

# *FGS Delegate Digest*

Volume 15, No 8 August 2008

The monthly newsletter of the  
**Federation of Genealogical Societies**  
*"Linking the Genealogical Community"*

Do not reply to this message. This is a post-only mailing.

## **HOW TO SUBSCRIBE OR UNSUBSCRIBE TO THE FGS DELEGATE DIGEST:**

Please send the name and e-mail address to the FGS Office Administrator, Tina Cavanaugh, at [office@fgs.org](mailto:office@fgs.org).

## **HOW TO SUBMIT CONTENT FOR THE FGS DELEGATE DIGEST:**

Please send all correspondence, announcements, and other newsletter items directly to the *Delegate Digest* editor, Drew Smith, at [delegatedigest@gmail.com](mailto:delegatedigest@gmail.com).

Deadlines for submission of content for inclusion in upcoming issues of the *Delegate Digest* are the first day of each month for that month's issue.

---

## **IN THIS ISSUE:**

From the Editor

FGS 2008 Conference Announcements

Online Registration – Time is Running Out!

Delegate 101 and Delegate of the Day/Conference

Discount Reminder

Other FGS Announcements

Last Chance to Download Lectures from the FGS 2006 Boston Conference!

Society Management Q&A

Discontinuation of Partnership between FGS and F+W Publications

Proposed FGS Bylaws Amendments for the 2008 Ballot

*Somos Primos*

Georgia's 1919-27 Death Records Indexed Online

Records Preservation & Access Committee (RPAC) Announcements

New RPAC Brochure: The Case for Open Public Records

Cook County (Illinois) Birth, Marriage, and Death Records

Member Society Announcements and Other Announcements

Calendar of Upcoming Events for Member Societies

---

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

As I take over the editorship of the *FGS Delegate Digest* with this issue, I'd like to applaud the hard work performed by my predecessor, Diane Gagel. Diane set a high standard in the timeliness, organization, quality, and appearance of the *Delegate Digest* and it is my goal to build upon that standard! As a reader of this newsletter and as a member of your local society, you are strongly encouraged to send me announcements from your society, especially news about your annual events and major projects. By your contributing to the *FGS Delegate Digest*, you keep the rest of the genealogy community better informed about your society's activities!

Drew Smith, MLS, Editor, *FGS Delegate Digest*

## FGS 2008 CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

### Online Registration – Time Is Running Out!

A reminder that online registration for the FGS 2008 conference is available only thru Friday, August 22.

---

### Delegate 101 Session and Delegate of the Day/Conference

A new feature has been added for the September 6th FGS conference schedule. A "Delegate 101" session will be offered for delegates or society representatives at a breakfast from 7:30-9am. The event will address the duties of the FGS delegate with Jana Broglin, interaction with the *Delegate Digest* editor, Drew Smith, plus input from the office manager, Tina Cavanaugh. This breakfast is by reservation only, with a cost of \$10. RSVP to Jana Broglin, Vice President of Membership at: [jana@janabroglin.com](mailto:jana@janabroglin.com). A meal ticket will be ready when you check in at the conference.

Again this year, FGS will be offering "Delegate of the Day." Sign up when you arrive at the conference for your society. A name will be drawn daily. Each day's winner will have the chance to be chosen "Delegate of the Conference." This winner will receive a free conference registration for their society for the 2009 conference in Little Rock, Arkansas.

---

### "Bring the Whole Gang" Member Society Discount (A reminder from last month's FGS Delegate Digest)

Since everyone's doing rebates this year – whether it's on gasoline or even the U.S. government – the Federation of Genealogical Societies is jumping on that bandwagon to encourage its member societies to bring more individuals from each organization from the conference.



The "Bring the Whole Gang" discount offers rebates from the full conference registration price of \$225 for FGS member societies that bring at least five members to this year's "Footprints of Family History" get-together, to be held in Philadelphia from 3-6 September.

Rebates will be given to the societies after the conference on the following basis:

- For each MEMBER society that brings from five to nine members to the conference – \$30 each off full registration price.
- For each MEMBER society that brings from ten to fifteen members to the conference – \$40 each off full registration.
- For each MEMBER society that brings from fifteen to twenty members to the conference \$50 each off full registration.
- For each MEMBER society that brings more than twenty members to the conference \$50 off each full registration plus \$10 off each Banquet ticket bought by members of the group.

Further details are available online at [www.fgsconference.org/rebate](http://www.fgsconference.org/rebate)

## OTHER FGS ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

### Last Chance to Download Lectures from the FGS 2006 Boston Conference!

Interesting in learning more about Irish, British, or New England Research? Looking for educational resources for your Society?

Now is the time to download lectures from the FGS 2006 (Boston) Conference. **As of August 31, 2008 lectures from the FGS 2006 Conference will no longer be available for download.**

Several packages of 15 sessions are available for \$25 and include topics relating to Society Management, Methodology, New England Research, Technology, and Record Types. Individual lectures can be purchased for \$1.99 each.

To purchase and download these lectures before time runs out, visit [www.lulu.com/fgs2006](http://www.lulu.com/fgs2006)

---

### Society Management Q&A

Questions have been asked of FGS board members regarding different aspects of society management. We thought we'd share some of these questions with you. Any other comments regarding these questions or answers will be greatly appreciated. Send questions and comments to Jana Sloan Broglin at [Jana@janabroglin.com](mailto:Jana@janabroglin.com).

And now, our first question...

"Are you aware of any organizations that provide free or low-fee legal advice to non-profits or genealogical societies?"

Reply:

See if there are any lawyers among your members as a first step. Some attorneys may also do pro bono work. Another idea is an organization called "Society of Retired Executives." There may be someone who can advise you through that group.

---

### Discontinuation of Partnership between FGS and F+W Publications

One of the partners with FGS will no longer be able to offer discounted rates and money back to our member societies. F+W Publications, publisher of *Family Tree Magazine*, will be discontinuing their partnership as of August 1st. All subscriptions each FGS member society has gained in the last month will be honored and checks will be mailed to those societies.

FGS will continue to look for companies that offer a partnership to organizations. A list of those will be published on the FGS website.

## FGS Proposed Bylaw Amendments for the 2008 Ballot

The FGS Board of Directors recommends adoption of the following bylaw amendments. The Board would like the opportunity to conduct elections via electronic means in the manner of many other organizations. The following amendments will not prevent mail balloting, but instead will also allow electronic opportunities as a means of relieving paperwork workload on the office staff, significant cost savings, while preserving secrecy, privacy, and integrity of elections.

- Article V, Section 5.01.B:

Now reads: "Officers shall be elected by mail ballot for a two-year term..."

Proposed amendment: delete "by mail ballot."

Rationale: Allow all forms of voting for the elections of officers, including electronic voting.

The new section would read: "Officers shall be elected for a two-year term..."

---

- Article VI, Section 6.01, E, 4 (Duties of the secretary):

Now reads: "Receive the Nominating Committee's report and direct the mailing of the ballots to all qualified Member Societies by 1 September."

Delete the entire sentence.

Rationale: Remove the mail ballot restriction, as well as removing the restriction for only the secretary to receive the nominating committee report; other designated persons may receive the nominating committee report.

---

- Article XI, Section 11.01, D:

Now reads: "The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates by 1 August. Ballots shall be mailed to all qualified Member Societies by 1 September."

Proposed amendment: delete "mailed" and insert "made available."

Rationale: remove the mail ballot restriction.

The new section would read: "The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates by 1 August. Ballots shall be made available to all qualified Member Societies by 1 September."

---

- Article XI, Section 11.02, A:

Now reads: "All delegates in good standing (representatives of those Member Societies whose dues are paid by 1 August) may vote in the Federation's election."

Proposed amendment: delete the entire phrase.

Rationale: This section is redundant. A member in good standing is already defined elsewhere in the bylaws (Article IV, Section 4.04) and a member's right to vote does not need to be stated in the bylaws.

---

- Article XI, Section 11.02, B:

Now reads: "Voting shall be by secret ballot. Ballots shall be returned in envelopes provided by the Federation, postmarked by 1 October. To ensure that only delegates of qualified Member Societies vote, each Member Society shall place its name and address on the outside of the envelope in which the sealed ballot is returned. To preserve secrecy, sealed ballots shall remain sealed until they are canvassed by tellers appointed by the President. The tellers shall report the results of the election to the President with a copy to the Secretary."

Proposed amendment: revise the paragraph to read: "Voting shall be by secret ballot. Ballots shall be received to the Federation office by 1 October. The tellers shall report the results of the election to the President and the Secretary by 15 October."

Rationale: removed the mail ballot restriction and inserts a deadline for final notification of results to the president and the secretary.

New section would read: Voting shall be by secret ballot. Ballots shall be received to the Federation office by 1 October. The tellers shall report the results of the election to the President and the Secretary by 15 October.

---

- Article XIII, Section 13.02.

Now reads:

- A. Proposed amendments to these bylaws shall be submitted to the Member Societies for ratification by mail or at the Annual Meeting.
- B. Written notification, a copy of the proposed amendments, and a mail ballot shall be sent to Member Societies at least thirty days before the voting period begins.
- C. The Member Societies shall have thirty days from the postmarked date of the notice to vote.
- D. All ballots must be postmarked within the thirty day period to be counted.

Proposed amendment: revise the entire section to read:

- A. Proposed amendments shall be posted on the official FGS web site.
- B. Member societies shall be given written notification not later than thirty days in advance of the voting of the proposed amendments.

Rationale: remove the mail ballot restrictions and allow for the use of the web site as a source of publicity and publication of written notification of proposed bylaw amendments.

New section would read:

- A. Proposed amendments shall be posted on the official FGS web site.
  - B. Member societies shall be given written notification not later than thirty days in advance of the voting of the proposed amendments.
- 

Article XIII, Section 13.03.

Now reads: "...Member societies shall be notified of the results of the vote in the next issue of FORUM.'

Proposed amendment: Delete "of the vote" and insert "by publication on the official FGS web site and in the next issue of the FORUM."

Rationale: use the FGS web site as a source of publication and publicity of election results.

New section would read:

"...Member Societies shall be notified of the results by publication on the official FGS web site and in the next issue of the FORUM."

---

### ***Somos Primos***

*Somos Primos*, dedicated to Hispanic heritage and diversity issues, has published its August 2008 issue (its 104<sup>th</sup> online issue). To view this issue, visit:  
[www.somosprimos.com/sp2008/spaug08/spaug08.htm](http://www.somosprimos.com/sp2008/spaug08/spaug08.htm)



### **Georgia's 1919-27 Death Records Indexed Online**

The State of Georgia has made over 275,000 death certificates accessible online at no cost. Researchers will no longer have to request by mail or personally visit the state archives to obtain certificates for deaths that occurred between 1919 and 1927.

Each name in the searchable online index is linked to a digital image of the actual death

certificate. The extracted information is printed below the digital image. The certificates include age, county of death, parents' names, occupation, gender, race and cause of death.

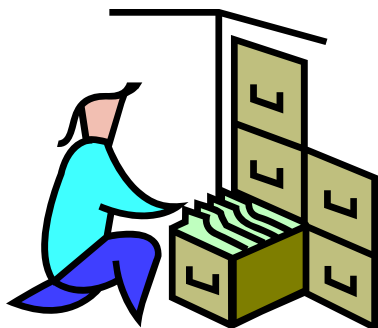
To search the index and view certificates, to go **[www.GeorgiaArchives.org](http://www.GeorgiaArchives.org)**. Under the "most popular" column, click "death certificates."

The death certificate database is part of the Georgia Archives "Virtual Vault." This contains a treasure trove of important Georgia records such as colonial will books (1754-79), colonial wills (1733-78), headright and bounty plats of survey (1783-1909), Chatham County deed books (1785-98), Confederate enlistment oaths and discharges (1861-64) and Confederate pension applications (1879-1960). No printed extractions are available for these records.

The Fall 2007 issue of the Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly has an excellent overview on making the most of a trip to the Georgia Archives. This publication is available at the Lawton Public Library.

(This information was taken from Paul Follett's column Tree Tracers published in the Lawton Constitution on November 26, 2007.)

News item submitted by the Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society (SWOGS)



## RECORDS PRESERVATION & ACCESS COMMITTEE (RPAC) ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Records Preservation & Access Committee (RPAC)** is a joint committee of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), the National Genealogical Society (NGS), the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS). To learn more about its activities, visit: [fgs.org/rpac](http://fgs.org/rpac)

---

### New Brochure: The Case for Open Public Records

RPAC has produced a beautiful new tri-fold brochure that is available for free download and use by genealogy societies and individuals. This new brochure, "The Case for Open Public Records", addresses the facts of genealogical research activities, the benefits of keeping records open to the public, the myths behind efforts to close records, and the RPAC's recommendations as to what access to records is needed.

To view and download a copy of the brochure, visit: [www.jgsny.org/rpac\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.jgsny.org/rpac_brochure.pdf)

---



### Cook County (Illinois) Birth, Marriage, and Death Records

Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson of the Public Records Access Monitoring Committee and a Director-at-Large of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, has recently spoken with both a supervisor and the senior public information officer of the Cook County Vital Records Department regarding the progress of their posting the birth, marriage, and death records on their website ([www.cookcountygenealogy.com/FAQ.aspx](http://www.cookcountygenealogy.com/FAQ.aspx)) as not everything is yet posted. Here is a summary of what Jan has learned:

Not all records are yet posted and it will take upwards of 6 months for the records to be complete. They are waiting for an outside indexing firm to provide them with the indexing to be posted.

Birth records (75 years old and older): There are no birth records yet available indexed on the website prior to 1916. That means that 1916-1933 records should be available.

Marriage records (50 years and older): Some are hand-indexed and there are intermittent years available: 1930-1937, 1940, 1945, 1948, 1949, 1950-1958. They are uploading 1930-1940 marriages.

Death records (20 years and older): 1915-1946, 1949-1957, 1960-1988 should be available.

As it is sporadic and it is being updated in "bits and pieces" there might be some other records in the years mentioned above that are also not yet posted. Just keep trying as they post the update index frequently. Since this opened in early July they have had 6000 people register accounts representing ½ million pages. The international response they have been receiving from China to Croatia shows what an international passion genealogy is and Jan complemented the officer that Cook County has taken such a lead to make the vital records accessible to all.

Jan has asked to be kept apprised of updates on the website and will report again as needed.



## MEMBER SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

If your FGS member society has a major announcement that it would like to have appear in the FGS Delegate Digest, please send the text of the announcement to [delegatedigest@gmail.com](mailto:delegatedigest@gmail.com). Examples of appropriate announcements include the status of major society projects, honors/awards received by the society or one of its members, honors/awards applications, new society publications, etc.

---

## Florida State Genealogical Society Achievement Awards – Application Process

The Florida State Genealogical Society is proud to sponsor a program that recognizes outstanding achievement both in Florida genealogy and genealogy in general: the Genealogy Outstanding Achievement Award and the Florida Genealogy Outstanding Achievement Award. The criteria for each award are listed on the application. If you know of someone who meets these criteria, please consider making a nomination for one of the awards. A PDF version of the application is available online at [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org).

More than one award may be given each year in either or both categories. Awards are presented at the Friday-night banquet during the annual FSGS conference which will be held this year at the Sheraton Orlando – North, 600 North Lake Destiny Drive, Maitland, Florida, on 14-15 November (details are available on the FSGS web site at [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org)). The winners will receive a certificate suitable for framing and recognition in our quarterly, *The Florida Genealogist*.

FSGS also offers a scholarship to a librarian or paraprofessional serving the genealogy community that enables the recipient to receive continuing education in the genealogical field. An application and qualification details may be accessed at [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org).

The deadline for submission of applications is 15 September 2008. For more information, contact Patricia Thomas Martin, Awards and Scholarship Chair, Florida State Genealogical Society, 4501 SW 62 Court, Miami, FL 33155-5936 or at [FSGSinfo@gmail.com](mailto:FSGSinfo@gmail.com).

---

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



### World Digital Library (WDL)

Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the US, and James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress, announced on July 16 that the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has become a founding partner in the World Digital Library (WDL). The World Digital Library will be a free web site featuring multilingual, primary source materials from cultural institutions around the world. NARA will contribute digital versions of important US documents such as the Declaration of Independence and US

Constitution, naturalization and immigration papers of important persons and other documents to WDL which will be launched in 2009 to the international public. All of the images that NARA gave to WDL are now available at the following web address: [www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/world-digital-library](http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/world-digital-library).

For more information on NARA and the Library of Congress participating in the WDL go to: <http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2008/nr08-128.html>

Information on the WDL may be found at: [www.worlddigitallibrary.org](http://www.worlddigitallibrary.org)





## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MEMBER SOCIETIES

If your FGS member society would like to have one of its major events (annual seminar, conference, etc.) listed on this calendar, please send the following information to [delegatedigest@gmail.com](mailto:delegatedigest@gmail.com): date, state/province, city, name of sponsoring society, additional details (such as speakers and topics), contact information, and a URL for more details. To ensure that the information will appear in multiple issues, please submit information several months in advance of the event. For additional events, check the online FGS Calendar at [fgs.org/calendar](http://fgs.org/calendar)

---

### August 16 – Illinois, LaGrange, Czech & Slovak American Genealogy Society of Illinois

1:30 pm. Polished Gems: Property Records Cook County, IL: real estate records held by the Recorder's Office Speaker: **Jeanne Larzalere Bloom**. Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG(SM) is a full-time professional researcher specializing in Chicago and Cook County research, an author, and an editor. She has published articles in a number of journals. She is a member of National Genealogical Society, Association of Professional Genealogists, and other genealogy associations. But ... It's Not Where It Is Supposed to Be! Unpolished Gems: Ms. Bloom, highlights additional records, such as Affidavits (Dates of Death Marriages and Marital Status; Kinship and Family Relationships); Petitions (Change of Surnames); Certificates (Naturalization); Agreements; and Military Discharge Papers. Ms. Bloom's topic is about: The Cook County, IL Irregular Indexes." These indexes begin in 1871 and are non-property records for the Recorder's Office and include pre-1916 birth and death affidavits and change of surnames. Be sure to join us for a most informative session. The meeting is free and is open to the public. It will be held in the First Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, 150 South Ashland Avenue, LaGrange, IL 2 blocks west of La Grange Rd at Elm (Hwy 12 - 45) & 4 blocks south of W. Ogden Ave (Hwy 34). For additional information, contact: Marge Sladek Stueckemann 1-847-362-9036 [mdstueck@aol.com](mailto:mdstueck@aol.com) **[www.CSAGSI.org](http://www.CSAGSI.org)**

### August 16 - Tennessee, Knoxville, East Tennessee Historical Society

"What's in the McClung Historical Collection?" This class gives participants a look at the tremendous genealogical and historical resources to be found in the McClung Historical Collection at the East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville. Instructor: **Steve Cotham**, MA, MLS, Manager of McClung Collection, Knox County Public Library. 10 a.m. to noon. The East Tennessee Historical Society is headquartered in the East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville, along with the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, the Knox County Archives, and the East Tennessee History Museum. Our website is **[www.east-tennessee-history.org](http://www.east-tennessee-history.org)**. All programs take place at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. To register, or for more information about the above program, call 865-215-8809.

### August 23 - California, Grass Valley, Nevada County Genealogical Society

The Nevada County Genealogical Society is presenting its 15th annual *Digging for Your Roots* seminar from 8 am - 4:15 pm at the First Baptist Church, 1866 Ridge Rd., Grass Valley, CA, a full day of techniques to jump start your genealogy research. Speakers will include **Stephen P. Morse** (One Step Webpages), **Susan Jackman** (Using County Histories & Maps in Your Research), **Pamela Dallas** (Cemetery Records & City Directories), **Barbara Leak** (Animap

Software Demo, Evaluating Evidence & Searching for Soldier Ancestors) and other great presenters and presentations. Cost is \$15, optional bag lunch \$5. Contact: [jogears@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jogears@sbcglobal.net), (530) 432-7774 or [ksauers@colfaxnet.com](mailto:ksauers@colfaxnet.com); (530) 274-2362 for more info. Registration: NCGS, c/o Judson Gears, P. O. Box 558, Penn Valley, CA 95946-0558.

### **September 13 – Florida, Tampa, Florida Genealogical Society (of Tampa)**

The Florida Genealogical Society of Tampa is very pleased to announce its annual Fall Seminar, to be held on Saturday, September 13, 2008, at the Dale Mabry campus of Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, FL, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Speaker: **Paula Stuart-Warren**, CG<sup>SM</sup>, an internationally recognized genealogical expert, author, lecturer, and professional researcher who works full-time in the field of genealogy. Paula is a graduate of the National Institute of Genealogical Research held at the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). She is certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists and is a firm believer in continuing education in genealogy. Paula will present four lecture topics at this year's conference: 20th and 21st Century Research; Railroad Records and Railroad History: Methods for Tracking; Organizing Your Genealogical Materials: Methods to Keep it Current; Untrod Ground: Sources You May Not Have Encountered. In conjunction with this year's Fall Seminar, FGS is celebrating its Gala 50th Anniversary. Our society is the oldest genealogical society in the State of Florida! To commemorate this occasion, FGS will host a gala banquet on Friday evening, September 12th, 2008, at the historic Valencia Garden Restaurant in Tampa. Paula will deliver what is guaranteed to be a warm, funny, and engaging banquet talk. We are exceedingly pleased to have Paula Stuart-Warren with us to celebrate our golden anniversary and to present at our annual all-day seminar. You will not be disappointed! A registration form for the seminar and a banquet reservation form are available online at [fgstampa.org](http://fgstampa.org). Maps to the seminar site and to the Valencia Garden Restaurant will be added to the web site soon. There are still seats available for the Gala Banquet!

### **September 18-20 – Montana, Butte, Montana State Genealogical Society**

The Montana State Genealogical Society will host their 19th Annual State Conference at the War Bonnet Hotel in Butte, Montana September 18th, 19th & 20th. Highlights include a bus tour of Butte's Ethnic Neighborhoods & Cemeteries, eight educational seminars, and an exhibit area of genealogical books & materials. Featured speakers are **Ellen Crain**, director, Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives; **John Michael Neill**, regular columnist for [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com)'s website for nearly ten years and presenter of numerous genealogical workshops throughout the U.S.; and **Christy Leskovar**, author of "One Night in a Bad Inn," a genealogical, true book that was a 2007 High Plains Best New Book Award finalist. Full conference brochure and registration form is on the society's website: [www.rootsweb.com~mtmsg](http://www.rootsweb.com~mtmsg)

### **September 20 – Massachusetts, Williamstown, Friends of the National Archives-Pittsfield, MA**

The Friends of the National Archives – Pittsfield, MA, will present its annual Full-Day Genealogy Conference, Life in the Past Lane V, on Saturday, September 20, 2008, at the Williams Inn in Williamstown, MA. The day will include lectures by **Jean Nudd**, **Gregory Pomicter**, **Horace Waters**, and **Linda Blaser**. The registration fee includes morning and afternoon refreshments, lunch, and a roundtable question and answer period hosted by a panel of experts. Several vendors will be on hand to provide products of interest to genealogists. Complete program details and a printable registration form can be found at [www.narafriends-pittsfield.org/calendar.htm](http://www.narafriends-pittsfield.org/calendar.htm) Call 413-236-3600 for further information or to receive a registration form by mail.

### **September 20 - Tennessee, Knoxville, East Tennessee Historical Society**

Revolutionary War Genealogy: How to trace your Revolutionary War ancestor and find his service, pension, and bounty land records. Instructor: **George K. Schweitzer**, Ph.D., ScD. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The East Tennessee Historical Society is headquartered in the East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville, along with the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, the Knox County Archives, and the East Tennessee History Museum. Our website is **[www.east-tennessee-history.org](http://www.east-tennessee-history.org)**. All programs take place at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. To register, or for more information about the above program, call 865-215-8809.

### **October 1-5 – Florida, Madison, Elmer's Genealogy Library**

Elmer's Genealogy Library is celebrating Family History Month! Highlights include featured speaker **John Colletta** (October 4) on the topics of Libraries, Archives and Public Record Offices: Understanding Resource Depositories; Lesser-Used Federal Records: A Sampling for Fresh Research Ideas; Visiting Ancestral Towns in Europe: How to Avoid the Mistakes I Made!; and Assembling and Writing a Narrative Family History. Other speakers include **Melody Porter** (October 2) on the topic of Georgia Research Locations: Not Just for Georgia Researchers; and **Ann Osisek** (October 3) on the topics of The Paper Trail - Ins and Outs of Courthouse Research, and Dead Men (and Women) Do Talk - Effective Cemetery Research. For more details, visit **[www.elmerslibrary.com](http://www.elmerslibrary.com)**.

### **October 2-4 – Iowa, West Des Moines, Iowa Genealogical Society**

Theme: Expanding Your Research Horizons. Speaker: **Meldon J. Wolfgang III**, owner of Jonathan Sheppard Books. Nationally known author, teacher, lecturer and founder of Jonathan Sheppard Books, Meldon J. Wolfgang III served for many years as a city government department head in Albany NY, a position that gave him a unique insider's view of local government records. His knowledge of library and archival resources also comes from years of "inside" experience. Mel was a twenty-year trustee of a major urban public library and also served on the advisory board of one of the nation's first intergovernmental archives. Since 2005, he has written the genealogy column for "Archives", the quarterly publication of the New York State Archives Partnership Trust. Don't miss the added opportunity to chat one-on-one with the local Special-Interest Group Professional of your choice. (Formal sign up will be Friday at the Registration table for this Saturday afternoon networking event). Perhaps, a brick wall - or - two will soon be broken through with the help of our seasoned Ethnic Instructors! Workshops geared to more localized genealogical records/topics will also be offered. For you shoppers-at-heart, MJW's Jonathan Sheppard Books will join us, with his extensive collection of books and maps, including Ethnic/International (and often times rare) titles. A Silent Auction is being planned. Don't miss out! For detailed information, go to **[www.iowagenealogy.org/events\\_activities/2008/annual\\_conf.html](http://www.iowagenealogy.org/events_activities/2008/annual_conf.html)**

### **October 4 - Ohio, Mansfield, Ohio Genealogical Society**

The Ohio Genealogical Society Fall Seminar: **John Humphrey**, speaker. Topics: Researching German Ancestors: The Agony & the Ecstasy (Part I); Researching German Ancestors: The Agony & the Ecstasy (Part II); Researching Pennsylvania Ancestors; Pennsylvania's Early Church Registers. Held at the Kehoe Center, North Central State College, Shelby, Ohio. OGS Members: \$30.00; Non-OGS members: \$35.00. Contact information: Ohio Genealogical Society, 713 South Main St., Mansfield OH 44907-1644; Phone: 419-756-7294 E-Mail: [ogs@ogs.org](mailto:ogs@ogs.org) Web site: **[www.ogs.org](http://www.ogs.org)**

#### **October 11 – Missouri, Sunset Hills, Saint Louis Genealogical Society**

The Saint Louis Genealogical Society will present "Finding our German Ancestors" featuring **Larry O. Jensen**, a nationally-known lecturer. The program will be: ABCs of German Genealogical Research; Determining Place of Origin of Emigran Ancestors; Maps and Atlases; Sources Used in Resolving Intermediate and Advanced German Research Problems. Location of event: Viking Holiday Inn, 10709 Watson Road Sunset Hills, MO . For complete information, visit: [www.stlgs.org](http://www.stlgs.org)

#### **October 18 - Tennessee, Knoxville, East Tennessee Historical Society**

Internet Genealogy: Students will use individual computers to explore seven major Internet genealogical sites. It is limited to 22 participants. Instructor: **George K. Schweitzer**, Ph.D., Sc.D. Pre-registration is required. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The East Tennessee Historical Society is headquartered in the East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville, along with the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, the Knox County Archives, and the East Tennessee History Museum. Our website is [www.east-tennessee-history.org](http://www.east-tennessee-history.org). All programs take place at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. To register, or for more information about the above program, call 865-215-8809.

#### **October 24-25 – Texas, Abilene, Texas State Genealogical Society**

Texas State Genealogical Society will host its annual conference featuring **Thomas W. Jones**, Ph.D., CG, CGL presenting six topics. The theme for the conference is "Following the Evidence Trail". The Lone Star chapter of APG will offer free 15-minute consultations on brick wall problems. Other special activities will include TSGS partner society help sessions, round table mini-sessions for small group discussions and the awards banquet to recognize writing, volunteer, website, scholarship, and grant winners. A full slate of vendors will also be on hand. For a conference schedule and more detailed information go to the society's website [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs/)

#### **October 25 – Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, North Hills Genealogists**

In honor of October being Family History Month, the North Hills Genealogists [of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania] is hosting an all-day conference on Saturday, 25 October 2008. A great program features speakers **Pamela K. Boyer**, CG, CGL of Springfield, Virginia and **J. Mark Lowe**, CG of Springfield, Tennessee. In addition to formal lectures, the conference will give attendees a unique opportunity to interact with these knowledgeable and personable speakers in small group discussions. This will provide a forum for attendees to get their questions answered and to get ideas for further research. The conference will be held at Christ Episcopal Church, 5910 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237 where parking is free. A continental breakfast and hot lunch are included in the modest price with early bird discounts until September 16. All are invited! More information may be found at [www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org](http://www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org).

#### **October 25 - New Mexico, Roswell, Wilson-Cobb History & Genealogy Research Library**

Fall Workshop, "Celebrating Your Heritage", sponsored by the Wilson-Cobb History & Genealogy Research Library. Speaker: **Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck** of Dallas, TX. Topics: "How to Find the

Maiden Names of Females," "Substitutes for Birth and Death Records," "Bridging the Atlantic: Finding Your Ancestral Home," and "The Scots-Irish in Colonial America." Contact Information: Wilson -Cobb Research Library; 301 S. Richardson; PO Box 1216; Roswell, NM 88202-2516; Phone (575)622-3322; email--wilsoncobb@dfn.com; website--[www.wilsoncobb.org](http://www.wilsoncobb.org).

### **October 30-November 1 - New York, Saratoga Springs, The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society**

Yorkers, Yankees, and Beyond: Tracking New York Ancestors Into, Across, and Around the State. A Conference for Genealogists and Historians. Thursday-Saturday, October 30-November 1, 2008, at the Gideon Putnam Spa Resort, Saratoga Springs, NY. Our keynote speaker is **Meldon J. Wolfgang III**, author, teacher, lecturer, and founder of Jonathan Sheppard Books. Our program will begin with a welcome wine and cheese reception Thursday evening, followed by two days of lectures, two luncheons with speakers, and a Friday evening banquet featuring **Kathleen Roe**, Chief of Archival Services, New York State Archives, and a casual Saturday evening dinner. Scheduled Speakers: **Fred Bassett**, MLS, (University of Michigan), is Senior Librarian of Manuscripts and Special Collections of the New York State Library; **Peter Christoph** is the editor of twelve books in the New York Colonial Manuscripts series; **Dorothy Dougherty** is the Public Programs Specialist at the National Archives – N.Y.; **James D. Folts**, PhD., the Head of Reference Services at the New York State Archives; **David M. Kleiman** co-founder and chair of the New York Computers and Genealogy Special Interest Group; **Joseph Lieby**, Ed. D. is an officer of the Orange Co. G.S. and newsletter editor for N.Y. Chapter of Palatines to America; **Karen Livsey**, is the Librarian/Archivist at the Fenton History Center in Jamestown, New York; **Morris A. Pierce**, Ph. D. is adjunct assistant professor at the U. of Rochester, teaching courses on the history of New York, the American Military, and Technology; **Peter G. Rose** is the author of several books on Dutch culinary history; **Eric J. Roth** is Executive Director at the Huguenot Historical Society in New Paltz. Registration: You may sign up for the full conference (\$140 members/non-members) or for either of the two days (\$85). Syllabus: All registrants will receive a copy of the conference syllabus, containing materials submitted by each lecturer on the contents of their presentations. Hotel: The Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa is located at 24 Gideon Putnam Road, Saratoga Springs. Attendees wishing to stay at the hotel should contact them directly. Conference rate of \$121 for a single or double room is available at the Gideon Putnam by requesting the NYG&B discount. Please call 518-584-3000 or 800-732-1560 to book your accommodations. You may register on-line at [www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org](http://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org). Contact Lauren Maehrlein at [education@nygbs.org](mailto:education@nygbs.org) or call 212-755-8532, ext. 36, for additional information

### **November 14-15 – Florida, Maitland, Florida State Genealogical Society**

The Florida State Genealogical Society (FSGS) 2008 Genealogy Conference will be held 14-15 November 2008 at the Sheraton Orlando – North, 600 North Lake Destiny Drive, Maitland, FL 32751. Mention FSGS for a special room rate (\$88.00 + taxes). Rooms are being held until October 23. For reservations call (866) 837-5175. Featured Guest Speaker: **Jana Sloan Broglin**, CG<sup>SM</sup>, Swanton, Ohio. Ms. Broglin is an Ohio native and a well-known genealogical writer, professional genealogist, and national lecturer. She is the Vice-President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and a past Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) Trustee. She is also an associate for the Board of Certification of Genealogist as a Certified Genealogist. Her publications include articles for the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Indiana Genealogist, the FGS FORUM, Family Tree Magazine, Ancestry Magazine, NGS NewsMagazine, and two FGS Society Strategy Papers. She also has over 60 books published on Kentucky and Ohio and was named a Kentucky Colonel for her writings. Her presentations will include: Hookers, Crooks and Kooks: Aunt Merle Didn't Run a Boarding House; See Ya in the Funnies;

When Johnny Comes Marching Home - A Borton Family Case Study; Organizing 101 - True Confessions of a "Pile It". For more information, visit [flsgs.org](http://flsgs.org).

#### **November 15 - Tennessee, Knoxville, East Tennessee Historical Society**

"Jumpstart Your Genealogy in Nineteen Minutes". This class will be repeated four times with classes at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. Each session is limited to ten participants, so pre-registration is required. The class is designed to give a starting point for those who wish to do genealogical research but do not know where or how to begin. A knowledgeable genealogist will assist each person registered for this online course. The registration form includes a three-generation ancestral chart that must be filled out as completely as possible and returned to the East Tennessee Historical Society by November 7. Instructor: **George K. Schweitzer**, Ph.D., ScD. The East Tennessee Historical Society is headquartered in the East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville, along with the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, the Knox County Archives, and the East Tennessee History Museum. Our website is [www.east-tennessee-history.org](http://www.east-tennessee-history.org). All programs take place at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. To register, or for more information about the above program, call 865-215-8809.

#### **December 13 - Tennessee, Knoxville, East Tennessee Historical Society**

Christmas Genealogical Workshop. Six instructors will be available in the McClung Historical Collection to assist you personally with research. Limited to 30 participants; pre-registration required. Mentors: Staff of the East Tennessee Historical Society, the McClung Historical Collection, and the Knox County Archives. The East Tennessee Historical Society is headquartered in the East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville, along with the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection, the Knox County Archives, and the East Tennessee History Museum. Our website is [www.east-tennessee-history.org](http://www.east-tennessee-history.org). All programs take place at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. To register, or for more information about the above program, call 865-215-8809.