

# FAMILY FINDER

Dedicated to Helping English-Speaking Family  
Historians in Europe Help Each Other

Our Web Site is:  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~eurgaesr/index.html>



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## Events



All meetings are held at  
6 PM at the Makedonia  
Restaurant, Heidelberg,  
unless otherwise noted.

### 27 March Program and Presenter

**Show & Tell Session:** Each member should bring an item that is related to our family history, to talk about and show. These could be postcards, photos, an inherited item, etc. We look forward to your participation.

### 24 April Program and Presenter ( To Be Announced)

### 22 May Program and Presenter ( To Be Announced)



Do you  
know what this  
antique item is?  
Email us your  
answer -  
[susanvreed@yahoo.com](mailto:susanvreed@yahoo.com)

## **GREETINGS FROM WFA PRESIDENT, Whit Witworth, Former GAESRE Leader and Our Good Friend.**

Whit Discusses the various types of census schedules, their uses, and where you can also learn more about them online from the National Archives web site.

The lazy days of summer are passing quickly and many of us have spent some time, traveling around and enjoying vacations. Perhaps you've stopped at County courthouses and State Libraries along the way to dig a little deeper into your roots.

The other day, I attended a genealogical organization meeting and the guest speaker talked about US Census records - both 'population schedules' and 'non-population schedules'. Both have the same "as of" date. I have reviewed many 'population' censuses, but, I was not aware of all of the non-population ones. The non-population census records have a great amount of information about our families and about the area where our families lived and worked.

## ***Which George Davis did Elizabeth Pycroft Marry? Or Using Free BMD Marriages and the British Census in Concert.***

Alan Reed, Database Manager

George Davis is my maternal great grand uncle.

We are attempting to trace his genealogy forward in hopes of finding living relatives in England. To do that, we have to determine if he married and had children. In addition, we wanted to be able to purchase the marriage certificate without having to guess.

The FreeBMD and the British Census are useful tools for researching in Great Britain particularly between 1837 and 1901. Vital records generally came into use in 1837 and 1901 is the latest British census to be released. FreeBMD marriages will provide the names of the individuals who are entered on the same record, usually four per record - two men, two women - sometimes more. Our job is to sort out who married whom.

Obtaining certificates to discover who married whom is very pricey. There are other means to, if not conclusively identify, narrow the candidates by using the census.

Elizabeth Pycroft married George Davis between Jul and Sep 1879. (Sep 1879, Nottingham Vol 7b 330 - George Davis, Elizabeth Pycroft, Mary Ann Spooner, Thomas Underwood). Thomas Underwood found in census with Mary Ann and her Spooner daughters We then looked for all George Davis's born in Nottingham around 1854 in the 1881 census, as that would be the first census that he would be married.

### ***Finding relevant George Davis's***

We identified 6 possible George's.

#### **George Davis #1**

Unmarried, age 24 born in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire boards coal miner

2

#### **George Davis #2**

Married, age 27, born in Nottingham, wife Mary age 27 born in Nottingham, head, Fanny, his widowed mother. Earlier census indicates that he was born in Leicestershire and can be dismissed as a candidate for our George Davis

#### **George Davis #3**

Unmarried, age 30, born in Mansfield, Nottingham living in Keyham, Leicestershire

#### **George Davis #4**

Married, age 23, born in Nottingham, machine fitter, boards in the home of Elizabeth Everitt age 44 with his wife Elizabeth age 19, born in Nottingham and daughter, Anne age 1, born in Nottingham. Others in the household: Mary Ann Everitt age 22, born in Sneiton, Nottinghamshire; Clara Everitt age 13, born in Nottingham.

#### **George Davis #5**

Unmarried, age 30, born in Nottingham, slater, head Ann Orrill age 80, widow and her daughter Eliza Orrill age 35, both born in Nottingham.

#### **George Davis #6**

Married, age 25, born in Nottingham, frame worker knitter; wife Elizabeth, age 24, born in Redmile, Leicestershire, also a frame work knitter and daughter, Esther, age 1, born in Nottinghamshire.

From this information we can only confirm that two of the six George Davis' are married and both are married to a woman named Elizabeth. However we need more information to determine which two of the six were married to the Elizabeth's.

### ***From the BMD we find the marriages***

George and Elizabeth Everitt married c Jan - Mar 1880.  
George and Elizabeth Pycroft married c Sep - Dec 1879

We searched the 1861 and 1871 to find the families of each of the six George Davis's.

## **FAMILY GROUPS**

### **Group A - Based on occupation and birthplace this is likely George #1**

**Joseph Davis** born c 1833 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire (widow in 1881)

**Wife - Hannah Davis** (1861 census only) born c 1832 in Hickling, Nottinghamshire (not in 1871 census, probably died.)

**Wife - Elizabeth Davis** (1871 census only) born c 1838 in Arnold, Nottinghamshire (not in 1881 census, probably died.)

#### **Children:**

Robert (1861 census only) born c 1851 in Hickling, Nottinghamshire

Joseph born c 1853 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire (not w/family in 1881)

George b.circa 1855 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire (quarry laborer in 1871)

Elizabeth b. circa 1856-1858 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire (not with family in 1881)

Sarah Ann b. circa 1858 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire (not with family in 1871)

Albert b. circa 1864 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire

Herbert b. circa 1867 in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire

### **Group B - Cannot be linked**

**John Davis** b. circa 1826-1827 in Buddington (Derby? Nottingham?) occ: Carter in 1871

**Sarah Davis** b. circa 1825-1827 in Radford 1861/Basford 1871 occ: seamstress in 1871

#### **Children:**

George b. circa 1850-1852 in Basford (1861) Nottingham (1871) (?slater?laborer in 1871)

Septimus b. circa 1859-1861 (2 yrs or 2 mo) in Nottingham (not with family in 1871)

John b. circa 1866 in Nottingham

Ann b. circa 1868 in Nottingham

### **Group C - Cannot be linked**

**Samuel Davis** b. circa 1830 (not in 1871 census?)

**Mary Davis** b. circa 1831 (not in 1871 census?)

#### **Children:**

George b. circa 1853 in Radford ( boarder in 1871 census?)

Louisa b. circa 1856 in Radford (not in 1871 census?)

John b. circa 1859 in Radford (not in 1871 census?)

Maria b. circa Aug 1860 in Radford (not in 1871 census?)

### **Group D - Possibly linked to George #4 based on occupation**

**William Davis** b. circa 1821 in Nottingham occ: possible Framework knitter 1871

**Eliza Davis** b. circa 1822 in Monmouth, Wales

#### **Children:**

James Davis b. circa 1842-1845 in St Mary (not with family in 1871)

George Davis b. circa 1854 in St Mary occ: Hosiery Mechanic apprentice 1871

Eliza A. b. circa 1857 in St Mary occ: Winder, Cotton Factory 1871

Matilda b. circa Sep 1860 in St Mary occ: Lace clipper 1871

Mary J. b. circa 1865 in Longaborough, Leicester Servant (1871)

Elizabeth Davis b. circa 1858 in Nottingham Family living in Longaborough, Leicestershire 1871

**Group E - Possibly linked to George #6 based on occupation and daughter's given name.**

**Henry Davis** b. c1828 Nottingham  
Frame work Knitter

**Esther Davis** b. c 1834 England?

**Children:**

George Davis b. circa 1854 St Mary, Nottingham

Sarah Davis b. 14 Apr 1860 St Mary, Nottingham  
d. bef 7 Apr 1861

Charity Davis b. 6 Feb 1867 St Mary, Nottingham  
emig to US 3 Mar 1891

Anne Davis b. 1872 Nottingham

**Group F - cannot be linked**

**Francis Davis** b. circa 1809 Nottingham  
widow in 1871 occ: joiner 1871

**Children:**

George Davis b. circa 1854 in Nottingham occ:  
General dealer 1871

Mary Davis b. circa 1847 in Nottingham

Since we are looking for married George Davis's, we should continue searching for the two married George Davis's in later censuses before exploring the other George's, who are unmarried by 1881.

**1891 Census**

George Davis (36), Elizabeth (35) wife, daughter Esther (11), daughter Kate (9)

George Davis (37) Elizabeth (30) wife, daughters Eliza (10), Elizabeth (9), Matilda (7), Lillie (2), Miriam (3/12) and son George (4).

**1901 Census**

George Davis (46) Elizabeth (45) wife, Kate daughter (19), mother-in-law, Ann Pycroft (wid) (67) This is the bit of information that leads us to George Davis #6 as the husband of Elizabeth Pycroft.

On that basis we requested the marriage record, which confirmed our conclusion.

***USGenWeb - Where Are They Moving?***

Upcoming changes for Web sites hosted at RootsWeb.com have prompted many sites associated with the USGenWeb project to move off of the RootsWeb servers to a variety of other servers and ISPs. Many say that the change has been a long time in coming, although perhaps hurried a bit by last week's announcement of URL changes, along with a previous announcement of new co-branded RootsWeb/Ancestry mastheads to appear on all RootsWeb sites. There are many other factors involved, however - enough for me to discuss them in another blog post. The end result, however is that many of the state and county coordinators at USGenWeb have elected to move their sites, which will likely mean a bit of a disarray at USGenWeb for a while until all of the links get sorted out.

## **Author Says Sen. Obama Would Not Be America's First Black President**

Here we are in the midst of an often bitter battle to determine which of the major party candidates will be elected President of the United States. It has not been overlooked by commentators, that this election could have a history-making outcome. It is frequently stated that the election of Sen. Hillary Clinton would give us the first woman President in the history of the United States. Perhaps even more discussed is the possibility that Sen. Barack Obama, if nominated and elected, could be the first U.S. President with African Ancestry. Now, in an article in the Buffalo (N Y) News, staff reporter Deidre Williams quotes author Eva M. Doyle, "Everyone is saying, if Obama gets elected, he'll be the first black President. That's not entirely true." Ms. Doyle says. She continued, "I've got to let everyone know he won't be the first black President." According to the retired teacher, that designation already belongs another previous occupant of the White House.

Ms. Doyle makes her sensational claim in her forthcoming book, Warren Gamaliel Harding: One of America's Black Presidents. In the book Eva Doyle cites previously published materials to back-up her assertion that President Harding had African-American ancestors and never publicly denied it (or acknowledged it). The Doyle book says that

Harding's paternal great-grandfather was an African-American, and so was one of his great-grandmothers. Warren G. Harding was the 29th President of the United States, from 1921 to 1923.

Deidre Williams' article makes clear that Ms. Doyle is not talking about the mischievous, widespread quote by Nobel Prize-winning novelist Toni Morrison in 1998, that Bill Clinton was "this country's first black president," (because he grew up poor in a dysfunctional family, in the South; was raised by a doting mother, and continues to be very popular among the African-American population, which believes that he better understood their circumstances).

However, there are other recent books which dispute Ms. Doyle's findings. One of these works is the book, Warren G. Harding by John W. Dean. Dean, the former White House counsel to President Richard M. Nixon, wrote to the Buffalo News, "I found no such evidence, other than when they were trying to smear him with bogus information." Dean wrote his book on Harding as part of the American Presidents series.

Author Eva M. Doyle retired as a teacher from the Buffalo, N.Y. public school system in 2004 having taught pre-kindergarten through junior high school for 28 years. She is recognized in Buffalo as a local expert on African-American history. She reports in her book that the rumored African-American ancestry of President Harding

followed him throughout his political career, and continues long after his death. One source for her conclusion is a statement by William Estabrook Chancellor, who claimed that President Harding's paternal great-grandmother had an African-American grandparent. Since there are no birth or genealogical records that go back that far researchers are not yet able to establish the accuracy of that assertion, said Melinda Gilpin, site manager at the Harding Home in Marion, Ohio. She added, "I firmly believe we will never know if President Harding was African-American or not. We don't have good evidence to prove or disprove this claim." as she was quoted in the Buffalo News article. She agreed with Ms. Doyle, that President Harding never publicly acknowledged or denied the allegations about his African-American ancestry. Ms. Gilpin said that President Harding was described as having a dark complexion and wiry hair and his father, Dr. George T. Harding, was said to have also had a similar appearance. There are, of course, no documented records of Harding's heritage.

Author Doyle agrees that much information about President Harding's genealogy is no longer available. Ms. Doyle charges that a lot of it was destroyed and burned by family members and politicians. She says that her research of President Harding's background is based on years of

plowing newspaper articles and books, some of which are out-of-print and had to be ordered through the national interlibrary loan system. The articles citing Ms. Doyle's work give no indication of which of the other Presidents of the USA had African ancestry, if Harding was only one of America's Black Presidents. Her self-published book has been available since March 1, 2008. For more information on Ms. Doyle's book visit her web site at: <http://www.maedoyle.com>



**Warren G. Harding**

**Twenty-Ninth President  
1921-1923**

**Born: November 2, 1865 in Corsica  
(Blooming Grove), Ohio**

**Died: August 2, 1923 during his  
presidency, of a heart attack, while  
visiting San Francisco, California**

**Married to Florence Kling Harding**

## Non-Population US Census Schedules

Some states also have state-census records. The State of Mississippi has an 1816 state census which has proven useful in my research.

Some of the non-population census include agriculture. More information about the agricultural life was included in the agriculture-census as time went by; e.g., improved land, unimproved land, animals - how many of what kind, etc.

Beginning in 1810 until 1900, an Industry & Manufacturers census was taken. Other non-population schedules are:

- (1) Mortality Schedules;
- (2) Social Statistics;
- (3) Dependent, Defective, Delinquent Classes;
- (4) Slave Schedules - on the 1790 to 1840 schedules, the slave information is on the population schedule. In years 1850 and 1860, there's

separate slave schedules, and slaves over 100 years old are listed by name;

- (5) Veterans Schedules;
- (6) Crews of Vessels (this may include an entire family);
- (7) Native Americans - these vary; e.g., before 1880, on the general population schedules, were only those Native Americans who paid taxes;  
1880-1910 - there were special schedules for Native Americans;  
1860 - Indians taxed; no tribal affiliation;  
1885 - Choctaw Tribe;  
1930 - Western Navajo.

'Google' "1891 Census" to find a census of all males over 21. Not all states have all censuses. For availability of Schedules, check with the National Archives at their web site:  
[www.archives.gov/genealogy](http://www.archives.gov/genealogy).

### Happy Hunting!

M. C. (Whit) Whitworth  
Member # 76

## The Census

Census Taker: "Good morning, madam, I'm taking the census."

Old Lady: "The what?"

Census Taker: "The c-e-n-s-u-s!"

Old Lady: "For lans sakes! What with tramps takin' everythin' they kin lay their han's on, young folks takin' fotygrafs of ye without so much as askin', an' impudent fellows comin' roun' as wants ter take yer senses, pretty soon there won't be nothin' left ter take, I'm thinkin'."

# Genealogy Spring Cleaning

By Christine Slevers

May 2002

The lull between the spring holidays and summer is the perfect time to do genealogical spring cleaning. If you are planning a summer trip for genealogy research, this is more of a reason to get your research in order. Following is a checklist I use for my re-organization:

## 1. Refill my folder of blank genealogy forms

It seems that I run out of a form at the most inconvenient time. They are good to have on hand so you don't have to interrupt your work to run one off. Some of the forms are important to take with you when you go on a research trip.

Cyndi's List - <http://www.cyndislist.com/supplies.htm> Supplies, Charts, Forms, Etc. supplies the links to all the forms you need. Some people like to run off a master copy, then go to the copy shop for the rest.

## 2. Review my filing system

As my research and piles of paper grow, I need to occasionally rethink my method of keeping it all straight. First, I need to finish my to-be-filed basket. Then, a tweak of my filing system here or there to get it up to par. Finally, now that I have my blank forms, I can fill in all the ones that I have neglected to do. Then, put them in the right place.

My system is very simple. I have a filing cabinet for general genealogy information, historical and geographic notes, and my blank forms. I have a two binders for each surname, one for research, and one for completed data. Finally, I have one binder as an index to my sources. Everyone should use a system that works best for them. I am always on the lookout for new ideas. Here are some articles to help you out.

Beginner's Guide to Family History Research, Ch. 3 Complete Book is on line at:  
<http://www.arkansasresearch.com/guide.html> Organizing Your Family Records - a good basic guide

How Do I Keep All This Stuff Straight? - <http://www.ancestry.com/columns/george/04-24-98.htm>  
Some great ideas by George Morgan

## 3. Plan out my correspondence

If I don't write it down, I don't get it done. I have two correspondence logs- one for the records I send for, the other for relatives I want to contact. This is a good time to think out, find the addresses, and list all the correspondence I wish to do- checking it off as I write the letters, and double checking it when I receive an answer. If you need help with form letters, here are some sites:

Family Tree Maker's Genealogy Site: <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/all-search.html> Form letters and other aids to print - there are even letters in different languages, if you need them

Dead Persons Society Sample Letters - (an Australian genealogy group) some interesting letter ideas

Writing Rite Done Right - <http://www.ancestry.com/columns/george/09-11-98.htm> George Morgan has done it again with some good advice

#### **4. Update my genealogical program**

After doing it, don't forget to make a back-up copy.

#### **5. Update my family web site**

Somehow, I always forget to get that up to speed. This is also a good time to try and jazz it up a bit, and submit it to search engines.

#### **6. Don't forget those photographs**

If I don't make time to organize them, it is another thing that never gets done. Sort out the ones that will become part of a genealogical record. Get reprints of those that are particularly significant for my records.

NEXT WEEK - just keep working on your organization -  
what a difference it makes in your research!

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continued from page 4

#### **USGenWeb sites that have or are moving:**

Colorado has moved with a new URL of [www.cogenweb.com](http://www.cogenweb.com).

DCGenWeb has moved to [www.theusgenweb.org/dcgenweb/](http://www.theusgenweb.org/dcgenweb/)

Georgia has moved its state pages to [www.thegaproject.org](http://www.thegaproject.org)

Hawaii GenWeb has moved to a new server and can be found at [www.higenweb.org](http://www.higenweb.org)

Illinois has moved most of its 103 ILGenWeb county sites, plus four special projects and the state pages off of RootsWeb. The new Illinois GenWeb sites can be found at <http://www.ilgenweb.net>.

Indiana has moved its pages to a new domain at [www.ingenweb.org](http://www.ingenweb.org)

Iowa already had its own server ([www.iagenweb.org](http://www.iagenweb.org)), but as many as 2/3 of the counties are now planning to join the state pages on that same server.

Kentucky State Pages are also moving. They already had their own domain, so the URL ([www.kygenweb.net](http://www.kygenweb.net)) won't change, but the pages will now be hosted on a new server.

Maryland already had its own domain name at [www.mdgenweb.org](http://www.mdgenweb.org), but has now moved off of the

RootsWeb server as well.

Massachusetts has also moved to [mysite.verizon.net/magenweb/](http://mysite.verizon.net/magenweb/)

MIGenWeb has moved the Michigan state pages to [www.migenweb.net](http://www.migenweb.net).

Mississippi has moved its state pages to [www.msgenweb.org](http://www.msgenweb.org), with MSGenWeb county and special projects pages to follow.

Montana is in the process of moving according to state coordinator, Kevin Haddenham, and can be found at [www.mtgenweb.org](http://www.mtgenweb.org).

Many North Carolina counties have left RootsWeb for another server and the state pages will likely soon follow.

OHGenWeb has moved the Ohio state pages with a new URL of [www.ohgen.net/ohgenweb/](http://www.ohgen.net/ohgenweb/)

Oklahoma is voting on a move.

ORGenWeb is in the process of moving Oregon state pages to [www.orgenweb.org](http://www.orgenweb.org).

The TXGenWeb has moved off of RootsWeb servers to [www.txgenweb.org](http://www.txgenweb.org).

The State pages for VAGenWeb have moved to [www.vagenweb.org](http://www.vagenweb.org)

West Virginia has moved the state WVGenWeb pages to [www.wvgenweb.org](http://www.wvgenweb.org)

WAGenWeb will moving to a new server with a domain name of [wagenweb.org](http://wagenweb.org)

The National USGenWeb pages may also move to a new server, but this is still under discussion. They already have their own domain, however, so changes if they occur will be pretty much "behind the scenes."

The Family Group Sheets Project is moving -- primarily for new features that will allow them to improve their submission form -- and can be found at [www.fgs-project.com](http://www.fgs-project.com). The USGenWeb Census project (one of them) has also moved - to [www.usgwcensus.org](http://www.usgwcensus.org).

Arizona, Tennessee, Kansas and Florida GenWeb had previously moved to their own servers prior to this month. California GenWeb has never been hosted on the RootsWeb server. Many other state GenWeb sites were also already hosted on non-RootsWeb servers, including Alaska, Iowa, Louisiana, South Carolina and Vermont.

It's not just USGenWeb, either. Many WorldGenWeb sites are moving off of the RootsWeb domain as well. On the other hand, there are also many country, state and county coordinators who are happy with the free hosting they get from RootsWeb and who are planning to stay put. Many, however, are concerned that the movement of so many sites to scattered servers will be detrimental to the wonderful USGenWeb Project.

The National USGenWeb site is doing a wonderful job at keeping up with the URL changes, as are many of the state pages - so start there first if you can't find a site you're looking for. A lot of updating is going on!

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An Association of family historians  
dedicated to helping each other find  
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to hear about your experiences!

Table of Contents

Page

Greetings From WFA President (reprinted with permission)	1
Using Free BMD Marriages and the British Census in Concert	2
USGENWEB Where Are They Moving?	4
Author Says That Senator Obama Would Not Be First Black President	5
Genealogy Spring Cleaning (reprinted w/ permission)	8

**Tom Prost announced that he will be taking a sabbatical effective immediately, and will be away from the area for an undetermined length of time. We extend our very best wishes, and will miss Tom's dedicated work on behalf of the Genealogical Association.**

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PO

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