



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

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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!

Some of you may be taking time this summer to attend a genealogical conference or two. By all reports the National Genealogical Society Conference in Cincinnati was a huge success. The Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in Birmingham the last week in August is sure to extend their excellent track record of successful conferences. Already this year, many national, regional or state level conferences have been held—in Arizona; Utah; northern Florida; Fairfax, Virginia; Houston; Ohio; and Iowa. In June the Southern California Genealogy Society held their Jamboree in Burbank and the Palatines to America met in Indianapolis. The 6th Annual Black Belt African American Genealogy Conference and Family History Fair took place in Selma, Alabama, in February, and the International Black Genealogy Summit will be held in Salt Lake City in October.

The point is, if genealogists want to mingle with other genealogists and learn how to be competent family historians, they are often not very far from a relevant gathering. And there is something for everyone.

In Arkansas the Arkansas History Commission provided a free workshop on June 23 and the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies is sponsoring a free workshop on July 21. With your only investment being a few hours of your time, you can't go wrong; and you may learn something new.

Taking advantage of continuing-education opportunities keeps family historians in touch with what's new, broadens their knowledge of records and successful methodology, and reminds them of the importance of source documentation.

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Coming Events

July 13-14, 2012

Missouri State Genealogical Association Conference, Columbia, Missouri, at the Stoney Creek Inn. Keynote Speakers are Pam Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, and Rick Sayre, CG, genealogy experts who will be presenting lectures on various land records and maps. Supporting speakers include Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL, Pamela Stone Eagleson, CG, Beth Foulke and Carole Goggin. For information contact NancyThomas@Centurytel.net or phone 573-443-6052

July 21, 2012

Butler Center Annual Genealogy Workshop, Darragh Center, Main Little Rock Library, 9 a.m to 3 p.m; free and open to the public; featured speakers Jim Edgar of Little Rock Family History Center and Lisa McKinney; registration required; for more information visit www.butlercenter.org/conference

July 20-21, 2012

Midwestern Roots 2012, Family History and Genealogy Conference, Indiana Historical Society, at Indianapolis Marriott East; for more information or to register visit www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots

August 9-11, 2012

The Civil War West of the Mississippi, Fayetteville, University of Arkansas Global Campus facility, presented by the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and the National Park Service Midwest Region. For details and to register go to <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/symposium/>

Butler Center Annual Genealogy Workshop

Saturday July 21, 2012

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Central Arkansas Library System

Darragh Center, Main Library, downtown Little Rock

The annual Butler Center event will begin with Jim Edgar speaking about using FamilySearch. He will be followed by Lisa McKinney, an award-winning writer and genealogist. McKinney's workshop sessions will include "Coming to Understand Sources: A Case Study in Proper Genealogy," "The 1940 Census," and "Your Cemetery Visit."

The workshop is free and open to the public.

This workshop has been approved by the Arkansas Department of Education for teacher professional development and in-service credit.

You can register online through 5 p.m. on July 8. A box lunch will be provided if you select your choice of sandwich and side item while registering. They will collect your \$7 for the lunch when you check in at the conference.

Go to <http://www.butlercenter.org/conference/index.html> for details and to register.

Making Sense of the Civil War Series continues around Arkansas

El Dorado, Barton Library Presents: Making Sense of the Civil War, July 2, 2012

CONTACT: library, 200 E. 5th, El Dorado, AR 71730, Ph: 870-863-5447, <http://www.bartonlibrary.org/>

Dr. Trey Berry, vice president for academic affairs at Southern Arkansas University will lead discussions, 5:30-7:00. Free.

Russellville, Pope County Library Presents: Making Sense of the Civil War: War and Freedom, July 9, 2012

CONTACT: library, 113 East Third St., Russellville, AR 72801, Ph: 479-968-4368, <http://www.popelibrary.org>

Dr. Tom DeBlack, associate professor of history at Arkansas Tech University will lead discussions. The program will be held 6-7:30 p.m. in Heritage Hall and is free. Seating is limited. Call library.

Batesville, White River Regional Library presents: Making Sense of the Civil War, July 12, 2012

CONTACT: library, 368 East Main Street, Batesville, AR 72501, Ph: 870-793-8814, www.indcolib.com/

Dr. George Lankford, Professor Emeritus at Lyon College in Batesville and member of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, will lead discussions, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Free. Space is limited. Call the library

El Dorado, Barton Library Presents: Making Sense of the Civil War, July 16, 2012

CONTACT: library, 200 E. 5th, El Dorado, AR 71730, Ph: 870-863-5447, <http://www.bartonlibrary.org/>

Dr. Trey Berry, vice president for academic affairs at Southern Arkansas University, will lead discussions. The program is from 5:30-7:00 and is FREE.

An Empire in Extent – The Civil War West of the Mississippi

The National Park Service and the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission will present a special symposium on the Civil War West of the Mississippi August 9-11 in Fayetteville, exploring one of the most fascinating yet least studied areas of the war. Topics include the vital issues that were at stake and the Civil War experiences of people living west of the Mississippi River, including Arkansas. Nationally known scholars from across the country will offer presentations on the war, life on the home front, and the experiences of the diverse peoples of the Trans-Mississippi. The symposium also will include guided tours of Pea Ridge National Military Park and Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park.



The event will be held at the University of Arkansas Global Campus in Fayetteville. Registration for the symposium is \$25. Registration is now open at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/symposium/>

Speakers will include:

Dwight T. Pitcaithley, Professor, New Mexico State University & former NPS chief historian.

Ernesto Chavez, Professor of History, University of Texas at El Paso

Steven E. Woodworth, Professor of History, Texas Christian University

Daniel E. Sutherland, Distinguished Professor of History, University of Arkansas

Jerry Thompson, Regents Professor, Texas A&M International University

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The Civil War West of the Mississippi (continued)

Wilma King, Strickland Professorship in African American History and Culture, University of Missouri-Columbia

Bradley R. Clampitt, Assistant Professor of History, East Central University

Carl H. Moneyhon, Professor of History, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Linda Reed, Associate Professor, The University of Houston

William C. Davis, Professor of History, Virginia Tech

Mary Jane Warde, Independent Historian

The conference hotel is the Holiday Inn Express and Suites at 1251 N. Shiloh Dr. in Fayetteville, with rooms available for \$77 per night. To make reservations, call (479) 444-6006.

1940 Census Indexing

According to the Ancestry Insider (AncestryInsider@gmail.com) in his report on 20 June 2012, the 1940 census indexing by FamilySearch and its partners was about two-thirds completed at that time. Six states had been released in the previous two weeks. This made a total of twenty-four states that had been published, comprising 21% of the total indexed. In the same time period, indexing had been completed on five additional states, for a total of thirty-one that have been indexed. Partial indexing of additional states results in the 2/3 completion figure.

The Insider added that total pages indexed per day had dropped from 33,000 to 29,000 in the same two-week period. The drop is attributed to the summer weather.

On June 28 he updated his information with the news that FamilySearch had completed indexing California, the fifth largest state in 1940, and the largest state published so far. Also published the previous week were Iowa, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Washington. He noted as well that indexing had increased again to over 30,000 pages a day.

The Ancestry Insider professes to be the “unofficial, unauthorized view of Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org.” He “reports on, defends, and constructively criticizes these two websites and associated topics,” and he “attempts to evenly support both of them.”

You can see his archive of recent posts, including tips on using both Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org, or subscribe to his emails by going to <http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/>

St. Louis Burials

Do you have St. Louis area ancestors or relatives? The St. Louis Genealogical Society has completed a very large cemetery indexing project that may be helpful to you.

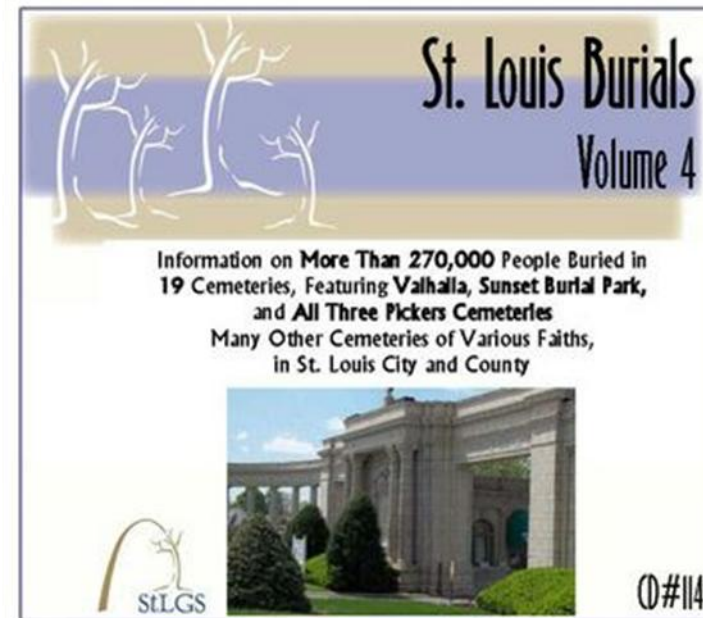
Society volunteers have been busy indexing the cemeteries in St. Louis City and County. Their fourth *St. Louis Burials* CD, containing 270,000 names from nineteen cemeteries, is available now.

The entire project indexed 1.6 million people. Volume 3 is still available for sale also from the St. Louis Genealogical Society, 4 Sunnen Drive, St. Louis, Missouri, 63143. Or visit the online store at

www.stlgs.org. The burial CDs are \$40.00 each. An Index to St. Louis Catholic Burials is for sale for \$10.

The society also has for sale several other CDs including Index to St. Louis Death Registers 1850-1908, St. Louis Marriages 1766-1880, St. Louis City Ward Maps 1908-1952, and Plat Book of St. Louis County, Missouri, 1909.

It appears that the cemetery indexing on no-longer available CDs is available to society members through the members only section of the website.



Preserve the War of 1812 Pensions

The Illinois State Genealogical Society is supporting the Federation of Genealogical Societies' "Preserve the Pensions" campaign to digitize the War of 1812 pensions by challenging the rest of us to donate so they can match our gift.

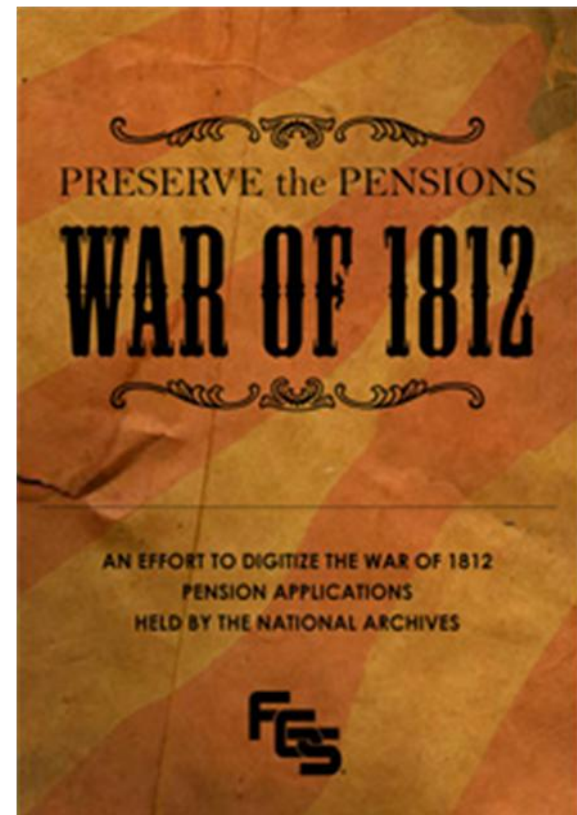
The ISGS has issued a \$10,000 War of 1812 Pension Match Challenge. They will match any donation up to that \$10,000 made to the Preserve the Pensions project prior to December 31, 2012. If you donate \$50, the ISGS will match your contribution for a total of \$100!

Ancestry.com has announced it will match ALL ISGS contributions which will mean any donation you make will actually be multiplied four times. You don't have to give a lot. All donations are welcome. A \$25 donation will digitize about 50 images.

The 180,000 pension files containing 7.2 million pages are held by the National Archives and the goal is to make them available for free online to everyone. Requests for photocopies of these records is damaging them and digitizing will preserve the historical documents. Some files already are available for viewing at <http://go.fold3.com/1812pensions/>.

To make a contribution via Pay Pal or for more information visit the ISGS web site at <http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=268> . Or mail a check, made payable to Illinois State Genealogical Society (Put "War of 1812" on Memo line), to Illinois State Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 10195, Springfield IL 62791-0195.

This is an opportunity for all of us and our societies to make records available while preserving them. It's a win/win.



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is conducting a series of “listening” sessions around the state to solicit comments on regional historic preservation issues. The meetings are being held to seek input as the AHPP updates its statewide historic preservation plan. You can help preservation efforts by taking part in a session in your region and providing your input on preservation issues and needs in your community.

For more information contact Patricia Blick at 501-324-9880 or send an email to patriciab@arkansasheritage.org.

The first two sessions were held in late June in Little Rock and Russellville. The remaining sessions are listed below.

July 24: Paragould, 5 pm, 1888 Historic Courthouse (Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce office) 300 W. Court Street

July 26: Pine Bluff, 5 pm, Reynolds Center, 300 W. Second Avenue

July 31: Batesville, 5 pm, City Municipal Building, 500 East Main Street

August 14: Hot Springs, 5 pm, Board Chambers in City Hall, 133 Convention Boulevard

August 21: West Memphis, 5 pm, West Memphis Main Street Office, 231 East Broadway

If you have long desired input in preserving something of value in your area, here is your opportunity.



Paragould 1888 Historic
Courthouse

Administrative Stuff

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

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