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From the Editor:

This is my first issue as the 2008 editor of the Gila County Heritage Newsletter. I hope you will bear with me while I learn the ropes. I wish to thank Val Sullivan for her superb newsletters for the past five years and all the help she has given me to make this transition easier for all of us. I am looking forward for input from our membership during this next year. Let me know what you would like to see published.

Don't forget to bring in your empty ink cartridges and old cell phones to the library for recycling. Also, remember to renew your e-scrip at Basha's and Safeway if necessary. For a complete list of merchants go to: www.escrip.com. or find a copy at our library.

Enjoy!



NORTHERN GILA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NGCGS Genealogy Library
302 East Bonita Street, Payson, AZ
Payson, AZ 85541-5012
(928) 474-2139

E-Mail Address: NGCGS@NPGcable.com

WEB SITE: <http://users.rootsweb.com/~azngcgs/index.html>

Editor's Note: If you wish to view this newsletter on line at NGCGS's website (hold down the "control" key and point your cursor on the blue, underlined link, and you will be transported directly to the web-link and additional information. Sorry, it won't work if you're just reading a hard copy!

Library Hours: Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, 9 to 4 p.m. Or By Appointment

2007 OFFICERS

President.....Clarice Christensen
First Vice President.....Val Sullivan
Second Vice President.....Nancy Hancock
Secretary.....Judy Voran
Corresponding Sec.....Kay Keplinger
Treasurer.....Kathy McKibben
Head Librarian / Trainer.....Paty Henderson
Office Manager.....Paty Henderson

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Special Projects.....Paty Henderson & Kathy McKibben
Community Liaison & Publicity.....Nancy Hancock
Webmaster.....Judy Voran
Telephone.....Paty Henderson & Joann Thompson
Ways & Means.....Val Sullivan
Historian.....Kathy McKibben
Building Maintenance.....Griff Brown
Membership.....Paty Henderson

We specialize in helping add branches to family trees!

MEETINGS: Meetings are held at **1:30 p.m.**, the first **Thursday** of the month (unless a holiday) at the Genealogy Library. Visitors are always welcome!

CORRESPONDENCE: Please address all correspondence to **NGCGS Library** and include a long self-addressed, stamped envelope for inquiries.

MEMBERSHIP:


Individual.....\$15. Family (related, same address).....\$30.
Individual Life.....\$150. Family Life (related, same address) \$200.
Associate/Library.....\$10.

NEWSLETTER: The *GILA HERITAGE*, ISSN: 0893-7753, is published quarterly and can be read on line at our website (see above for address). The quarterly is not copyrighted. Reprint permission is given, (except for copyrighted material as noted) but please give us credit. Neither NORTHERN GILA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY nor the editor of *GILA HERITAGE* assumes responsibility for errors of facts or judgment on the part of the contributor. Errors will be corrected, however, when brought to our attention.



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Nancy Hancock
MANAGER

Up-coming Events- Mark Your Calendar NOW:

March 6, Thursday- General Meeting at 1:30PM- Clarice Christensen will give a talk on the information she gathered on her recent Salt Lake City research trip in January.

April 3, Thursday - General Meeting at 1:30PM- Paty Henderson will give a talk about the following:The Declaration of Arbroath was a declaration of Scottish independence, and set out to confirm Scotland's status as an independent, sovereign state and its use of military action when unjustly attacked. It is in the form of a letter submitted to Pope John XXII, dated 6 April 1320. Sealed by fifty-one magnates and nobles, it ends with the following often quoted passage: "*for, as long as but a hundred of us remain alive, never will we on any conditions be brought under English rule. It is in truth not for glory, nor riches, nor honours that we are fighting, but for freedom – for that alone, which no honest man gives up but with life itself.*" At Valley Forge, George Washington said, "If all else fails, I will retreat up the valley of Virginia, plant my flag on the Blue Ridge, rally around the Scotch-Irish of that region and make my last stand for liberty amongst a people who will never submit to British tyranny whilst there is a man left to draw a trigger."

May 3, Saturday- General Meeting at 1:30PM- Val Sullivan - **Putting Your Ancestors Lives in Context** Understanding the events that were the backdrop for your ancestors lives will give you insight into their decisions and how they lived. It'll add a whole new dimension to your research.

NGCGS Members that recently went to the Salt Lake City Library to do research on their ancestors. From L to R are Val Sullivan (1st VP), Nancy Gartner (new member), Renee Durfee (new member), Kay Keplinger (Corresponding Secretary), and Clarice Christensen (President).



West Valley Genealogical Society

February 23, 2008

Seminar

REGISTRATION 8:30- 9:00 SEMINAR 9:00:-2:30

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
12225 N 103RD AVE.
SUN CITY, AZ



Meldon J. Wolfgang, III
Owner of Jonathan Sheppard Books
Writer of the genealogy column for the New York State Archives Partnership Trust's magazine *Archives*

"Getting Out of the Box: Exploring Uncommon Genealogical Research Resources, Techniques, and Strategies"

1. Sleuthing in the Stacks: Using uncommon Resources to Uncover Genealogical Clues.
2. Researching "Birds of a Feather" How Prosopography, Cluster Studies, and Record Linkage Techniques Can Help Put New Leaves on Your Family Tree.
3. "...Troy Papers Please Copy...": Newspaper Research Tips for Family Historians

PLUS
VENDORS FEATURING GENEALOGICAL BOOKS AND ITEMS
GREAT PRIZES

Deadline for registrations Feb 15, 2008

For information call 623-544-8681

**FEBRUARY 23, 2008 SEMINAR REGISTRATION FEE OF \$40
INCLUDES A.M. ROLLS AND COFFEE AND GOURMET BOX LUNCH**

NAME _____ PHONE _____ CHECK # _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

INDICATE LUNCH CHOICE: SANDWICH: CHICKEN WALNUT _____ OR HAM & SWISS _____ OR
SALAD: ROASTED CHICKEN CHEF _____ OR CRUMBLY BLEU CHEESE _____

**SEND FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO WEST VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY,
12222 N. 111TH AVE., YOUNGTOWN, AZ 85363**

March 15th Seminar

In honor of National Women's Month Val Sullivan will be presenting a three hour workshop on "Strategies for Discovering the Maiden Names of Your Ancestors." Half of all your ancestors were women, but sometimes history hides their maiden names. This workshop will give you ideas to ferret out what they were and open up new lines and additional ancestors to add to your family tree. Handouts will be made available. The workshop will be conducted on Saturday, March 15th, 2008, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and will cost \$20 per person. A signup sheet will be available at the Genealogy Library. The workshop will be held at the Genealogy Library unless the signup sheet indicates that there are more than 15 people, when we will find a meeting place with more space. Come and bring a friend! All costs of the workshop will be donated to the library to help pay for our library's utility bills.

"Beginning Genealogy" Classes

Peggy Gray's monthly basic genealogy class for beginners is a great success, AND we have received several new members as a result! Each class is held at the genealogy library on the third Wednesday of each month from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Classes will be held **Dec. 19, 2007; Jan. 16, 2008; and Feb. 20, 2008.** Each class will be the same, so if one date isn't good for you, pre-register for a different month. Pre-registration and payment of fee is required. If attendees are already members of the society, the class only costs \$5; if an attendee joins the society (\$15) the class will cost \$5; if an attendee does not join the society, the class will cost \$25. For more information, call Peggy Gray at (928) 474-5015



"DOLLARHIDE'S GENEALOGY RULES," by William Dollarhide

Bill Dollarhide has prepared the following 45 amusing pointers for genealogy researchers. While each aphorism is intended to produce a chuckle or two, each contains an important element of genealogical truth as well. Consider Tip #17: "Finding the place where a person lived may lead to finding that person's arrest record." The point of #17: researchers must keep an open mind. No one knows what is around the next bend in one's ancestral road.

We will refer to these "Rules" from time to time in later issues of "Genealogy Pointers." For now, enjoy them and take them to heart.

1. Treat the brothers and sisters of your ancestor as equals, even if some of them were in jail.
2. Death certificates are rarely filled in by the person who died.
3. When visiting a funeral home, wear old clothes, no make-up, and look like you have about a week to live. The funeral director will give you anything you ask for if he thinks you may be a customer soon.
4. The cemetery where your ancestor was buried does not have perpetual care, has no office, is accessible only by a muddy road, has snakes, tall grass, and lots of bugs--and many of the old gravestones are in broken pieces, stacked in a corner under a pile of dirt.

5. A Social Security form SS-5 is better than a birth certificate because few people had anything to do with the information on their own birth certificate.

6. The application for a death certificate you want insists that you provide the maiden name of the deceased's mother, which is exactly what you don't know and is the reason you are trying to get the death certificate in the first place.

7. If you call Social Security and ask where to write for a birth certificate, tell them it is for yourself. They won't help you if you say you want one for your great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great grandfather who died in 1642.

8. When you contact your home state's vital statistics office and ask if they are "online" and they respond, "on what?" you may have a problem.

9. An 1850 census record showing all 12 children in a family proves only that your ancestors did not believe in birth control.

10. Work from the known to the unknown. In other words, just because your name is Washington doesn't mean you are related to George.

11. With any luck, some of the people in your family could read and write--and may have left something written about themselves.

12. It ain't history until it's written down. (See #19.)

13. A genealogist needs to be a detective. Just gimme da facts, Ma'am.

14. Always interview brothers and sisters together in the same room. Since they

can't agree on anything about the family tree, it makes for great fun to see who throws the first punch.

15. The genealogy book you just found out about went out of print last week

16. A good genealogical event is learning that your parents really were married.

17. Finding the place where a person lived may lead to finding that person's arrest record.

18. It's really quite simple: first, you start with yourself, then your parents, then your grandparents. Then you QUIT--and start teaching classes in genealogy.

19. If it's not written down, it ain't history yet. (See #12.)

20. In spite of MTV, computer games, or skate boards, there is always a chance that your grandchildren will learn how to read someday.

21. "To understand the living, you have to commune with the dead, but don't commune with the dead so long that you forget that you are living!" (From "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" by John Berendt.)

22. It is a known fact that St. Peter checks all your Family Group Sheets for accuracy before you are allowed to enter the Pearly Gates.

23. Locating the county where your ancestor lived is the first step in finding records about the time he was hauled into court for shooting his neighbor's dog,

threatening the census taker with a shotgun, or making illegal corn whiskey behind the barn.

24. A cousin, once removed, may not return.

25. When going to another town for genealogical research, you will always find information on the ancestor for whom you brought no notes.

26. When in a courthouse miles from home, you will always find the breakthrough court record at 4:55pm on Friday afternoon.

27. Research in one county that leads you to information in another county will only be revealed on the last day of your vacation.

28. The tombstone you want to find is always located in the extreme opposite corner of the cemetery from where you started your search.

29. The page on the census where your ancestor's town was enumerated has no page number.

30. That cemetery in Missouri where your great-grandparents were buried is now called Interstate 70.

31. The 1892 newspaper article describing your ancestor as a child winning the grade school spelling bee will misspell her name.

32. Your ancestor will be featured in the county history because he was the first prisoner in the new jail.

33. Your ancestor moved frequently and sold all of his property to his children before he died to avoid probate.

34. The query you found in an old magazine was placed by an unknown cousin--who died two years ago.

35. The courthouse containing the information crucial to your research is always closed for renovation on the day you arrive.

36. The roll of microfilm you need for county research is the only roll in the drawer that has been sent out for repair earlier that day.

37. The post office shown on the census page where your ancestors are listed is for a town that does not appear on any known map ever published.

38. The oldest living person in the county has never heard of your ancestor, who lived there years ago.

39. Genealogy is the examination of the maximum amount of data in the maximum amount of time for a minimum result.

40. If you find a query in an old periodical giving two related names for which you are searching, it will be a query that you placed yourself four years ago and forgot about.

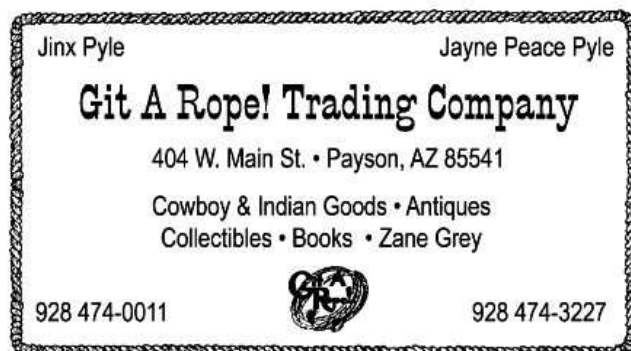
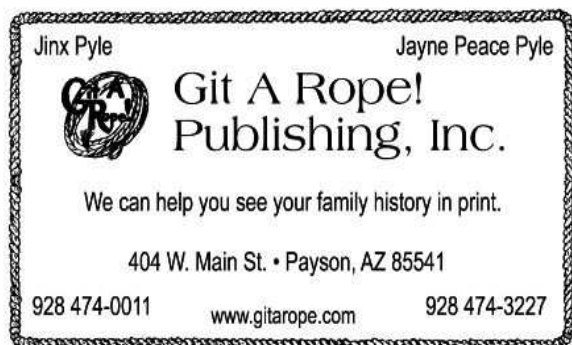
41. You always receive more e-mail about your ancestors the day before you are scheduled to go on vacation.

42. If you took family group sheets to the last wedding you attended, you are probably an addicted genealogist.

43. If you can remember your ancestors' marriage dates but not your own, you probably are an addicted genealogist.

44. Genealogy is an addiction with no cure and for which no 12-step program is available.

45. I'm crazy about genealogy, but not necessarily yours.



Before I close.....

I'd like to thank everyone in this society for all the help they have given me in my quest for locating ancestors starting with Lettie Cale who was so kind to open the library several times twelve years ago because I could not come to Payson during regular hours right down to Val Sullivan who gladly took time out of her busy schedule to proof read my first edition of our newsletter as editor. Without the dedication of our charter

members and the long hard hours put in by numerous ladies and gentlemen, we would not be in our own library today.

We've got a lot of exciting programs scheduled for 2008 plus three-hour seminars and field trips. I will try to keep everyone posted on seminars given by other genealogy societies in and around our state so that we may car-pool to some of them as we have done in the past years.

Happy Hunting,
Nancy Hancock

**Northern Gila Co. Genealogical Society, Inc.
302 E. Bonita St.
Payson, AZ 85541-5012**

