, combined with the Ancestry Learning Center and other educational content on Ancestry.com, will provide quality family history education to help every person discover, preserve and share their family history.”

## **Ancestry Launches Ancestry Academy *continued***

While premium courses will help educate on some of the more popular how-to conversations in family history research, other courses on Ancestry products and websites will also be available free of charge for anyone with a registered account to Ancestry.com. Currently, there are 15 courses available on Ancestry Academy, with plans for new courses to be added each month on an ongoing basis. Unlimited access to all Ancestry Academy courses is available for \$11.99 a month, \$99.99 a year, or as part of the Ancestry World Explorer Plus subscription.

## US Geological Survey adds a New Online Map Viewer

The following is republished from Dick Eastman's [EOGN](#).

The US Geological Survey has an online collection of more than 178,000 maps, dating back to 1880. They cover the entire country. Best of all, they're free to download. However, the digital images were not always of the highest quality and the search software for finding maps was confusing, at best. All that has now changed with the introduction of a new online map viewer.

Browsing and searching for maps is now much more intuitive. You can type or zoom in on a particular place, limit your search to maps of a particular scale or from a particular range of dates. You can download them in a variety of formats, from JPGs (fine for printing out a nice map to put on your wall), to KMZ files (to import into Google Earth), to GeoTIFFs (for the power users who wants to import maps into GIS software).

You can learn more about the National Map Viewer and Download Platform at <http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer>.

Further details may be found in an article by Greg Miller in Wired at <http://www.wired.com/2015/05/amazing-collection-historical-maps-just-got-easier-see>.

## The European Library's Digitized Old Newspapers

The following is from the Melting Pot in Hot Springs.

The European Library (<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org> ) has digitized old newspapers, as well as indexing and making them available to the general public at no charge. The newspapers come from the national libraries of: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, and Wales. Germany's contributions came from the Berlin and Hamburg State Libraries.

The pages from the newspapers can be browsed by date, by country, and by newspaper title. They can also be searched by word. A search for a common name will yield too many results, but if you have an ancestor with an oddly spelled name or slightly unusual name, you have a chance of finding him or her.

## The Forgotten Photographs Project

This is a repeat, but just in case you missed the first time, it is worth the repeat.

The following is from <http://www.forgottenphotosproject.com/>

Reuniting genealogists with faces from the past...

Welcome to The Forgotten Photographs Project. Within our database, you will find hundreds of lost and discarded photographs from around the world. These photographs were collected from a number of sources; antique shops, flea markets, online auctions and estate sales, and put together into one searchable database. Each of our photographs is identified on the back and includes the county and state the picture was acquired from, in addition to any other identifying information we may have. Each month our database is updated with dozens of new photographs and remains free for everyone to use.

Feel free to explore, and when using our site, please remember that we are relying on the people who owned these beloved photographs and we are only assuming that the names and dates written on the back are correct. In addition, some of the handwriting on the photographs is difficult to read, and although we've made every effort to identify the pictures, we are in no way experts, and we too make mistakes! Always use your own judgement when you find a photograph that could be someone in your family tree. Good luck!



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## **Administrative Stuff**

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

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