



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 11, No. 1, January, 2016

Johnny Mann, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

Are you ready to start 2016?

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 am not one to make new year resolutions, but I am a planner. It is time for you to make your 2016 plans. I'm talking about research plans!

Start by reviewing the current written list of facts you plan to search for. You do have a written list, oh I'm sure you do. The next step is to prioritize the order. That is the hard part. Remember how it was when you were a child at the Easter Egg hunt. So many pretty eggs, so little time! We just run from one to another with no plan. That sounds like me when I get to a repository.

There are two resources that restrict our research, time and money, both limited. That is why a plan is so important. You can afford to spend only so much money on genealogy before you run out. Time is really not much different.

How does one determine which project to do first? An often heard rule in the business world is to do what is important, not what is urgent. So, what is important? Let me suggest that it is Aunt Mary who is both, important and urgent. She is 95 and still of sound mind. Some of her knowledge is available from NO OTHER SOURCE. That is important. There are so many sources we use because they are easy. Those resources will be there next month, next year, and in 10 years. Not the same for Aunt Mary. And the same holds true for the knowledge only you have.

Remember, only YOU can prevent knowledge loss!!

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Tidbits —

The [Melting Pot Genealogical Society](#) of Hot Springs, Arkansas was recently recognized as a premier organization dedicated to preserving genealogical and historical materials by receiving the NSDAR's ([The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution](#)) *Historic Preservation Recognition Award*. Over the course of 39 years their Library has grown from 2 donated books to over 8,200 publications, CDs, Microfilm, and Microfiche.

Two organizations in the Gainesville, Texas area are hoping the public will share their genealogical information for a proposed digitization project. You might be interested in helping, or you might be interested in trying this in your area. Read about it in the [Gainesville Daily Register](#).

Coming Events

January 8, 2016

[Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Sandwiching in History](#) will be at Noon for one hour. This month it is scheduled to meet at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 1922 Topf Road, North Little Rock, AR.

January 11, 2016

[The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies](#) in Little Rock's beginning genealogy class will be at 3:30. Contact Rhonda Stewart by email at rstewart@cals.lib.ar.us

January 17, 2016

The Independence County Historical Society will hold their meeting at 2:00 p.m. in the Old Independence Regional Museum, 380 S. Ninth Street, Batesville, AR. Thea Baker, a local researcher for "*Who Do You Think You are?*" and a professional Genealogist, will present *The Stories Behind the Story*.

January 25, 2016

Heritage Seekers Genealogy Club meets at the Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock at 6:30 p.m. The program will be *Cemetery Iconography* by Holly Hope of the [Arkansas Historic Preservation Program](#). See page 6

January 30, 2016

[The Genealogical Society of Craighead County](#) will conduct a *Beginning Genealogy Workshop* from 10–3 at the Jonesboro Public Library, 315 W. Oak Ave. Contact gscga@suddenlink.net for more information

February 6, 2016

[The Genealogical Society of Craighead County](#) will conduct the Genealogy Lock-In, winter edition. From 5:00 P.M. TO 10:00 p.m. See page 10.

Coming Events continued

March 12, 2016

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Society Spring Workshop with Lisa Louis Cooke will be at the new St Jude Catholic Church Community Center, 4700 Palmetto Road, Benton, LA. See the details at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laaltga/calendar2016.htm>

March 26, 2016 [CHANGE OF DATE](#)

Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library's 11th Annual Genealogy For Your Seminar with D. Joshua Taylor presenting. Registration is required and begins January 4, 2016. Call 501-778-4766 or visit <http://salinecountylibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails.aspx?EventId=20898&lib=> to register. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE!!!!

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>.

May 17, 2016

PBS begins the new season of Genealogy Roadshow, with Josh Taylor.

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.

Coming Events continued

August 31– September 3, 2016

Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) will be held in Springfield, Illinois. See www.fgs.org for the details. Hotel Reservations are now open. You can go to <https://www.fgsconference.org/> for the details and links to make your reservation.

September 23-24, 2016

2016 STANDRIDGE NATIONAL FAMILY REUNION

Friday-Saturday, Sept. 23-24, 2016, LaQuinta Inn, Bryant, AR. For additional information contact Russell P. Baker, 6525 Magnolia Dr. Mabelvale, AR 72103, gobgob3@mindspring.com

September 18–25, 2016

The 3rd Annual Genealogy Conference and Cruise, hosted by Heritage Books, Inc. will depart from Galveston, Texas. Visit HeritageBooks.com.

Sandwiching in History Tour

LITTLE ROCK-The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's first "Sandwiching in History" tour of 2016 will visit Lakewood United Methodist Church at 1922 Topf Road in North Little Rock beginning at noon on January 8.

North Little Rock's Lakewood neighborhood, the brainchild of Justin Matthews, Sr., developed after World War II. On June 5, 1955, neighborhood residents met in the Lakewood Elementary School cafeteria to organize a Methodist Church. The congregation of the Lakewood Methodist Church initially rented space from Lakewood Elementary but in 1958 moved into a fellowship hall and classroom building. Church member and architect Bob Millett was later hired to design a sanctuary. It was used for the first time on December 20, 1964. The congregation of Lakewood United Methodist Church celebrated its 60th anniversary in June 2015.

The "Sandwiching in History" tour series targets Pulaski County structures and sites. The noontime series includes a brief lecture and tour of the subject property. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunches with them. The American Institute of Architects offers one HSW continuing education learning unit credit for members who attend a "Sandwiching in History" tour.

Other "Sandwiching in History" tours will be held February 5, First Presbyterian Church, 800 Scott Street, Little Rock; March 4, Waldo E. Tiller House, 35 Sherrill Road, Little Rock; April 1, Nannie C. Wright House, 1617 South Battery Street, Little Rock; May 6, Fulk Building, 300 Main Street, Little Rock; June 3, Dr. Clarence W. Koch House (Castle on Stagecoach), 6601 Stagecoach Road, Little Rock; July 1, All Souls Church, 4701 Walkers Corner Road, Scott; August 5, Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Helen Keller Memorial Building, 2600 West Markham Street, Little Rock; September 2, Barth-Hempfling House, 507 Main Street, North Little Rock; October 7, Idlewild Park, Cedar Street and Idlewild Avenue, North Little Rock; November 4, John F. Weinmann House, 2214 South Battery Street, Little Rock, and December 2, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 310 West Seventeenth Street, Little Rock.

All tours are free and open to the public. For information, call the AHPP at (501) 324-9880, write the agency at 323 Center St., Suite 1500, Little Rock, AR 72201, send an e-mail message to info@arkansaspreservation.org, or visit www.arkansaspreservation.org.

2016 Jamboree Webinar



2016 jamboree Webinar

extension series

www.scgsgenealogy.com

Reserve your 1st Saturday and 3rd Wednesday

The Southern California Genealogical Society announces the 2016 Schedule for the highly acclaimed, free Jamboree Extension Series Webinar Program.

The 2016 series begins Saturday, January 2, at 10:00 a.m. PST. This year's speakers include Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS; Diahn Southard, Gena Philibert-Ortega, Jean Wilcox Hibben, Ph.D., MA, CG; Dr. Michael Lacopo, Cyndi Ingle and many others presenting on a broad range of topics.

Whether you are a budding genealogist or a seasoned professional, the webinars offer a wide range of topics to build your skills. The Jamboree Extension Series has helped to fulfill the SCGS mission to "foster interest in family history and genealogy, preserve genealogical materials, and provide instruction in accepted and effective research techniques" since its inception in 2011.

All SCGS webinars are open to the public and free to attend. Webinars are offered the first Saturday (10:00 a.m. Pacific time) and third Wednesday (6:00 p.m. Pacific time) of each month.

YOU MUST REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE.

Sign up (remember - it's FREE) by going to the [SCGS website page with the 2016 Webinar Series information](#).

Little Rock SeniorNet

Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging Home of SeniorNet at Little Rock on the UAMS Campus

Slot 748

4301 W. Markham

501-603-1262

Diane Hughes, Chairman

Phone: 201-225-8497



SeniorNet is an international nonprofit organization headquartered in Florida. Its goal is to provide older adults education for and access to computer technology to enhance their lives and enable them to share their knowledge and wisdom. SeniorNet teaches seniors (age 50 plus) to use computers and the Internet at over 80 Learning Centers worldwide. Visit [SeniorNet](#) for more information.

Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging

Home of SeniorNet at Little Rock on the UAMS Campus

SeniorNet at Little Rock Learning Center was established in 1994 by a group of nine volunteers under the auspices of ArkansasABLE. In the ensuing years the



Little Rock SeniorNet *continued*

organization has grown to thirty-two volunteers, including ten instructors. Over 4500 students have benefited from their efforts in those years.

SeniorNet of Little Rock was incorporated as a non-profit, all volunteer organization in 1999. Its purpose to provide computer training to Seniors aged 50 and over, to enhance their lives and broaden their horizons through computer skills and use of the Internet and World Wide Web. It is sponsored by and made possible through generous contributions from the UAMS D.W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Microsoft Corporation, and AT & T.

Classes meet on the UAMS campus in room 2156 of the D.W.Reynolds Institute on Aging. Parking is available immediately in front of the building, with entrance at Jack Stephens Drive.

Eleven courses of instruction are offered, beginning with Fundamentals of Computers and Introduction to Computers. Each course consists of sixteen hours of hands on training in a classroom with eleven computer stations. Classes meet at 10:00 AM, and 1:00 PM Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday of each week for four weeks, beginning the first week of each month.

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Free Genealogy Lock-In

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FREE GENEALOGY LOCK-IN Winter Edition

Saturday, February 6, 2016

5:00 p.m. ~ 10:00 p.m.

Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library—Round Room

Speaker: To Be Announced

Door Prizes

Snacks (finger foods)

Time Restraints removed from Computer

Search Genealogy Databases

Representatives from the following organizations will be available to answer your questions:

- [Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives](#) / History Commission
- [Genealogy Society of Craighead County Arkansas](#)

AGENDA

5:00 p.m. Library closes to the public.

5:30 p.m. Introductions in the Round Room

6:00 p.m. Speaker: To Be Announced

10:00 p.m. Event over until Saturday, July 16, 2016

Bring photos of Craighead County People, Businesses & Events to be scanned for the Digital Photo Archive

If you choose to bring finger foods early, you can take them to the Round Room Kitchen

Free Access during the Month of January 2016

The following is republished from [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#)

NEHGS Offers FREE Access to Important Databases on AmericanAncestors.org during the Month of January 2016

The following announcement was written by the folks at the New England Historic Genealogical Society:

Family Historians Can Fulfill New Year Resolutions with a Variety of Resources in Genealogy Available from NEHGS

December 30, 2015—Boston, Massachusetts— To assist family historians of all levels with ambitious New Year's resolutions, New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) is granting free access from Wednesday, December 30, 2015, through Sunday, January 31, 2016, to historic vital records from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont which will be available for unlimited access during the entire month after registering for a free account. NEHGS, the most respected name in family history, has also assembled a quick guide to resources, services, and staff expertise to fulfill any genealogist's resolutions to grow the ancestral family tree in the New Year.

Family historians can start fulfilling their New Year's genealogy resolutions with NEHGS by visiting AmericanAncestors.org/2016.

NEHGS Can Fulfill Your Resolution

Aware of the desire by many individuals to begin the study and documentation of one's family history in the New Year, NEHGS has many resources and services to assist a genealogist at any level of research and publishing. The Online Learning Center on AmericanAncestors.org offers a complete program of instructional resources to guide both the beginner and the more advanced. In addition, the consultation services

Free Access during the Month of January 2016 *continued*

and research services divisions within NEHGS provide excellent ways to obtain expert guidance and solutions to the frustrating and mysterious “brick walls” that inevitably appear along the journey of researching ancestral roots. And, the calendar of guided research tours and heritage tours offered during 2016 by NEHGS provides many opportunities for the ambitious and passionate genealogist to participate in intensive days devoted to research, one-on-one consultations, presentations by NEHGS genealogists and local experts, and social activities.

Free Databases This Month

The vital records on AmericanAncestors.org is a collection of valuable information regarding births, marriages, and deaths and is an essential resource for researching ancestral connections. Databases available for unlimited access this entire month after registering for a free account include:

Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841-1910

From original records held by the Massachusetts Archives, these vital records cover the years 1841-1910. The vital records cover births, marriages, and deaths that occurred in Massachusetts and not only hold the records, but also indices to them. The information from the 1841-1910 Birth, Marriage & Death indices has been entered into a searchable database. Each index entry includes the person’s first and last name, the town or city where the event occurred, the year, volume number, and page number. The database is searchable by first and last names, record type, year, and location.

New Hampshire Births to 1901, Deaths and Marriages to 1937

This database contains the records of births and marriages to 1901, and deaths and marriages to 1937, as filed with the state of New Hampshire. These records are currently held by the New Hampshire Division of Vital Records Administration. The collection includes more than 475,000 birth records, more than 1,000,000 marriage records, and more than 915,000 death records. Names of parents and spouses have

Free Access during the Month of January 2016 *continued*

also been indexed, when available. Town clerks were required to send copies of vital records to the state beginning in 1866, although participation was limited until the Bureau of Vital Records was established in 1905. The town clerks then extracted historical vital record information to update the files at the state level, although some records were never reported. The database is searchable by first and last names, record type, year, and location.

Vermont Births, Marriages and Deaths to 2008

This database contains the records of births, marriages and deaths to 2008, as filed with the state of Vermont. These records are currently held by the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration. The collection includes more than 1.5 million birth records, more than 1.8 million marriage records, and more than 1 million death records. Names of parents and spouses have also been indexed, when available. The records held in this collection refer to the statewide index of vital records maintained by the Vermont State Archives. Town clerks were required to send copies of vital records to the state beginning in 1857. The state government began creating a statewide index to these records in 1919. The database is searchable by first and last names, record type, year, and location.

Registration is required at [AmericanAncestors.org](https://www.AmericanAncestors.org) as a FREE Guest User to gain access to these valuable resources. Guest User accounts allow web visitors to use a limited suite of AmericanAncestors.org databases and access web content such as making purchases from the online store. Unlimited access to more than 1 billion records and to other benefits is available through membership at NEHGS.

Kentucky County Court Records Online

The following is from their website and was brought to my attention by Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

A batch of Kentucky county court records dating from the late 18th and early 19th centuries have been digitized for access on [ExploreUK](#).

The Kentucky Circuit Court (Hardin County) complaints, 1797-1811

These records (0.1 cubic feet; 1 folder) consist of three complaints filed in the Hardin Circuit Court. One complaint was filed by William P. Duvall, a legislator and governor of Florida, as the attorney for Thomas Helm who was trying to collect money owed to him. F. Grundy lodged the other two complaints; one concerns an assault and battery and the other an unpaid debt.

The District Superior Court of Kentucky records, 1785-1799

These records (0.15 cubic feet; 2 items) contain information about the court and its proceedings during a period from September 1785 to May 1799. The first item is an execution book containing entries for cases that the court heard. The second item is a record book of court transactions from September 1787 to May 1799. This record book begins with an index of cases (at the beginning of the volume). The index is followed by a section regarding the rules of court.

The Kentucky Circuit Court (Jessamine County) records, 1800-1823

These records (0.1 cubic feet; 72 items) consist of legal documents issued by the Kentucky Circuit Court in Jessamine County from 1800 to 1823. Many of the documents were signed by Samuel H. Woodson, who served as court clerk from 1798, when Jessamine County was formed, to 1819. The papers include summonses, records of settlements of estates, and records relating to the execution of court decisions, such as the collection of debts.

The Jessamine County Fiscal Court record book, 1898-1916

This book (0.13 cubic feet; 1 item) is a bound book of Bonds of Turnpike Contractors that records the bonds issued by Jessamine County to various businessmen for the laying of rock for roadways. The records date from June 27, 1898 to June 24, 1916.

Kentucky County Court Records Online *continued*

The Kentucky County Court (Muhlenberg County) records, 1801-1812

These records (0.1 cubic feet; 73 items) records contain miscellaneous depositions, bonds, summons, and other legal papers issued in Muhlenberg County, Ky. Many of the documents bear the signature of Charles F. Wing, clerk of the county circuit court from 1798 to 1856. Also included is a listing of the accounts of John Randolph as handled by John Clay (1803-1805).

Visit the [University of Kentucky](#) website to view the records.

The End of Family Tree Maker Announced

The following is republished from [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)

Ancestry is proud to have made a significant investment this year to bring valuable new content and records to the Ancestry site. In 2015, we've made 220 million searchable historical records from Mexico available, more than 170 million pages from the largest collection of U.S. will and probate records, among others. We've also introduced new features such as Ancestry Academy and major advancements for AncestryDNA.

We remain dedicated to helping people gain new levels of understanding about their lives, and who and what led to them, harnessing the information found in family trees, historical records and genetics. As a company, we're also continually evaluating ways to focus our efforts to provide the most impact and best product experience for our users through our core offerings.

True to this focus, we've taken a hard look at the declining desktop software market and the impact this has on being able to continue to provide product enhancements and support that our users need. With that, we've made the decision to stop selling Family Tree Maker as of December 31, 2015.

Our subscription business and website, on the other hand, continue to grow and we are doubling down our efforts to make that experience even better for our Ancestry community.

The End of Family Tree Maker Announced *continued*

Ancestry will continue to support current owners of Family Tree Maker at least through January 1, 2017. During this time, all features of the software, including TreeSync™, will continue to work, and Member Services will be available to assist with user questions. We will also address major software bugs that may occur, as well as compatibility updates.

These changes are never easy, but by focusing our efforts, we can concentrate on continuing to build great products for our loyal Ancestry community.

If you have inquiries regarding Family Tree Maker, please reach out to our Member Services team. We'll also provide updates on our blog as needed leading up to January 1, 2017.

Call for NEARA Submissions

The Arkansas Historical Association (AHA) and the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives (NEARA), a branch of the Arkansas History Commission and State Archives, are sending out a call for submissions for the annual NEARA Award.

Each year, professional and amateur historians are invited to submit a manuscript using research from NEARA archival records and primary source documents. Rules require that manuscripts must be double-spaced, no more than thirty-five pages long, have consecutively numbered footnotes, and be submitted in triplicate. Manuscripts must not be previously published or submitted elsewhere. Submissions are evaluated anonymously, so they must have only the full title at the top of the first page. Please include the title, author's name, complete physical mailing address, telephone numbers, and e-mail address on a separate page.

The winner is decided by a three-person panel of representatives from NEARA and AHA. The winner will be announced at the annual AHA conference in April. A \$1,000 cash prize and framed certificate will be awarded to the winning manuscript article. AHA reserves the right to not award a prize. All submissions will also be considered for publication in the Arkansas Historical Quarterly.

Entries must be postmarked by February 1, 2016, and mailed to NEARA Award, Arkansas Historical Association, Department of History, Old Main 416, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. For questions, contact AHA at 479-575-5884 or dludlow@uark.edu. No copies will be returned. Extra copies will be placed with NEARA and Special Collections at the University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville. Submission of an entry assumes permission for researcher use.

This annual award was created to commemorate volunteers from the Lawrence County Historical Society who, in 1963, secured and preserved the territorial records for future researchers. The award is funded by the Eugene Sloan family, a Jonesboro lawyer born in Powhatan.

Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! 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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