



***OCTOBER 2016, Volume 29, No. 8***

**Meetings are held at the LDS Church at 1001 Ruth Street, Prescott, Arizona on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month with the exception of December. 1:30 pm Social Time; 2:00 pm Meeting Time**

**Up Coming Programs:**

**October 29:** The Family History Conference will be held at The Tempe Institute of Religion on the ASU Campus, 1000 South McCallister Ave, Tempe AZ, and sponsored by Mesa AZ FamilySearch Library. This year's conference will feature a keynote address by James Tanner, a friend to our conference and respected family history guru. The theme is "Putting It All Together" and provides a wide variety of over 50 class choices for all types of learners, from beginners to the most advanced genealogists. Registration is required and has begun - for more information go to: [mesarfhc.org](http://mesarfhc.org)

***November 26 - Open Meeting: Bring your "brick wall" or your success story to share with everyone.***

***December 10 - Human Hair Art, presented by Debra Mathews, Sharlot Hall Docent and Hair Art Specialist*** There is no exact date that can be pinpointed as to when and where hair art began, but it is known to have flourished in Victorian times and can be traced back to the 12th century. Many pieces were for memorial purposes; however, this art form was also used as a keepsake of a loved one before cameras were invented. Hair was a token of love in these times as well as a remembrance of someone who passed away. The tradition of giving a lock of hair goes back hundreds, and even thousands, of years and can be traced to different cultures as well as different time periods.

## **Officers and Committee Chairman**

President: Nita Freer  
Vice President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Carol Hubert  
Secretary: Sue Williams

### Committee Chairmen

AzGAB: 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,  
Special Projects: Nancy Miller  
Social Media: [www.nagsprescott.org](http://www.nagsprescott.org)  
Sherry Kramer

Contact us at

**NORTHERN ARIZONA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 695 Prescott, AZ 86302

## Presidents Message



Hello fellow NAGS members, I am honored to have been asked to be your President through your next election. It is a job I do not take lightly. As in all organizations, there are always two groups - active and passive members. I was of the latter until it was pointed out that NAGS has too few volunteers and the implications of what that could mean for any society. We still have the position of Vice President open, for example. We can prosper only with the help of the entire society. We have a committed Board of Officers and Chairpersons who have been and will continue to work hard for you providing educational and research opportunities. However, there comes a time when new people and ideas are very much appreciated. There is a place for each and every one of you to help the society move forward. Please consider a few hours a month helping your society.

I hail from Southern California. I was born in the "LA" area, living a couple miles from Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, Orange Co. Anyone recall when the parking lot was dirt and free? I do. The family moved to San Diego Co. when I was young and that is where I call home. My husband of 32 years and I moved to Prescott in 2004. We have two adult children who also live in Prescott. Moms branch of the family came to Prescott early. Grandpa had Tuberculous after WWI and was advised to move to Prescott (from Arkansas). He lived at Ft. Whipple and got well! That was the spawning of many family members living all over Arizona. My Aunt & Uncle are buried at Pioneer Cemetery 30 feet from our beloved Hotshots.

I was heavily involved with the San Diego Genealogical Society, and served in various committee positions and at their private library, before the new SD public library was built downtown. They now house the collection. I worked in the broadcast research and marketing field for a San Diego company who served radio stations nation wide. I also volunteered in various organizations and my most important work was raising two great kids. In Prescott I served as Vice President of the Mountain Club HOA, and headed or assisted in most of their community functions. I have also been a fiduciary

since 1994, managing a family trust. My husband and I also had a food business for 3 years before it's dismiss in 2008.

I have several goals for our society including updating our website (in progress), as it is an important introduction to NAGS, Re-vise and utilize our Facebook presence more effectively (in progress), add genealogy support classes, a national speaker seminar, revise the By-Laws, and so much more. I also wonder if there is enough interest in a society hosted trip to Salt Lake City Family History Library for a whole week of research in 2017. Wanna go?

I look forward to the coming year with a host of great programming, and fellowship with other NAGS. Please feel free to communicate with me or other members of the board your desires for our society.

Nita Freer  
President

### ***BEGINNERS CORNER:***

Are You Planning on Visiting a Cemetery NEXT Summer? If So, you need to plan ahead..... Obviously the first thing you need is a list of the cemeteries with the names and dates of deceased family members that are buried in those cemeteries. Search online for the name and location of a cemetery you want to visit to find out as much as possible about it before leaving for your visit. Find a Grave is a good place to start.

Do your research because not all cemeteries are alike. For example, at some cemeteries, you can walk into the sexton's building where employees can look up names of your deceased relatives on a computer, give you a map of the cemetery, and circle the locations of headstones. At other cemeteries you may have to contact a city or county office for cemetery information. That information may or may not be digitized.

Some small family cemeteries may be on unpaved country roads. A GPS is valuable in helping you navigate but sometimes an old-fashioned map and local directions will get you to that hidden cemetery. Sometimes, you find more just walking around the cemetery. Carry with you a small bag of tools to each cemetery, including a water-filled sprayer bottle, a squeegee, a plastic brush, grass clippers and bug spray.

A number of years ago, one genealogist visited Cochise, Arizona which was the last known residence of her great-grandfather. Cochise consisted of a little country store and not much else. They inquired at the store about any old cemeteries in the area. They were directed down a rough dirt road to a tiny cemetery surrounded by a wrought-iron fence. The few tombstones were hidden by four foot high weeds. Grass clippers allowed them to make their way to each of the dozen graves looking for an ancestor. The brush came in handy to beat away the three-inch grasshoppers and to dust off the tombstones to at last reveal her great-grandfather's grave as well an unknown great-great uncle's grave.

Headstones are often carved of porous material, such as limestone, sandstone, marble and granite. When exposed to the elements, the older stones will crack and become brittle. Use of improper materials speeds the headstones' deterioration.

Do not use detergents, cleaning products, etc. to clean stones. Online sources have tips for proper cleaning of headstones. Take a good camera to get an excellent photo of the headstone. Some cell phones can take high quality photos but may not get the resolution that you want and need for this project. Watch for shadows, grass covering a date (use clippers to cut grass away), and favorable light. Rubbing the tombstone with white chalk, may make it more legible. Using your camera's flash can often enhance your photo. Take photos of other tombstones close by family members, especially if they have the same surname even if you don't know how they may be related to you. It may save you a trip back to the cemetery or can be valuable clues.

Most of all, wear a good pair of shoes. Uneven ground and gopher holes can be dangerous, so leave the flip-flops and sandals for another day. Enjoy this adventure into the past as you find and then honor those of your family that have gone before you.

### **LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER**

**Did you come to the last NAGS meeting** and hear the talk of Bonnie McCulley on the Witchcraft and the Trials in Salem? If you did not It was a great program.

For more information on New England Witchcraft 1692, Bonnie McCulley recommended watching the 1985 film "Three Sovereigns for Sarah." This sad history of the three Towne sisters caught up in the webs of bitter recriminations and spectral evidence is available on DVD through the Yavapai County Library

system. Victor Pisano filmed on location at historical sites in eastern Massachusetts including the Rebecca Nurse home with its reconstructed meeting house. One can feel the desolation of living at the edge of a wilderness beset by French and Indian raids along with Puritan attitudes towards Baptists and Quakers as well as towards their neighbors and ministers. The Puritans were a contentious people. "**Spectral evidence** refers to testimony that the accused person's spirit or **spectral** shape appeared to the witness in a dream at the time the accused person's physical body was at another location." In league with the devil - torturing the witnesses in their spectral forms. . . the witchcraft hysteria spread like a contagion. In the end, nineteen innocent people hanged after the Court of Oyer and Terminer judges found them guilty based on spectral evidence. Giles Cory, an elderly man, was pressed to death over a few days time when he would not plead. In this era just being imprisoned could result in death. The witch hysteria tore the Puritan society apart . "Three Sovereigns for Sarah" shows the pre-trial hearings of the elderly Towne sisters - Rebecca Nurse, Mary Easty, and Sarah Cloyce. You see the fate of those accused of, but who would not confess to, witchcraft.

And IF you really want to explore those third generation Puritans in Salem, Salem Village, Andover, Boston, and other New England communities, then tackle Stacy Schiff's *The Witches - Salem, 1692* (New York, Little Brown and Company) 2015. She explores the now remote, confusing, convoluted politics, stresses, and actual physical threats which plagued New England during that time. The absent charter; the missing governors; land disputes; litigations; ministers on one side of the issue of spectral evidence - or was that on both sides, and the poor people who suffered through the tortures of accusations, arrest, prison (pay for your stay), and finally the trials that led to the horrific outcomes. I wonder what we would have done when the devil came to destroy our covenanted world?

*Submitted by Barbara Wich*

Here is the link for Brandlyn's talk on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNUrs8efAjQ>

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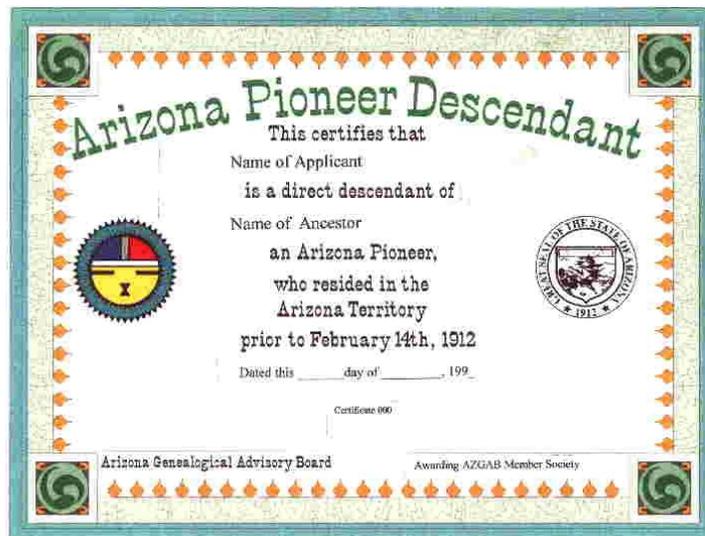
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Preview YouTube video Photography of the American Civil War

## AZGAB

**AzGAB**, what is it you might ask? AzGAB is an acronym for Arizona Genealogical Advisory Board, a state-wide organization for genealogist and genealogical societies. It meets every other month, usually in Phoenix however NAGS hosted them in July, meeting at the LDS Church. Its purpose: Promoting Genealogy and History by addressing the educational needs and interests of the Arizona genealogical community and the general public through cooperation between member societies and individuals. Presently there are twelve member Societies and numerous individual members. AzGAB gives members the ability of sharing ideas and getting out information on meetings, seminars, projects.

They have: **The Speaker's Directory**, which gives information on possible speakers for societies. **The Arizona Pioneer Descendant Certificate** which can be presented to resided in Arizona Territory prior to statehood, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1912.



A **Calendar of Events** to let you know what is going on whether a meeting, seminar, even genealogy book sales. **Arizona Projects & Publications Registry** - a project that lists resources, statewide as well as county records for the state of Arizona that are available and where to find them. **AzGAB publication**, which includes Territorial Marriage Records for Yuma County, Navajo County, Graham & Greenlee Counties, and the 1890 Great Registers of Arizona.

If you would like to learn more you can visit their website at:

<http://www.azgab.org/index.php> or check out some of the older newsletters at: <http://www.azgab.org/fileDownload.php?sid=2> submitted by D. Sue Kissel

## **Continuation of the Databases Free at the Family History Center**

The Prescott Family History Center located to 1001 Ruth St. in Prescott, gives you free access to 16 +/- otherwise paid subscription sites. Come in and make use of this great resource. The FHC hours are Monday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.; Tuesday & Thursday 4 – 8 p.m. Fold 3 – Search or browse millions of historical documents and photos.

Fold3 has refocused their efforts on gathering the best online collection of military records and stories. The Fold3 name reflects military history and honor, since traditionally, the third fold in a flag-folding ceremony honors and remembers veterans for their sacrifice in defending their county and promoting peace in the world. Don't miss the opportunity to search this great data base of military records. The War of 1812 pension packets is one of the current ongoing projects. Every name in the records has been indexed, so your ancestor may be mentioned even if not an actual veteran.

MyHeritage-Library Edition – Used by millions of people worldwide to help research family history, build a family tree, and add photos, historical records, and more. Use this resource to see what others have done, upload your family tree, find relatives, and find clues for your research.

Submitted by Raylene Morrow Junkins [rjunkins@cableone.net](mailto:rjunkins@cableone.net)



### **Quickie quiz:**

- **What original source usually provides more information about its subject than any other original record?**
- **What source may provide cause of death before death certificates were required?**
- **What source tells you what became of Aunt Jenny's children?**
- **Besides church records, what source can tell you which specific church (congregation) a person belonged to?**
- **What is the best source for learning about the lives of female ancestors?**
- **What is the one "biographical sketch" most available for the common man?**
- **What source provides occupational details, such as the company an ancestor worked for?**
- **What source do family historians often ignore in their research?**

**Did you guess the answer?**

**The Obituary**