

# **DESERT DWELLERS DIGEST**

June 2009  
Volume #1 Issue #4

**PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER,  
MARCH & JUNE  
BY  
TRI STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
BULLHEAD CITY, ARIZONA**

## **OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Susan Zmrzel	928-768-4301
<b>Vice-President/Historian</b>	Andrea Wetzstein	702-298-1866
<b>Secretary/Correspondence</b>	Patti Goodman	928-763-5841
<b>Treasurer/Membership</b>	Mary Moffett	928-754-1692

## **CHAIRPERSONS**

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<b>Communications</b>	Susan Zmrzel	928-768-4301
<b>Publicity</b>	Andrea Wetzstein	702-298-1866
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<b>Cemetery Documentation Proj</b>	Susan Zmrzel	928-768-4301
<b>Book &amp; Magazine Purchase</b>	Mary Moffett	928-754-1692

## **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

TriState Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 21902, Bullhead City, AZ 86439 or e-mail our web site at [azgenealogymail-websites@yahoo.com](mailto:azgenealogymail-websites@yahoo.com)

## **MEMBERSHIP & DUES**

The annual membership dues is \$20.00 per year for a single membership and \$25.00 per year for a family membership. The dues is due at the September meeting. Please send your membership dues to Membership Chairperson c/o The TriState Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 21902, Bullhead City, AZ 86439.

## **PRIMARY PURPOSE**

The TRI STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY was established in 1990. The society promotes further interest in genealogy and family history. It also provides fellowship and assistance to those interested in these subjects.

## **EDITORIAL POLICY**

The TRI STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY assumes no responsibility for errors or opinions expressed by contributors. Information in this publication is obtained from correspondence, newsletters, press releases, the internet and miscellaneous sources, which, in many cases cannot be verified. Material may be reprinted; however, we do request that acknowledgment be given to the Society and/or Author.

## **MEETINGS**

Regular meetings are held from September thru May on the second Friday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon at **MOHAVE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HARGROVE LIBRARY**, 3400 Highway 95, Bullhead City, Arizona 86442 928-758-2420

Some meetings will be held at other locations. These meeting will be scheduled, announced at meetings and corresponded to members before that meeting is held. There will also be a calendar of meetings posted to our web page.

## **TRISTATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WEB PAGE**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~azcanvtsgs/> Andrea Wetzstein is our coordinator. Please contact her at [azgenealogymail-websites@yahoo.com](mailto:azgenealogymail-websites@yahoo.com) with comments & suggestions.

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**TriState Genealogical Society  
Minutes of the Meeting  
March 14, 2009  
Mohave Community College Library  
Bullhead City, Arizona**

Meeting called to order, by Vice-President Andrea Wetzstein, at 10:07 A.M. with 13 members and 2 guests present. Andrea welcomed everyone and an attendance sheet was passed around for sign in.

Minutes of the February meeting were read by Secretary Patti Goodman and will stand as read.

Treasurer's Report: read by Mary Moffatt stated a balance of \$1074.45 as of February 28, 2009. The report was approved and will be filed for audit.

Mary also spoke about our liability insurance coming due in June.

Membership Chairman: Mary Moffatt stated no new members.

Book and Magazine Chairman: Mary stated she spoke with Carol Leatherwood of Mohave Community College Library. She said their copy of the Source is old and maybe an updated one would be helpful.

Program and Publicity Chairman: Andrea stated Lake Havasu Genealogy Society is having a Library program on April 16, 2009. She will post the flyer to the TriState Genealogical Society web page for those who wish more information.

Newsletter Editor: Susan needs meeting minutes for the March newsletter.

Cemetery Chairman: Susan updated everyone on the progress since our last meeting.

New Business: Election of officers in May. Andrea read the duties of all the officers and a nominating committee will be picked in April.

This Meeting Presentation: My Most Inspirational Ancestor.

Ruth Colvin, Mary Moffatt talked on an ancestor from their husbands family. Susan Zmrzel spoke on her Scoundrel and our guest John Woods talked about his ancestors and his brick wall.

Meeting closed at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully Submitted, Patti Goodman, Secretary

**Tri State Genealogy Society**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**April 11, 2009**  
**Mohave Community College Library**  
**Bullhead City, Arizona**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by President Susan Zmrzel. There were 10 members and one guest present.

Minutes of the March meeting were read. There were no additions or corrections and the minutes will stand as read.

Membership: Mary reported one new member and we now have a total of 26 members.

Book and Magazine: No report

Publicity and Program: No report

Communication and Newsletter: The March newsletter is now on our web page.

TriState Gen. Soc. Web page: No report

FGS Delegate: Thanked Susan for forwarding the FGS newsletter to all members

Cemetery Project: Update was given.

Nominations and Elections: The duties of the nominating committee were read along with the duties of the officers. The nominating committee will consists of Marilyn Clark, Ruth Colvin and Gayle Mendoza.

New Business: There were discussions regarding our liability insurance, new meeting day for next year since the college library will be closed on Saturdays and use of WiFi in the library.

The meeting was closed at 11:50 am.

Respectfully Submitted, Patti Goodman, Secretary

**Tri State Genealogy Society**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**May 8, 2009**  
**Mohave Community College Library**  
**Bullhead City, Arizona**

The meeting was called to order by President Susan Zmrzel at 10:03 A.M. There were 11 members and 1 guest present. The meeting was held in one of the class/study rooms in the Library. All were welcomed and an attendance sheet was passed around for signing

Minutes of the April 11, meeting were read and accepted and will stand as read.

Treasurer's Report: was read and was filed for audit. Mary proposed that we pay our Liability Insurance Bill for \$350.00. Clarence seconded the motion. The motion was approved and passed by the attending membership.

Membership Chairman: Mary said John Wood had just joined last month and since this was our last meeting of the 2008-2009 season we will post his membership for the 2009-2010 season as paid.

Book and Magazine Chairman: Mary will look into getting Google your Family Tree for the Library.

Publicity & Program: No report.

Communication and Newsletter Chair: Susan stated Newsletter will be out the end of June on our web page.

Web Page: No report but Andrea stated she will get the newsletter posted on the web page.

FGS Delegate: Patti gave John Wood a copy of the newsletter as he does not have a computer.

Cemetery Project: Area cemeteries need to be updated but lack of time and other commitments have delayed the updating.

Announcements: John would like a list of surnames and places that members are searching for. Mary said she might have some left over forms and Andrea said she could add them to our web page.

New Business: Discussion for a change in our meeting date and place. The college library will be closed on Saturdays. Our meetings will be held in the class/study room in the library on the second Friday of the month September thru May. The meetings will be held from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. It was also noted by President Susan Zmrzel that if the college needs or has scheduled the room they come first. We can always hold our meeting in the large open area of the library as before. Motion was made by Clarence to make the change and John seconded.

Since we had a quorum present we were able to vote on changing the meeting day to Friday (due to the college library being closed on Saturday from now on). This will affect Article 9 of our by-laws. A motion was made by Clarence Goodman to change the date and time of our meeting and John Wood seconded. Our by-laws have now been changed to reflect the new day of the meeting.

Nomination of Officers:

Susan Zmrzel for President

Gayle Mendoza for Vice President

Patti Goodman for Secretary

Marilyn Clark for Treasurer and Membership w/Mary Moffett as Co-Treasurer

All nominees accepted and passed by unanimous vote...

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Goodman

Secretary

**FROM EASTMAN'S ONLINE GENEALOGY NEWSLETTER**

**May 06, 2009**

**Worst Photo Album Ever**

Do you have family photographs stored in those "magnetic photo albums?" If so, get rid of them quickly. They are eating your photographs.

The Practical Archivist writes, "These chemical sandwiches of doom were popular from the 1970s through the 1990s. All of my childhood photos were carefully placed in this style of album. Ironically, the photos I never got around to organizing are in better shape."

The article contains illustrations that show step-by-step instructions on how to rescue damaged photos from the magnetic photo albums. You can view the article at: <http://www.jacobsarchival.com/rescue.html>.

Warning: The article is a bit self-promoting as the author wishes to sell a \$25 "Photo Rescue Kit." Actually, that sounds like a good idea to me. You could purchase the same items separately on your own, although I suspect you'd end up paying about \$25 for them anyway.

The "Photo Rescue Kit" consists of:

1 Micro-Spatula, Wonder Tool of Photo Rescue

1 pair of white cotton gloves to keep the oils and salts on your hands away from your treasured photographs.

This is probably the easiest thing you can do to extend the life of your photos and negatives.

Photo illustrated instructions so you know how to use the tool correctly and safely.

Soft No. 1 pencil for marking the back of vintage prints.

Stabilo pencil for marking the back of modern plastic-coated prints.

**June 13, 2009**

**National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis Opens Agency Civilian**

## Personnel Records to the Public

The following announcement was written by the National Archives and Records Administration:

ST. LOUIS, June 12 -- The National Archives' National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) opened more than 6 million individual personnel files of former federal civilian employees from the mid-1800s through 1951. These records will be of special interest to genealogists, family members, researchers, sociologists, and historians.

Among the records are the files of prominent individuals who worked for the federal government, such as Walt Disney, Ansel Adams, Eliot Ness, Calvin Coolidge, J. Edgar Hoover, Gifford Pinchot, Walker Evans, and Albert Einstein.

Ronald L. Hindman, Director of NPRC characterized these records "as a veritable treasure-trove of information for researchers and genealogists." He continued, "There are records from more than one hundred government agencies now available for discovery. They showcase the careers of government employees who investigated bootleggers; taught at Indian schools; worked in Japanese-American interment camps, in prisons, and on anti-prostitution boards, and created and implemented initiatives in Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal agencies, among others."

These documents open a window into America's past. Examples include:

From the Bureau of Indian Affairs -- "The food the children had to eat was not clean. The school was dismissed at irregular hours; sometimes the children would not get home till half past five in the evening."  
From the War Relocation Authority -- a job description: "The qualifications of the registrant: the ability to assume responsibility in the management and operation of a large community and composed entirely of one isolated racial group under war conditions and in the face of adverse public sentiment is a highly essential qualification."

From the Department of Justice -- a Prohibition Agent in the 1930s was found guilty of consuming liquor and shooting a bootlegger in the leg as the bootlegger tried to escape in his Model "A" Ford Coupe. This opening of 6 million files adds to the existing collection of more than 9 million military personnel files that are already available for research and is another step in the creation of the largest archival repository in the United States outside the National Archives in the Washington, DC area. In late 2010, the records will be moved to a state-of-the-art repository on Dunn Road, in suburban St Louis County, Missouri.

To purchase a copy of a particular record, send a written request to NPRC, Civilian Personnel Records, 111 Winnebago Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63118-4199. The request should include the requester's contact information, the former federal employee's full name, date of birth, name of employing agency, and period of employment. Copies of the records can be purchased for either \$20 or \$60, depending upon the size of the record. Most records will fall into the \$60 range.

Once a request has been submitted, contact us at [mpr.status@nara.gov](mailto:mpr.status@nara.gov) with any questions.

Visitors to NPRC in St. Louis can make an appointment to view these records for free in the Archival Research Room. Visitors interested in doing so should call 314-801-0850 to schedule an appointment.

## NEWS FROM LDS FAMILY SEARCH

Volunteers Transcribe 250 Million Historical Records  
23 April 2009

### Incredible Effort Speeds Up Access to Online Genealogical Information

SALT LAKE CITY—FamilySearch volunteers reached a monumental milestone this week, transcribing their 250 millionth historical record. The incredible online initiative started in January 2006 with a few thousand volunteers and has now grown to be the largest Web-based initiative of its kind with over 100,000 volunteers worldwide. The 250 millionth record was part of the current Nicaragua Civil Registration indexing project online at [indexing.familysearch.org](http://indexing.familysearch.org)—one of 45 projects being indexed by online volunteers. It was extracted by three different online indexers from Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Honduras.

FamilySearch manages the largest collection of genealogical collections in the world—2.5 million rolls of microfilm and millions of additional digital images from over 100 countries worldwide.

For decades, FamilySearch has allowed the public to use its collection for free through 4,500 family history centers throughout the world. In 2005, it began to improve access to its collection by converting microfilm to digital images that could be searched online. The next step was to create an online tool that volunteers around the world could use to look at the digital images and extract relevant data that could then be published online in searchable indexes linked to the digital images. FamilySearch Indexing is that tool.

“What makes the 250 million record milestone even more impressive is the fact that each record was actually indexed at least twice to ensure accuracy,” reported Paul Nauta, FamilySearch public affairs manager. “The result is an amazing searchable online index for people around the world,” Nauta added.

The unique quality control process means each document is transcribed by two different indexers. In the case of the 250 millionth record, the two indexers were from Nicaragua and Guatemala. Any discrepancies in their two transcriptions were then forwarded to a third volunteer—an arbitrator—who would have made any needed corrections between the two transcriptions. In this case, that arbitrator was from Honduras. “Three volunteers, three countries, one common goal—to provide access to the world’s genealogical records quicker and more economically,” said Nauta.

In 2006, FamilySearch volunteers indexed a total of 11 million records. “Today, thanks to the growth in our volunteer numbers, FamilySearch volunteers are now transcribing about a million names per day. At that rate, we expect to hit the 500 million milestone much quicker than the 250 million marker,” added Nauta.

Today, tens of thousands of volunteers, young and old, log on to [indexing.familysearch.org](http://indexing.familysearch.org) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from all over the world to help with the ongoing goal to transcribe the world’s genealogical records. Some donate a few minutes a month, others hours a day. Some do it as a sort of “pay it forward” activity because they have personally benefited in their family history research by using FamilySearch’s collections over the years. Others help because they like the idea that just a little bit of donated time can help preserve historic information and make it more available for public access.

Completed indexes are ultimately made available online for public access through [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) or through one of FamilySearch’s family history centers.

FamilySearch, at any given time, has over 35 online indexing projects underway—many of them international projects. “Volunteers usually have a preference for one type of indexing project over another,”

said Paul Starkey, FamilySearch Indexing project manager. “For example, if you have ancestors from Spain, you might be very motivated to help index the Spain Catholic Church records because it could facilitate your personal research once the completed indexes are published online.”

Anyone interested in volunteering or seeing what projects are being indexed can do so at [indexing.familysearch.org](http://indexing.familysearch.org).

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FamilySearch  
Paul Nauta  
[NautaPG@familysearch.org](mailto:NautaPG@familysearch.org)

### **Millions of Historic Southern Records Now on the Web 14 May 2009**

SALT LAKE CITY—FamilySearch announced today it has published millions of records from Southern states to its rapidly growing, free online collection. The collection includes both digital images and indexes. Millions of death records from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida were the most recent additions. Viewers can search the free collection on the Record Search pilot at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) (click Search Records, and then click Record Search pilot).

In the past 18 months, FamilySearch has been diligently publishing digital images and indexes from Southern states. It is part of a worldwide initiative to provide fast, economical access to genealogical records. Fueled by over 100,000 online volunteers, FamilySearch is digitizing and indexing historical records and publishing them online.

The most recent additions are from the following collections:

- Alabama Statewide Deaths 1908 to 1974 (Index)
- Arkansas County Marriages: 1837 to 1957
- Civil War Pension Index Cards (Digital Images)
- Florida Deaths 1877 to 1939 (Index)
- Florida State Censuses: 1855, 1935, 1945 (Digital Images)
- Freedman Bank Records: 1865 to 1874
- Freedman’s Bureau Virginia Marriages 1855 to 1866
- Georgia Deaths 1914 to 1927
- Louisiana War of 1812 Pension Lists (Images)
- North Carolina Deaths 1906 to 1930
- North Carolina, Davidson County Marriages and Deaths, 1867–1984 (Digital Images)
- South Carolina Deaths 1915 to 1943
- South Carolina Deaths 1944 to 1955 (Index)
- Texas Death Index 1964 to 1998 (Index)
- Texas Deaths 1890 to 1976
- Virginia Fluvanna County Funeral Home Records 1929 to 1976 (Digital Images)
- West Virginia Births 1853 to 1930 (Index)
- West Virginia Marriages 1853 to 1970 (Index)
- West Virginia Deaths 1853 to 1970 (Index)

FamilySearch has also published free indexes to the 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1920 (partial) U.S. Censuses—all important resources for Southern states research.

David E. Rencher, FamilySearch chief genealogical officer said, "This significant set of records fills a real need in Southern states research. To be able to search vital records across the South by name and locality leverages the best search techniques and greatly improves the odds of success for those researching Southern families."

During both pre and post Civil War eras, there was general migration from the eastern seaboard, down through the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, and on into Texas. "The publication of these records will begin to open up and answer many questions about family members that migrated and were never heard from again," Rencher added.

With just a few clicks, visitors can now search millions of records online for that elusive ancestor. Or pore through digital images of historic documents that before this time were inconvenient or impossible for many to access because the original documents were located in an archive somewhere in the South.

"There is much more to come," said Rencher. "FamilySearch has a large collection of records [on film] from the Southern states that still need to be digitized, indexed, and made available for the public online—and we are acquiring new records all the time. It's a great time to be a family history enthusiast," concluded Rencher.

FamilySearch is currently working on federal and state censuses and birth, marriage, death, and war records. New indexing projects and searchable collections are added weekly.

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Paul Nauta  
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### **WEB PAGES TO TRY**

<http://www.accessible.com/accessible/>

\$\$\$49.95 one year subscription

Accessible Archives has primary source material from 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> century periodicals. Go to their web page and press "About the Archives" and you will see what data bases they have and a "Learn More" button for each data base.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

**THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE, 1728-1800**

Published in Philadelphia from 1728 through 1800, The Pennsylvania Gazette is considered The New York Times of the 18th century. It provides the reader with a first-hand view of colonial America, the American Revolution and the New Republic, and offers important social, political and cultural perspectives of each of the periods. Thousands of articles, editorials, letters, news items and advertisements cover the Western Hemisphere, from the Canadian Maritime Provinces, through the West Indies and North and South America, presenting a detailed glimpse of issues and lifestyles of the times. Also included is the full-text of such important writings as the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, Letters from a Farmer, Thomas Payne's Common Sense, The Federalist Papers and much more.

These include:

Folio I - (1728 - 1750) "Benjamin Franklin's Newspaper"

Folio II - (1751 - 1765) "The French & Indian War"

Folio III - (1766 - 1783) "The American Revolution"

Folio IV - (1784 - 1800) "The New Republic"

<http://www.irishfamilyresearch.co.uk/>

Irish Family Research Trace your Irish Ancestry Here

STANDARD MEMBERSHIP "FREE"

Standard Membership allows you to browse the Irish Family Research Website.

It does NOT allow you to search the Databases on the Database List -  
but WILL give you access to:

FREE TRIAL DATABASES - Click here to see what's available

The Research Interests Page - Browse thousands of Research Interests already posted by our Members, and submit your own Research Interests.

FREE RESEARCH ADVICE - Available to all Registered Members - simply email our Research Team with details of your query, and they will be happy to help you.

FREE Membership of the Irish Family Research Monthly Newsletter.

Details of Museums, Libraries & Research Organisations in Ireland which hold Genealogical Materials;

Details of Useful Research Books (listed on a County by County basis)

Essential Resources Articles, covering Land Records, Births, Marriage & Death Records, Details of All Workhouses in Ireland with details of who to contact for further information, to name but a few)

Details of Useful Research Books (listed on a County by County basis)

Old Photos/Postcards;

Old Maps (courtesy of Past Homes Limited); and

Travel Pages.

\$\$\$\$FULL MEMBERSHIP £40.00 Registration Fee Membership valid for \*ONE YEAR\*. Irish Family Research Trace your Irish Ancestry Here

<http://history.ky.gov/>

FREE Kentucky Historical Society—go to the bottom of the page and press on “search our collections” and then go to “Kentucky Cemetery Records Database” follow the instructions to search.

[http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL\\_v1](http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL_v1)

FREE Veteran Burials--Search for burial locations of veterans and their family members in VA National Cemeteries, state veterans cemeteries, various other military and Department of Interior cemeteries, and for veterans buried in private cemeteries when the grave is marked with a government grave marker.

<http://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/Default/Skins/Colorado/Client.asp?Skin=Colorado&AW=1246123176768&AppName=2>

FREE The Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection (CHNC) currently includes 147 newspapers published

in Colorado from 1859 to 1923. CHNC contains over 477,000 digitized pages and is a joint endeavor of the Colorado State Library, the Colorado Historical Society, and generous donors throughout the state.