

DESERT DWELLERS DIGEST

September 2008
Volume #1 Issue #1

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MARCH & JUNE
BY
TRI STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLHEAD CITY, ARIZONA**

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Treasurer/Membership	Mary Moffett	928-754-1692

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Newsletter Editor	Susan Zmrzel	928-768-4301
Web Master	Andrea Wetzstein	702-298-1866
Federation Of Gen Soc	Mary Moffett	928-754-1692

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

TriState Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 21902, Bullhead City, AZ 86439 or e-mail our web site at azgenealogymail-websites@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP & DUES

The annual membership dues are \$20.00 per year for a single membership and \$25.00 per year for a family membership. New or renewed membership is established at the September meeting. Please send your membership dues to Membership Chairperson c/o The TriState Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 21902, Bullhead City, AZ 86439.

PRIMARY PURPOSE

The TRI STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY was established in 1990. The society promotes further interest in genealogy and family history. It also provides fellowship and assistance to those interested in these subjects.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The TRI STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY assumes no responsibility for errors or opinions expressed by contributors. Information in this publication is obtained from correspondence, newsletters, press releases, the internet and miscellaneous sources, which, in many cases cannot be verified. Material may be reprinted; however, we do request that acknowledgment be given to the Society and/or Author.

MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held from September thru May on the second Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon at **MOHAVE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HARGROVE LIBRARY**, 3400 Highway 95, Bullhead City, Arizona 86442 Telephone: 928-758-2420.

Some meetings will be held at other locations. These meeting(s) will be scheduled, announced at meetings and corresponded to members before that meeting is held. There will also be a calendar of meetings posted to our web page.

TRISTATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WEB PAGE

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~azcanvtsgs/> Andrea Wetzstein is our coordinator. Please contact her at azgenealogymail-websites@yahoo.com with comments & suggestions.

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting May 10, 2008 Laughlin Library, Laughlin, NV

The meeting was called to order at 10:08. There were 10 members present. The attendance sheet was passed around for everyone to sign in. Members were welcomed by President Susan Zmrzel.

Minutes of April 12th meeting were read and corrected. They read as Judy Blinco was our chairman of the election committee and it should have been the nominating committee. The minutes were corrected and will stand as read.

The treasurer's report was read by Mary Moffatt and she stated \$10.00 discrepancy and will get it corrected. The Balance is \$767.40 and will be filed as read. A motion was made to approve and passed by the attending membership and will be filed for audit.

Ruth Colvin stated we have 20 members.

Andrea will look into car pooling and also the Silver Rider to do a field trip to the genealogical library in Lake Havasu.

Susan working on May newsletter and wants to see if Harold Reed will write some stories about our area for our Web Site. Patti will check with Harold at Historical Meeting on Monday the 12th.

Ruth made a motion to renew the Internet Genealogy Magazine for the Mohave Community College Library and to get the two free books on Dating Old Photographs for the library. Seconded by Patti approved and passed unanimously.

We discussed joining the Az. State Genealogical society as our membership has expired and decided not to at this time.

Discussion on the by-law changes and revisions . They will be sent out to members.

Discussion was held on liability insurance. Motion made and seconded to take insurance for one year. One vote abstained. Insurance money donated by member Melba Van Pelt for the year.

Meeting closed at 12 noon.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Patti Goodman Secretary

**Minutes of the Meeting
September 13, 2008
Mohave Community College Library
Bullhead City, Az**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by President Susan Zmrzel. Thirteen members and 3 guests were present.

Minutes of the May 10, 2008 meeting were read by Secretary Patti Goodman and were filed as read.

Treasurer Mary Moffett was in Texas so Susan read the treasurers report and it was accepted and filed for audit.

Committee Reports

Membership: No report.

Publicity & Program: Andrea Wetzstein will check with President of Lake Havasu Genealogy and see when we can visit their Library. She will let us know at our next meeting. We voted not to have a booth this year at Hardyville Day's celebration as the deadline is too close and we really don't have enough time to make plans. Perhaps next year.

Communication and Newsletter: Susan Zmrzel asked if membership wanted their birthdays in the newsletter and vote was taken and membership voted no.

Susan wants to make newsletter available in Sept, Dec. Mar, and June for faster reporting and membership voted unanimously to accept the change of months.

Web Page: Andrea suggests we add a membership application to our web page. Everyone agreed.

Federation of Genealogical Societies Delegate Mary Moffett: Not present but sent in the information for us to vote on and she will forward the vote.

We had a quorum present and the revised/new by laws were read by Andrea. Motions were made and seconded. All revised/new by laws were agreed on by all members present.

Chase bank wants to charge us \$12.00 a month for our checking account and Mary wants to know if she

should look for another bank? Membership voted "yes".

Meeting closed at 12.00 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Patti Goodman Secretary

TRISTATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Letter From The President

On September 13, 2008, the TriState Genealogical Society had its first meeting of the 2008-2009 season. The meetings are at the Mohave Community College Library in Bullhead City, AZ from 10 am to 12 noon Arizona time. Please go to our web page <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~azcanvtsgs/index.html> and press Society News to find our calendar for the 2008-2009 season.

I would like to introduce our officers and committee chairpersons for the 2008-2009 season.

OFFICERS

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At our first meeting the new by-laws were unanimously passed and are also posted on our web page under Society News.

The turnout was great for our first meeting and I hope the meetings will be interesting and informative enough to keep you coming back for more. I will be sending out a separate e-mail and asking you to send me 2 or 3 questions you would like to address at our meeting. These questions should relate to genealogy, computers (hard & software) and the internet. I will send out the questions to other members and some of them might be able to help or have some good suggestions. Also, please let me know what you would like to see at our meetings and we will try to accommodate you.

Leslie Bell, who is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, is teaching a genealogy class at Mohave Community College, Bullhead City Campus. The classes are on Tuesday, which started September 9th and will run thru October 14th. There was a great turnout for the class and Leslie is very knowledgeable. I hope Leslie will have another class after this one.

It was also decided at our meeting to have the newsletter published in September, December, March and June. The newsletter is posted to our web page under Society News.

Our application for membership is posted on the web page under Society News. The new dues amount in

our by laws passed and is \$20 for single and \$25 for family.

Letter from the Newsletter Editor

Since the newsletter will be changing the publishing dates to September, December, March and June I will also change the volumes and issue numbers. I will start September 2008 as Volume #1 Issue #1. This will coordinate with our September to May meeting schedule.

FROM EASTMAN'S ONLINE GENEALOGY NEWSLETTER

The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and are copyright 2007 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.

Ancestry.com's DNA Database Now Searches for Potential Genetic Cousins

Ancestry DNA has made enhancements to its search and comparison functionality. The company claims that the new features bring greater insight into a potential comparison immediately upon a search of individuals; and opens the people search to all visitors of Ancestry.com DNA.

The following information was provided by Ancestry DNA:

Search for People

Directly from the Home Page any visitor can perform a search of the Ancestry DNA Hp_2 database both by group and now also by individual. Simply type in the surname of an individual you are interested in to begin your journey to finding potential relatives.

DNA Comparison

The people search results screen has been updated to provide an MRCA distance for paternal tests and an indication of the number of maternal differences, if Ps_2 applicable. This means that you can now visually scroll down the page and see which of all those Smiths is the closest relation to you. In other words, a user will now be able to automatically see how close a match his DNA results are with anyone in the entire database--saving a lot of research time and guess work.

Together, these 2 "time-savers" allow any visitor searching Ancestry.com's DNA database to immediately tell who is or is not a close match; and once a promising candidate is identified, you can immediately begin to dig deeper within the Pp_2 participant's profile. The updated participant profile includes a new comparison feature (in addition to the name, test type, haplogroup, and listing of all the groups the user is a member of) so that you can compare your own DNA results to the newly found person. This is the same results comparison functionality as is currently provided for close matches in the My Results page.

This glimpse into the participant's activity and DNA lays a foundation for more detailed collaboration and targeted group discussions. We welcome all users and visitors to take advantage of these new features and encourage all to start or join a group with your newly found relatives. Let us know what you think of these new features and which additional ones you'd like to see implemented.

Stitching Together Genealogy

Dawn Gerber's family album isn't quite like other people's. It's not made of photos. It's not encased in leather, and it's not divided into pages. Instead, Gerber hand-sewed her family's history into a quilt -- a quilt that will soon head to Nashville, Tenn., and could earn her \$10,000.

Each block of Dawn Gerber's Baltimore album quilt displays something about the life of someone in her family. The quilt was chosen as one of 280 to be shown at the eighth annual American Quilter's Society Quilt Expo next month in Nashville, Tenn.

Gerber's creation will be one of 280 displayed at the American Quilter's Society Quilt Expo in August. One of those will win the Best of Show prize worth \$10,000.

You can read more about this quilt and see a picture of it in the York (Pennsylvania) Daily Record at http://ydr.inyork.com/ci_10017131.

Help Needed to Index Oklahoma World War I Veterans

Wanted: a few good indexers. The Oklahoma Genealogical Society (OGS) is planning to publish an index to honor the state's World War I veterans.

There are some lists, by county, that are available at the Oklahoma Historical Society Library. The Department of Veterans Affairs has a list of those who were killed in action but does not have a list of all those who served and the American Legion Department of Oklahoma does not have a list. OGS now wishes to compile a complete list.

Further details may be found in Darlene Shawn's column in the Norman (Oklahoma) Transcript at http://www.normantranscript.com/features/local_story_208002916.

World's Oldest Bible Going Online

File this under "history." The British Museum has scanned and is placing online images of world's oldest Bible. The Codex Sinaiticus is a manuscript of the Greek Bible, written between 330–350 A.D. It was discovered in the 19th century.

Very few people have seen this Bible due to its fragile condition. The British Museum keeps it under lock and key and in the dark in a sealed container. It was removed from its storage case, carefully scanned and then replaced. The purpose of the scanning is to allow millions of people to view the important work without requiring any handling that would quickly ruin the remaining Bible.

Handwritten well over 1600 years ago, the manuscript contains the Christian Bible in Greek, including the oldest complete copy of the New Testament. The Bible obviously is not the King James version (started in 1604 and first published in 1611). This Bible is important to Christian scholars for many reasons. For one, it makes no mention of the resurrection.

The online site will contain images of the original Bible, along with modern-day translations in several languages as well as interpretations and supplemental information written by several of today's leading Biblical scholars.

Part of the Codex Sinaiticus will go online on Thursday (July 24), including the Book of Psalms and the Gospel According to Mark. The plan is to have all of the Bible available online within a year.

The online images will be available on July 24 at <http://www.codexsinaiticus.org>.

ProQuest & Google Partnership to Offer Millions of Newspaper Pages Online

ProQuest has formed a partnership with Google to digitize hundreds of millions of pages of local newspaper

content for the open web. This should become a great resource for genealogists as many of these papers would never have been digitized without this program.

The old newspapers which are now digitized will be accessible by searching the Google News Archive or by using the timeline feature offered through Google News. Google's overall goal is to make billions of newsprint pages accessible online.

The following announcement was written by ProQuest:

ProQuest and Google Partnership Will Unlock Newspaper Content ProQuest brings content; Google brings access

September 8, 2008 (Ann Arbor, Mich.) -- ProQuest has formed a partnership with Google that has the potential to bring millions of pages of newspaper content to the open web. The program allows web access to archives of both large and small newspapers. Without this initiative, these newspapers might never be digitized.

"Newspapers are the lifeblood of every community—with a wide ranging interest for a myriad of users. The demand for digitized newspaper archives is clearly there. The problem is it that, until now, finding a workable economic model for libraries and publishers has been challenging," said Rod Gauvin, ProQuest senior vice-president of publishing. "This model overcomes that hurdle, unlocking a wealth of content for libraries and internet users with unique research needs."

The ProQuest/Google partnership does not impact ProQuest's other digital newspaper offerings such as its acclaimed ProQuest Historical Newspapers, which will continue to be strongly developed for use by serious researchers. Users of such products require robust application and search tools provided by the power of the ProQuest platform. The content delivered via Google's platform will be supported with a variety of advertising and e-commerce models that are standard in an open web context.

ProQuest will contribute content to the partnership, and will introduce newspaper publishers nationwide to the program. ProQuest will also supply from its microfilm vault newspaper content that can be delivered effectively in the less formal framework of the open web. The company currently holds more than 10,000 newspaper titles, most of which are pristine master film copies. This high level of microfilm quality allows for the creation of better scanned images, which will ultimately deliver more accurate OCR results for users.

While ProQuest's film vault will be tapped, the open web model does not replace or diminish ProQuest's commitment to microfilm. "The open web program is about access to content and has no impact on preservation, where microfilm is the 'gold standard,'" said Mr. Gauvin. "Microfilm is a technology-neutral format, so no matter the state of future technology, anything preserved on it can be read and stored effectively. It's an essential for preserving local history and culture, as well as the world's scholarship."

The work of the ProQuest/Google partnership commences immediately and is expected to be ongoing over multiple years.

For more information about ProQuest and its work to unlock all types of content for serious and casual research, visit www.proquest.com.

About ProQuest

ProQuest provides seamless access to and navigation of more than 125 billion digital pages of the world's scholarship, delivering it to the desktop and into the workflow of serious researchers in multiple fields, from

arts, literature, and social science to science, technology, and medicine. ProQuest is part of Cambridge Information Group (www.cambridgeinformationgroup.com).

ProQuest's vast content pools are available to researchers through libraries of all types and include the world's largest digital newspaper archive, periodical databases comprising the output of more than 9,000 titles and spanning more than 500 years, the pre-eminent dissertation collection, and various other scholarly collections. Users access the information through the ProQuest®, CSA Illumina™, Dialog® and Datastar® online information systems, Chadwyck-Healey™ electronic and microform resources, UMI® microform and print reference products, eLibrary® and SIRS® educational resources, Ulrich's® Serials Analysis System, COS Scholar Universe, and Serials Solutions® resource management tools. Through the expertise of business units Serials Solutions and RefWorks/COS, ProQuest provides technological tools that allow researchers and libraries to better manage and use their information resources. For more information, visit www.proquest.com, www.proquest.co.uk, and www.csa.com.

FAMILY SEARCH

Indexed Records to Remain Free on FamilySearch.org

The recent announcements of joint census projects with FamilySearch and affiliate companies, such as findmypast.org and Ancestry.com, have caused some confusion. FamilySearch patrons and indexing volunteers are wondering if the indexes created from their efforts will continue to be free to the public. The answer is a resounding YES!

All data indexed by FamilySearch volunteers will continue to be made available for free to the public through FamilySearch.org — now and in the future. Access to related digital images may not always be free to everyone. Working jointly with other organizations ensures wider availability to improved indexes and provides a tremendous benefit to millions of people around the world who are seeking to connect with their ancestors. FamilySearch is committed to working with records custodians around the world to provide faster access to more records for more people.

Where possible, FamilySearch will seek to provide free public access to digital images of original records. Due to affiliate obligations, free access to some images may be available only to FamilySearch members (volunteers and indexers who meet basic contribution requirements each quarter, patrons at Family History Centers, and members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who's contributions support FamilySearch's operations). FamilySearch members will also enjoy convenient access in their homes or wherever they have Internet access. (FamilySearch is currently developing its ability to verify that users are FamilySearch members for future home access. This expanded access should be enabled in 2009.)

The general public will have several options to access any fee-based images offered under FamilySearch affiliate agreements. 1) Home access will be free for FamilySearch members; 2) access is free through a local Family History Center or the Family History Library; 3) access is often free through the record custodian or archive reading room; or 4) for a nominal fee, the public can access the images on specified record custodian or commercial Web sites.

MISC INFORMATION

Censuses between 1850 and 1900 recorded household residents who died in the previous year on mortality schedules.

Some individuals don't show up in the Social Security Death Index because they or their beneficiaries never

claimed benefits from the Social Security Administration.

Here is a list of some currently available or forthcoming collections of online digitized death certificates or death ledgers (some are free, some fee-based).

Arizona

Arizona Death Certificates 1844-1957 (free) also includes birth certificates 1855-1932

Georgia

Georgia Death Certificates 1919-1927 (free)

Illinois: Chicago and Cook County

The Cook County Clerk's office has birth certificates more than 75 years old, marriage certificates more than 50 years old, and death certificates more than 20 years old available online for a fee. The records go back as far as 1872 -- earlier records were lost in the Chicago Fire of 1871. See: [Historical Cook County Vital Records - Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates](#) (searches are free; requires a fee to download copies of the records; note that some records may not yet be available online)

Also see: [Online Chicago and Cook County Death Records Indexes and Obituaries](#)

Kentucky

As part of their subscription-based collection of genealogy records, Ancestry has digitized Kentucky death certificates from 1911-1953. See: [Online Kentucky Death Records Indexes and Obituaries](#)

Michigan (beta testing)

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Michigan death ledgers from 1867-1897. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. Note these are not death certificates, but death registers or ledgers. (free)

Missouri

Missouri Death Certificates 1910-1957 (free) from the Missouri State Archives

North Carolina

As part of their subscription-based collection of genealogy records, Ancestry has scanned North Carolina death certificates from 1909-1975 available for downloading. See: [Online North Carolina Death Records Indexes and Obituaries](#)

Ohio (beta testing)

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Ohio death certificates from 1908-1953. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. (free)

Pennsylvania: Philadelphia (beta testing)

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Philadelphia City death certificates from 1803-1915. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. (free)

Texas (beta testing)

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Texas death certificates from 1890-1976. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. Very few certificates are available prior to 1903. (free)

Utah

Utah Death Certificates 1905-1956 (free)

West Virginia

West Virginia Death Certificates 1917-1957 (free) has earlier records for some counties - also has birth and marriage records for some counties

Other States - Death Indexes

For a directory of online death indexes, including some cemetery records, obituaries, and probate records see: Online Searchable Death Indexes and Records

A little about death.....

They also had lead cups and when they would drink ale or whiskey from them, the combination would sometimes knock them out for a couple of days. This caused people to think they were dead. They would pick them up, take them home and get them ready to bury. They would lay them out on the kitchen table for a couple of days, the family would gather around to eat, drink and wait to see if they would wake up. Thus the custom of holding a "wake".

Since England is so old and small, they started running out of places to bury people. So, they started digging up coffins, taking the bones out and reusing the graves. This is when they discovered that some of the coffins had scratch marks on the inside. One out of 25 coffins were this way and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they decided they would tie a string on their wrist and lead it through the coffin, up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night to listen for the bell. Thus the saying "graveyard shift". If the bell would ring they would know that someone was "saved by the bell" or he was a "dead ringer"

WEB PAGES TO TRY

Encyclopedia of Genealogy <http://www.eogen.com/Home>

The Encyclopedia of Genealogy serves as a compendium of genealogical tools and techniques. It provides reference information about everything in genealogy except people. Look to the Encyclopedia of Genealogy to provide explanations of how to look up your family tree, explanations of terms found in genealogy research, including obsolete medical and legal terms. It will describe locations where records may be found. It also will describe how to research Italian, German, Polish, French-Canadian, Jewish, Black, Indian and other ancestors. In short, the Encyclopedia of Genealogy will serve as your standard genealogy reference manual.

The Archive CD Books Project <http://www.archivedbooksusa.com/> exists to make digital reproductions of old books available to the public, to donate original publications to libraries and other institutions, and to cooperate with these repositories to preserve their existing collections for future

ShoeString Genealogy <http://www.shoestringgenealogy.com/ssg1.htm> provides Family Historians with information about how to research their ancestors both on the Internet and in libraries and other repositories. Besides how, it indicates where—locations for information and the relative value of each.

Ancestors at Rest <http://www.ancestorsatrest.com/> Find your ancestors in death records. Search free databases such as coffin plates, death cards, funeral cards, wills, church records, family bibles, cenotaphs and tombstone inscriptions on AncestorsAtRest.com Find links to other great death records like cemeteries, vital stats, and obituaries. Learn where to find death records off the net.

Fashion-Era http://www.fashion-era.com/1800_1845.htm At Fashion-Era.com we analyse two centuries of women's costume history and fashion history silhouettes in detail. Regency, Romantic, Victorian,

