



Arkansas Genealogical Society

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AGS Ezine

Volume 10, No. 9, September, 2015

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George Mitchell, list manager

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## Arkansas Genealogical Society 2015 Fall Conference



*Featuring*

**Paula Stuart-Warren  
October 2-3, 2015**

**Wyndham Hotel**

**#2 Riverfront Place, North Little Rock, AR 72114**

**501-371-9000**

Please visit the [AGS website](#) to get a registration form  
Register by September 10th to be guaranteed a syllabus

See page 6 for more details

### 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 –

New Online Training Available in the FamilySearch [Learning Center](#). These new classes include:

- Danish Research
- United States Research
- Norwegian Parish Registers
- Canadian Census Records
- England Probate Records
- Hispanic Online Resources
- Chinese Research

Writing your own obituary would be one way to take a load from those you leave behind. I suspect Jim Groth composed his. You may not want to fashion yours this way. Take a look at <http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=James-Groth&lc=2595&pid=175392599&mid=6535739>

SSDI's New Companion: U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007 is Ancestry's exclusive new collection available. Read the [Juliana Szucs July 24, 2015](#) blog about it.

## Coming Events

September 11-12, 2015

The Ozarks Genealogical Society, Springfield, Missouri Fall Conference's featured speaker will be Lisa Louise Cooke. Visit <http://ozarksgs.org/> for the details.

September 14, 2015

The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies holds a beginner's class on genealogy from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. See page 17 for the details.

September 18, 2015

The SML Genealogy Dept will hold a Genealogy Lock-in at the Broadmoor Branch of the Shreveport Library located at 1212 Capt. Shreve Dr., Shreveport LA. From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call 318-219-3468 to register.

September 28, 2015

Heritage Seekers Genealogy Club meets 6:30 p.m. at the Fletcher Library, 823 N. Buchanan, Little Rock. The program will be *Camp Ouachita Girl Scout Camp Historic District* by Rachel Silva, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

October 2-3, 2015

The Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Conference will be at the Wyndham, North Little Rock. See page 6 & 7 and our website for the details. You can print a registration form on the AGS website. [www.agsgenealogy.org](http://www.agsgenealogy.org)

## Coming Events continued

October 17, 2015

The Craighead County Genealogical Society will hold a Beginning Genealogy class from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact Nancy Mathews at [nlmatthews@suddenlink.com](mailto:nlmatthews@suddenlink.com) or 870-219-0535. See <http://www.gscca.net/beginning.htm> for info.

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. This event is SOLD OUT. For more information, or to be put on a waiting list 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).

November 7, 2015

The Tennessee Genealogical Society Fall Seminar will be at the Germantown Church of Christ, 8723 Poplar Pike, Germantown, Tennessee. D. Joshua Taylor will be the speaker. For more information visit the [TNGS](#) website.

## Coming Events continued

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>.

June 12–17, 2016

The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University Library, week-long event will be in Birmingham, Alabama. Registration will be open at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time (10:00 a.m. Central) on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. [Click here](#) to go to their website.

August 31– September 3, 2016

Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) will be held in Springfield, Illinois. See [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) for the details.

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Register by September 10th to be guaranteed a syllabus

For hotel reservations, call the Wyndham directly at 501-371-9000 or toll-free at 866-657-4458.

Mention the Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Conference to receive the \$94.95 rate

## Arkansas Genealogical Society 2015 Fall Conference *continued*

### Agenda

#### Start Time Friday, October 2, 2015 Schedule

- 5:00 PM Registration (Vendors Open 5:00-9:00)
- 6:00 PM Russell Baker - Malinda Had Three Husbands: Exploring Southern Native American Genealogical Research
- 7:00 PM Break
- 7:30 PM Tim Welch - Preserving Memories in the Digital Age

#### Start Time Saturday, October 3, 2015 Schedule

- 8:00 AM Registration (Vendors Open 8:00-3:00)
- 9:00 AM Paula Stuart-Warren - What Next? Developing Step-by-Step Research Plans (audience participation)
- 10:00 AM Break
- 10:30 AM Paula Stuart-Warren - Original Manuscripts: Finding Aids Online and Off
- 11:30 AM Lunch
- 1:00 PM AGS Annual Meeting
- 1:30 PM Paula Stuart-Warren - The Farmer in the Dell -- and in Many U.S. Records
- 2:30 PM Break
- 3:00 PM Paula Stuart-Warren - Research Reports for Ourselves: More than a Research Log
- \$20 Friday Night Only; \$40 Saturday Only (includes a box lunch); \$55 Friday & Saturday (includes Saturday's box lunch)

## What's New in FamilySearch

Each month, FamilySearch publishes a list of new changes and updates to the FamilySearch.org website. This list includes changes to Family Tree as well as other parts of FamilySearch.org. In some cases, these changes will also be published as individual articles where the need to do so exists.

The above quote and the article for September were authored by Steve Anderson. You can read the new changes for the past months and other interesting items on the FamilySearch blog at <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/>. If you are a FamilySearch user and are not reading the blog, I suggest that you bookmark the site and read it monthly. Even if you are not a FamilySearch user, you might want to read the blog.

The features for September are:

- ◇ Messaging in FamilySearch.org
- ◇ How to Search for a Specific Type of Record for a Specific Place
- ◇ Searching is Now Available in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean
- ◇ Search Results Enhancements Now Available for Single Collection Searches
- ◇ Auto-indexed Record Feedback.

Please read these directly from the FamilySearch site at the link above if you believe they might be helpful.



## New Publication Available from The Melting Pot

The following is republished from the MPGS monthly newsletter

The Melting Pot Genealogical Society has recently completed their latest publication: ***Garland County Arkansas, Cemeteries and Burial Site Directory***.

This book is not a transcription, but complete details of the cemetery locations. There are references included in the book to other sources of already published transcriptions for your further research. There is comprehensive information about 157 individual burial locations within Garland County.

Imagine you are researching a long lost relative and you think you know the general area where they lived and maybe you even know the name of the cemetery where they are buried, but don't have the slightest idea where it is located. This is the book for you. Included are driving directions from the County's major highways to each cemetery. Also provided are GPS coordinates, number of interments, date of founding of first burial, picture of cemetery entrance, notes and, if available, a plot map. It is important to note that some of these burial sites are located on private property and will need landowner's permission for access.

The MPGS's new Cemetery Book is presently available for sale on Amazon.com.

## Focusing On One Ancestor At A Time

The following article is republished, with permission, from [Genealogy By Barry](#)

When doing family history work, it's important to focus on one ancestor, one question and one record at a time. I refer to this as the "Power of One."

Conducting genealogy research means finding answers to questions. When I first started researching my ancestral lines I found myself overwhelmed with questions I wanted to answer for each ancestor, such as the following:

- ◆ What was his name?
- ◆ When and where was he born?
- ◆ When and where did he marry?
- ◆ Whom did he marry?
- ◆ How many children did he have?
- ◆ What were the names of the children?
- ◆ Where did he live?
- ◆ What type of work did he do?
- ◆ To what religion did he belong?
- ◆ Was he in the military?
- ◆ Did he belong to any other organizations?
- ◆ What did he look like?
- ◆ When and where did he die?

## Focusing On One Ancestor At A Time *continued*

- ◆ What was the cause of death?
- ◆ Where was he buried?

How can you simplify when overwhelmed by all these questions? Here's where the Power of One is so helpful. Start by realizing that genealogy research is a project, and a genealogy project is completed one individual, one question and one task at time. Below, I have outlined the steps I took as I worked on my first family history research project, which is the basis of the process I follow today:

Choose one individual, family or generation to focus my research on. Use pedigree charts and family group sheets to help identify problems to resolve, such as:

- Missing information: names, dates or places.
- Incomplete information: part of a name, date or place is missing.
- Unverified information: information cannot be traced to a credible source (that is, someone who would have known the information firsthand).
- Conflicting information: facts from two sources do not agree.

Then, develop a list of questions and tasks associated with the project, review the list and pick the most important item to complete.

- As I begin, I then outline the task in detail by asking myself questions such as the following:

## Focusing On One Ancestor At A Time *continued*

- What is my goal for the task?
- What information do I have already?
- What resources will provide the answers I am looking for?
- Do I have the desired information in my records already?
- Do I have the knowledge to complete the task? If not, what do I need to learn about? Where can I find the answers?
- Do I need help from others? If so, who?
- Do I need to conduct Internet research?
- Do I need to go to the library?
- Do I need to contact another family member or genealogist?

I will then work on the task until it's complete.

## Preserving Newspapers

There is a huge amount of genealogy information and many documents accessible on the internet. Many of us spend most of our research time on the internet. If you did not already know, the percentage of genealogical information online is actually small. So much has not been digitized and is only accessible on site. The cost to search on site is often prohibitive to most of us. The following article from [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) offers a glimmer of hope.

Archivists using the latest conservation technology are racing to digitize 300 years of newspapers before they crumble to dust - and that's just for starters. The Guardian has published a fascinating story about a huge project by a team from the British Library that is preserving newspapers. The article says:  
A gigantic robotic vault, the National Newspaper Building in Boston Spa, near Leeds, is the British Library's high-tech approach to safeguarding what it rather endearingly terms "the national memory" - 750m pages of news, covering more than three centuries of goings-on, as reported in papers across the nation. From political turmoil to humanitarian crisis, murder cases to local marriage notices, it's all here. And it's growing. "We're adding something like 1,200 titles every week," says Alasdair Bruce, manager of the British Library Newspaper Programme.

Preserving an aging memory is no small feat. Conservators up and down the country are waging war with time itself to battle deterioration of our documents, be it Magna Carta, celebrating its 800th anniversary this year, or yesterday's broadsheet.

I suggest you follow the link on the EOGN website at the end of the article for a fascinating view.

## Sequoyah National Research Center Friends *Update* no 45, July 2015

The following article is republished with permission from Dr. Littlefield.

### **Are you looking for the Indian in the wrong place, or was Grandpa simply a liar?**

Take, for instance, the story he told that his grandma was an Indian; probably a Cherokee if Grandpa was from Arkansas. Most people don't want to think Grandpa lied about his Indian ancestor. So the answer must be that they are looking for their Indian in the wrong places.

The most common question the SNRC staff receives concerns alleged Indian ancestry. Most searchers, primarily claiming Cherokee ancestry, have gone no further in their search than the Dawes Commission allotment rolls. Until recent months, there was little the staff could do to help them. The Center holds 128 rolls of microfilmed rolls of the Cherokee Nation, covering the period from the end of the Civil War to World War I. However, the records are not indexed. The staff could tell researchers they could begin going through Cherokee records with roll one, but that was not helpful. Even though family stories usually make a tribal blood connection highly implausible, experience shows that there is usually some grain of truth in most family stories. It just might not be the grain the person thinks it is. There were, in fact, many ways people who were not Cherokee could have had a connection to the Cherokees in the nineteenth century. Exploring those connections might prove fruitful.

Center staff knew that the Cherokee records contain thousands of documents relating to Arkansans. Thus with the assistance of the Arkansas Humanities Council, the Center employed a graduate student to begin searching the records and recording the location in the microfilm of those documents related to state citi-

## Sequoyah National Research Center Friends *continued*

zens. After her initial work, the Center continued the project with interns. The result is a growing database of thousands of names of Arkansans that appear in the Cherokee records during the three decades following the Civil War. But there is more information than just names. The records contain a wealth of other kinds of family history information: age, familial relationships, ancestry, places of residence etc. Now when someone who has been looking for the family Cherokee in the wrong places come to the Center, the staff have a starting point that might just help lead the researcher, if luck would have it, to that grain of truth in Grandpa's story.

## The Rohwer Restored Digital Exhibit

The following announcement is from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Center for Arkansas History and Culture located at 407 President Clinton Avenue, Suite 202, Little Rock, Arkansas.

The UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture is excited to announce the launch of "Rohwer Restored," a virtual exhibit that documents a project to stabilize and restore the Rohwer Japanese American Relocation Center Cemetery. Funded in part by the National Park Service's Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, the project seeks to restore the headstones, flower holders, pathways, and monuments at this one of two Arkansas locations designated by Executive Order 9066 to intern Japanese Americans during World War II.

Visit and enjoy! <http://ualrexhibits.org/rohwer/>

There have been a few inquiries from people with family members held in the camps. We include this announcement for the benefit of those who might be interested or know a friend who would be.



## **Butler Center for Arkansas Studies Class**

The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies conducts a beginner's class on genealogy each 2nd Monday of the month from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. It is at 100 Rock Street, Little Rock, AR. 72201. The phone number is 501-320-5720.

Rhonda Stewart, Genealogy & Local History Specialist provided the following information about the class:

We do a beginner's class on genealogy each 2nd Monday of the month from 3:30 to 5pm. It is a drop-in class, no reservations necessary. It is held in room 204 of the Arkansas Studies Institute. The goal is to introduce the public to what the Arkansas Studies Institute offers for genealogists and local historians. This includes databases, books, maps, manuscript collections, microfilm, etc. We also have digital microfilm readers and an overhead scanner for public use, allowing patrons to store the images on an external disk or flashdrive.

There are many opportunities available for genealogy education in several areas of Arkansas. Some charge a fee and some are free. I am sure, if there is a fee, it only covers some of the cost. The genealogy community does these things for the satisfaction.

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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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