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### From the Editor:

Hope you all enjoy this first issue of 2006. You will find a few changes in format, including the addition of advertisements to help cover the increasing costs of publishing the newsletter. One item that hasn't changed is that the officers for 2005 all agreed to serve, and were subsequently elected, to fill their same office for the 2006 year. However, Frieda is looking for someone to train as treasurer this year, since she will be unable to serve as treasurer in 2007. Any one interested should contact her this year.

Several members of the Society recently visited the Arizona State Archives in Phoenix to discover the types of records available there. This issue of *Gila Heritage* is devoted to sharing the information we gleaned from that visit. For those that were unable to attend, you missed a VERY informative field trip!



**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](mailto:NGCGS@NPGcable.com)

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

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

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**2006 OFFICERS**

President.....Grace Johns  
First Vice President.....Clarice Christensen  
Second Vice President.....Val Sullivan  
Secretary.....Judy Voran  
Corresponding Sec.....Lois Brice  
Treasurer.....Frieda Chittick

**COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

ILL Clerk.....Peggy Grey  
Historian.....Joan Savage  
Publicity.....Carolyn Snell  
Telephone.....Margaret Coffey  
Newsletter.....Val Sullivan  
Office Manager.....Joan Savage

And Judy Voran is Head Librarian

**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.

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### Resources for Local History

- Looking for a marriage license for your grandparents?
- Want to know about the estate of a deceased uncle?
  - Researching an early Arizona criminal case?

The Arizona State Archives preserves records from government offices for use by researchers. The chart on page 4 shows a list of documents from government offices that created the records. Not all counties are listed; only those with a significant amount of records held in the Archives.

If you have specific requests, please call or write the State Archives. An archivist is available for assistance in locating information. There is no charge for use of any records. Copies can be made for a nominal fee. The address for the Archives is found below:

State of Arizona Dept. of Library, Archives & Public Records  
 Archives Division  
 State Capitol, Suite 442  
 1700 W. Washington  
 Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone: (602) 542-4159  
 Fax: (602) 542-4402  
 E-Mail: [archive@dlapr.lib.az.us](mailto:archive@dlapr.lib.az.us)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00  
 Closed weekends and State Holidays

*Parking* is available in Wesley Bolin Plaza, just east of the Capitol, between 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenues, Washington and Jefferson Streets

The Library is a depository for Federal and State Documents. The catalog can be accessed on line at: [www.lib.az.us](http://www.lib.az.us)

### Birth and Death Records:

Birth and death records usually begin about 1898 in Arizona counties, although it was not until 1909 that the Territory required that these records be kept. As a result, birth and death records before 1909 are incomplete.

The Arizona State Archives holds microfilm of Arizona birth certificates that are 75 years old and older and Arizona death certificates 50 years old and older. The Arizona State Archives **does not** provide certified copies of birth or death records after these dates, or certified certificates. You must contact the Office of Vital Records for those.







## **For many counties the Archives also has other records:**

- Articles of Incorporation
- Appointments
- Bonds
- Notary records
- Mining deeds and indexes
- Mortgage records
- Miscellaneous books
- Records of prisoners
- Sheriff's registers of action
- Teacher reports
- Board of Supervisor records
- School Board
- Canal, mill-site and water locations
- Livestock Marks and brands

## **Newspaper Collection:**

The Arizona State Archives holds the largest collection of Arizona newspapers in the world. The collection consists of both microfilm and original newspapers, in bound and loose forms. Their collection ranges from the earliest Arizona newspaper, published in Tubac in 1859, to the recent issues of Phoenix's *Arizona Republic* and Tucson's *Arizona Daily Star*. *Genealogists can order newspaper obituaries on microfilm through Inter-Library Loan (ILL).*

## **Photograph Collections:**

The photograph archives include private collections and images created by state and local government agencies. These represent unique documentation of the governmental and cultural history of Arizona including photographs from most legislatures, beginning in 1875. There are over 90,000 images! Over 33,000 images are currently available in digitized format. The photograph collections can be accessed through their database at <http://photos.lib.az.us>. Among the featured collections are:

- C.S. Fly's glass plate negatives from the Indian Wars, as well as 1880s Tombstone & Sonora
- Thomas Bate's photos of Arizona's Native American communities
- Governor George W.P. Hunt Collection
- ADOT images on highway construction from 1915-1967
- W.P.A., C.W.A. and E.R.A. New Deal projects of the 1930s
- Legislative photographs
- 2,000 pre-1920 postcards
- 1923 Colorado River Survey with mile by mile panoramic images from Lee's Ferry to the west end of the Grand Canyon
- Joseph Fish Collection

The Archives provides guidelines to promote coordination, assistance and support for Arizona's historical and genealogical institutions as they begin scanning and digitizing projects. For these guidelines, refer to the website at [www.lib.az.us/digital](http://www.lib.az.us/digital).

## The Arizona Collection:

The Arizona collection features many materials generally not available elsewhere. The book collection covers a wide range of subjects related to Arizona and the Southwest. The collection catalog is available through the SIRSI online catalog at <http://www.lib.az.us>. Areas of strength include:

- Older Arizona history titles
- Archaeology
- Indians of Arizona
- City & county budgets & audits
- County materials
- City directories
- AZ high school & college yearbooks
- *Bancroft's Works* (Vols. 1-39)
- *World Almanac* (1894-present)
- Periodical collection including many older editions from the *Arizona Historical Review* to *Wrangler*
- Biographical and subject vertical files including a separate collection of Arizona state legislators.
- Territorial Censuses for 1864, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1872, and 1882.
- Within Arizona History are these topics:
  - Labor
  - Water
  - Law & Disorder
  - Mining
  - Great Depression
  - Politics
  - Women's History
- Key collections include:
  - Governors' papers
  - Secretaries of the Territory and State
  - Department of Water Resources
  - Department of Corrections
  - W.P.A. federal Writers' Project
  - Territorial and State Legislatures
  - Newspapers (1850- )
- All Arizona Indian Census records from 1880-1940. These are by reservation but are NOT indexed.
- Arizona Tribal Censuses (NARA)
- All Arizona naturalization records, microfilmed AND indexed.



## Ah, You Say, "But I don't need info on Arizona, why should I use the State Archives?"

In addition, the Archive's book and periodical sections of the Genealogy Collection are the largest in Arizona with 15,000 volumes. This is a collection of family and community histories, genealogical journals, indexes to the vital records of other states, and national online genealogical services.

Their biggest collections are for Pennsylvania, Virginia, Massachusetts, Ohio, New York, and New England States. But they also have middle-sized collections for Maryland, New Jersey, Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina, Kentucky, Kansas, and Missouri.

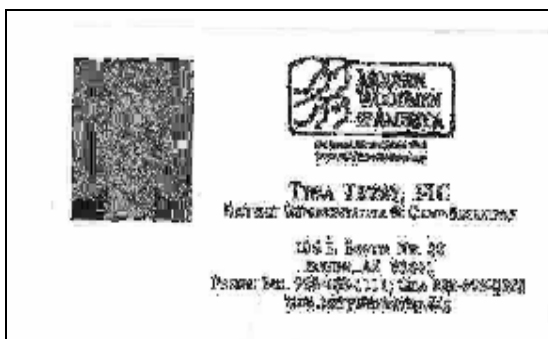
They have State and County Histories for Arizona, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey, as well as colonial records and selected county histories.

Their collection also includes Ethnic Genealogy for Afro-Americans, Hispanics, Jewish, and Native Americans.

And they have military records, immigration and naturalization records, early state records (not just Arizona), CD-ROM Resources, subscription genealogy databases such as Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest, a Law Collection, Federal Documents, and a Map Collection, including gazetteers.

## How Can Our Society Help the Archives?

- We can volunteer to help in the Genealogy Collection once a month
- We can donate resources such as Genealogical Books & Periodicals
- We can donate funds to the Archives
- We can volunteer to help digitize photos to be done in our homes.



Goals for 2006 will appear in the next newsletter!

**I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.**

## NGCGS Year 2005 in Review

We had another VERY successful year because of all the hard work of several of our members. Activities included:

- Paying off the mortgage on the land. We now own our building, land, & contents free and clear!!
- Celebrating 25 years of incorporation of the society
- Grant writing success totaling \$6,000
- Fund-raisers such as the Yard Sale, Arts & Crafts Sale, Quilt Raffles, Basket Raffles, and Selling Bricks
- Holding five Genealogy Workshops
- Completing two storage sheds to store items for the various sales and to store our phone book collection from all over the country
- Receiving the donation of three computers and a laser printer
- Adding 22 new members to our membership roster for 2005!
- Organizing three field trips to the valley
- Participating in the Annual Business Showcase and receiving the Judges' Choice for Best in Show
- Adding local Cemetery Records to our website
- Drafting an Annual Budget, the first in the Society's history.

**Northern Gila Co. Genealogical Society, Inc.**  
**302 E. Bonita St.**  
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