



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 8, No. 6, June 2013

Susan G. Boyle, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

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!

Summer has arrived—at least in Arkansas, it has. It's hard to stay out of the yard and at the computer or in the library. The weeds, overgrown bushes, fragrant roses and dead flower heads beckon, but an approaching trip to the South Carolina State Archives in Columbia keeps me looking at my database and then searching for those missing items that will expand the family picture, making research easier while among the records.

Planning a successful trip to a research facility requires getting acquainted with its holdings by perusing its catalog and searching its online databases or indexes so you will have more time to look at records while you are there. Make a note of the days of the week they are open and their opening and closing hours. Learn what you will need in the way of cash to make copies. Can you make your own copies or do you have to order them? Know what the requirements are for viewing manuscript collections and what you may or may not carry into the research room. In some facilities, some materials can be viewed only if you give them advance notice. Can you use your lap top in the research room? Are there outlets or do you have to run on battery? Is there a Wi-Fi connection? May you use a handheld scanner?

If you are making a research trip this summer or just going to a family reunion, prepare ahead of time so there won't be any surprises that keep you from making the most of your time and money. Summer is a great time to make genealogical progress!

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Tidbits –

“Genealogy Roadshow” to air on PBS in the fall

According to a press release from Arlington, VA, on May 9, 2013, PBS announced it would carry a new series called Genealogy Roadshow. Described as part detective story and part emotional journey, the series is said to “combine history and science to uncover the fascinating stories of diverse Americans” and “each individual’s past will link to a larger community history, revealing the rich cultural tapestry of America.” But we already knew that’s what family history does for us, didn’t we? Genealogy Roadshow is slated to air on Monday nights, September 23-October 14, 9:00 to 10:00 p.m., eastern time.

More Genealogy on TV

An Ancestry.com press release of May 21, 2013, revealed that the television series “Who Do You Think You Are?” will be appearing on TLC network beginning July 23. The series, formerly on NBC, traces the roots of eight celebrities in individual one-hour shows. Among those featured this season will be Christina Applegate, Cindy Crawford and Zooey Deschanel.

Coming Events

Now through Saturday, June 15, 2013

Portraits In Gray: A Civil War Photography Collection, Laman Library Exhibit Hall; private collection of David Vaughn of Atlanta; for information contact Dan.Noble@lamanlibrary.org or 501-758-1720.

Now through July 5, 2013

Genome, The Secret of How Life Works, George Bush Presidential Library, College Station, Texas, DNA Exhibit, <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu> or 979-691-4000

Now through the end of 2013

“In Loving Memory: Death & Mourning in Arkansas, exhibit of mourning customs, artifacts, clothing, death masks, photos, etc., Arkansas History Commission, 1 Capitol Mall, second floor, Monday-Saturday 8-4:30.

Saturday, June 1, 2013

Twenty-fourth North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, Civil War Sesquicentennial, Leslie and Marshall, Arkansas. Contact: Shirley J. Gray at 870-448-3308 or shirleysdream@windstream.net or visit www.ancestorfair.us

Saturday, June 1, 2013

“Emancipation Proclamation: What it Meant to Freed African Americans in Arkansas” at Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, 501 W. 9th St., Little Rock, Arkansas, 9-3, FREE, presented by the Arkansas History Commission and the Black History Commission of Arkansas; speakers include Ronnie Nichols, Mark Christ, Archie Moore, Dr. John Graves, and Leita Spears. For more information email state.archives@arkansas.gov

Coming Events continued

Saturday, June 9, 2013

Lonoke County Governors *Tales from Beyond*...and Dinner, Lonoke Primary School, 800 Lincoln St., Lonoke, Arkansas; honoring James P. Eagle, Joe T. Robinson, John Martineau, and W. K. Oldham; a Lonoke County Museum Educational fundraiser, 5:30 till—; tickets \$20.

Monday, June 17, 2013

Doing Oral Histories, presented by David Elmore from AETN, 6:30-7:30 pm, Saline County Library, 1800 Smithers Drive, Benton, Arkansas.

Tuesday, June 18, 2013

“A Grievous Calamity”-The Battle of Helena, July 4, 1863 by Mark Christ, Brown Bag lunch, Old State House, for information email info@oldstatehouse.org or call 501-324-9685.

Wednesday through Saturday, June 19-22, 2013

The War for Freedom—The Underground Railroad During the Civil War, Conference sponsored by the National Park Service, Doubletree Hotel, 424 W. Markham St., Little Rock, Arkansas; for information see pp. 6 and 7 here, or go to <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/ugrr/annual-conference.htm>

Saturday, June 22, 2013

Oral History Workshop, presented by David Elmore of AETN, 10-12:30, Bryant Library, 201 Prickett Road, Bryant, Arkansas. FREE, but limited to 15—you must register at 501-847-2166 or at 501-778-4766.

Coming Events continued

Saturday, June 22, 2013

Mount Holly Cemetery, Broadway, Little Rock, Arkansas, 9:30 am, at the Bell House, historical tour of the gravesites along Grand Ave, part of the Gardening Series.

Monday, June 24, 2013

The Battle of Jenkins Ferry, presented by Roy Wilson at Heritage Seekers Genealogy Club, 7:00 pm, Laman Library, North Little Rock, Arkansas, visitors welcome.

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

Civil War Roundtable, “Skirmish at Paroquet Bluff” by Mark Christ of Arkansas Historic Preservation, Second Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Valley Drive, I-430 & Cantrell, 7:00 pm.

Saturday, July 13, 2013

Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Annual Genealogy Workshop featuring Tony Burroughs, FREE, but you must register, www.butlercenter.org/conference.

Friday and Saturday, September 20 and 21

Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Conference, Wyndham Hotel, 2 Riverfront Place, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 501-371-9000. Mark Lowe will speak on War of 1812 ancestors, local militia records, Freedman marriage records, migration, early census, and Civil War ancestors.

From the National Park Service, A Conference: The Underground Railroad

The National Park Service is sponsoring a conference about the Underground Railroad June 19-22, 2013, at the Double Tree Hotel-Downtown, 424 West Markham, Little Rock, Arkansas. See their website at <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/ugrr/annual-conference/htm>

The theme for this year's conference is *The War for Freedom: The Underground Railroad during the Civil War*. The conference will commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, as well as the 15th Anniversary of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Traditional notions long held that the Underground Railroad ended with the coming of the Civil War (1861-1865) and more specifically the Emancipation Proclamation (1863). However, this is not true; the struggle for freedom continued in the midst of the nation's unrest.

As in the case of previous wars, the Civil War provided opportunities for freedom. Moreover, the Emancipation Proclamation freed only those enslaved people in areas that had seceded from the Union, so those enslaved in areas that were not in rebellion (i.e. Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, West Virginia, and including parts of Louisiana, Tennessee, and Virginia) would have continued to rely on the Underground Railroad. Even in those areas where freedom had been decreed by the proclamation, it was words rather than means. The enslaved still found it necessary to flee or join with the Union Army, either as soldiers or contrabands, in order to enjoy their newly acquired status.

The 2013 National Underground Railroad Conference will focus on the Underground Railroad during the Civil War, exploring resistance



Painting by Stephen Marc

Conference—The Underground Railroad continued

to enslavement through escape and flight during this tumultuous period of the nation's history. As the battle over whether the nation should accept or abolish slavery waged on, people continued to fight against the institution of slavery. The Underground Railroad continued to play an important role, as shown by the continual enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Act during the war. It was not until the 13th Amendment eliminated "slavery and involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime" that the need for the Underground Railroad ultimately ended.

The four-day conference will include renowned speakers, panel discussions, an exhibit hall, and tours of local museums and historic sites, not only in Little Rock, but also in Pine Bluff and Helena. This year's keynotes are:

James Downs, PhD, Associate Professor of History at Connecticut College

Thavolia Glymph, PhD, Associate Professor of African and African American History at Duke University

Matthew Pinsker, PhD, Brian Pohanka Chair of Civil War History at Dickinson College

View the schedule and register for the Conference at <http://www.asalh.org/ugrr.html>. Registration for the conference is \$250, or for one day \$100. Three tours are available. The Fighting for Freedom tour on Wednesday June 19 is \$45. The Exploring Little Rock Tour on Friday June 21 is \$25. The Arkansas Delta Tour on Saturday June 22 is \$60.

The room rate at the Double Tree for the conference is \$86 a night, single occupancy. Call 501-372-4371.

For more information, contact: Diane Miller, National Program Manager, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, 402-661-1588/diane_miller@nps.gov or Déanda Johnson, Midwest Regional Coordinator, 402-661-1590/deanda_johnson@nps.gov.

From the Butler Center: Tony Burroughs to speak at annual workshop

Saturday, July 13, 2013

Time: TBA

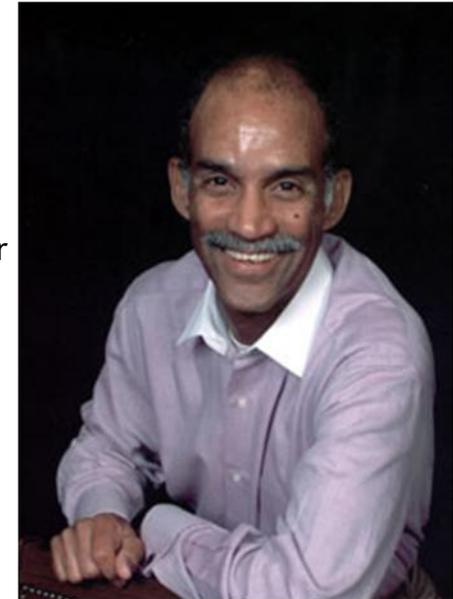
Location: Central Arkansas Library System

The Central Arkansas Library System's Butler Center for Arkansas Studies is honored to host Tony Burroughs – Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association (FUGA) – as speaker for our annual genealogy workshop, held on July 13, 2013. Burroughs is an internationally known genealogist whose work has been featured on several television programs. His topics range from using iPhones and iPads for genealogy research, to researching land and military resources.

The workshop is free and open to the public; registration is required.

More information, including the opportunity to register for soon.

Editor: As of May 30 there was not yet any detailed information up on the Butler Center website concerning this event. They hoped to have the registration form on the website by May 31, or at least by Monday, June 3. Keep an eye on the website and register when it is possible to do so. The event is usually held in the Darragh Center in the main library and usually box lunches can be ordered when registering and paid for on the day of the workshop. See www.butlercenter.org/conference for information as it is added.



Two new books from the National Genealogical Society

In May, NGS announced the release of *Mastering Genealogical Proof* by Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS.

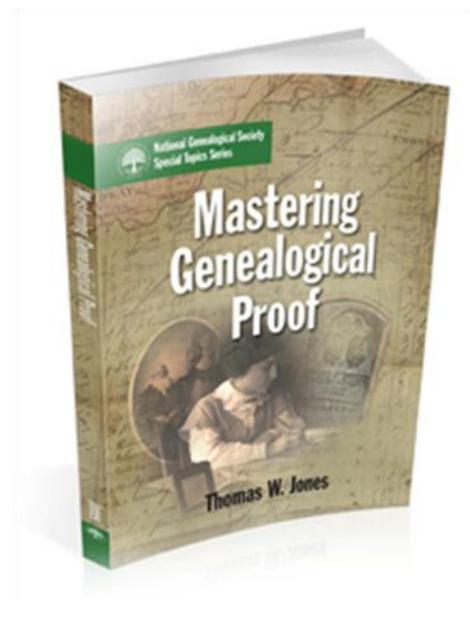
“As a unique textbook on genealogical methods and reasoning in the twenty-first century, *Mastering Genealogical Proof* guides readers in acquiring genealogical skills transcending chronological, ethnic, geopolitical, and religious boundaries. Dr. Jones, a noted writer, lecturer, and editor in the field of genealogy, explains and develops the level of proof that is appropriate to genealogy.

Dr. Jones relies on his vast experience as a genealogist to explain the various concepts and techniques involved in the genealogical research process. *Mastering Genealogical Proof* aims to help researchers, students, and new family historians reconstruct relationships and lives of people they cannot see. It presents content in digestible chunks. Each chapter concludes with problems providing practice for proficiently applying the chapter’s concepts. Those problems, like examples throughout the book, use real records, real research, and real issues.”

Mastering Genealogical Proof may be ordered from the NGS online store at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

NGS also announced the release of the newest edition in its Research in the States series: *Research in New York City, Long Island, and Westchester County*.

“This publication was written by native New Yorker and nationally recognized genealogist Laura Murphy DeGrazia, CG, FGBS. Laura is a trustee and former president of BCG and co-editor of the *NYG&B Record*. Barbara Vines Little, CG,

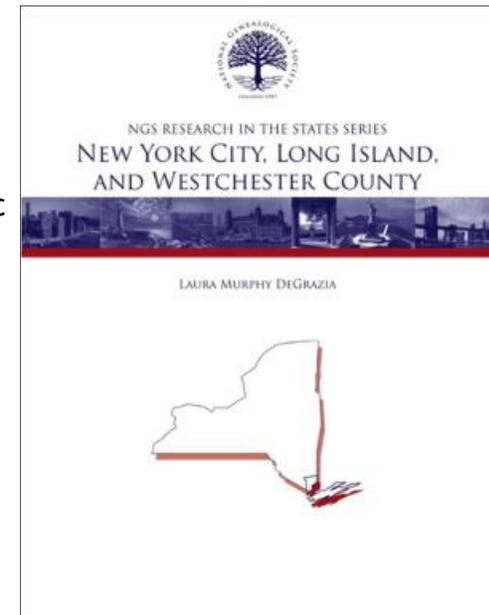


New Books from NGS continued

FNGS, FVGS, is a former NGS president and is the current editor of the NGS Research in the States series and the *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*.

Research in New York City, Long Island, and Westchester County is an introduction to resources and repositories essential to genealogical research in these geographic areas. “Millions of Americans have ancestors who spent some time in the New York City, Long Island, and Westchester County area,” said Laura Murphy DeGrazia, author, “and knowing what resources exist and where they are located can help family historians be more successful in their research.”

Research in New York City, Long Island, and Westchester County is available in the NGS store at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/research_in_the_states in a PDF and print version. Other titles in the Research in the States series, which are also available in PDF and print form, include Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Additional states and a full New York State guide are planned for the future.



Fayetteville Confederate Cemetery 140th Annual Service

Fayetteville's Confederate Cemetery will conduct the 140th annual memorial service on Saturday June 1, at 10:00 a.m. at the cemetery on East Rock Street. Directly following the annual ceremony, there will be a short presentation at the nearby Walker Cemetery to dedicate a new marker in honor of Judge David Walker who is buried there. This will be the official local recognition of the Walker Cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places. The Walker Cemetery was deeded over to the Southern Memorial Association in 2011.

The guest speaker at this year's ceremony will be C. L. Gray of Ohio. She is an historian of the Army of Northern Virginia and editor of *The Stainless Banner*, a free e-zine dedicated to the armies of the Confederacy. She has travelled throughout the South giving programs on Jackson, Lee, Stuart, and Bragg. She is also a contributor to the *Military Order of the Stars and Bars Officer's Call* and the *Confederate War Journal*. Her latest project is a comprehensive analysis of the events at Fort Pillow. She is currently launching *The Stainless Banner Publishing Company*, a full service small press dedicated to the preservation of Southern history and heritage. C. L. Gray is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a degree in International Affairs.

The Military Order of the Stars and Bars will conduct the dedication at the Walker Cemetery.

Since June 10, 1873, the Southern Memorial Association of Washington County has conducted an annual memorial service to pay respect to the over 600 Confederate soldiers who lie at rest in the 3-acre cemetery. The cemetery is owned and maintained by the Southern Memorial Association which was founded by about 40 women of Fayetteville in order to establish an appropriate resting ground for the

Fayetteville Confederate Cemetery 140th Service continued

Confederate dead. The association is the oldest known, continuous organization founded by women in the state of Arkansas. The Southern Memorial Association has owned and maintained the Confederate Cemetery with private donations since its establishment in 1873.

The Southern Memorial Association welcomes members who will help to continue the goal of the founding ladies, to provide a beautiful resting place for the Confederate dead within its walls. For more information please visit the website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arsma/index.html> or call 479-824-3910.

Susan Young, Outreach Coordinator

Shiloh Museum of Ozark History 118 W. Johnson Springdale, AR 72764

479-750-8165 www.shilohmuseum.org

The St. Louis Research Institute focusing on German heritage in July

The St. Louis Genealogical Society's Research Institute will be held July 15-19, 2013, at the society's office. It will be focusing on researching German ancestors. There will be fourteen lectures covering beginning to more advanced topics.

This will be a small class with only twenty-five attendees who will hear lectures in the mornings and conduct their own research in the afternoons. Assistance will be provided at the St. Louis Public Library, the St. Louis County Library, and the Missouri History Museum's Library and Research Center. Included are lectures on:

- Deciphering German Handwriting
- Finding your German Village
- Understanding and Utilizing the Meyers Orts gazetteer
- Discovering German Military Units in the Civil War
- Uncovering Clues in German Religious Records
- Locating the Appropriate German Archives
- Using Online German Research Sites

The cost of the week-long program includes lectures, individual assistance, and some meals. Participants are responsible for their transportation to St. Louis, Missouri, and within the city, as well as hotel accommodations or any meals other than those listed in the registration booklet. Payment is required in full at the time of registration. See the StLGS website at www.stlgs.org for more information or to register before June 16.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, it would be prudent to act quickly before the class is filled.

Confederate Amnesty Papers by Melissa Shimkus of The Genealogy Center

Ed.: The following article is from Genealogy Gems, the monthly E-zine of The Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The articles are usually written by the staff of The Genealogy Center, often to highlight records found there, but also accessible elsewhere. The articles sometimes expose you to records of which you are unaware. To subscribe to Genealogy Gems go to <http://www.genealogycenter.org/community/E-zine.aspx>

President Andrew Johnson signed an Amnesty Proclamation 29 May 1865 authorizing pardons to individuals who supported the Confederate States of America (CSA), but the document exempted fourteen categories of people who were required to file an official application to the President to receive amnesty. The exempted groups included soldiers who served in Confederate troops, and people who owned property worth more than \$20,000 and had contributed to the CSA, among others. Former Confederates sought pardons to avoid prosecution and to regain their civil rights and citizenship.

“The Confederate Amnesty Papers, 1865-1867” include significant historical and genealogical information during a transitional time in our country, and are on 73 reels of microfilm at The Genealogy Center (cabinet 56-B-5). About 14,000 pardon applications are included, with an index on the first reel of the set. The material is organized by region (South, North and West, and not designated), then alphabetically by state or territory of residence, then alphabetically by surname. The index and images are also available online by subscription at <www.fold3.com>, which may be accessed onsite in The Genealogy Center.

Applications for those who served in non-combatant roles provide information about their specific service to the CSA. For example, George C. Arrington was granted a pardon 31 August 1865 at the age of thirty. A merchant and farmer in Greene County, Alabama, Arrington was appointed Postmaster at Forkland, Greene County, in September

Confederate Amnesty Papers continued

1861, making him an official of the Confederate government. William Jennings of Madison County, Kentucky, was pardoned 13 September 1865 for acting as a surgeon in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

Other applications include documents written by individuals arguing against a pardon. For example, the application of J. S. Haymond of Fairmont, Marion County, West Virginia, includes protests penned by Marion County citizens accusing him of “criminal behavior.” Haymond admitted that he worked in the Virginia State Legislature, but stated that he did not vote for secession. He maintained that he remained a member of the legislature, but was not elected or appointed to a position in the CSA. Therefore, he requested amnesty so he could return to his hometown of Fairmont, then in the new state of West Virginia. Haymond was a War of 1812 veteran, but this former service to the United States did not sway the opinion of the governor of West Virginia, who reported that his findings were unfavorable toward a Presidential pardon for J. S. Haymond.

Not only are “The Confederate Amnesty Papers” informative for genealogical researchers, but they also document a tumultuous time in our history as former enemies united to become a single nation once again.

Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! susanb1996@aol.com –Thanks!

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