

THE BULLETIN

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President's Message

AS I sat down to write the president's message, I couldn't help but think what a dynamic group I belong to. The last board meeting was positively humming with enthusiasm. As we come to the close of our fiscal year and enter our new year, you will see some changes on the board. In some cases, it's the same, familiar faces just wearing new hats of responsibility.

The library tour of Yavapai College in January was a very popular event. We had about 35 in attendance. Our hostess, reference librarian, Sally Washington, knew her stuff. She was delightful, and although difficult to hear at times (need I remind you, it is a library), we all learned a great deal about their genealogy and historical collection. Be sure to get your local library card activated so you can take advantage of their collection.

I hope you got to hear Aaronetta Edmund's talk on Feb. 27. The stories she told of her family roots were riveting. Imagine having Seminole Chief Oseloa as an ancestor. With that name showing up in so many generations of her family, there must be a connection, and that's what Aaronetta is working to prove. Her father was only a boy when he joined the navy as a cook prior to WWI. He later married and raised a large family in Medford, Massachusetts.

We have Travis to thank, for he was the one who spotted the collection of family pictures and knew there had to be stories behind all of them. And stories there were, but most of all, it was the love that permeated her family that Aaronetta shared with us. How refreshing to take a break from researching and to be reminded of what family is all about.

By the time you receive this *Bulletin*, our March meeting with Mark Lowe will be history. However, that dynamic group mentioned above has already planned the programs now through the end of the year, so there' are more good meetings to come.



Aaronetta Edmund, February 27, 2010

Are you like me, do you inwardly cheer when you find your ancestors in the 1850 census and cringe when you can have to go backwards from the 1850 census? We all appreciate how in the 1850 census, names were finally added to the family group. Be sure and join us on **April 24** when our speaker Raylene Junkins will decipher for us what those hash marks mean in the pre-1850 census.

May 22 is going to be a major program. Be sure and save the date for this all-day seminar with another nationally known speaker, Colleen Fitzpatrick, who will be speaking on "Using DNA in your Genealogical Quest." The meeting will be held at Stonebridge Golf Course, 1601 N. Bluff Top Dr., Prescott Valley, from 9-4. The early bird cost for those who **sign up by May 14** is \$35 for members; \$40 for non-members. If you wait and register at the door, add \$5 to those amounts. Stoneridge's American buffet luncheon is included in the fee.

Colleen's talk will cover four topics: The Basics of DNA; DNA is Great for Solving Family Mysteries; DNA and the Big Picture, including a discussion on mitochondrial DNA; and The Hand in the Snow. Now if that topic doesn't peak your interest, nothing will. Go to the NAGS website for a registration form: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~aznags/>

(Continued on page 6)

WELCOME 35 NEW NAGS MEMBERS

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 76

We are so pleased to welcome our new members into NAGS. Please be sure to introduce yourself to other members so we can get to know you. We hope you enjoy your membership and find lots of friends to help you in your genealogy quest.

Lynda and William Avey, Jo Arnsperger, Sharyn Baker, Ronald Church, Charles & Judy Cobos, Jeanie Davis, Patricia Folsom, Earl Freise, Fay Giordano, Kaye Hanna, Tammy Harrell, Leah Herring, Bruce and Vernie (Doris) Jaeger, Nikki Krause, Dick Lewis, Beverly Markham, Ron Mayes, David Miller, Cheryl and Victor Moreno, Kenneth Mueller, William Quinn, Linn Sampson, Sharon Scanlan, Mary & Norman Scherer, Shirley Smith, Carol Swedlund, Sally Veil, Penny Warner, Leslie Womack, Valene Woolridge.

Leslie Parsons, Membership Committee Chair

Please support YOUR Society — come to meetings, volunteer, participate!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 24... Raylene Junkins, *What Do Those Hash Marks Mean on the Pre-1850 Census?*
- May 22 ...Colleen Fitzpatrick, DNA, Stoneridge Country Club, 9 to 4 - see poster and outline attached.
(Short business meeting prior to presentation for election of officers only.)
- June 26...Barbara Wich: Did Plagues Move Your Family Tree?
- JulySummer break - no meeting this month
- August 28...Gene Therapy - bring your brick walls, research problems and we'll exchange ideas and solutions
- September 25...Sande Hanahan, Apron to Apron - The Long and Short of It
- October 23...NAGS/FHC Annual Genealogy Workshop - see more details on page 6.
- November/December....Combined - Christmas Luncheon

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

HELENA HOWELL

SECRETARY



Helena does not consider herself well traveled, nor has she lived in any exotic places. Born in Pueblo, Colorado (not the garden spot of the West), her parents moved to Salt Lake City where her father was transferred by his company when she was six. After three years in SLC, they were again transferred, this time to southern California. Helena went to high school in beautiful downtown Burbank, to UCLA for two years, followed by a year in business school, and graduated from Occidental College in Eagle Rock in 1954. While at Occidental College in the master's program she met and married the father of her two children, Craig and Katie.

Her husband was a career state employee, which meant being transferred around the state several times—from LA to Santa Rosa, back to LA, to Sacramento, to South Pasadena, back up north to Berkeley. Following a divorce, she moved to Denver, married again (never say die), and lived in Littleton, Colorado from 1969 until 1983 when her husband took early retirement and they moved to Prescott.

After finishing her degree, she taught English at Mt. San Antonio Community College near Pomona, was a legal secretary, a certified dog trainer, an editor for a company that wrote and sponsored professional training for CPAs, a general partner in a printed circuit board manufacturing company in Colorado. After moving to Prescott, she became a volunteer at Phippen Art Museum, served on the Board of Trustees for several years, then went on the staff as a buyer for the Phippen Museum Store, and eventually became the museum's Collections Manager and exhibits curator.

When her children were small she became aware of and began dabbling in genealogy. Her initial goal was merely to learn about her paternal great grandfather, who (according to an old family letter) "came from County Tyrone"—her one and only clue. Thinking how easy this would be, she didn't understand the term brick walls. She soon learned about a few, such as how many northern Irish records were burned during "the troubles" in 1922, not to mention the wisdom of the British government in destroying other Ulster records. She also learned about census information, and how fortunate we are in the US to have such a long history of both federal and state censuses.

Working at the Los Angeles Public Library, the California State Library, and at Sutro Library in San Francisco was a good introduction to genealogy collections generally. By the time she purchased her first genealogy software (FTM 3), she thought she had it made, but the vision of more and more ancestors ultimately made her realize this was a lifetime commitment. She attended a week-long workshop in Northern Ireland sponsored by the Ulster Historical Guild in 2001, and made a second trip to Ireland with her two children and her granddaughter in 2004. She learned that traveling with family members to accomplish genealogical research, while great fun, is not the ideal way to concentrate on genealogy.

She also learned the necessity for organizing hundreds of sheets of accumulated paper (still an unfinished project), for sourcing the genealogy facts she worked so hard to unearth, and never to take old family tales and "facts" at face value. Her father maintained that the Irish immigrant was "not married three times!" The records say otherwise.

Helena says that since she is no longer working, you'd think she would have ample time to devote to family history. But getting involved in three non-profits in town seems to have interfered. Using Legacy has opened up tremendous possibilities in fleshing out her family history; however, it has also made her aware of how much she still has to learn. NAGS' programs and workshops have been of tremendous help, and Nancy Miller has kept her from losing her patience more than once. "Just put on some music, go to your computer, and calmly go through all the possibilities . . ."

We thank you, Helena, for keeping our minutes in such good order these past three years.

PRESCOTT VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARYGenealogy Room

Hours: Mon—Thurs 9:00 am to 8:00 pm; Fri 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sat 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; Closed Sunday

Our Genealogy Library contains books on “how-to”, finding aids, migration patterns, lineage societies, military and pension records, family histories, local and state histories as well as foreign countries. Stop by to check out the new Genealogy Room located in the southeast corner on the second floor, you'll enjoy the view.



Old abandoned country store in Beckham County, OK

ANNUAL NAGS MEMBERSHIP

Membership is January 1—December 31

Membership forms are on our website

or pick one up at a meeting

Dues: Individual \$15.00 Family \$25.00

Disclaimer—we freely admit to lovingly ‘lifting’ some of the filler items from other publications, newsletters, the Internet and miscellaneous sources. For that reason, some of the material contained herein cannot be verified and we apologize for any misinformation.

BULLETIN PHOTO IN HEADER

Thumb Butte 1892—“Sharlot Hall Museum Photo, LA
Photo: 101 PA Prescott, Arizona.”

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WORLD WAR II GERMAN PRISONER OF WAR CEMETERY FORT RENO, OKLAHOMA

Seventy World War II Prisoners of War are interred at the Fort Reno POW Cemetery which is located to the west of the main cemetery and is divided by a stone wall with stairs providing access to the POW section. There are 62 Germans and 8 Italians. The majority of those interred at Fort Reno were held at POW Camps in Oklahoma and Texas.

The prisoners worked at a variety of locations and were paid 80 cents per day. Many worked as farm laborers at Fort Reno while others worked at Tinker Field and the Douglas modification plant in Oklahoma City. Local farmers paid the government \$1.50 per prisoner per day. In turn the government paid the prisoners 10 cents per hour in script money which could be used to purchase items from the Canteen. The farmer provided transportation to and from the camp for the prisoners and a guard. The German prisoners brought their own sack lunches from the camp, but often farmers would provide a meal or a snack. Some local farmers who employed the prisoners kept in touch with the POWs after they returned to Germany.

A number of Germans and Italians have made special trips to view the resting place of their relatives or friends. Each November a special memorial wreath is placed in remembrance of those prisoners buried there.

A list of the German prisoners held at the Fort Reno POW Camp is located at the Canadian County Historical Museum in El Reno, Oklahoma and the Fort Reno Visitor Center.



Innocent Orтели, Pvt, Italian August 2, 1943



Karl Baumgartner, Pvt, German, June 29, 1945



Heinrich Esemann, 1 Lieut., German
December 8, 1944

(President's Message continued from page 1)

June 26 will again feature our own Barbara Wich who will present the history of another of those nasty flu's and plagues from the past and show how they influenced world populations and possibly your own family tree.

In **July** we're taking a much deserved break; there are no NAGS meetings scheduled. But, as I said above, the programs are in place through the end of the year as noted in the Calendar of Events, so don't take too long a break and happy researching.

See you soon,

Marilyn Day

THIS 'N THAT

MEMBER SURNAME RESEARCH INFORMATION - Please tell us the Surnames you are researching along with locations and time periods so we can publish them on our website. We do this so our members can exchange information if several are researching the same name and place. Please limit your list to three and email to Sue Kissel at dskissel@cablone.net to include on our website.

FREE ACCESS TO U.S. CENSUSES - For a limited time only www.Footnote.com is offering free access to its U.S. Censuses records.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE—FREE The FamilySearch Family History Library is now making its popular classes available at FamilySearch.com where anyone in the world can access them for free. The online classes are a great complement to the free personal research assistance the Family History Library offers to the patrons in Utah and through its family history centers worldwide. There are currently 23 Family History Library classes available online, with subject ranging from European research to United States Military records. The most popular offerings are the Beginning Research Series for Ireland and England and a class on descendency research. The classes vary in length from 6 to 58 minutes, with most lasting about 25 minutes.


FAMILY HISTORY CENTER CLASSES are offering free classes on the third Thursday of each month at 1:00 to 2:00 pm for April through September. For more information call Dick Hiatt 778-4410. Topics include:

April 15 - Jo Arnspiger - **Census Records**

May 20 - Dick Hiatt - **Immigration Records**

June 17 - Sue Kissel & Pat Potter—**Sharlot Hall Museum Archives**

NAGS/FHC ANNUAL GENEALOGY WORKSHOP will be held Saturday, October 23 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the LDS Church, 1101 Ruth Street, Prescott, AZ. Four sessions of one hour each, with a choice of seven classes each hour, will be presented. Lunch will be homemade beef stew and bread. **PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW! Don't miss this annual workshop.**



Are They
Related?

The Northern Arizona Genealogical Society

presents

Using DNA in your Genealogical Quest

with nationally known forensic genealogist

Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD

May 22, 2010

Stone Ridge Club House, 1601 N. Bluff Top Drive, Prescott Valley

9:00-3:30

\$35 members, \$40 non-members, lunch included

visit: www.rootsweb.com/~aznags/index.htm for more details

\$5 late fee for registration after May 15

The Northern Arizona Genealogical Society
presents
Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D.,
speaking on
Using DNA in Your Genealogical Quest

Colleen is a Consulting Genealogist for the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory & has been recognized in print media and on MSNBC for her work on the crash of Northwest Flight 4422 and on exposing two well-known Holocaust frauds. She is the author of three best-selling books on genealogy and is an award-winning author and regular columnist for Ancestry magazine.

Although Colleen is involved in high-level projects, the techniques she uses are very familiar to genealogists working on their own family history. As Colleen explains, it's all a matter of imagination and how you look at the materials you have.

May 22, 2010

Stone Ridge Country Club, Prescott Valley

9:00-3:30

\$35 members, \$40 non-members, lunch included

\$5 late fee for registration after May 15th

No refunds will be honored after May 15th

- 9:00-9:30 **Registration**
- 9:30-10:30 **The Basics of DNA**
what it is, how it works, how to sign up for a test, how you can use it for your family genealogy
- 10:45-11:45 **DNA is Great for Solving Family Mysteries**
A collection of examples of how DNA helped solve a family mystery
- 12:00-1:00 **Lunch**
- 1:00-2:00 **DNA and the Big Picture**
How your DNA is the same DNA that was used to identify Anna Anderson and the Unknown Child on the Titanic, including a discussion on mitochondria DNA
- 2:15-3:15 **The Hand in the Snow**
How with the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory, Fitzpatrick helped to identify a frozen human arm and hand found at the site of the 1948 Alaskan plane crash of Northwest Flight 4422.
- 3:15-3:30 **Q & A**
An opportunity to ask the expert a few of your questions.

Please be so kind as go to www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~aznags/ or call 928-778-3834 to register for this event, so we can get a count for lunch. Thank you.