CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VGS Monthly Meetings

First Thursday of each month, 2 P.M. [September-May]
Coronado Center, Room 6, 150 Ponderosa Way, HSV

**October 5, 2017:** Women of the Mayflower. Printed material will be available to aid those wishing to search for Pilgrim connections. A collaborative program developed by Mary Nell White and Barbara Pinkney, HSVGS.

**November 2, 2017:** Genealogy Resources Available at Mid-Continent Genealogy Library. The speaker will be Cheryl Lang, Mid-Continent Genealogy Library.

**December 7, 2017:** Party and 2 Round Table topics:

- Cy Holiday (HSVGS) will share his personal memoir of growing up in a traveling carnival
- Links to Spring workshop on writing personal/family history

Members Helping Members

Second Thursday of each month at 1-3 P.M., Village Church of Christ, 210 Balboa Dr, in small conference room across from office. Space is limited, please email Barbara Pinkney at the_pinkneys@sbcglobal.net. Enter through the office door side of the building. This month’s session will be on **October 12, 2017** and will be a Legacy Family Tree webinar “Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestors”. How to find clues in records such as port of departure lists, border crossings, passport applications, etc.

VGS Breakfast Meetings

Third Thursday, 9:00 a.m. at Debra’s Restaurant at DeSoto and Carmona Rds. HSV throughout the year. Celinda Chapman will be hosting. The subject for the **October 19, 2017** meeting will be “Family Holiday Traditions”.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Calendar of Events; Ongoing VGS Projects
2. VGS Board Members; Items of Interest
3. Presidents Message
4. September General Meeting Minutes; Breakfast Meeting Report
5. The Kings Daughters
6. Indentured Servants in the U.S.
7. Respecting Privacy in Family History Storytelling
8. Local Resources
**VGS BOARD MEMBERS 2017-2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Jeanne Meek</td>
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<td>VP - Programs</td>
<td>Barbara Pinkney</td>
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<td>Asst. VP - Programs</td>
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<td>VP - Membership</td>
<td>Barrie Gauthier</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Past President</td>
<td>Celinda Chapman</td>
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**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

*Arkansas State Genealogical Society*
2017 Fall Seminar
Friday Evening, October 20 and Saturday, October 21, 2017
Benton Event Center, Benton, Arkansas
http://www.agsgenealogy.org

Texas State Genealogical Society
2017 Family History Conference
Friday, October 20 – Sunday, October 22, 2017 Omni Houston Hotel at Westside http://www.Txsgs.org/conference

Illinois State Genealogical Society
2017 Fall Conference
October 27 and October 28, 2017 iWireless Center, Moline, Illinois
“Build Your Family Tree: DNA, Research & Writing”
https://ilgensoc.org

National Genealogical Society (NGS)
Fortieth Annual Family History Conference
May 2 – May 5, 2018
“Paths to Your Past” on migration paths in states bordering the Great Lakes. Grand Rapids, Michigan
https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conferences_and_events
Welcome to October and our schedules are getting busier. I have returned from Germany with 3 or more new cousins and pages of more genealogy. Baden is a beautiful area and we spent much time learning the culture of life in the 1700-1800s. It’s true, marriage had nothing to do with love; more a family contract chosen for you. I hope to share at the January meeting some German genealogy sources as well as a little from my trip.

First up in October, Barbara Pinkney will speak on “Women of the Mayflower”. Mary Nell White had to cancel the talk she had started so Barbara has added some biographical and genealogical information to create a full hour presentation. This should be very interesting.

Barbara is trying to finish up her cemetery updates. Please get her your information if you haven’t. At the meeting we will have more information on the next Members Helping Members, and the Writer’s Workshop coming up in the spring.

We will be looking for a few new officers by January. Please if you’re thinking you’d be willing to do more for our club, let me know of your interest so I can keep a list for the committee that selects our slate. I will be finished as President in May; I would love to have a few people in mind. I know of some other spots that will probably be open. We’d love to get people who can work in their area of expertise and enjoy it.

Mark your calendar; Thursday, October 5, 2017, 2:00 p.m. at Coronado Center, Room 6 for our October General Meeting. See you there.

Jeanne Meek, President
Hot Springs Village Genealogical Society
www.hsvgs.org
Village Genealogy Society General Meeting  
Thursday, Sept 7, 2017  
Coronado Center--2:00 pm

1. Call to Order

2. Welcome of Visitors and Members greeting Members. 
   Guests and new members: Stanzel Harvey, Thomas Bass, Charlotte Wilson, Kenny and Donna Rector, Phil and Nelda Garrett, Carrie Davidson, Don Boehmke, Phyllis Anderson, Nancy Patton, Sarah Yerkes, and Martha Homer.

3. Minutes of May General Meeting approved.

4. Genealogical Gems: Volunteers were Jeanne Meek-Meeting cousins in unexpected places and Cy Holiday-World War I ancestor memorabilia October presenters will be Nancy Holder and Susan Barber.

5. Introduction of Officers  
   President--Jeanne Meek  
   VP--Programs--Barb Pinkney asst Kay Cantrell  
   VP--Membership--Barrie Gauthier Treasurer--Marlene Wilson  
   Secretary--Sue Barber asst Susan Read Newsletter editor--Nancy Holder Webmaster--Dan Barnett  
   Past President--Celinda Chapman

6. Announcements/updates  
   Cemetery project updates need to go to Barb Pinkney by end of month.  
   Reminder of March workshop jointly with Writers club. Breakfast topic: Unique given names.

7. Introduction of Speaker--Barb Pinkney introduced Jim Jones who spoke on DNA test information. He explained what it will and won’t do to help your genealogy research. The ArkLaTex genealogy group has a DNA interest group for those interested. He recommends putting information in Ged Match. He highly recommended books by Dr. Blaine T. Bettinger on DNA.

8. Adjournment: 4:15

Report on Thursday, September 21 VGS Breakfast Meeting

Celinda opened the VGS Breakfast at 9:00 A.M. which she’s has been doing since she was VGS President (2012-2014). She has continued presiding over these get-together’s because she loves the breakfast meetings so much, as do those of us who try to attend on a regular basis. The topic for September was “Unique Given Names” and everyone had a great story to share. Some talked about strange names some of their ancestors had, others shared that they were named after movie stars or family members with unusual names. Everyone had a chance to share information and get to know one another at little bit better — the main purpose of this meeting.
How One Woman Brought the ‘Mother’s Curse’ to Thousands of Her French-Canadian Descendants

The first King’s Daughters—or filles du roi—arrived in New France in 1663 and 800 more would follow over the next decade. Given their numbers, they were not literally the king’s daughters of course!

They were poor and usually of common birth, but their passage and dowry were indeed paid by King Louis XIV for the purpose of empire building: These women were to marry male colonists and have many children, thus strengthening France’s hold on North America. French Canadians can usually trace their ancestry back to one or more of these women. For more information about the filles du roi, see [an] earlier article at http://bit.ly/2wG6ecP.

Whenever a small group of people leave a large population (France) to found a new one (New France), they bring with them a particular set of mutations. Some of these mutations will by chance be more common in the new population and others less so. As a result, some rare genetic disorders disproportionately impact French-Canadians.

One of these is Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy, which causes vision loss, usually in young men. Recently, geneticists using French Canadian genealogy have reexamined the effects of Leber’s and found a striking pattern of inheritance: It seems to show a long-theorized but never-seen-in-humans pattern called the “mother’s curse.”

Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy is passed down from mothers to sons and daughters alike but the daughters rarely suffer from the problem themselves. It seems to affect men eight times more often than women. Also, men never pass it to their children. If you suffer from Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy, you inherited it from your mother’s mother’s mother’s mother’s female ancestors and back through the all-female line to France. Although this condition usually begins in a person’s teens or twenties, rare cases may appear in early childhood or later in adulthood.

If you have French-Canadian ancestry on your mother’s side of your family tree, you will want to read about Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy in an article by Sarah Zhang in The Atlantic web site at: http://theatlnt.tc/2jkKiXSR. However, the article focuses primarily on the method by which the neuropathy is passed down from one generation to the next.

Indentured Servants In The U.S.

Indentured servants first arrived in America in the decade following the settlement of Jamestown by the Virginia Company in 1607. The idea of indentured servitude was born of a need for cheap labor. The earliest settlers soon realized that they had lots of land to care for, but no one to care for it. With passage to the Colonies expensive for all but the wealthy, the Virginia Company developed the system of indentured servitude to attract workers. Indentured servants became vital to the colonial economy.

The timing of the Virginia colony was ideal. The Thirty Year's War had left Europe's economy depressed, and many skilled and unskilled laborers were without work. A new life in the New World offered a glimmer of hope; this explains how one-half to two-thirds of the immigrants who came to the American colonies arrived as indentured servants.

Servants typically worked four to seven years in exchange for passage, room, board, lodging and freedom dues. While the life of an indentured servant was harsh and restrictive, it wasn't slavery. There were laws that protected some of their rights. But their life was not an easy one, and the punishments meted out to people who wronged were harsher than those for non-servants. An indentured servant's contract could be extended as punishment for breaking a law, such as running away, or in the case of female servants, becoming pregnant.

For those that survived the work and received their freedom package, many historians argue that they were better off than those new immigrants who came freely to the country.

Their contract may have included at least 25 acres of land, a year's worth of corn, arms, a cow and new clothes. Some servants did rise to become part of the colonial elite, but for the majority of indentured servants that survived the treacherous journey by sea and the harsh conditions of life in the New World, satisfaction was a modest life as a freeman in a burgeoning colonial economy.

In 1619 the first black Africans came to Virginia. With no slave laws in place, they were initially treated as indentured servants, and given the same opportunities for freedom dues as whites. However, slave laws were soon passed – in Massachusetts in 1641 and Virginia in 1661 –and any small freedoms that might have existed for blacks were taken away.

As demands for labor grew, so did the cost of indentured servants. Many landowners also felt threatened by newly freed servants demand for land. The colonial elite realized the problems of indentured servitude. Landowners turned to African slaves as a more profitable and ever-renewable source of labor and the shift from indentured servants to racial slavery had begun.

To Write or Not To Write Respecting Privacy in Family-History Storytelling

When you start writing your life’s stories, you may wonder what to put in and what to leave out. Should you mention that time you got arrested, or when your best friend betrayed you? What about your difficult relationship with your dad? What if telling your stories will reveal someone else’s secrets?

Writing your life story can raise questions about how to be fair and honest, and what stories of your life should keep private. Story of My Life workbook author and guest blogger Sunny Morton has three quick things to consider when you start writing your family history:

• Everyone has a right to privacy. Writing about your life doesn’t obligate you to share all your stories. Chances are there are some events, relationships, failures or disappointments in your past you’d rather not write about.

While you should consider acknowledging all life-changing events, (even if you choose not to dwell on details), you don’t have to write about everything. For painful events that prompted major changes in your relationships, career, living circumstances or way of life, a passing mention—along with the results—may be sufficient: “After my divorce, I moved to Seattle, where my sister lived. I wanted to leave painful memories behind.”

• Honesty is key. You don’t need to tell everything—but everything you tell should be true. Of course, you won’t intend to write falsehoods, but it can be tempting to downplay your role in a big family argument or skip over the nice things your “worthless” baby brother actually has done for you. Nobody is all good or all bad, including yourself. Try to write about everyone fairly. In doing so, you may discover some new truths in the process of writing: how you felt about someone, what you learned from a situation, how you feel now.

Consider including at least some of these insights in your life-story writings. You may think it’s obvious what the past taught you or how you might feel, but that may not be the case. And your insights or life lessons may turn out to be the most valuable part of sharing your memories (for you and others).

• Think twice before revealing someone else’s secrets. Many who write their life stories have to decide whether to divulge confidential or sensitive information about someone else. Should you write about a relative’s addiction, debts, temper or marital problems?

Consider the answers to three questions:

First, is this your story to tell? If it didn’t significantly affect your life, it doesn’t really belong in your life story.

Second, what are your motives? Revenge, or an unfortunate but real need to set the record straight?

Finally, who may be hurt by your revelation? Even if the person with the secret is dead, that person may have living loved ones who may suffer.

After considering these questions, you may still see the need to reveal confidences, but you may approach it more sensitively. Allison Dolan July 25, 2016

https://www.familytreemagazine.com/articles/save_share_family_history/writing-family-history/to-write-or-not-to-write-respecting-privacy-in-family-history-
Melting Pot Genealogical Society Library
649-B Ouachita Ave. Hot Springs, AR 71901

Hours:
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday & Friday
Call 501-624-0229 to confirm that the library is open before going to visit.
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~armpgs/

Family History Center Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
2765 Malvern Ave. Hot Springs, AR
501-262-2782 (during open hours)

Hours (2016):
Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Hot_Springs_Arkansas_Family_History_Center

Closed Holidays & Icy Weather

Family History Center Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
13901 Quail Run Drive Little Rock, AR
501-455-4998 (during open hours)

New Hours (10-2016):
Tuesday 1:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Wed. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Third Saturday only, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Little_Rock_Arkansas_Family_History_Center

Closed Holidays

Saline County Library
Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library
1800 Smithers Dr.
Benton, AR 72015
501-778-4766
800-476-4466

Hours:
Mon., Tues., & Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wed. & Fri.
9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
http://www.salinecountylibrary.org/web/
Visit the Genealogy Room
(AGS) Arkansas Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 17653
Little Rock, AR 72222
www.agsgenealogy.org

Arkansas State Archives
formerly: Arkansas History Commission
One Capitol Mall
Suite 2B215
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-682-6900

Hours: Monday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.ark-ives.com/
On your first visit you must register and obtain an admission card.

Directions:
Take I-30 to I-430 north Take the I-630 east exit Take the 2B exit
Turn left toward the Capitol Turn left on the 1st street At the next street turn right
At bottom of hill park in the large parking lot
Enter through door on ground level.
The State Archives are on the 2nd floor.

Memphis Public Library
Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library 3030 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38111
901-415-2700

Hours:
Mon.-Thu. 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sun. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Holidays
www.memphislibrary.org/

Village Genealogical Society
Established in 1987