



# THE BULLETIN

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## Monthly Meetings

### Inside this issue:

1940 Census Update	2
War of 1812 Update	2
Online DB Updates	3
EE Website	3
Educational Ops	3
FHC Mgmt Changes	4
Getting the Biggest	5
More Resources	5
Calendar	6



**April** featured Memoir Writing with Kristen Kaufman, creative writing instructor at Yavapai College. Ms. Kaufman shared tips to begin the writing process with “warm up” exercises and continued with techniques to craft engaging stories using details of the character, setting and time. The hands-on exercises were fun and enlightening.

**May** featured an all day DNA workshop with Bonnie Cook. Ms Cook’s presentation was well received. The sessions started with the basics of what DNA is and moved through how it can help break down brick walls. At this point in time, DNA does not replace current research methodology, but often DNA results can narrow the possibilities.

**June** featured an open discussion with members sharing successes and roadblocks in their recent research. The discussion was lively with suggested further research possibilities offered. July is a “dark” month, no meeting. August features “Citing Your Sources”, October is the workshop and November features Kerry Bartels from NARA.

### Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2011-2012

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 Plugs: Nancy Miller  
 Cemetery: Pat Potter  
 Special Projects: Nancy Miller  
 Member at Large: Marilyn Day  
 Website: Marilyn Day

## Prescott Library Offers 4 Month Genealogy Seminar

The Prescott Library in conjunction with NAGS is sponsoring a four month long genealogy program, presented on the fourth Saturday of the month by NAGS member, Jo Arnspiger. The topic of the first session in May was “How to Get Started”. The

focus of the presentations is geared toward resources available through the Prescott Library as well as other free online resources. The June presentation was on Military Records, specifically the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and the Civil War. WWI and

WWII were mentioned briefly. July will be Vital Records and August will be Citations and some other gems.



## 1940 Census Indexing Update

It has been three months since the release of the 1940 census. The population in 1940 was 132 million people. As of today's date, 74% of the census has been indexed. WOW I believe that is 97.68 million names IN THREE MONTHS. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who has and is participating in this project. Here is a list of the states that are 100% indexed with the index available for searching on familysearch.org. For those of you who enjoy a challenge, on Monday, July 2 the indexers are going for a new record-index 5 million names in one day. Don't be left behind, add your 100 names or whatever you can do. In this endeavor, everyone's help is important. Again a huge thank you.

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona
California	Colorado	Delaware
Florida	Hawaii	Idaho
Indiana	Iowa	Kansas
Louisiana	Maine	Minnesota
Mississippi	Montana	Nebraska
Nevada	New Hampshire	New Mexico
North Dakota	Oklahoma	Oregon
Rhode Island	South Dakota	Utah
Vermont	Virginia	Washington
Wyoming		

## War of 1812 Pension Digitalization Project

The Federation of Genealogical Societies in partnership with Fold3 and the National Archives has sponsored the Pension Preservation Project. The project will digitalize the original pension records from the War of 1812. The images are available for free on the Fold3 website. At this point in time, 3% of the documents have been digitalized. A recent donation of \$135,000 by a private citizen has given the project a much needed shot in the arm. The ISGS, Illinois State Genealogical Society, has also

announced a 2012 Pension Match Challenge; the society will match any contribution (up to the first \$10,000) made before Dec. 31, 2012. Last year NAGS also contributed to this worthy project. Also for any of you who are interested in quilting, the Genea-Quilter members collaborated on a War of 1812 quilt which was raffled at NGS in Cincinnati this past May. As many of you know pension applications are one of the most interesting military records for genealogists. The applicant was required to prove

who the veteran was, who they had married and who their children were in order to receive the pension. Many of these original records may be found in the application papers. If you wanted to order the pension packet from the National Archives, it will cost you \$50.00 and it will be a photocopy of the original documents. How much nicer will it be when those very same documents are available for free as a digital file. Visit the Pension Preservation website to stay updated or make a donation.



**Would you like to become more active in NAGS? We need one more person for the Program Committee. Have some ideas? Contact Raylene Junkins**

## Online Databases—What's New!

As many of you know, the online resources in both Ancestry and FamilySearch change almost daily. At Ancestry alone just in the month of June, 40 new collections were added; 8 for 18th and 19th century Pennsylvania, 7 for New York as well as various War of 1812 and Civil War records just for starters. I was going to list the collections but there

are too many. Go to the link on page 4 to see what is new. Remember you can access FamilySearch from your home computer and the FHC computer lab offers access to Ancestry World free for visitors. As of June 25, 2012 FamilySearch has added 76 new databases covering thirty-four states. The listing can be found on the Ge-

nealogyBlog, link in the Link List on page 4. Also check MyHeritage for new and updated Record Collections. MyHeritage, which includes WorldVitalRecords, was listed as the third most popular genealogy website after Ancestry and FamilySearch, in a survey conducted by the e-zine GenealogyInTime.

## E(vidence) E(xplained) Website Update

In the April Newsletter, Elizabeth Shown-Mills' new website, Evidence Explained was introduced to our readers. Are you confused about how to write that citation for Gramma's family quilt with all the children's birthdates on it? How about those papers you received ten years ago

from your cousin's mother's cousin? Instead of throwing up your hands and walking away, go to the EvidenceExplained website, sign up (free) and then go to the forum section and post your question with as much information as you have about the provenance of the artifact and your attempt at the citation, if you have

gotten that far. You may be surprised at the response you will get, perhaps even from ESM, as well as the explanation of why the citation should be written that way. Genealogist love to share. This is just another example of the generosity of the genealogical community.

## Educational Opportunities

Many of us would love to be able to attend the regional or national conventions held throughout the spring, summer and fall. Unfortunately, living in the west it is more difficult financially to attend these events. With the advent of "webinars" now some of those great sessions are available to us from the comfort of our homes. The SCGS Jamboree held in Burbank, California in June provided five or six

FREE webinars. I had the great fortune to watch Kerry Bartels of NARA present on Military Records. When RootsTech was in Salt Lake City in February, many of the sessions were available FREE via webinars. Monthly the ISGS hosts a Virtual Chapter meeting and the webinar is open to the public in real time. Of course we all are aware of Legacy and Roots-Magic webinars, DearMyrt and Genea-Bloggers. As

more and more people participate, there will be more and more opportunities. Keep up-to-date with webinar offerings by subscribing to [GeneaWebinars](#) as well as your favorite state genealogical society. The other great resource for genealogical education is through the [FamilySearch Learning Center](#). There are far too many choices to list here but I highly recommend exploring and enjoying some great videos.



Are you good at  
"Staging" NAGS has  
the opportunity to  
have a display in the  
Viewerie in the  
Prescott Library.  
Contact Raylene  
Junkins for more  
information

## Family History Center Management Changes

One of the greatest resources for genealogists here in the Prescott area is the Family History Center at 1001 Ruth Street. Over the last five years Dick Hiatt has been the Director and driving force behind the scenes as well as at the helm of the Family History Center. The many jobs Dick performed as Director included liaison with NAGS as a member of the Board, organizer of the monthly classes held at the FHC,

scheduler of personnel to be sure the Center would be able to stay open, often the first contact for a new researcher and always the Go-



to-Guy. As of June 27, 2012, Dick has resigned

from the position of Director and will be taking a well deserved hiatus. There was an informal going away party on the 27th where I saw many familiar faces. Thank you Dick and best wishes to you and Sandra in your next endeavors. Bruce Yeager, also a familiar face at the FHC, will be the new Director. Welcome Bruce and thank you for your service. The FHC will be closed from July 2 through July 15 for summer break.



**Send a short two or three paragraph bio and surnames researched to the Bulletin editor to be included in the next issue**

Going Away Party for Dick and Sandra Hiatt



Incoming Director Bruce Yeager



Welcome New Members

**Tara Fort:** facilitates personal memoir writing.  
**Carol Lang,** researching Lang, McCracken, Comstock and Kelly.  
**Kathy Siebert,** researching Siebert, Thompson and Lemmons.

Links in this Newsletter	
1812 Pension Preservation	<a href="http://fgs.org/1812/">http://fgs.org/1812/</a>
1940 Census Indexing @FS	<a href="https://familysearch.org/1940census/">https://familysearch.org/1940census/</a>
Ancestry Recently Updated DB	<a href="http://www.ancestry.com/cs/reccol/default">http://www.ancestry.com/cs/reccol/default</a>
GenealogyBlog	<a href="http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=19678">http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=19678</a>
MyHeritage.com	<a href="http://www.worldvitalrecords.com/us-databases.aspx">http://www.worldvitalrecords.com/us-databases.aspx</a>
GenealogyInTime	<a href="http://www.genealogyintime.com">http://www.genealogyintime.com</a>
Northern New York Newspapers	<a href="http://news.nnyln.net/">http://news.nnyln.net/</a>
Connecticut	<a href="http://www.cthistoryonline.org/">http://www.cthistoryonline.org/</a>
Chronicling America LOC	<a href="http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/">http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/</a>
Virginia Memory Project	<a href="http://www.virginiamemory.com/">http://www.virginiamemory.com/</a>
GeneaWebinars	<a href="http://blog.geneawebinars.com/">http://blog.geneawebinars.com/</a>
FamilySearch Learning Center	<a href="https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html">https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html</a>

## Getting the Biggest Bang for Your Buck

“In these tough economic times” is a phrase we hear often in regard to many aspects of our lives these days. In that vein I would like to suggest some ways you can make your genealogy dollar stretch a little farther. Supporting local or distant genealogy societies can be a win-win situation for everyone. Many of the forward thinking societies now offer member only access to some specialized databases from your home computer. Here are several I have found to be very worthwhile. Locally, the West Valley Genealogical Society in Surprise, Arizona provides access to Fold3. Annual registration is \$35.00. A bit further afield, the Southern California Genealogical Society provides access to NewspaperArchives and LA Times Obits plus a handful of other local interest databases. SCGS also provides

unique and interesting webinars for their membership. Membership also gives you a registration discount to the annual Jamboree. Annual dues are \$35.00. The New England Historic and Genealogical Society probably provides the best access to records of any I have found. If you have New England ancestors you may want to check it out. Membership is \$80.00 for NEHGS but includes the quarterly publication, access to historic records, past publications and discounts on items in the online Book Store. The Godfrey Genealogy Library also provides access to many resources not found anywhere else on the Internet. For a \$45 annual “red” membership you receive access to seven different databases, The Connecticut Cemetery Project database which contains gravestone

information on the 550 cemeteries of Connecticut, plus the digitalized collection of the Godfrey Library itself. For a bit more, \$80 for a “gold” subscription you also have access to NewspaperArchives, Accessible Archives, 19th Century Newspapers and Early American Newspapers. If your research is centered in New England this may be another opportunity to gain access to a large assortment of records. Check in your area of research to see if any of the state or county societies might offer access to subscription databases as part of their benefits. Sometimes the county or state libraries offer access to patrons and all that is needed is a library card. By supporting those societies and libraries you help them and you help yourself.



**October is just  
around the corner.  
The Workshop  
Committee is  
looking for  
Presenters for the  
All Day Workshop.  
Contact Dick Hiatt  
for more information**

## Bang for No Bucks—More Online Resources

To continue with stretching our genealogy dollar, I encourage you to check out some of these sites which provide access to historic records at no cost. The [Northern New York Historic Newspaper](#) collection consists of a diverse selection of newspapers, all searchable. [The Connecticut Online History](#) website provides access to historic

records and photographs which can add so much to your family history. Another to remember is the [Chronicling America Newspaper Collection](#) at the Library of Congress website. The [Virginia Memory Project](#) through the Virginia Library also provides access to historic documents and photographs. These are just a few of the bargains available

to the smart researcher. Check the websites of the major libraries in your area of research for more ideas. I would love to hear from anyone who has found what they consider to be a “jewel”. Send me an email with the link and I will include it in the next newsletter.

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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**NAGS**



Website: <http://nags.weebly.com>

Check out Northern Arizona Genealogical Society on Facebook

**This Society has been formed and incorporated for charitable purposes including activities (stated in greater detail in Article IV of the Society Articles of Incorporation):**

- 1. To foster the education of the public in areas of genealogy, genealogical research and family history preparations through Society meetings, workshops, programs, demonstrations and classes open to the general public.**
- 2. To publish a quarterly Society newsletter.**
- 3. To maintain a collection of genealogical and historical research materials, obtained through donations or by purchases. These materials may be maintained by the Society at related nonprofit organizations and/or public libraries.**
- 4. To collaborate with other not for profit organizations and/or educational institutions to conduct activities that will further interest in genealogy.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Bylaws of the Northern Arizona Genealogical Society, Article 2: Purposes

Calendar of Events		
July 2012	NAGS Monthly Meeting	<b>No meeting this month</b>
July 2—15	Prescott FHC closed for summer break	
July 16-28	Mesa FHC Closed for summer break	
July 14	AzGab Board Meeting	Prescott 1:30 location tba
July 28	Prescott Library Genealogy 10-11:30	Using Vital Records and What They Are
July 31—Aug 3	BYU Family History & Genealogy Conf	BYU Salt Lake City, Utah
Aug 18	NAGS meeting	Carol Brown—Citing Your Sources
Aug 14	Webinar 6pm AZ time	Major Midwestern Archives & their Records
Aug 22	Webinar 2pm AZ time	5 C's for Success in Genealogy Today
Aug 25	Prescott Library—Genealogy 10 –11:30	The How and Why of Citations
Sept 8	All Day Seminar—Irish Genealogy	Irish Cultural Center, Phoenix
Sept 15	NAGS Monthly Meeting	TBA

Huge thank you and welcome to our incoming Board Members. Everyone from last year remains this year except Ernie Wiegleb. Doris Egge has agreed to be the Historian for 2012-2013. Welcome Doris, you have already made great strides in getting the records organized. I apologize for this being on the last page but I wanted to be sure you read EVERYTHING!! :)