

July 2014  
Volume 31, No.1



## THE BULLETIN

## NAGS-AZINE

### Your Northern Arizona Genealogical Society's Newsletter



article I wrote a few years ago on my own personal search for my ancestors and thought it might be interesting for some of you. I've had fun putting it together and hope you enjoy reading it!

Lisa Elvin Staltari

### *Editor's Message:*

Happy Summer!

Hope your summer is going well and that you are using the extra day light hours for some sort of genealogy work! (Although most of us need more night hours!)

This month I will be focusing on cemetery websites and how to maximize your genealogical research. For those of you waiting with bated breath, I will reveal my husband Chris's DNA results. We have an excellent article from Barbara Wich on NARA, and I have a profile of our dear treasurer and long time NAGS member Virginia Grundvig. I also am including an



### Welcome to our New Members!

Kathleen Cox  
Frank and Coleen Scott  
Sandra Armstrong  
Earl Freise  
Myrna Benson  
Kirby Trew

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



JULY 2014

Here we are in July and the year is half over, what have you accomplished in your genealogy research? I have been doing, as we love to say, some “real” genealogy in searching for what happened to three brothers of a great-great grandfather. To accomplish this I have been searching newspapers online and then ordering death certificates, divorce papers, funeral home records and incompetency court cases. Certainly not the instant gratification of just doing an online search, but it really fills in all the pieces in this family.

We have had a very successful quarter of programs. The April programs was a round-table discussion lead by Barbara Wich on “What do those archaic terms mean”, I think we all learned something from this one. May was a change of venue as we met at the Prescott Valley Public Library for a presentation on “Using Google Earth for your genealogy” by Jo Arnsperger. The June program found us at the Peregrine Bookstore for a book signing by member Sharon Atkins on her newly published book “The P.E.O. Founders’ Scrapbook” and she presented a program on using Ephemera to enhance our genealogy.

Just a reminder that we will be dark in July (no program); August will be a talk by Donald G. Godfrey, Professor Emeritus of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and LaDawn Dalton, of Sharlot Hall Library and Archives, will present “Writing, Preservation and Oral History.” See details later in the “Bulletin.” September will feature our NAGSzine editor Lisa Staltari teaching us about “Researching in Quebec”. Plan to attend these great programs. We are working on a Genealogy Event for October so reserve Sat., Oct, 25<sup>th</sup> now. If you would like to help with this program please contact me.

It is with sadness that I inform you of the death on June 28, 2014 of John Randolph “Randy” Calvert, the husband of Carol Hubert our hospitality chairperson. Our thoughts and prayers are with her in her time of loss. You may read his obituary in the July 2, *Prescott Daily Courier*.

## National Archives & Records Administration (NARA)

by Barb Wich

*“History is like the kitchen sink,” ... “Everything goes round and round until eventually, sooner or later, most of it goes down the waste pipe. Things are forgotten. Things are mislaid. Things are covered up. Sometimes, it’s simply a matter of neglect.”*

Alan Bradley - *Speaking From Among the Bones* p.270

Records are needed for a society to function. Their primary purpose is for the operational, fiscal, administrative, and legal needs of an institution with secondary value to genealogists, scholars, or lawyers for their archival /historical value. It was not until 1934 that the United States established and funded a National Archives to collect and preserve the historically valuable records of the Federal Government. Archivists identify, select, preserve & make available documentary materials that have enduring value to an organization or to the public served by their mission because they recognize the value of a historical perspective for daily operations. Archival materials are never explicitly created for an archive — they grow as part of record keeping in the normal course of business. Only at a later date are records judged to be of archival interest and collected. Archival records are arranged to reflect their original purpose and are usually maintained just as they were kept by the agencies that created them. Documents are kept in record groups (RG) which are generally from a single department or bureau. RGs are measured in cubic feet (cf). A legal size file drawer holds two cf of paper.

Archives are invaluable for their holdings of primary and secondary original documents. NARA preserves billions of federal agency records in more than 500 RGs dating from 1775 to the present. Think of all the possible ways your ancestors may have interacted with the Federal Government. Unfortunately, the holdings of any archive are not easily searched by the uninitiated. There is no master subject or name index and the vast majority are not digitized. Finding aids provide a general description of contents within a RG. There are multiple finding aids available on-line through [archives.gov](https://www.archives.gov). Locally, Yavapai College Library has a collection of Government Document Resources - check the card catalog under National Archives & Records Administration for their holdings. Exploring the finding aids will focus your research efforts. In order to ‘find’ an ancestor’s Civil War military records, one has to understand how archives are organized by RG and series.

Level of detail	Example
Repository	NARA
Record Group	Military - Department of War
Series	Civil War Pension - Union
File Unit	NY 73rd volunteers
Item	Charles P. McClung

Before visiting any archive or library, research the facility and their holdings to evaluate their potential to meet your needs. Verify their holdings (some materials may be stored off-site), hours of operation, location, rules of use, costs, etc. Do not hesitate to contact the facility in advance of your visit or to ask for assistance in finding needed documents while there. Copy all materials of interest you locate in your search. Because travel is expensive consider ordering pertinent copies from the facility or hiring a local researcher.

NARA does not hold probate or vital records. The good news is that NARA has compacts with a number of vendors who are digitizing selected records of interest to family history researchers. The principal records of genealogical interest at NARA are passenger arrivals, census, naturalization, land, and military records. Fold3.com, Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, and ProQuest (HeritageQuest Online) are available in our community at no charge. Some NARA collections have been indexed and are available in print form, notably ship lists. Success in family research depends on the discovery, evaluation, and documentation of records to identify a specific individual (spelling variations!) at a specific place during a specific time. Where was he/she when, and how do you know that? NARA can provide a wealth of detail about a person's interactions with the Federal Government. As with all riches, discovery will require energy and effort. Do not forget library and other archival resources for local history or background information on specific ethnic groups, time periods, diseases, social norms, etc. Hence research — an attempt to grasp a glimmer of the worlds our ancestors inhabited; the human condition beyond vital records.

"When looking at the past, it is difficult to understand the finer points of people's lives. It is hard to know the exact sequence of dates that were never written down and to know the intricacies of events which we have not lived through ourselves but only viewed from the distances of time and space. We view and interpret the past through the lens of our own time."  
Albany Institute of History & Art, "Traders & Culture: Colonial Albany," August 2007.

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#### Bibliography:

Anne Bruner Eales & Robert M. Kvasnicka, editors, *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States*, 3rd edition (Washington, D.C., National Archives and Records Administration, 2000).

Gregory S. Hunter, *Developing and Maintaining Practical Archives, A How-To-Do-It Manual*, 2nd edition (New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., 2003).

Julie Miller, CG, "Navigating the NARA Regional Archives," *NGS Magazine*, Volume 39, Number 2, April-June 2013, pp. 22-27.

Laura Schmidt, "A first-timer's guide to archival research," *NGS Magazine*, Volume 39, Number 2, April-June 2013, pp. 18-21.

Census & More - <http://stevemorse.org/FederalLand> - <http://glorerecords.blm.gov>

State Archives - <http://www.statearchivists.org/states.htm>



## *Unlocking the Cemetery's Secrets*

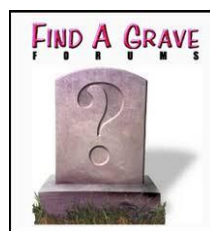
*by Lisa Elvin Staltari*

Most seasoned genealogists know the value of a good headstone, and cemetery records. For those just starting out it may not appear so valuable. Obviously, if you know where your ancestor was buried and have their death certificate, the headstone is just a nice addition. The deeper you go into genealogy however, the less likely you will know where your ancestors are buried, and even when they died. A fabulous genealogy teacher once told me, "unless you make them dead, you cannot finish the story, Lisa." It has stayed with me--and so no matter what I do in my research, the urge to finish the story stays with me. Consider this: After you have accumulated all the censuses, the children, the marriages and the employment information, what happened to them at the end? Did they end up somewhere else, and why? We have all searched for ancestors for a long time only to discover that they died in a different county, city, state and sometimes even country. The cemetery records and the gravestones give us

the end--and from there we can piece together (perhaps) the rest of the story.



In my first baby steps, I worked with a site called [www.interment.net](http://www.interment.net). It was (and is) a site that is easy to navigate and is (in some cases) a complete cemetery transcription and done alphabetically. It's a good place to start (and one that I refer to still).



The next site I gravitated to is called [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com). This site (at last count) has 166 MILLION headstones listed. In many cases, it has a picture, and sometimes biographical information. There is also the potential to link family members in various cemeteries. Where there is a memorial and no picture, you can request that a volunteer in that area go and take a picture. The volunteer takes the picture, uploads to that memorial and you are alerted by email when it is done. It's truly a remarkable thing to have people from all over the world help you build your family tree. Once you are familiar with the site, and are a registered user (it's free to join), you can build your own memorials for your family members who have passed away. One of the things I have started to do is when I have a death certificate that lists the cemetery, I go on the find a grave site, search for the cemetery in that city, and when it pops up, I search for my relative in there. If no listing has yet been posted, I put in the information that I have, create the memorial, click on the "take a picture" and sometimes within hours (this is rare but it does happen!) I get a picture that not only confirms that this is my person, but also tells me something I didn't know. Recently, I was looking for my Great Aunt Ella Andrews in San Diego, I finally



secured her death information (through an obituary, another excellent resource for tracking the cemetery name) a volunteer not only took the picture, but sent me the map and the location of the gravestone so it would be easy for me to find when I visit there. I have also taken pictures for Find a Grave here in Prescott, and in Quebec when I was visiting. A couple years ago, I worked with my hometown church in Quebec and went through all their records, and posted every death and any pictures I had. In this example, I actually created the Cemetery listing and then added to the information. It was a HUGE task but one that remains one of my most rewarding.



The next site I began using was a newer one, called Billion Graves.com This one is truly amazing as it uses the newest technology of GPS to track the headstones down. It requires the volunteer to take pictures with their smart phone with the



GPS turned on. When they upload the pictures, the GPS location of the headstone is imbedded in the photograph. When someone wants to visit a headstone, they will have the exact location in the cemetery (which as many of you know, can be a feat onto itself to find the only gravestone you need). For genealogical work, this site is nicely laid out and the search functions are very good as well..

Another gravestone resource I have used are the gravestone.org sites. Not all the states have one, but those that do, provide YET another resource. Arizonagravestones.org is a truly

fabulous site, and I have used it time and again to confirm information.

And still more--if your cemetery is not listed on any of the websites we've just looked at, try simply googling the cemetery itself. I have been lucky many times by simply finding the website for the cemetery, and lo and behold they have a listing of their records. You can also access the county/town websites to see if their historical society has catalogued any of the cemeteries.

However you do it, the most important thing is to finish the story for your ancestor!

### *Spotlight on: Virginia Grundvig*



Virginia is our Society's Treasurer--and a wonderful and generous soul as well. We are blessed to have her work and do so much for NAGS. Virginia was born in Maywood, California and moved to Alaska when she was 10. She attended Brigham Young University and met her husband John while she was a student. John, worked for the V.A. Hospital and in 1979, they were transferred to Prescott. Hiking, camping and backpacking in the Grand Canyon were among their interests. Virginia enjoys nature and reading.

Her interest in genealogy began when she was 8 years old when her mother showed her a pedigree chart going back to her great grandparents. After her four children were raised, her fascination and interest in her past led her to begin her own genealogy research. She also took a genealogy Class at Yavapai College with Peggy McGee

## Ancestry DNA: The Results are In....

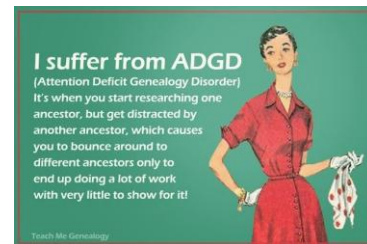


Last issue I talked about my husband's DNA test experience. This issue I share the results. Remember that this DNA tests only the male line, and because my husband is from Italian roots, we knew we would find a great deal of Italy-but we were interested to know the Western European and other small portions. My husband's father is from two Italian parents--so imagine our surprise to see that somewhere it wasn't all Italia! We will be testing his maternal line soon--this is a Non Italian line, with some German and some Native American Indian (we are told!) blood. We shall see. The great part about the service is being able to be matched with other users--and finding a first or second cousin (which we have!) The DNA world of genealogy continues to expand and intensify--I can't wait to see what they come up with next!

REGION	APPROXIMATE AMOUNT
<b>Africa</b>	< 1%
Trace Regions ?	< 1%
<b>Africa North</b>	< 1%
<b>Europe</b>	94%
Italy/Greece	49%
Europe West	39%
Trace Regions ?	6%
Ireland	2%
Great Britain	2%
Iberian Peninsula	< 1%
European Jewish	< 1%
Europe East	< 1%
<b>West Asia</b>	5%
Trace Regions ?	5%
Caucasus	5%



## Genealogy Grins





From Amazon: **Orphan Train** is a gripping story of friendship and second chances from Christina Baker Kline, author of *Bird in Hand* and *The Way Life Should Be*. Penobscot Indian Molly Ayer is close to “aging out” out of the foster care system. A community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping Molly out of juvie and worse...As she helps Vivian sort through her possessions and memories, Molly learns that she and Vivian aren’t as different as they seem to be. A young Irish immigrant orphaned in New York City, Vivian was put on a train to the Midwest with hundreds of other children whose destinies would be determined by luck and chance. Molly discovers that she has the power to help Vivian find answers to mysteries that have haunted her for her entire life – answers that will ultimately free them both.

Rich in detail and epic in scope, *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline is a powerful novel of upheaval and resilience, of unexpected friendship, and of the secrets we carry that keep us from finding out who we are.

## *NAGS Happenings*

We wish to thank **Bruce and Vernie Jaegar** and their wonderful service to our organization these many years. We wish them happiness in their new home in Texas! We will miss you! A special thank you to **Lee Campbell** for his time as Library coordinator. You will be missed!

We would like to welcome our new secretary **Sue Williams**. Welcome Aboard! Thank you for your service! We would also like to thank **Valene Woolridge** who is now our Historian, after her tenure of Secretary. **Brenda Sell** will now handle publicity and facebook. Thank you Brenda! **Sharon Atkins** will be our Library Coordinator. Thank you Sharon! And last, but not least, a big welcome to **Kent Evans** as FHC Liaison.





## The Discovery

*by Lisa Elvin Staltari*

The real beginning of any family tree is shrouded in age old mysteries that have probably never been truly discovered. However, we can, if we are lucky, have a starting point to trace our tree. Each branch of a family tree is unique and multi layered—and there can be twigs and leaves that we will never unearth.

My Grandma Paulina Andrews was a true character. She was born and raised in Danville, Quebec Canada before she married my Grandpa Elvin who was a recent immigrant to Canada. I always felt that my grandma was a bit haughty and holier than thou—she was forever taking my grandpa to task. She would speak of her pioneer blood and how we had been in this area for generations. I didn't know why, all I knew is that my grandpa Elvin was a wonderful and loving grandpa to me—we truly connected. So I spent most of my genealogical research doing my grandpa's Scottish roots. I figured that my grandma's people had come over from Canada, with a “stop” in the U.S. After my father died, I was asked to see if my daughter Samantha would qualify for membership in a new chapter forming of the Children of the American Revolution. I promised I would look up my husband's American tree, because of course I did not have any American roots that deep.

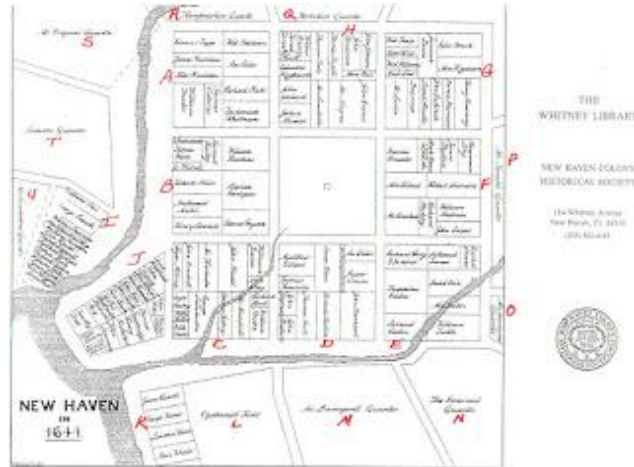
I sat there one Sunday night, less than 2 weeks after my father died, and opened up my computer software. All of a sudden a mystical voice (perhaps my dad's?) told me to dig up that old letter of grandma's that I had kept in some file to be looked at later. And so I did. I read the entry that said Elisha Andrews, loyalist, came over from New Hampshire to Danville, Quebec in 1804... And that's as much as my grandma knew (I think!). I had read that passage years ago and thought nothing of it—thinking they had come off the boat in Boston and ended up in New Hampshire. Well, they came off a boat and landed in Boston...but it was, as I soon discovered, much, much earlier.

As I wove the tree upwards, within two hours I had established that William Andrews had come from England in 1635, and landed in Boston. I was dumbfounded. Here was the answer to this strange pull of America all my life. As I read more about this new 10th Great Grandfather of mine, I realized just how great his contribution had been.

William Andrews was born in England sometime around 1605. William, his wife Mary and their three sons, William, Samuel and Nathan sailed from Hampstead England on April 6, 1635 on the James Ship, whose master was William Cooper. William was a skilled carpenter and used these skills to his advantage in building a new life in what must have been a very challenging (although ripe with potential) new land. William and his family didn't stay for very long in Boston however. Reverend Thomas Hooker and others were not content with the settlement at Boston, and so they went looking for a new location for his community of followers. I am fairly confident that William went on the expedition with Hooker and the other

leaders. He followed Reverend Thomas Hooker to a new unchartered place in Connecticut—which they called New Haven. I had never stopped to think of the NAME New Haven...until I realized that for them, it was truly a NEW HAVEN.

He followed Reverend Hooker to this new land, and on June 4, 1639 he signed the now famous Quinnipiac Agreement, where 63 people signed this Plantation Covenant. I looked up the founders of



New Haven, and there he was. He was given a track of land in the first land division in 1640.

His home was in the part of New Haven that came to be called East Haven or Southend. He used his skill as a carpenter to build the New Haven meeting house and at least one bridge. He also kept what is known as an “ordinary” or hotel in the 1640s. Active in community and military affairs, he was a sergeant and a lieutenant in the Artillery Company until 1653. By the 1660s, he was a town elder, and was selected a Townsman. He remarried the Widow Anna Tapp Gibbard in 1665 at the age of 60 or so. As late as 1669, William was on the committee to set the boundary between New Haven and Branford. By 1676, he passed away at East Haven.

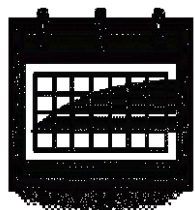
As I worked on getting to know this William Andrews, it occurred to me how profound his impact had been, not only on New Haven, but through his sons, grandchildren and generations to come his descendants are found through the United States and Canada. At last count, my tree encompasses 22,000 plus descendants.

Through the next 10 generations, the Andrews lineage of which I am a part, continued on from son to son, until my Grandma Paulina Andrews, my father Robert Elvin, and then me Lisa Elvin Staltari.

I sat there and thought about the road that had led me to him, and how I wished my dad had lived long enough for me to find this out. Then I realized that he probably was already guiding me, and that this was my true spiritual inheritance from him. The knowledge that I had finally come home. It also occurred to me that for most of my life I had lived but a stone's throw from that original Andrews settlement at New Haven. When I googled my home town to New Haven, it said it was a mere 400 miles away—about a 7 hour drive. All this time and I never even suspected.

From those beginnings I kept verifying and gathering proof of my findings. It became clear to me at that time that my grandma's "noblesse oblige" probably had roots in this knowledge of how "old school" her family had been—even if they found themselves in this new country of Canada, and the little hamlet of Danville, Quebec, Canada. You just never can tell what you will discover when you start climbing your own family tree!

# GENEALOGY CALENDER OF EVENTS



## July 2014-September 2014

July 29 – August 1, 2014

### **BYU Family History & Genealogy Conference**

Provo, Utah

The annual Brigham Young University genealogy conference offers more than 100 classes with topics geared toward beginner, intermediate and expert family historians.

August 1–2, 2014

### **. Midwestern Roots Family History & Genealogy Conference**

Indianapolis, Indiana

This biannual two-day conference presented by the Indiana Historical Society features national, regional and local presentations on a number of relevant genealogy and family history topics.

August 3–8, 2014

### **GRIP on the Road**

Orchard Lake, Michigan

Four in-depth genealogical courses with levels ranging from intermediate to advanced are offered at this week-long traveling genealogical institute arm of the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh.

July 27 - August 1, 2014

### **International Conference on Jewish Genealogy**

Salt Lake City, Utah

This annual genealogy conference, sponsored by

the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, offers a great line-up of speakers, special events, programs, tours and resources, all available for genealogists from beginner to expert.

August 23, 2014

### **Northern Arizona Genealogical Society**

Monthly Meeting

To be held at the Sharlot Hall Archives, 115 S. McCormick Street, Prescott

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (1:30 pm for networking and socializing)

Speakers: Donald G. Godfrey and LaDawn Dalton. "Writing, Preservation and Oral History." Dr. Godfrey will talk about writing and preservation methods and Ms. Dalton will share some available oral history and provide us a tour of the Sharlot Hall Library and Archive. Godfrey, is Professor Emeritus of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication; Dalton is Assistant Archivist at Sharlot Hall Museum.

August 27–30, 2014

### **Federation of Genealogical Societies National Conference**

San Antonio, Texas

The FGS conference is for genealogists of all levels of experience and spotlights management workshops for organizational leadership training, genealogical lectures by nationally recognized speakers and regional experts, and exhibitors providing access to genealogical materials and supplies.

September 20, 2014

### **Northern Arizona Genealogical Society**

Monthly Meeting

Family History Center

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (1:30 pm for networking and socializing)

Speaker: :Lisa Elvin Staltari

Topic: Quebec Genealogy -Unearthing those French and English roots!



## **Membership Information**

### **Northern Arizona Genealogical Society (NAGS)**

(Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Genealogy Experience Level:

Beginner: \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate: \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced: \_\_\_\_\_ Professional: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the surnames you are researching, along with locations and time periods:

Example: Bowen Erie County, PA 1840-1890

Please check any committee(s) on which you might be willing to serve:

AZGAB Liaison: \_\_\_\_ Cemetery: \_\_\_\_ Historian: \_\_\_\_ Hospitality: \_\_\_\_ Library: \_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to teach a class at a seminar, meeting or workshop? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please list your topics of choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Do we have your permission to include your phone and/or e-mail on our membership roster to be distributed on request to members only? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail this form and your check for annual membership (January – December)*

**\$15 for individual membership; \$25 for family membership**

**Payable to:**

**Northern Arizona Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 695, Prescott, AZ 86302**