



*JANUARY 2016, Volume 30, No. 1*

## **Upcoming meetings:**

**Meetings are held at the LDS Church on Ruth Street**

**1:30 pm Social Time; 2:00 pm Meeting**

**Sat., Feb 15 – Building Timelines: Discover how building timelines to position Ancestors in context of time and place can enhance your genealogical research.**

**Speaker: Sharon Atkins** (*Sharon is an at-large board member the Association of Professional Genealogists, a member of NAGS and Past President of the Arizona Council of Professional Genealogists*)

**Sat., March 19 – Carpool to Phoenix to hear Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist at the Family History Society of Arizona's Annual Meeting and Seminar.**

Location: Central United Methodist Church, 1875 N. Central, Phoenix (9:00 am – 3:30) more info at [www.fhsa.org](http://www.fhsa.org)

**Sat., April 23 –Beginning Genealogy: Speaker: Barbara Wich**

## **Officers and Committee Chairman**

President: Dick Hiatt  
Vice President: Valene Woolridge  
Treasurer: Carol Hubert  
Secretary: Sue Williams

## **Committee Chairmen**

AzGAB and FGS Rep: Sue Kissel  
Bulletin: Gretchen Eastman  
Death & Dispositions: Sue Kissel  
Facebook Coordinator: Cheryl Moreno  
Historian: Virginia Grundvig  
Hospitality: Nancy Nelson  
Member at Large: Raylene Junkins  
Membership: Martha Welch  
FHC Liaison: Kent Evans  
Library: John Thorne  
Program Committee: Barbara Wich, Sue Kissel, Marilyn Day  
Special Projects: Nancy Miller  
Publicity: Vacant  
Webpage: Marilyn Day

## **Presidents Message**

By Dick Hiatt

The New Year of 2016 is upon us. Have you included projects in genealogy that you want to work on this coming year? Like most of you, my research is mostly online, yet everything I need is not online. By that I mean, all records are not digitally available online and when that happens I need to search for records on microfilm or books and also consider travelling to find sources in local courthouses and libraries. Microfilm records that are available can be found in the [familysearch catalog](#). This genealogy catalog lists microfilms that can be ordered online for viewing at your Prescott Family History Center. They also list books

that can be ordered through your local library for a \$2 fee. If the film or book has been digitized it will let you view that by clicking on the highlighted source. If I find a microfilm listing marriage records from a courthouse in Missouri (or church records from Herefordshire, England) I can then order that film for a fee of \$7.50, and when it arrives in Prescott I have about one month to view that microfilm on the microfilm readers at the Family History Center. The film readers allow you to photograph pages from the microfilm. If you find a book carrying references to your pioneer ancestors (It might be digitized and if so it will take you to that book right away), you can look the book up in the World Catalog online from your library to see what worldwide library will loan that book to your local library for no charge (or a minimum charge). There is never a charge to print or scan records at the Prescott Family History Center.

Wiki familysearch is also a good place to look for records. Wiki is a world encyclopedia of all genealogical resources. You might consider a trip to the family history library in Salt Lake City (SLC) to look at any of the millions of microfilms or books located there. The SLC Family History Library has every book and microfilm listed in their catalog and they have experts available to help with problems in translation and research in foreign countries.

Whether it is a trip to some destination where your ancestors lived or looking at books and microfilm, genealogy can be a fascinating journey. We never stop learning! The Northern Arizona Genealogical Society offers many opportunities to learn and work with others through lectures and/or one of our many sessions of one-on-one help at the Prescott Library (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Thurs. 1-3), Prescott Valley Library (2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. 1-3) or the Prescott Family History Center (especially Tues. 6-9 p.m.). Don't forget to renew your dues! Happy hunting.

## **Just in:**

**Kent Evans, the director of the FHC just sent these new hours out to the staff on January 26th.**

**Starting on February 1st.**

**Monday and Wednesday: 10-2**

**Tuesday and Thursday: 4-8**

## Meet our New Officers: Martha Welch - Membership

I was born in California and moved to Prescott in 1963. In 1970 my husband and I bought Moore's Laundry and Dry Cleaning. We ran that business until his death in 2001. My daughter and I continued with the business until it closed at the end of 2014.

We were in the building that the city condemned and that had the "speakeasy" bar underneath it. I retired for a month and then another dry cleaner suddenly needed a dry cleaner so I decided to work part time. I have three daughters and one son. I also have seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. They all live here except for one daughter (Tucson) and one granddaughter (Tempe). My hobbies are genealogy and gardening. I have been doing genealogy for almost twenty years. I am adopted so, at first, I started researching my adoptive parents' lines and my husband's family. After I got some experience researching I was able to take what little information I had on my birth mother and finally start researching my maternal biological line. My areas of research are Delaware/Morrow County, Ohio, all of the northeast and Bath County, Virginia.

### The War of 1812 Pension Files Project By Dick Hiatt

"The War of 1812 Pension Files are rich with information about the soldiers who served. The files often includes a soldier's full name, age, place of residence, service data and dates, the organization he served in, his rank, the acres granted for bounty land, the soldier's death date and place, his widow's name and maiden name, marriage date and place date and place, and also the names of his previous wives, if any. You can often find marriage records, death records, obituaries, family Bible pages, and other valuable documents within the pension files. The War of 1812 pension files were never microfilmed, so access to these records prior to today was very limited. The Federation of Genealogical Societies, in partnership with the national Archives Records Administration (NARA), Ancestry.com, Fold3.com, Family Search, and others, are working together on this community project to digitize the 7.2 million pages of records within the pension files for the War of 1812." (FamilySearch, October 2015)

## War of 1812 Pension Files Mission

The National Archives reports that these War of 1812 pension files are among the heaviest requested materials. With that level of use, these valuable records, available in no other format, are in danger of grave deterioration.

### FREE TO THE PUBLIC

As these valuable historical documents are digitized, they will be made available to all at no cost, and the original pension files can be retired to much less active use.

### DIGITIZED IMAGES AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

Completed images and associated indexing are posted incrementally. Genealogists, historians, teachers, patriotic societies, and history buffs all have access to the images that have been digitized right now. Images will be offered for free at Fold3 indefinitely.

The Northern Arizona Genealogical Society recently donated \$500 toward "The War of 1812 Pension File Project" through The Federation of Genealogical Societies. \$500 donation + \$1500 matching = 4400 pages saved.

## **FGS Discount on Dell Computers**

As a member of the Northern Arizona Genealogical Society you are also a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Through FGS you can receive a discount on Dell Computers and free shipping. See the FGS website. While you on their website you might enjoy reading "The Voice" their on line magazine.

## **Ellis Island**

Ellis Island processed an average of 5,000 people per day. A total of 12 million immigrants passed through the island over the years. As the table below shows, more immigrants passed through Ellis Island at its peak than all other North American ports of entry combined.

## Top 10 Ports of Arrival in North America in 1903

Port	Number of Immigrants
Ellis Island	706,113
Baltimore	69,541
Boston	64,358
Montreal & St. John's	33,048
Philadelphia	29,926
Honolulu	11,439
San Francisco	9,504
Key West Florida	5,129
New Orleans	4,685
New Bedford Mass.	4,435
	<i>Source: Ellis Island</i>

Articles like "Ellis Island" can be found on the free website [genealogyintime.com](http://genealogyintime.com)

## TWO NEW BOOKS FOR THE GENEALOGY ROOM AT PRESCOTT VALLEY LIBRARY

By John Thorne

NAGS will soon be placing two new books in the Genealogy Room at the Prescott Valley Library. These are donations in memory of two valued members of our society.

"The Great Migration Directory; Immigrants to New England, 1620- 1640" by Robert Charles Anderson, published 2015 by the New England Historic Genealogical Society. This book is donated in memory of Robert Houser. This book is one of the most important genealogical and historical sources ever published for New England! It covers individuals not included in previous Great Migration compendia and lists names of all known to have come to New England during the Great Migration period, 1620- 1640. Each entry provides the name of the head of household, English or European origin (if known), date of migration, principal residences in New England, and the best available sources for additional information for the subject.

These sources may be passenger lists, town records, land grants, letters or diaries, as well as published articles.

"Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques" by George G. Morgan and Drew Smith, published 2014 by McGraw Hill Education. This book is donated in memory of Helena Howell. This book outlines innovative methods to uncover elusive details by using advanced or specialized tools and software programs. The techniques use proven best practices to break through brick walls that have hindered progress. It gives professional advice on formatting a research strategy, understanding the details of what is discovered, keeping careful track of data, analyzing the evidence and developing hypotheses. Real-world case studies demonstrate the systematic procedures presented in this practical guide.

John K. Thorne, NAGS Library Mentor (October 2015)

## **ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A GENEALOGY PROGRAM?**

By Gretchen Hough Eastman

At our last NAGS meeting, several of us were discussing the demise of several Genealogy Programs including Family Tree Maker and the Master Genealogist. We found that we were looking for replacements and we did not know much about them, so I decided to do some research. In asking my friends what program they used, most said they used Legacy. If you have A MAC computer, your choices may be limited. If you want to run the program on an Android or some other device, check the individual websites for specifications.

The secret to finding the Program for you is to look at what it does, and then, decide if that is the way you want to present your Genealogy. What is good for one person, might not be good for you.

Here is what I found with their prices and some additional information from the publishers. All the following programs allow import and export of GEDCOM files. They all allow you to create a Web Page. These reviews are from the software companies. They are listed as the top ten products. **Family Tree Maker (\$69.00)** has been the top program for several years, but has not been updated since 2014 and suspended sales as of

December 31, 2015. The company will support the product until January 1, 2017.

### **Legacy Family Tree 8.0 (\$30.00)**

Pros: In addition to over 20 charts and reports, Legacy is one of the few programs that create research forms. Cons: It is the only one of the programs that doesn't allow web hints, if that matters.

Some of the earlier forms of Legacy are compatible with MAC. Check their website for information.

### **Family Historian (\$50.00)**

Pros: This program has seriously powerful data entry features. You can input details of a person's life in only a few clicks. Cons: The lack of background templates and aesthetic tools make the software's charts best for online publishing and record keeping. It shines when it comes to ease of use and accuracy.

### **Roots Magic (\$30.00)**

Pros: Has highly customized listing options and web hints from genealogy sites to keep large databases organized while growing.

Cons: Some tabs on the tool bar are misleading.

It is a good program, but not the best available.

Roots Magic has **MacBridge**, which allows you to run the program on your MAC. You lose some of the storage and sharing features but it is a useful program for the Mac OS X users.

### **Ancestral Quest (\$30.00)**

Pros: The organizing and listing features make this program good for genealogist with large databases. Cons: the program has issues with catching errors and design.

### **Heridis (\$40.00)**

While Heridis has a few quirks, it also has a slick look and many easily accessible and useful features. It is not compatible with DNA test results.

Heridis has a version for MAC for \$49.00.

### **Family Tree Heritage (\$25.00)**

Pros: This program covers the must-haves of ancestry software. Cons: there is room for improvement with its customizing and publishing features.

### **Brother's Keeper 7 (45.00)**

Charts are very basic, the look is outdated, but it has a great deal of space. If you prefer function instead of form this is a good program.

### **GenBox Family History (\$30.00)**

Pros: If you want a basic genealogy program that allows you to chart, organize and build a database quickly, this is a good candidate. Cons: There are no web-enabled features or problem spotters.



### **WinFamily (\$87.00)**

Pros: This program puts the focus on each individual in the family tree. It allows you to create a highly detailed profile of each person in your family.

Cons: You have to link each relationship manually to ensure all you people are connected in the database. The program is tricky to navigate, but data entry features, such as custom categories that allow you to tailor your database to the way you prefer.

### **Especially for MAC**

If you have a MAC, the genealogy programs increase in Price. Some of the above programs have programs for MAC. Check each website for information. The following are for MAC only.

**MacFamilyTree (\$25.00)** Overall, MacFamilyTree is a solid piece of genealogy software. Its sleek, intuitive design makes it easy to navigate. The charting capabilities are highly customizable and include templates and backgrounds. All of the features, even the showy ones, have their use and pack a strong visual punch. This software would be the best for beginners if it weren't for its lack of error-catching features.

**Reunion 10 (\$89.00)** Reunion genealogy software for MAC creates extensive charts and reports about your family. You can connect to FamilySearch and other online databases to search for family records. This software is easy to navigate with intuitive menus and a clean interface. You won't have to dig through menus and sidebars to find the features you want. Reunion is great for printing custom family tree charts. It has six chart templates and 14 report templates. Some of the charts include a standard pedigree, descendant, timeline or fan chart. This program also generates several documents we rarely see. The Events report shows a chronological list of events for everyone in your family. Additionally, the Multimedia Usage report provides a list of media and sources links to help you catch any unsourced pieces. The On-This-Date report shows information about a person and their family on a specific date.

**GEDitCOM II (\$65.00)** is quite different from the other genealogy software for MAC. This software works best for manipulating GEDCOM files rather than creating charts, family trees and notes like standard genealogy software. It supports GEDCOM 5.5 files, and importing and exporting is easy to do. Plus, you can directly edit any GEDCOM [file](#) you open in this software. It has tools that validate your edits to ensure consistency in your GEDCOM files, which are especially useful if you plan to work with other

genealogists. One of GEDitCOM's advantages is easy linking. The software links people, media and sources together automatically if you add your sources directly to an individual's profile. This feature prevents unlinked sources and media from floating around your database without context. GEDitCOM II is different from most genealogy software for Mac or PC though because it lacks a family or pedigree view. GEDitCOM II is limited in its reporting and publishing features. There are only six basic publications available on this program such as an ancestor, descendant and ahnentafel report, a numbering system for listing direct ancestors. The information in the ahnentafel is customizable if you want to include items like marriage dates and children's names. With a little finesse and some scripting skills, you can create an entire genealogy book. It's not the best for charting, but GEDitCOM II supports a variety of media types, including images, audio and entire movies. The Places feature connects to Google Maps to show notable locations in your family history. However, you can't print reports about these places or show migrations of ancestors like you can with other genealogy software. The Place adviser gives you summarized histories of locations and countries. This is a good way to get quick historical context for the places significant to your ancestry. Although GEDitCOM II doesn't create automatic citations for your sources, but the data-entry process is straightforward and easy to follow. This is important when you're handling enormous amounts of information, so the easier the data-entry fields are to follow, the quicker you can insert the correct information. Plus, correct information allows you to create accurate citations and it gives your genealogical database more depth and credibility.

Again, look at what the program does and decide if that is what you want to do. By the way, I chose Legacy 8 for Windows. The MAC programs did not work on all Apple Computers, so be sure to check the specifications. My husband bought me an inexpensive laptop, just for genealogy.