



Susan G. Boyle, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

JOIN US!

If you are not a member,
this is your official
invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

If you are a member,
look at the back of your
Arkansas Family Historian.
Your membership expires
on the date printed under
your name.

It may be time to renew
your AGS membership dues!

Fall has arrived in all its glory. Crystal clear days and cooler temperatures coax us outdoors after the oppressive heat of a long summer. It's the ideal time of year for family historians to get out and visit courthouses or local libraries in the counties where their ancestors lived. Visiting and photographing cemeteries on bright cool autumn days is a joy.

Organized family history events continue through the fall in various locations. The AGS Road Show at the Baxter County Library in Mountain Home on September 24 was a good example. The genealogical and historical societies from several southern Missouri and northern Arkansas counties as well as the Arkansas Genealogical Society were represented and selling their publications. Lectures about the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives [NEARA], Indian research, dating photographs, and DNA were well-attended and appreciated. But best of all were the questions and answers, discussions, and sharing of experiences by the family historians present.

Another opportunity for genealogists to gather together will be provided by the **AGS Fall Seminar and Book Fair on November 4 and 5** at the Wyndham Hotel in North Little Rock. The esteemed Mark Lowe will talk to us about court house research, bad research and brick walls, Tennessee's geographic regions' effects on research, finding original sources, and North Carolina research. Family historians always learn something new from every speaker they hear and every topic discussed, because while much is specific in genealogy, much is also general and applies across topic lines. We can always take something away to help us in our research.

AGS Fall Seminar and Book Fair Next Month, November 4 and 5

It's nearly time for the Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Seminar and Book Fair. This year it will be held at the Wyndham Hotel at 2 Riverfront Place in North Little Rock, Arkansas. The hours will be 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, November 4, and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 5.

Mark Lowe, a Certified Genealogist and a Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association will be the featured speaker on both Friday and Saturday. Mark delights audiences by sharing his extensive genealogical experience and knowledge in his friendly, humorous, and interesting manner.

On Friday evening Mark will enlighten us on the ins and outs and the dos and don'ts of court house research.

The Saturday lecture titles include *Out on a Limb, Trapped by Bad Research and Brick Walls*; *The Big Three: Tennessee's Geographic Regions*; *Is it Really Online: Finding and Using Original Sources at Home or in the Library*; and *North Carolina*.

You are welcome to attend Friday only, Saturday only, or both days. Saturday registration includes lunch. A variety of book vendors will be present both days and are open to the public. The AGS general membership meeting will be held following lunch on Saturday and winners of the Family History Writing Contest will be announced.

We hope you will be able to attend. You won't want to miss it. Print a registration form from www.agsgenealogy.org.



Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA

Other Upcoming Events

October 6, 2011

Pope County Library, Beginner Genealogy Class in Arkansas History and Genealogy Room at the library, 116 E. Third St., Russellville. Class size limited. Also David Bunton from the Family History Center will give overview of FamilySearch.org website. Call Kathy or Charity at the library 479-968-4368 or email to

kfowler@popelibrary.org

October 8, 2011

Van Buren Civil War Tours, 10:00, 11:30, 1:30, and 3:00, sanctioned by Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, rain or shine; tickets available at Van Buren Visitors Center. Visit: VanBuren@VanBuren.org or call 479-474-6164. If you need additional information: swbvb@hotmail.com

October 15, 2011

Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas, Red River Ramble, The Camden Expedition and the Civil War in Arkansas, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., leave from Little Rock to visit Hester-Lenz House, Benton; to Arkadelphia to view *CW150: Remembering the Civil War in Arkansas*, lunch at James Barkman House, and tour Magnolia Manor; tour Poison Spring Battlefield State Park; to Camden to tour McCollum-Chidester House and dine at Postmaster Grill. Register online at <http://www.preservearkansas.org>

October 29, 2011

Arkansas History Commission Seminar at 1914 Schoolhouse, Washington, Arkansas, 9:30-2:00; see next page

Seminar from State Archives

On October 29, 2011, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Arkansas History Commission will present a seminar at the 1914 Schoolhouse in Historic Washington State Park in Washington, Arkansas. Admittance is free and lunch will be provided to attendees.

Presenters will come from the NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives, the Arkansas History Commission, the Sequoyah National Research Center at UALR, the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives in Washington, and the Historic Washington State Park.

The speakers and their general topics will include:

Peggy Lloyd (SARA)—New collections at Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives

Leita Spears (Historic Washington State Park)—Freedmen's Bureau records

Mary Dunn (AHC)—Arkansas History Commission website/Arkansas Records Catalog

Erin Fehr (Sequoyah Research Center)—Field notes, original survey of Louisiana Territory

Ann Clements (AHC)—Louisiana Purchase

Amanda Paige (AHC)—Indian removal in Arkansas

Lisa Perry (NEARA)—All about NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives

A Civil War Journal from the State Archives

The Arkansas History Commission is pleased to announce the release of *“Traveled through a fine country—The Journal of Captain Henry Brockman, Company K, 10TH Missouri Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.”*

Henry Brockman lived in Miller County, Missouri, and when the Civil War began he enlisted as a First Lieutenant in Company K, Tenth Infantry Regiment. During his time in the military he described his daily activities, the places he visited, and the people and things he saw. As Brockman “traveled through a fine country,” his tour of duty took him to major battles in Arkansas, including stops at Prairie Grove, Jacksonport, Pocahontas, Yellville, Des Arc, Helena, Little Rock, Benton, Arkadelphia, Warren, and Camden, and in Louisiana at Shreveport, Pleasant Hill, and Mansfield.

Away on medical leave after being wounded at the Battle of Mansfield, Brockman missed the Battle of Jenkins’ Ferry, but he rejoined his unit near Camden, where they camped during the winter of 1864-1865. After the war, Brockman returned briefly to Missouri, before moving his family to Star City in Lincoln County, Arkansas. He died there July 27, 1881. For over 100 years, the Arkansas History Commission has preserved Brockman’s writings.

“Traveled through a fine country” can be purchased from the History Commission for \$15.00, plus \$2.00 shipping, if mailed. For a copy of the order form, please contact us.

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state.archives@arkansas.gov

Want to help index the 1940 census?

From FamilySearch.org:

On April 2, 2012, NARA will provide access to the images of the 1940 United States Federal Census for the first time. Unlike previous census years, images of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be made available as free digital images. Upon its release, FamilySearch and its partners will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online for free and open access.

The 1940 U.S. Federal Census is the largest, most comprehensive, and most recent record set available that records the names of those who were living in the United States at the time the census was taken. 132 million people were living in the 48 Continental United States in 1940.

Tens of millions of people living in the United States in 1940 are still living today, making this a record set that connects people with recent family records.

Many of these individuals are part of what has been called the greatest generation. These are people who survived the Great Depression, fought in the Second World War, innovated technology (TV, Microwave), sacrificed in the name of freedom, practiced thrift and compassion, understood hard work and industry. The people in the 1940 census deserve to have their records preserved and made available online.

New, interesting questions were asked: Where people lived 5 years before, highest educational grade achieved, detailed income and occupation.

As part of the census, 5% of respondents (two names per page) were asked supplemental questions, which included the place of birth of the person's father and mother, the respondent's usual occupation (not just for the week of March 24-30), and questions related to marriage for all women who were or had been married. The enumerators asked women if they had been married more than once, the age at first marriage, and the total number of children to whom they had ever given birth.

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FamilySearch.org and its partners will start publishing the 1940 U.S. Federal Census for free on April 2, 2012, the day the census is released by NARA. FamilySearch.org will also provide digital images to tens of thousands of volunteers to start transcribing the records so they become searchable. Complete publication of the index will depend on how many volunteers like you can help.

Editor's Note: members of the Arkansas Genealogical Society and many others helped to index the Arkansas Marriages on FamilySearch.org. Images of those marriage records are now freely accessible online through an index created by volunteers like you. The long-range benefits of this volunteer effort are priceless. Indexing for FamilySearch is relatively easy; there are instructions, guidelines, and helps on the entry screen. You can download the image or work online. You are provided a template chart with columns or fields for the information that should be indexed. You can work at home at your own computer or at a library and at your own pace any time of the day or night that you choose. You may index as many or as few records as suits your time and energy.

Our help in indexing the 1940 census will be of great benefit to all genealogists for years to come. In my case, I would not be born until a year and a half later, but my parents will appear together for the first time as a married couple in this census. It will be exciting for me to see them together before I was born. I think I know where they were living in 1940, but am not entirely sure. It might take some time to find them by browsing the census. Contributing to the indexing will make the searching quicker and easier for all of us. Furthermore, such cooperation and volunteerism makes us a part of the larger genealogical community with far-reaching effects.

For more information and to sign up as a volunteer, go to <https://familysearch.org/1940census>.

A DNA Testing Guide

Confused by all you read and hear about DNA testing and genealogical research? Richard Hill has created a guide and put it online for you to read or download. FREE. The website is titled *DNA Testing Advisor, the Independent Guide to DNA Testing*. The title of the guide is *How to Identify Ancestors and Confirm Relationships through DNA Testing, A Plain-English Overview for Genealogists, Adoptees, and Everyone Else*.

Hill identified his own birth family through DNA testing and then turned to genealogy to learn more. He shares what he learned from his experiences. He explains the major types of DNA tests and their purposes, strengths and limitations in a table. He says he “provides the high level overview you need to put the various DNA tests in perspective.”

You must provide and confirm an email address before you can download his guide. Multiple side bars on the Home page allow you to explore a variety of topics including What’s New, Paternity Test, Family Trees, Adoption Search, Relationship Testing, Your Health, Ethnic Ancestry, Ancient Ancestry, DNA Surname Projects, DNA Terms, DNA Testing Labs, and DNA Answers.

Click below to access his website and ask for the guide.

[*How to Identify Ancestors and Confirm Relationships through DNA Testing*](#)

From UpFront with NGS

Trace Indian Ancestry -- Guidance from the Department of the Interior

Posted: 22 Sep 2011 05:00 AM PDT

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) has created a website to help guide you in tracing your Native American Ancestry.

As stated on the website, to determine if you are eligible for membership in a federally recognized tribe, contact the tribe, or tribes, you claim ancestry from. It is the individual tribes who set tribal enrollment requirements. Additional information on tracing American Indian or Alaska Native ancestry can be found below.

- [Ancestry](#) - General statement on tracing your American Indian ancestry for purposes of enrolling in a federally recognized American Indian tribe.
- [Genealogical Research](#) - Provides general information as to where individuals can look in order to find the appropriate information they need to support their effort.
- [Enrollment Process](#) - Provides a general description on what the Enrollment Process to a federally recognized tribe involves.
- [Benefits & Services Provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives](#) - Provides a general description on what benefits and services are available to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

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Trace Indian Ancestry (continued from page 9)

[Cherokee Indian Ancestry](#) - There are three federally recognized Cherokee Tribes that have different requirements for enrollment in their tribes.

[Dawes Rolls](#) -The Dawes Commission was organized in 1893 to accept applications for tribal enrollment between 1893-1907 from American Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes who resided in Indian Territory, which later became the eastern portion of Oklahoma.

· [Contacting a Tribal Entity - The BIA Tribal Leaders Directory](#) (PDF, <1 mb) lists the name, address and phone number of all the Federally Recognized Tribes.

Meet Our AGS Board Members: Jane A. Wilkerson

Jane Wilkerson is an Archival Manager at the Arkansas History Commission. She has a B.A. in History and an M.A. in Public History from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She joined the History Commission staff in 2001, following two years at the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies.

Jane grew up in Harrison, Arkansas, living there until age thirteen, after which she moved to Forsyth, Missouri, where she graduated high school in 1988. In 1991 she attended the University of Arkansas before transferring to UALR. She likes the challenge of researching immigration records, especially German, Italian, and Polish research which she has done for a friend. She also enjoys researching women's history and prohibition.

Jane joined the board of the Arkansas Genealogical Society this year. Her personal genealogical interests are in Boone, Carroll, Marion, and Independence counties. Three branches of her family have been in Arkansas since it was Missouri Territory.



Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! susanb1996@aol.com –Thanks!

AGS: To learn more about [Arkansas Genealogical Society](http://www.agsgenealogy.org), visit our website. (<http://www.agsgenealogy.org>)

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