



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

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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!

I began this report while the AGS Seminar was still fresh in my mind. As I have been reviewing Friday and Saturday in my mind on this Sunday morning in the motel room, while I wait to load up the car and head to church, many thoughts are running around loose in my head. A one word description would be OUTSTANDING. I guess you know, there has to be more than just ONE word.

All the hours of planning that Catherine Hickerson invested in the event made the execution easy - busy, but easy. The group that executed the plan did a great job and George rose to challenge to preside over the event. We are very fortunate that George agreed to serve as our president. A big "THANK YOU" to all those involved who made this conference the success that it was.

Did you think I was not going to mention Mark? J. Mark Lowe (he never said what the "J" stood for) outdid himself. He is a very entertaining performer, and I mean VERY. He made our seminar enjoyable and entertaining. As a bonus, he does know something about history and research! Actually, the extent of his knowledge is almost hard to believe. His ability to communicate effectively made listening easy. Personally, I was able to add several, really useful tools to my tool chest and I know that you were as well. I hope I can remember about half of what I learned! (I suppose if I cannot remember it, I did not learn it.) Mark almost commanded us to use the pre 1850 census tool this coming week. I am going to do just that.

Thanks J. Mark.

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Tidbits —

Ancestry.com LLC announced September 18, 2013, the launch of a new, upgraded version of its Ancestry App for iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch, with features designed to enable and encourage more rewarding discoveries as users build, update and share their family trees. For more information go to <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/> and click on the article.

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has approved an application for an Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Marker in Grant County, ACWSC Chairman Tom Dupree announced. The Historical marker will be located at the Grant County Museum in Sheridan and will commemorate the April 30, 1864, Battle of Jenkins’ Ferry. The Grant County Museum is sponsoring the marker.

Through the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Historical Marker Program, the ACWSC works with local partners to help tell the stories of how the Civil War affected communities around the state. The Commission hopes that there will be at least one marker in each of the state’s 75 counties by the end of the commemoration in 2015. From Arkansas Toothpick.

Coming Events

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.

Mondays, September 23 through October 14, 2013

Genealogy Roadshow will feature everyday people from Nashville, Austin, Detroit and San Francisco. Experts will use family heirlooms, historical documents, and other clues to try to verify their family legends. 8:00–9:00 pm on PBS.

Thursday, October 3, 2013

The Pope County Library Genealogy Department will be hosting a lecture on Irish History and Immigration with Dr. David O’Hara at 6:00 pm. The address is 116 East 3rd Street, Russellville, Ark. RSVP to Charity Park at Cpark@popelibrary.org or (479) 968-4368.

Saturdays, October 5–19, 2013

Genealogy 101, Barbara Erdman, Instructor. The class will be in room IS-100, National Park Community College, 101 College Dr., Hot Springs. Start researching your family tree. Learn how to fill out pedigree charts, where to look for documents, how to get copies— using the internet. Saturdays, 10 am–12 noon. 3 sessions \$59. To register, call 501-760-4223 or on line at <https://shortclass.npcc.edu>.

Coming Events continued

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Central Arkansas Genealogy & Historical Society meets at 6:00 pm at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies.
Contact Jan Davenport, jhdavenport39@gmail.com for more information.

Saturday, October 12, 2013

Camp Nelson Event by R. D. Keever. See page 15 for the details

Monday, October 14, 2013

Genealogy Meetings/classes at 3:30 pm at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies by Rhonda Stewart.

Friday, October 26, 2013

Arkansas History Commission Fall Seminar will be held at Old Washington State Park. Contact the AHC for more details.

Monday, October 28, 2013

Heritage Seekers meet at the Laman Library, at 7:00 pm. Presentation by Sequoyah Research Center, Tony Rose (Native American Archives)

Coming Events continued

Thursday, October 31 through Saturday, November 2, 2013

Texas State Genealogical Society 2013 Annual Conference. “Blazing the Family History Trail”. Round Rock, Texas. The key speaker will be Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS. Registration began August 2013. For more information go to <http://www.txsgs.org/about/conference>.

February 6 through 8, 2014

Roots Tech 2014 will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. This annual family history conference is hosted by FamilySearch. RootsTech is a unique global family history event where people of all ages learn to discover and share their family stories and connections through technology. Registration is now open. Details may be found at <https://rootstech.org/>.

May 7 through 10, 2014

NGS 2014 Family History Conference, at the Greater Richmond Convention Center and Marriott Hotel located in downtown Richmond, Virginia. Conference highlights and contact information for conference hotels can be found in the Announcement Brochure, which can be downloaded at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/2014_Announcement_Brochure.pdf

August 27 through 30, 2014

The Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas. See the web site for more information, www.fgs.org.

Politeness in Genealogy

You will not know about every historical event that plays in the life of your ancestor. You won't know every technical term found in documents. You won't be able to get to every physical location of a repository or cemetery or whatever that you need. You won't always be able to read someone's handwriting or speak their language.....

In short, you will need the help of others. It's important that you take the time to be polite and helpful in your own way so that you will get back polite and helpful answers. "Please" and "thank you" should naturally flow from you before and after your requests. Whether you write, call or talk to someone in person shouldn't affect how you treat them. I mean, really, would you want someone to be curt with you when you need help? If all else fails, just pretend grandma is behind you judging how you treat other people. Make her proud.

This article from Upfront with NGS: <<http://upfront.ngsgenealogy.org/2013/08/politeness-in-genealogy-youre-welcome.html>>

This quote is from Rhi Gibson (Genealogy for the Everyman) a guest blogger on Upfront with NGS 14 August 2013

Society of the War of 1812 Application on Fold3

The Society of the War of 1812 Applications is the newest title in Fold3's growing War of 1812 Collection. Thousands of names, dates, and relationships are available in over three hundred membership applications. The Society, founded September 14, 1814, is comprised of thirty-two state societies, one of which is the District of Columbia whose application files are the first to be added to Fold3.

The applications are typically four to six pages, teeming with genealogical data connecting members of the Society to their War of 1812 ancestors. Often, especially in the later applications, you'll discover verifying documents like family Bible records, awards, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia.

Through his 1962 application, Walter Vancion Ball became member #210 via his descent from Buckley Butterworth, a War of 1812 soldier from Campbell County, Virginia. Ball traces his descent from Butterworth, his great-great-grandfather, providing names, dates, and places to prove his lineage. At the bottom of this page, we also find information about his ancestor's service which helps us locate the pension file for Buckley Butterworth. It confirms that he received three bounty land warrants for his service, that he served for three months in 1814, and includes many letters questioning whether his widow's name was Sarah/Sally or Frances. It was later determined that Frances was his daughter's name and, in the process, the names of several additional relatives are provided.

Ball's society application also provides service information and "Authorities as to Descent" to document Ball's genealogy. The final page includes interesting additional facts about his great-great-grandfather Buckley, as well as Ball's own personal history. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and authored "The Butterworth Family of Maryland and Virginia-1960."

The General Society of the War of 1812 is a lineage society which commemorates those who fought in the War of 1812. Many members of the District of Columbia society were descendants of the original Washington "Warhawks," younger congressman who pushed for going to war with Great Britain in 1812 in what is often called America's Second War of Independence.

Read more about the Ball-Butterworth connections or explore the War of 1812 Society Applications on Fold3.

NGS 2013—TRON, Mr. Spock, and Willie Wonka (from Ancestry Insider)

I don't seem to be able to take notes at conference luncheons. That was certainly the case at the luncheon presented by Ancestry.com's Sabrina Petersen at the 2013 annual conference of the National Genealogical Society. She titled her presentation "TRON, Mr. Spock, and Willie Wonka: If They Can Digitize So Can You." Petersen is director of global imaging for Ancestry.com. Unlike TRON, Mr. Spock, and Willie Wonka, we won't be digitizing and transporting people anytime soon, but we can digitize photographs and documents.

Petersen presented some great suggestions, and in the absence of notes she was kind enough to send me some:

1. Think like an Archive.

Archives think about how to preserve records and photographs for their patrons and posterity within a budget. For the most important and their most used copies they make digital surrogates, and put the record in a secure location so that it doesn't have to be handled all the time, and store it in a dark safe place. Digitization allows for multiple copies of the original that can be shared as well as stored.

2. Think about how you are going to find a particular picture/document in the future.

Putting metadata within the name of the image itself is the easiest way to find it in the future. You might put "Aunt Nancy Family Reunion 1982 picnic" as the name of the picture. Or "Death Certificate Benjamin Franklin Blansett 1912". By making the name the basic information you can then easily search and find it again. Then you can further organize the files by putting them in folder by event, family surname or by type of record. All of these will help make the retrieval of this easier in the future.

3. Digitize your records.

This can be done by using a whole slew of different types of equipment, but probably the easiest is a digital camera for most documents, besides which cameras are easy to carry with you when you are visiting relatives, or maybe even at an archive. Make sure you capture the document or picture as straight as possible when you take the picture. While it might be easy to straighten a photo after you take it, it will produce some digital artifacts that are not yet visible. If you copy these files many times, depending on the format, these artifacts become more apparent to the naked eye. The easiest way to help avoid these is simply take a straight picture to begin with.

NGS 2013—TRON, Mr. Spock, and Willie Wonka, (continued)

4. Which brings us to formats to save your images.

There are a lot of formats to choose from. JPEG and TIFF are the most common. Whichever you choose, make sure that you have the original copy someplace safe and then make a second copy which is the one you play with, send to others, or upload for safe keeping to your family tree on Ancestry. This second copy can be any file format you choose, including a PDF. This makes it easy to share, easy to send, and easy to upload.

5. Lastly remember that anything you do now is better than nothing.

Thanks, Sabrina. Now everyone. Get out there and get digitizing.

This article from The Ancestry Insider: <http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/2013/05/ngs2013-tron-mr-spock-and-willie-wonka.html>

Update: Ireland's Registry of Deeds Indexing Project

The following is from Dick Eastman's blog. <http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2013/09/update-irelands-registry-of-deeds-indexing-project.html>

The following was written by the folks at the Registry of Deeds Index Project:

The Registry of Deeds Index Project has reached another milestone with its index now totaling 120,000 records. The online database is fully searchable and free. The names indexed come from nearly 15,000 memorials of deeds and represent an immense number of records useful to family history research. The project helps make these deeds more accessible to researchers through the sharing of information collected by the volunteer contributors.

While 120,000 is a wonderful number it is still only scratching the surface of the task of producing a complete online index to the Registry of Deeds. There are millions of names mentioned in memorials. Anyone can contribute to the project by sending the webmaster spreadsheets or text documents, or by using the following web form: http://members.pcug.org.au/~nickred/deeds/make_abstract2.htm.

The success of this project is due to the continuing magnificent efforts of a small group of volunteers - led by Australian Nick Reddan - whose efforts are summarised here: <http://goo.gl/rFFJs5>.

Gallatin County (Montana) Genealogical Society Volunteers Save 37,000 Records Online



A group of about ten volunteers have been busy typing up century-old county records and preserving them on the Internet for family history buffs. The Gallatin County Genealogical Society started up again a little over one year ago, and since then its members have created a website and posted online indexes for more than 37,500 records. They have typed up everything from births and deaths, to marriages and divorces, voter registrations and newspaper obituaries – some going back more than 100 years.

The Gallatin County Genealogical Society's website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mtgcgs/> so far has six databases: divorces; vital records (births, deaths and marriages) from old newspapers like the Avant Courier; early Dokken-Nelson Funeral Home records; naturalization records from 1900 to 1970; obituaries; and voter registrations from 1889 on, recorded from the basement of the Pioneer Museum, originally the county jail.

You can read more in an article by Gail Schontzler in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle at <http://goo.gl/3oWPe3>.

This article from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter.

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 country. These photographs were collected from a number of sources; antique shops, flea markets, 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 hundreds 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!

From *The Forgotten Photographs Project*

You can visit their web site by clicking this link: <http://www.forgottenphotosproject.com/index.html>

Fold3: New Title Recently Added

The Civil War and Later Veterans Pension Index, one of Fold3's earliest titles, now has a partner in the recently added Pension Numerical Index. Officially called A1158, *Numerical Index to Pensions, 1860-1934*, this card index from the National Archives is a great cross-referencing tool as it covers pension application and certificate numbers for men who fought in wars prior to, during, or after the Civil War.

Aside from being a rather cool index, cards may include up to twenty names for low numbers and four or five names for higher numbers. It is a helpful resource for confirming hard-to-decipher numbers on other indexes, or for cross-referencing application and certificate numbers.

While mostly comprised of Civil War and later pension numbers, the earliest cards include entries for soldiers in the Indian War, Mexican War, War of 1812, and the "Old War," this last covering those who served from the end of the Revolutionary War to the beginning of the Civil War (1783-1861).

The cards are presented in numerical order, yet every card is indexed by name as well. The Pension Numerical Index can be used in tandem with other records on Fold3 like the Civil War and Later Veterans Pension Index (T289), and pension files for Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War. Let's look at a few examples.

If you find a card in T289 that's difficult to read, like this one for a minor dependent of Conrad Geveke, you can search on his name within the Pension Numerical Index to locate a card for application number 64685 where his pension's certificate number (62762) is also listed on the card (and the letter "C" marks it as that for a child, or minor.) Our search for Conrad Geveke yields two hits, however, and the second card is 62762, the certificate number.

Other names on card #62762 direct you to pensions for three other men. Note that Nicodemus F. Orem's application number is 62762, but his certificate number is 81107, which we find here. If we search for Nicodemus F. Orem in T289, we won't find him unless we use a variant spelling of his first name as Nicodemas.

Both Army and Navy certificate numbers are referenced. Search for a sailor named John C. Joyce and you'll find the 51169 index card on which Joyce is one of five pensioners listed. The other four entries reference Army pensioners by application and certificate numbers. We also find Joyce's pension certificate #36486 cross-referenced on the card. After locating his file within the Navy Survivors' Certificates on Fold3, we find number 36486 indexed with his name, and

Fold3: New Title Recently Added continued

it appears on many of the documents. Application "No. 51169" is noted on page 19 of Joyce's 89-page file.

A search for Peter Eckley brings us to a card numbered 84353. His name appears in the section for Army certificate numbers of dependents. Eckley was in the Indiana Infantry, Regiment 91, Company H, but the dependent in this case is his widow, Eliza Ann—noted by the "W" on the index card under "service." Of interest within her 42-page pension file are a Fort Wayne undertaker's receipt and a letter to her doctor acknowledging that the government will pay \$10 of his bill for \$354.75.

Imagine the long history of American military service indexed via the extremely large number of pensioners recorded on these cards. If a serviceman's story isn't available yet on Fold3 within its extensive sets of military pension files, you can use the information on the Pension Numerical Index to order files from NARA.

This article is from Fold3

Camp Nelson Event

Local historian and Camp Nelson researcher, R.D. Keever will share a display a history of Confederate Camp Nelson at Camp Nelson Confederate Cemetery, south off of Campground Road on Cherry Road. The cemetery is at Cherry Road and Rye Drive. (Quick route is to take the Lonoke exit from the interstate, and run Hwy 31 north, exiting on Hwy 321. It is 2 miles to Camp Nelson.)

Mr. Keever will set up a period tent and a horse in complete period dress, along with artifacts from Camp Nelson. This will be at the cemetery from 1:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M., Saturday, October 12. He will ask and answer questions on Camp Nelson. He hopes to raise the awareness of the history surrounding Camp Nelson.

Keever is a re-enactor and a retired teacher, who totally knows nearly everything that there is to know about Camp Nelson. He is a real treasure trove of information and everyone is invited and welcome. For additional information, e-mail R.D. Keever at convertiblecowboy@suddenlink.net or Rick Meadows at RMeadows@aaamissouri.com

From Arkansas Toothpick

Valuable New York Census Now Available

When we think of census records, we usually think of the federal census. However, some states took their own censuses. New York is one such state. Now you can search three valuable New York state censuses on Archives.com: 1892, 1915, and 1925.

1892 New York State Census

Any census is valuable, but the 1892 New York state census is especially so. The vast majority of the 1890 federal census no longer exists, so this census fills a large void. The information includes name, sex, age, color, country of birth, citizenship status, and occupation. It also does something else that's valuable: It puts these people in a specific place at a specific time, and puts them together with other people in the household and neighborhood.

Not all of 1892 New York state census survived. There are no known records for the following counties: Bronx, Chango, Columbia, Franklin, Fulton, Jefferson, Livingston, New York, Oneida, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Richmond, St. Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester, and Wyoming.

1915 and 1925 New York State Census

These censuses contain the same information as 1892, with the addition of relationship to the head of household and number of years in the United States (if the person was foreign born).

Using These Records on Archives.com

To search the New York state censuses on Archives.com, select "Census Records" from the Select an Archive menu, select New York as the state, and the year (1892, 1915, or 1925).

Who will you find in the New York state censuses?

Click on the link below to go to this site.

<http://www.archives.com/blog/website-updates/new-collections-new-york-state-censuses.html>

Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! doug44mann@gmail.com –Thanks!

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