Record Access in a Post-9/11 World
**Blockbusters for 2012**

4 New QUICKSHEETS!

The Historical Biographer’s Series by Elizabeth Shown Mills. 8½” x 11”. Four-sided laminated folders

**QUICKSHEET: The Historical Biographer’s Guide to Cluster Research (the FAN Principle). #3868. $8.95**

Introduces the researcher to the concept of “Cluster Research,” based on the FAN principle: to prove identity, origin, and parentage, individuals must be studied in the context of their Fan club—family, associates, and neighbors. The true value of any piece of information is unknown until it is put into community context.

**QUICKSHEET: The Historical Biographer’s Guide to Finding People in Databases & Indexes. #3869. $8.95**

While databases and indexes are valuable tools for research, they can actually impede the research process. Why—because historical records involve vagaries that defy technical formulas. Databases and indexes then become obstacles that actually block discoveries. This QuickSheet shows how to adopt pro-active strategies to overcome this problem.

**QUICKSHEET: The Historical Biographer’s Guide to the Research Process. #3867. $8.95**


**QUICKSHEET: The Historical Biographer’s Guide to Individual Problem Analysis. 8½” x 11”. Two-sided laminated sheet. #3870. $6.95**

Recognizing that solutions to tough research problems require thoughtful analysis, Mrs. Mills has designed a 10-step solution to genealogical problems to help researchers construct a case for their proposed solution. Also contains a “Life Stages Worksheet” covering most life events from birth to death through six stages of life.

**Kinship: It’s All Relative. 2nd Edition Enlarged**

By Jackie Smith Arnold. 156 pp., indexed, paper. 2012. #178. $14.95

Here is the 2012 version of this classic book that explains everything there is to know about kinship. This edition includes a new chapter on the role of same-sex marriage as it impacts genealogy and family history, placing same-sex marriage in the context of history, law, religion, and the changing culture of the modern family.

**Genealogy at a Glance: 8½” x 11”. Four-sided laminated folders**

Compiled by respected authorities, each “Genealogy at a Glance” is a four-page distillation of the key ingredients in a given area of genealogical research, providing what is arguably the best pages ever written on those subjects. In a few deft sentences each outline provides all the basic instruction you need, focusing on key record sources and materials for further reference, and finishing with a summing up of record repositories and online sources.

**New “At a Glance” Titles in 2012:**

**U.S. Federal Census Research.**

By Kory L. Meyerink. #3874. $8.95

Where are census records located? How do you access them and how do you use them? What are their limitations? These questions and more are answered here. This outline also provides tips for research, a list of the best books for further reference, instructions for online research, census search strategies, and a description of the major online resources for census research.

**Pennsylvania Genealogy Research.**

By John T. Humphrey. #2948. $8.95

This publication provides an overview of topics that are essential to Pennsylvania genealogy, from settlement background and record sources to Internet sites and libraries.

**American Cemetery Research.**

By Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. #887. $8.95

Tombstones are more like artifacts than documents, and they require a different approach and give rise to different expectations. This outline covers the unique aspects of cemetery research.

**French Genealogy Research.**

By Claire Bettig. #479. $8.95

French research starts with the vital records of birth, marriage, and death, and especially parish registers before 1792 and civil registrations after 1792. Identifying an ancestor’s town of origin is also critical. Once determined (with tips given here to make it easier), research is generally conducted in the departmental archives, including notarial records and censuses.

**Virginia Genealogy Research.**

By Carol McGinnis. #3528. $8.95

Many of the records of interest to genealogists are kept at the county level. Using this as an organizing principle, McGinnis discusses the background, location, and use of vital records, church records, cemetery records, land records, probate records, and military records.

**Postage & Handling:** One item $4.50; each additional item $2.50.
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Since its inception in 1983, the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund (named for the first chairman of the fund) has contributed nearly $100,000 to the National Archives and Records Administration to create finding aids and produce microfilms of interest to the genealogical community. It has been funded primarily by $1 contributions from you, the family historian, through the commitment of your society to contribute $1 to the fund for each member.

Contribute now to the DOLLARS FOR DOCUMENTS DRIVE

Yes! Count us in! Enclosed is our society’s donation of $________ for the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund’s Dollars for Documents drive.

Name of society

Make check payable to “Stern NARA Gift Fund”
Mail to: Stern NARA Gift Fund/Federation of Genealogical Societies;
P.O. Box 200940; Austin, TX 78720-0940
FGS Purpose
Founded in 1976, the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) is a nonprofit organization comprised of more than 500 genealogical/historical societies and libraries, ultimately representing more than one million individual genealogists. The Federation actively represents and protects societies, coordinates and facilitates their activities, and monitors events that are critical to the future of genealogy. The Federation aims to serve the needs of member societies, provide products and services to improve organizational management, and marshal the resources and national efforts of historical and genealogical organizations.

FGS Membership
Organizations or societies wishing information on membership or activities of FGS should direct inquiries to FGS Business Office, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940. Phone: (512) 336-2731; fax: (512) 336-2732. E-mail: office@fgs.org. Visit our website at www.fgs.org. Membership is on a calendar basis from January to December.

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Appointments
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LEGAL ADVISOR: Frederick E. Moss, l.l.m., jd, Plano, Texas

National Conference & Chairs
2012 (August 28–September 1)
Birmingham, Alabama; David Rencher.
2013 (August 21–August 24)
Fort Wayne, Indiana; Paula Stuart-Warren and Dawne Slater Putt.
The War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Files in the National Archives are being digitized and placed online for FREE! A Bicentennial project led by the Federation of Genealogical Societies in conjunction with Fold3, Ancestry.com and the National Archives. Help make this $3.7M dollar project a reality by the end of the War of 1812 Bicentennial in 2015!

To take an image of each pension page costs approximately .45 cents. Every dollar you contribute preserves two images of these precious documents for future generations. In addition, Ancestry.com has generously offered to match all contributions, so now each dollar contributed will digitize four pages. With 7.2 million images, there is much to do and you can help us make a difference!

IF YOU…
• Love history and its precious records
• Have an ancestor who served in the War
• Support historical records being made available for FREE
• Believe in preserving the history of the United States of America
• Are a friend of the National Archives of the United States
• Support public or private partnerships in government to reduce taxes
• Want your children and grand-children to have a meaningful historical experience

THEN JOIN US in this effort to Preserve the Pensions and honor the memory of the 180,000 soldiers who served in the War of 1812. If donating in memory of a specific individual or soldier, please share that name.

Send us your $25, $45, $100, $250, or $500 gift today!

To contribute online or to learn more go to: www.preservethepensions.org
Or mail your tax deductible contributions payable to: FGS-War of 1812, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940

To view the FREE images already online, go to: go.fold3.com/1812pensions/
A Final Word…

By Pat Oxley, FGS President, 2009-12

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as the FGS President for the past four years, but in keeping with this year’s Olympic spirit, it is time to pass the torch. As I reflect back on the changes over the past four years, I am proud of the hard working board of directors and many volunteers who helped move the Federation in a positive direction.

Since 2009, FGS has “gone green.” Our FORUM quarterly magazine is now in electronic format and becomes more interactive and interesting with each new issue. Our voting, surveys, and renewals are all electronic. We have created a radio show, webinars, and outstanding conferences, with many new ideas still on the horizon.

The FGS board of directors took on the worthwhile, but daunting, task of raising millions of dollars to ensure the War of 1812 pension records are digitized and provided to the community free of charge for many years to come. We are deep in to a fundraising campaign that has proven to be very successful, but we still need to raise additional funds. We look to our societies and their members to help reach the goal with an even greater sense of community spirit.

On 1 January 2013, I will be proud to pass the torch to Josh Taylor, as our incoming President. Josh and I have been working side-by-side for many months to ensure a smooth transition. Josh will take FGS to a new level with his boundless energy and innovative ideas. I look to working on new projects for FGS as I remain on the board as Past President.

As society leaders, we need to remember that “passing the torch” is part of our job. We are the temporary custodians of our office, not the owners of it. The most wonderful gift you can give your society is your time and talent—and then pass it to others who have these same gifts to give. Nothing energizes an organization more than new blood. Be proud of your accomplishments, but look to the future and pass it on.

With my best wishes,
Pat Oxley
FGS President, 2009–12
It was Tuesday, 11 September 2001. Many of us were in Davenport, Iowa, preparing for the FGS/Quad Cities 2001 Conference and getting ready to celebrate the Federation of Genealogical Societies’ twenty-fifth anniversary. The FGS Anniversary Committee had made wonderful plans for the celebration and for all conference attendees—there would be cake, balloons, door prizes. Everything was ready and waiting for the big event. Lou Szucs and Sandra Luebking had updated the FGS history and brought beautiful scrapbooks of the previous twenty-five years for all of us to enjoy.

Then suddenly, on a beautiful promising sunny day in Davenport, our lives changed as a nation and as a genealogical community. The national and world news wires lit up with reports of a terrorist attack on the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, and all of our non-conference attention was focused on the unfolding stories of tragedy, miracles, and the heroic actions so many who stepped up in America’s finest hour. Indeed, we were all glued to reports from New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC. The hotel brought in television monitors in the lobby areas for all of us to watch the unfolding events and to try to get some idea of what state and national authorities knew of the situation.

In our circles, we witnessed a conference committee spring into action and immediately transform a program to fill all of the missing presentations due to speakers who were stranded across the country and could not get to Iowa. Attendees changed their travel plans from flying to driving and things went on as normally as they could under the most extenuating of circumstances. But this was FGS, we had already weathered the floods of the Mississippi at our St. Louis conference in 1999. It
was at an FGS Conference that we heard the news that a tornado had struck Salt Lake City and jumped over the Family History Library.

Little did we know on that September morning the transforming effect that single day would have on our access to genealogical records in the decade that would follow. It would provide the most profound rallying cry for legislators in every state and at the national level to create a unifying bi-partisan call-to-action to move bills restricting access to records though both sides of the house in record times.

With the increase in connectivity in an online, virtual, post-9/11 world, identity theft became commonplace and the Internet was the tool of choice for identity thieves. Genealogical databases quickly became the favorite target of legislators and their staff trying to draft legislation to protect their constituents from this very personal attack. In election years, this is the one safe piece of legislation that legislators can sponsor and appear to be watching out for the districts they represent. In some way, all of us have been touched by the crime of identity theft if only the additional costs we pay across the board for companies and governments to implement security procedures.

The events of 9/11 coupled with the increased threat of “identity theft” ensured that few elected officials wanted to be perceived as opposing any piece of legislation that would prevent identity theft and thus protect each individual citizen and the nation as a whole from attacks like the one on September 11th. Never was there a more important time for the Records Preservation and Access Committee than today.

Mission of RPAC
The Record Access and Preservation Committee (RPAC) has a clear, direct mission statement:

To advise the genealogical community on ensuring proper access to historical records of genealogical value in whatever media they are recorded, on means to affect legislation, and on supporting strong records preservation policies and practices.

To do this properly, it is imperative that we gather clear accurate information on each issue. Pulling the trigger to get the community rallied before we have an accurate picture of the situation will surely do more harm than good. Some perceive this method as non-responsive. What is going on behind the scenes is a clear agenda of contacting legislative offices, gathering facts, and then posting communication and recommendations online.

A key element of the committee’s work is the need for state liaisons in each state. Currently twenty-two states do not have a state liaison. This cripples the effectiveness of the committee. To view a list of the states needing liaisons, go to the FGS website at <www.fgs.org/rpac>.

In the decade following 9/11, we have witnessed several successes in opening access to records. And there are currently several opportunities for RPAC to fight to keep records open. Below are a few in both categories.

Successes
Arizona has placed birth and death records online with a 50-year closure for death records and a 75-year closure for births.

Pennsylvania—S 361. Birth records will be available 105 years from the date of birth (used to be restricted and no public access) and 50 years from the date of death (used to be closed from 1906)—transferred to Pennsylvania State Archives, which means these once-closed records are now open records.

Virginia—S 660 Chapter 356 Laws of 2012. Effective July 1, 2012, Death, marriage, divorce, and annulment records are available after 25 years (previously 50 years). Birth records are accessible 105 years from date of birth. An online index will be created by a private company for birth, marriage, and death records—with images.

Michigan—where the genealogical-book collection of materials representing states other than Michigan have been preserved by the State Archives rather than being dispersed to a number of libraries throughout Michigan and neighboring states.
In the decade following 9/11, we have witnessed several successes in records access.

Opportunities

Social Security Death Master File—The threat currently exists that the entire Social Security Death Master File may be redacted from the general public and access limited to a small set of industries designated to have access on a need-to-know basis. To keep abreast of this issue, visit the RPAC website at <www.fgs.org/rpac>.

Military Honorable Discharge Certificates—The Veterans of Foreign Wars has been working to introduce state-by-state legislation that will close access to Military Honorable Discharge Certificates in county courthouses throughout the country.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)—Rep. Jason Chaffetz has led the fight to eliminate the funding for the NHPRC. In a press release dated 27 July 2010, the following mis-information was given:

> Washington, DC—Today, Congressman Jason Chaffetz introduced HR 5865, which prohibits the National Historic Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) from funding non-federal projects.

The federal government annually spends roughly $850 million on three different archive programs. One authorized program within NHPRC currently spends $10 million per year on grants for state and local governments, universities, and other institutions to preserve and publish non-federal records. NHPRC funding duplicates efforts by the National Endowment for the Humanities (total budget: $167.5 million) and Institute for Museum and Library Services (total budget: $282 million per year). HR 5865 would refocus NHPRC on its original mission of preserving federal records. (Bold and italics added) <http://chaffetz.house.gov/press-release/rep-chaffetz-introduces-bill-stop-wasting-archives-grants>

Yet, if you read the NHPRC mission statement www.archives.gov/nhprc, you will find the following:

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), supports a wide range of activities to preserve, publish, and encourage the use of documentary sources, created in every medium ranging from quill pen to computer, relating to the history of the United States. (Bold added)

Well the history of the United States is to be found in every state in the Union. The NHPRC gives grants to the states to preserve and publish these records. They were not established to preserve federal records as Mr. Chaffetz states. It is likely that this is an error on the part of his staff and that they have misinformed him in his zeal to reduce federal spending.

Summary

We often ask—“what can I do?” To assist the Records Preservation and Access Committee, you can:

Learn.

• Learn before you leap

Connect.

• Be informed—Organize to stay informed
• Communicate with your society members
• Communicate with the RPAC

Succeed.

• If your state does not have representation on RPAC, make a nomination for a State Liaison
• Work together—We Can Make a Difference
FAMILY FINDER
FINALLY A DNA TEST WHERE THE GENDER DOES NOT MATTER ANYMORE.

TOGETHER WITH THE Y-DNA AND THE mtDNA TEST, THE FAMILY FINDER TEST WILL HELP YOU FIND FAMILY ACROSS ALL OF YOUR LINES.

The next revolution in genetic genealogy
The science is simple—linked blocks of DNA across the 22 autosomal chromosomes are matched between two people. The degree of matching yields evidence for the relationship. You have exciting opportunities!

Adoptees discover their heritage
With the power of an autosomal DNA test, confidently match to male and female cousins from any of your family lines. This can provide you with the clues you need to learn more about your birth parents’ families.

Match with five generations of family
With the Family Finder test you may extend the power of genetic genealogy to all of your ancestors. You can discover connections to descendants of all sixteen of your great-great-grandparents!

Organize using FTDNA projects
For over ten years, our project administrators have used our tests to achieve success after success. Whether you choose to start a new Family Finder project or integrate Family Finder testing into your current project, Family Tree DNA has the analytical tools you need.

Using the tools provided by Family Finder’s features I confirmed a second cousin relationship. Congratulations to Family Tree DNA for this exciting new product to help us genetic genealogists unravel the mysteries in our trees and family relationships.”

G.K.

“I just got my Family Finder test results and I matched with a familiar person...This is a homerun because I now lowered my most common recent ancestor by 1 generation.”

Bill

“At the age of 64, the only connection I have to my past is through Family Tree DNA. With gratitude to your organization, I have now met a distant cousin face-to-face.”

Esther

More information
Visit Family Tree DNA online at www.familytreedna.com. 713.868.1438. info@familytreedna.com

TO ORDER YOUR FAMILY FINDER TEST TODAY
CALL 713.868.1438 OR VISIT WWW.FAMILYTREEDNA.COM!
The Federation of Genealogical Societies launched its new website on 28 August 2012 at its annual conference in Birmingham, Alabama. The Web address remains www.fgs.org, but visitors will be greeted with a strikingly colorful new website that incorporates the Federation’s “Learn, Connect, Succeed” theme and a number of new and exciting features. Let’s take an in-depth tour of the site to help you understand what great resources are available there.

Home Page
The home page displays the primary groups of resources in the left-hand menu list. Most of these links also have sub-menus of their contents. Simply click on a resource link to be taken to the appropriate page.

The centerpiece of the home page is the “Learn, Connect, Succeed” theme. Under each of these main topics, you will find links to FGS’s resources for learning, connecting with the community and succeeding as a society. Read on for more details about each of these areas.

If you are looking for something specific on the website and are not sure where it is, look for the Site Index and Search links under the “Learn, Connect, Succeed” portion. The Site Index lists all the site’s Web pages. The Search link allows you to search the entire website for specific content of interest.

Other areas of the home page are frequently updated to provide news about the most popular activities involving FGS, its partners, and its members. There is

Introducing the New FGS Website!
By George G. Morgan
a box at the bottom of the page with a tan background. This “rotator” will change every time you refresh or reload the page. FGS uses this area to highlight special events, projects, and services that you will be interested to learn more about.

The top of the home page features the familiar icons inviting you to follow FGS on Facebook, on Twitter, and on our FGS Voice blog.

**About FGS**
The About FGS section shares a vast amount of information about the Federation. This area includes links to:
- **The FGS Bylaws**
- **The FGS Board** lists all the officers, directors, appointees, and standing committees. E-mail contact information is provided for each listing.
- **FGS Member Societies** lists all current members.
- **The History** area contains extensive history of FGS and is being expanded.
- **Mission and Projects** provides links to FGS projects initiatives including the War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions program, the Malcolm H. Stern-NARA Gift Fun, the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC), the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS), the World Archives Project, and FGS Outreach.
- **Giving Opportunities** provides information about donating to the Preserve the Pensions, Friends of the Federation, and the Stern-NARA Gift Fund. You can make donations online or by mail. FGS now accepts MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover credit cards.

**Our Members**
The Our Members webpage lists all current FGS members, including genealogical societies, historical societies, family associations, libraries, archives, educational organizations, and genealogy vendors.

**Membership Information**
The Membership Information section describes the membership benefits for societies, associates, and vendors, as well as the dues structure. Membership is not open to individuals. We offer the ability to join or renew membership online or by mail.

**Members-Only Area**
Membership has its privileges, and FGS members have access to many resources in the Members-Only Area. These include:
- **Member Files** contains two important publications: *The FGS Membership Handbook* details all of the membership benefits. The *Guide to Maintaining Your Profile* describes how to update your organization’s membership profile, which in turn updates your Society Hall listing. The *Reach Out Series* provides documents to help expand your society’s reach in the community. The archive of the *FGS FORUM*, our electronic quarterly magazine, extends from Spring 1989 to present, offering a wealth of articles to help develop and manage your society. Images for Your Website includes the FGS Member logo that you can add to your organization’s website.
- **Discussion Boards** are a new feature of the FGS website. They are a useful tool for sharing information and exchanging ideas with other people.
encourage you to share ideas that work and best practices that can contribute to successes.

- **Bylaws Review, Newsletter Review, and Website Review** are free services offered by FGS to its member societies.
- The **FGS Insurance Program** was developed by FGS with Wells Fargo Insurance to provide a resource for four types of insurance coverage for member societies.
- **Submit Event** provides a facility for member societies to submit details about their conferences and other special events for inclusion in the Upcoming Events calendar.
- **Edit Profile** is an important new facility for FGS members. Your organization can now take full responsibility for maintaining your information, including society name, address, contact person details, website and e-mail, membership information, publications, and more. FGS has added new fields to list additional Web and social media communications venues, including your society’s blog URL, Facebook page URL, Twitter address, and Google+ address. You can now extend your exposure more than ever before. In addition, another new feature is the ability to change your organization’s login password.
- **Logoff** allows you to log out of the Members-Only Area and prevent unauthorized access to your data.

**Conferences**
The Conferences area provides access to information about upcoming FGS Conferences, to a listing of all previous conferences, and to the FGS Speaker Compensation Policy.

**Learn**
FGS provides many opportunities for learning. This Learn area focuses on these research opportunities with extensive details from across the entire FGS website.

- **FGS Conferences** links to the Conferences area described above.
- **FGS FORUM** provides details about our electronic quarterly, subscription plans, and more.
- **FORUM Index** provides a searchable index to articles from FORUM from 1998 to 2006, with plans to extend the index to present.
- **FGS Radio** tells you all about FGS’s live My Society radio program, broadcast on the Internet and recorded for subsequent download.
- **FGS’s classic Society Strategies Series** papers are available for free download in PDF format.
- **Webinars** are part of the FGS education program, and FGS will be expanding this program later this year.
- **FGS has created a searchable Wiki (knowledgebase) based on the Society Strategy Series papers and other useful information about society management. Look for more information coming soon.**

**Connect**
FGS exists to help genealogical societies and other related organizations connect and communicate with one another. It helps to share “best practices” and to discuss what does and does not work. The Connect area contains links to the following:

- **FGS Conferences** links to the Conferences area described above.
- **FGS Voice** provides information about the FGS blogs and subscription to the free monthly electronic newsletter by the same name.
- The Records Preservation and Access Committee, also known as RPAC, is a joint committee of FGS, the National Genealogical Society (NGS), the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS). This link takes you to the RPAC website.
• FGS Discussion Boards are a Members-Only feature described above.

• Society Hall is a member benefit where members can publish extensive listings about their society as well as promote their organization. As a member organization, you can update and maintain your information and make it instantly available. Society Hall is searchable, and you can use it to locate and learn more about FGS member societies. It is great for making contact, planning a research trip, or requesting research assistance.

Media Center
This area provides links to FGS' Facebook, Twitter, and Blog sites, and contains the collection of our press releases.

Free Downloads
We provide free access to the archive of previous issues of the FGS Voice electronic newsletters and the full collection of Society Strategy Series papers, all in PDF format.

Contact Us
Here you will find a full list of the FGS contact options, including the mail address, telephone and fax numbers, and email addresses of the full FGS Board. If you’re not sure whom to contact, you can always use the Web Contact Form and we’ll direct your message to the appropriate person.

The Learn, Connect, and Succeed boxes at the foot of every FGS webpage can be clicked at any time and will take you to the respective page and its content and links.

Looking to the Future
Our volunteers have spent literally hundreds of hours to create the new website, migrate information from the old site, and develop new content for visitors. We believe that a website is never complete. It is a dynamic ambassador to the world, and it must stay up-to-date. New content should be added frequently, news must be rapidly communicated, and the site must always be easy to use.

FGS is committed to linking the genealogical community on many levels. Our new FGS website will grow and evolve over time. We hope you will visit often and use the resources to help your own organization.

George G. Morgan is Vice President of Membership for FGS. He is also president of Aha! Seminars, Inc., a Tampa-based company offering genealogical seminars and continuing education for library personnel. He is the prolific author of 10 books and literally hundreds of print and only articles. He is co-host of The Genealogy GuysSM Podcast with his partner, Drew Smith.
New from NEHGS
Genealogist’s Handbook for New England Research
5th Edition

Edited by Michael J. Leclerc

This handbook is an indispensable resource for anyone doing research in Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

More than just a how-to book, it is a location guide to public records, repositories, libraries, and genealogical societies throughout New England.

What’s new in the 5th edition?

• Introductory essays for each state
• State and county maps
• Charts, artwork, and photos
• Updated repository information
• Lists of parent and daughter towns
• Two-color format throughout

— the definitive guide to New England research

AmericanAncestors.org • 1-888-296-3447 • thebookstore@nehgs.org
The Federation of Genealogical Societies’ 2013 conference committee along with local hosts, the Allen County Public Library (ACPL) and the Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana, is busy planning a fabulous genealogy conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Make sure to mark your calendars for 21–24 August 2013.

Genealogists of all levels are sure to learn something new in the many genealogy lectures on Thursday through Saturday. Society leaders, volunteers, and everyone who values the work of societies will want to participate in Society Management Day on Wednesday, 21 August. Librarians will want to mark their calendars for Tuesday, 20 August so that they can join Librarian’s Day.

The FGS 2013 program committee “promises four full days of informative, relevant lectures covering a plethora of topics including technology, genetics, military records, society management, and methodology. Prominent, engaging speakers will motivate and inspire you with new ideas. By Saturday’s final session you will be ready to take your genealogy to the next level.”

The conference’s special events will include the FGS event on Wednesday night at the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory. Thursday night will be a time to explore the vendors and societies in the Exhibit Hall and Society Showcase. Spend some time Friday night researching your ancestors at ACPL during extended research hours. And don’t forget the closing event, the FGS Sunday Brunch.

Conference Hotels
The Fort Wayne conference hotels are now taking reservations. Make sure to book your room early to guarantee your spot in the middle of all the great events planned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Toll-Free</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>Courtyard by Marriott Fort Wayne Downtown</td>
<td>1150 South Harrison Street · Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802 USA</td>
<td>1-260-490-3629</td>
<td>1-866-704-6163</td>
<td>&lt;www.marriott.com/fwadt&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center</td>
<td>1020 South Calhoun Street · Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46802-3005</td>
<td>1-260-420-1100</td>
<td>1.800.HILTONS</td>
<td>&lt;www.ft.wayne.hilton.com&gt;</td>
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</tbody>
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Reservations may be made through 21 July 2013 online or by telephone. Reservations made online must use the customized URL provided above.
Reservations may be made through 18 July 2013 online or by telephone.

**Research Your Ancestors at Allen County Public Library**

Visiting Fort Wayne during the FGS 2013 conference will give you a chance to search for your ancestors among the more than one million books, microfilm, and microfiche in the Allen County Public Library’s Genealogy Center. Their collection contains material from all fifty US states, Canada, the British Isles, and other locations worldwide.

Printed volumes from all fifty states are in their US local-record collection. Books include local histories, cemetery transcriptions, indexes to local records, and much more.

The Genealogy Center has a large collection of family histories, ranging from brief accounts to multi-volume works. They also have some family histories on microfiche and numerous family newsletters.

The city directory collection at ACPL has more than forty-eight thousand R.L. Polk directories from across the United States, as well as directories from other publishers. Most of the printed city directories are dated after 1960, but the center has a great collection of directories on microfilm and microfiche dating from 1785.

If that was not enough, the Genealogy Center is also home of a vast collection of genealogy and local history periodicals. To make them easier to research, ACPL has created PERSI, the PERiodical Source Index. PERSI indexes articles based on surname, location, and topic. It is available electronically at Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com.

ACPL plans to extend research hours during the conference, but you might want to stay in Fort Wayne for an extra day or two to give you extra time to find your ancestors in their vast collection. Make sure to check their website before your visit to explore the center’s collection and utilize the online databases.

**Midwest Research Opportunities**

Fort Wayne is an easy drive to a number of wonderful archives in the Midwest. Consider adding a research stop on your way to or from the conference. The following repositories are all within a four-hour drive of Fort Wayne:

- Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Library of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan
- Archives of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan
- Western Michigan University Regional Archives, Kalamazoo, Michigan
- University of Notre Dame Archives, South Bend, Indiana
- Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio
- Columbus Public Library, Columbus, Ohio
- Ohio Genealogical Society, Bellville, Ohio
- Hayes Presidential Library, Fremont, Ohio
- National Archives and Records Administration—Great Lakes Region, Dayton, Ohio and Chicago, Illinois
- Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois
- Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio
- Calumet Regional Archives, Gary, Indiana
- National Archives and Records Administration—Great Lakes Region, Dayton, Ohio and Chicago, Illinois
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- Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois
- Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio
- Calumet Regional Archives, Gary, Indiana
- National Archives and Records Administration—Great Lakes Region, Dayton, Ohio and Chicago, Illinois
- Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois
- Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio

And don't forget all the county libraries and historical societies that might break down your brick wall.

The FGS 2013 conference will be a great time to search for your ancestors, connect with other genealogists, and learn new research techniques and record groups.
Fall is my favorite time of year, especially in my neck of the woods—the beautiful Finger Lakes Region of New York State. Fall brings gorgeous leaves, sweatshirt weather, and that “calm” before the mad rush of the holiday season. For genealogy societies, fall is also the time when meetings resume after summer vacation, and with October officially designated “Family History Month” many groups and organizations hold special events or conferences. Below are some of the fall activities from a few of FGS member societies.

However you choose to celebrate your family history, I wish you a season overflowing with abundance!

Society Highlights

Carondelet Historical Society (St. Louis, MO). The Carondelet Historical Society has raised nearly $16,000 thus far for its Capital Fund Drive. This five-year fund drive began in summer 2011 to fund ongoing renovation projects in the historic center. The fund drive has already paid for repair to the center’s sprinkler system. Other priorities for the project include roof repairs, heating and cooling systems, and painting of the exterior trim. The society thanks its many donors.

Central New York Genealogical Society (Syracuse, NY) <www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nycnysg/meetings.htm>. The Central New York Genealogical Society held its Fall conference on Saturday, 13 October at Northminster Presbyterian Church <www.nmpres.org> located in North Syracuse, New York. The featured speaker was James M. Beidler, who writes the award-winning “Roots & Branches” weekly newspaper column, Pennsylvania’s only syndicated column on genealogy. Beidler is a German research expert and a Pennsylvania resident, and he covered both of those topics of his lectures.

Chicago Genealogical Society (Chicago, IL) <www.chicagogenealogy.org>. On 6 October, the Chicago Genealogical Society sponsored the bus tour “Dark Alleys of Chicago.” The day tour was guided by Craig Pfannkuche. To learn more about other CGS activities, visit them in the Blogosphere at <http://chicagogenealogicalsociety.blogspot.com> and follow them on Facebook at <www.facebook.com/ChicagoGenealogicalSociety>.


Wood County, Texas Genealogical Society (Quitman, TX) <http://woodtxgene.com>. The Wood County, Texas Genealogical Society held its 2012–13 Kick-off Meeting on Monday, 17 September at the Quitman Public Library. It was a covered-dish meal greeting meeting, and one of their two yearly business meetings.

Calhoun County Genealogical Society (Marshall, MI) <www.rootsweb.com/~micalhou/ccgs.htm>. During the past year, the Calhoun County Genealogical Society board has been updating the society’s bylaws for the first time since 2007. CCGS held their September meeting (which included the annual business meeting) at their new meeting location at the LDS Church at Old US-27 N in Marshall, Michigan. Glenda Peckham presented on FamilySearch.

Finally, (speaking of bylaws), if your society is thinking of tackling the task of writing this important set of documents, you will want to pick up a copy of the newly revised Bylaws Workbook: A Handbook for New and Established Societies, Second Edition, compiled by Marcia S. Lindley and revised by Roberta “Bobbi” King (available at Amazon.com for $4.99 plus shipping/handling). For more information, see <www.fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=70>. 
Here we are in late 2012 and genealogical education, collaboration, and researching seem to be booming. The state of the genealogy industry looks nothing like that of ten years ago, and the state of genealogy twenty years ago seems like the medieval ages. (Remember sending letters, the Genealogical Helper, going to the Family History Center, and using 300 baud modems, paper forms, and Personal Ancestral File?) The state of the genealogy art now includes:

- free and subscription online record collections on the Internet
- collaborative and stand-alone online family trees
- online “cloud” storage of magazines, articles, presentations, blogs, databases, correspondence, research, notes, and so on
- genealogy-management-software programs that produce quality source citations, charts, and reports and that synchronize with online family trees
- live or on-demand podcasts, webinars, radio shows, and streaming videos for personal or group education
- digital genealogical magazines, columns, and blogs (some free, some not)
- social networks for personal communication and genealogical information sharing
- genealogical conferences, seminars, cruises, and programs with remote or in-person presentations using digital technology
- mobile devices using touch and voice technology for phone, e-mail, news, photos, videos, books, maps, social networks, scanning, health, family trees, and similar are ubiquitous

What’s not to like! Some of my genealogical society colleagues revel in this environment, but some do not. Almost all of my online colleagues use this technology daily, while adding value to the genealogy world and enjoy the experience—it’s genea-catnip (for me at least)!

But where is the genealogy industry going in the near and far future? Technology changes daily, and the genealogical industry will continue change along with it. What will these changes mean for the casual genealogist, for the dedicated genealogist, and for genealogical societies?

Let me recommend some resources to you:
- Jay Verkler’s presentation at RootsTech 2012—“Inventing the Future, as a Community” (<http://rootstech.org/videos>, select Verkler’s video)

In “Inventing the Future, as a Community,” Jay Verkler (former CEO of FamilySearch.org) laid out a vision for genealogy and family history in the year 206. The vision included these features:

- Commonly available information, at low cost
- Easy-to-use, intuitive, simple interfaces
- Accurate information with a common data model
- Includes facts, stories, photos, audio, video
- Evidence based, with available documents and media.
- Provides interactive timelines showing names, dates, places, events
- Works on every computer system.
- It simply works!
His vision sounds so logical and simple, doesn’t it? But how do we get there? Verkler laid out two “big picture” charts that explain the process—the Genealogy Conclusion Diagram and the Community Framework Diagram.

The Genealogy Conclusion Diagram includes, for each person (6 billion people were born between 1750 and 1900, another 14 billion born since 1900, and another 6 billion will be born between now and 2060):
- Genealogy facts—vital, residence, occupation, education, military, immigration, social, and so on
- Relationships of a person to parents, siblings, children, and other relatives
- Stories, photographs, audio, video, and other media that display the life of the person
- Sourced evidence in the form of documents for the life events. These need to be collected for all persons who previously lived and are currently living and preserved for future generations.

The Community Framework diagram has six different elements, including:
- Conclusion Sharing across platforms (family trees in software or online) — an updated GEDCOM
- Permanent online links so that data can easily be found
- Common Data Types and Vocabulary - standardize the terminology
- Provide Authorities - for names, dates, places, and events. A user should be able to search for and find information about a person from family trees and historical records, with information about repositories, experts, knowledge bases and community sharing.
- Structured Records - users need to view them digitally, linked to repositories, and linked to other researchers
- Record Source Authorities - evidence backed by sources, with links to library catalogs, partners and/or repositories, and to community contributions.

Verkler’s vision is of an “Open” environment, wherein there is a community effort to gather, connect, and preserve records.

Verkler’s vision is of an “Open” environment, wherein there is a community effort to gather, connect, and preserve records that define the lives of billions of persons. Is such a community effort possible? At present, we have a mixed genealogy industry and community made up of not-for-profit companies, commercial companies, and volunteer organizations that provide education, record collections, online family trees (isolated or inter-connected), and genealogy-management software.

Will the commercial companies collaborate with the not-for-profits? How will competition between organizations with similar products be handled? Can all aspects of the genealogy industry work together as one big happy family? I sincerely doubt that they can, or will, in the near or distant future. There will always be entrepreneurs with the next big, whiz-bang genealogy idea, many of whom will fail. But some will succeed and thrive and challenge the existing large, but clumsy, organizations by being more nimble and innovative. History shows that competition creates innovation, advances technology, and brings products to market faster in every industry.

Who will do all of this? Who will fill up the online family trees with names, dates, places, events, sources, images, and more? Verkler thinks that “we” all will—each of us working on genealogy and family history research now and in the future, with the help of family papers, historical record collections, online family trees, genealogy-management programs, technology and productivity tools, and much more. Verkler’s vision is of an inter-connected family tree where all users collaborate with each other and work toward a conclusion-based tree relying on sourced evidence.

An inter-connected tree is not the format of many online family tree providers, namely Ancestry.com, MyHeritage, FindMyPast, and others. Will they change? The FamilySearch Family Tree (scheduled to be public and operational in late 2012) has promise as a collaborative tree, but only if it is populated with persons and relationships based on sourced evidence. I doubt that it will have information on every person who ever lived (at least after 1600) due to the lack of records in some places and time periods.

What I am more sure of is that the genealogical/family history industry will not run out of historical records any time soon! I heard at
the RootsTech 2012 conference that FamilySearch would have all of the available microfilms and microfiche collections digitized in eight to ten years, but all would not be indexed. Even so, that leaves records at national and state archives, public and private libraries, local and regional genealogical/historical societies, vital record offices, and other repositories to be found, gathered, cataloged, digitized, and linked up.

Current estimates suggest that digitized records available online (meaning accessible on some website) make up only 5–7 percent of “all of the genealogy records.” What will the percentage be in, say, 2020? My guess is somewhere in the 15–20 percent range. How about in 2060? My guess is in the 50–60 percent range. Privacy concerns will likely prevent some vital records from being publicly available for many years, in some states and countries.

Jay Verkler and FamilySearch think that they have “invented the future” here. It is an appealing vision, yet also a disturbing vision (at least for me). Its appeal lies in the hope that “all” records for “every” historical person will be found and digitized or that “all” records will be available in digital format for free or by subscription.

Here are some of my thoughts about the short-term future of genealogy:

- I sincerely doubt that “all” records for “every” historical person will be found and digitized or that “all” records will be available in digital format for free or by subscription.
- I do think that the large record-collection companies and organizations (for example, Ancestry.com, BrightSolid, MyHeritage, FamilySearch) will expand their collections and will continue to acquire, or partner with, smaller genealogical companies.
- Evidence! Explained-quality source citations will be created by record-collection providers when records are attached to online family trees.
- Genealogy-management programs will become obsolete when online family trees can produce the quality of charts, reports, and books that the programs produce now.
- DNA tests for ancestry will become more sophisticated (is that possible?), more prevalent, and cheaper.
- Genealogy education will become even more video-oriented, and on-demand videos that demonstrate research techniques will proliferate.
- Local genealogical societies will work to keep up with, and to help their members adapt to, digital technology. The typical program speaker-meeting may become a sharing meeting to help members using round-table discussions.
- Regional and national genealogical and historical societies will add more online content—record collections, educational videos, webinars, and other content.
- Virtual conferences will compete with regional and national conferences due to travel costs and at-home educational opportunities.
- Personal computing and communication devices will get cheaper and more powerful. Digital glasses, brain implants, and other technological devices will be developed. Users will do everything efficiently on one device that connects your brain to your social and information world.
- Several new, unforeseen, technologies will appear in the next ten years, and every ten years, that makes genealogical research faster, better, and cheaper and makes previous technology obsolete.

I started in the Genealogy 1.0 age with paper records, microfilms, and Personal Ancestral File. I adapted to the Genealogy 2.0 age of genealogy-management software, websites, and online education. The Future of Genealogy (Genealogy 3.0?) seems limitless with constant technological change and more research and educational opportunities than ever before. It is a great time to be a genealogist!
The Rev. Robert and Sarah (Winter) Jordan Foundation (also known as The Jordan Family Foundation) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization formed in 2003. The foundation seeks to enrich the lives of all descendants of the Reverend Robert and Sarah (Winter) Jordan by enhancing their link to the past through educational, archaeological, and historical endeavors funded from tax-deductible charitable bequests and donations.

Contributions to the Foundation are used for scholarships for outstanding young descendants, genealogical research including DNA testing, historic preservation of memorabilia and artifacts, database maintenance, and communication of lineage and significant historic events regarding the family dating back to early England.

The Foundation publishes a national newsletter three times yearly, maintains a website, and sends special e-gram bulletins. Scholarships are approved yearly at the board-of-trustees meeting.

The Foundation’s website contains information about their history, historical articles, a message board about Foundation programs, and information on how to become a supporting member. The site encourages postings on the message board and communication with the trustees.

The idea to form a national organization for descendants of Reverend Robert and Sarah (Winter) Jordan was conceived on 8 August 1987 at a Hiram Jordan Reunion in Oxford, Maine. This initiated considerable research and subsequent action by proponents and resulted in Jordans from twenty-five states meeting in South Portland, Maine, on 28 July 1989. There they formed a not-for-profit [501C7] organization with primary objectives to research, preserve, promote, and foster the Jordan family history and genealogy and to initiate educational programs to help trace and compile lineage data. The Foundation reports that its efforts were amply rewarded. The organization, incorporated in the State of Maine, became one of the more active family genealogy groups in the United States. In 2010, the membership voted unanimously to become a part of the Reverend Robert and Sarah (Winter) Jordan Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit, Florida Corporation, that it had sponsored in 2003.

The Foundation’s membership is worldwide, stretching from the shores of Casco Bay in Maine where Rev. Robert Jordan first settled in the New World (about 1639) across the seas to several countries. Jordan descendants celebrate their ancestor and his successes.


According to the Bisbee Family Connection website, the original English family name was Besbeech, with several variations of the spelling but most commonly today as Bisbee. The Connection was formed because of a mutual interest in their heritage. One of the purposes is to hold a family reunion, which in 2012 was to be in Holland, Michigan.
Those who join the group are entitled to receive the group’s newsletters. Additionally, the Connection sells two volumes of Bisbee Family Genealogy and some souvenirs.

Their website includes some tombstone photos, recent obituaries, and other Bisbee items that will interest descendants of the family. Also of interest is a revolving featured photo.


REVISITED: The Bunker Family Association maintains an informative blog with news of their reunions, publications, and much more. We first reported on their organization in a 1990 issue of this column, but they have continued to expand and provide the Bunker descendants with valuable information through their publications and opportunities to mingle through their reunions. Visit their blog if you are connected to this family!

Contact: <www.bunkerfamilyassn.org/bunker-data-grows>
Genealogy Blogging

By Amy Coffin

The previous two issues of The Forum offered some writing ideas and examples of various ways societies can reach out to members through blogs. Hopefully this gave you some inspiration to get started on your own society blog. Now that you have the ideas and motivation, it is time to take the first step and create a blog for your genealogical or historical society.

Starting a blog does not have to be complicated or expensive, since there are several free blogging platforms available, including Blogger (<www.blogger.com>), WordPress (<http://wordpress.com>), and Weebly (<www.weebly.com>). Each platform offers step-by-step instructions on how to set up a blog. Each platform guides you through the process, ensuring that you have everything you need for a professional-looking blog. Here are the main elements you will encounter when you start your society blog:

What's in a Name?
It is not an exaggeration to say that your biggest challenge in starting a new blog is coming up with a name for it. If the name of your blog is the same as the name of your society, that task is already accomplished.

You can name your society blog any way you wish, however you should consider the public and potential new members into consideration. Having the society's name tied to the title of the blog helps strengthen the society as a brand and makes it easier to find your group on the Web.

Once you have a name, the blog platform you choose will select a URL for you. This will be the web address to which you point people to read your society's blog. The name in the URL does not have to exactly match the title of your blog. For example, FGS member Pinellas Genealogy Society has a self-titled blog, but their web address includes a short abbreviation of their name: <http://flpgs.blogspot.com>. You may also purchase a unique domain name at an extra cost and connect it to your blog. Most blogging platforms provide instructions on how to do so.

With the name selected and URL secured, you officially have a society blog. It is that easy! The next step is to add some color and style.

Template Design
How do you get a professional, appealing layout for your society blog? All three major blogging platforms (Blogger, WordPress, and Weebly) feature ready-made templates in a variety of styles and colors. All that's required is a mouse click to select the template of your choice, and you are ready to go.


Spend some time exploring the different layouts and color schemes. Do you want to go bright or light? Do you want your text on the right, left, or middle of the page? Which font should you use and what size is best? Get opinions from society board and other members about what does and does not work.

When you choose a template, a default background, related color scheme, and font style, size, and color are pre-selected. No technological knowledge is needed. Most blogging platforms allow you to adjust templates to change colors, font sizes and styles, and more to design a blog that fits your society's personality.

Your Society's Billboard
A blog header runs across the top of your blog and is usually the first thing a visitor sees when clicking on your society blog. Think of this header as a billboard for your society; it is your best chance to attract potential members and regular readers before they click away to another website. Make this first impression count.

Your society blog header does not need to be fancy, though it needs to clearly explain who you are. Use a readable font and print size, as well as a color scheme that is easy on the eyes. If your genealogy or historical society is named for its location, be sure to indicate the state or general area to inform blog visitors who are not familiar with your group. For example, readers may not know where the Johnson County Genealogical Society is, so they state clearly in their blog header that they...
are in Texas <http://johnsoncogensoc.blogspot.com>.

FGS member society Contra Costa County Genealogical Society also has a strong header on their blog <http://cccgs.blogspot.com>. It states their blog’s purpose and welcomes new members. They also include a local photo in their header. Uploading a photo into your blog header is a stylish and easy design option. All three blog platforms mentioned here have instructions on how to do so.

**Above the Fold**
The phrase “above the fold” generally refers the part of the Web page that is visible without a user scrolling down. This “above the fold” location is very exclusive real estate on your society blog and should contain important information. Use it to entice blog visitors to become regular readers and local residents to become new society members.

Contra Costa County Genealogical Society put a membership application and their upcoming event calendar above the fold <http://cccgs.blogspot.com>. The Chula Vista Genealogical Society in California included a contact e-mail, society website link, and an opportunity to subscribe by e-mail to the above-the-fold area of their Chula Vista Genealogy Café blog <http://cvgencafe.blogspot.com>.

How you use the space above the fold is up to your society. This is your group’s chance to reach out to a global online audience. What do you want to say about your group? What do you want to promote? What do you want your blog readers to think or do? There are not any wrong answers. Your society’s priorities will determine what information goes above the fold on your blog.

**Creativity Abounds**
Blogger, Weebly, and WordPress each offer numerous options to customize your blog and make it fit your society’s style and voice. However, there are very few “don’ts” to keep in mind when designing your society blog. These include flashing graphics and music that plays automatically when someone visits your site. These elements should be used only if you want to chase visitors away. Be kind to your readers’ eyes and ears, and they will become regular participants in your society blog.

**Share the Wealth**
Blog accounts are password protected, meaning that only those with access can write, edit, manage, and post to the blog. It is best if more than one society board member has access the societies’ blog account to ensure that someone always has access to the blog account should another be unavailable for a given period of time. All of the big blog platforms allow for multiple authors and provide guidance through the process.

**Ready to Go**
These are exciting times for genealogical and historical societies. Technology allows groups to reach new audiences and grow their memberships. Having a blog gives a society an enhanced online presence and the opportunity to publish relevant content in an increasingly online world. Between the blog name tips, template design, and writing ideas provided in previous Forum issues, you now have a sizable toolbox for building your society blog.
You’ll have access
to how the United States came to be.

The diverse primary source materials contained in Accessible Archives Inc.’s online databases provide broad views across 175 years of American history and culture of the 18th and 19th centuries through full-text searches and digital images.

- African American Newspapers
- American County Histories to 1900
- The Pennsylvania Gazette 1728-1800
- Godey’s Lady’s Book 1830-1898
- The Liberator 1831-1865
- South Carolina Newspapers 1732-1780
- The Virginia Gazette 1736-1780
- The Civil War 1855-1869

For your free trial contact our exclusive sales agent:
iris.hanney@unlimitedpriorities.com
Call: 239-549-2384

Accessible Archives
www.accessible.com
The Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) continues to monitor and follow various Congressional legislation slated to regulate and/or discontinue the Social Security Death Index for the public use. For the most up-to-date information on this important subject, please check the RPAC blog at <www.fgs.org/rpac>. On the RPAC blog, Federation of Genealogical Societies legal counsel Fred Moss encouraged RPAC liaisons and genealogists interested in records preservation and access to contact their representatives while they were in their districts during the summer “District Work Period.” RPAC presentations were given and well received at both the National Genealogical Society and FGS annual conferences this year.

Over the past three years, RPAC has been working closely with the Michigan Genealogical Council and other Michigan genealogists to save the Library of Michigan from being dismantled, and the treasured resources from being scattered around the state. In the reorganization that took place, the Library of Michigan was added under the Michigan Department of Education. The Department of Natural Resources is in charge of the Michigan State Archives, which is housed in the same building as the Library of Michigan, and is responsible for the promotion of tourism in the state. The Library of Michigan’s collections will continue to be available to the public in the same building. We applaud the efforts of the Michigan Genealogical Council and all involved in this effort to keep the Library of Michigan intact and available to the public!

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
The discussion at the May National Archives Researcher Forum centered around NARA’s digitization partnerships and “What’s New Online.” Representatives from NARA digitization partners Ancestry.com, Fold3, and FamilySearch.org gave presentations on the progress of digitizing NARA’s records. Sabrina Petersen from Ancestry.com commented that the problems surrounding the digitization of records in the Microfilm Publication T288 (General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934) series have been resolved. Aaron Spencer of Fold3, formerly known as Footnote, is pleased that their focus now is on military records. It was noted that Fold3 and Ancestry.com provide color images to the NARA records, and FamilySearch is exploring this option. Suggestions were made for additional digitization projects: The Seven States Index (relating to land records), Land Entry Papers, unindexed, bound land-applications, name index to the FBI case files, post returns, and index to the 1812 applications case files. It was noted that NARA prioritizes project by preservation of records first and then access to records. NARA representatives consider usage of records, recommendations from the Researcher Forum, partner requests, and documents to be used in exhibits, publications, social media, and presentations. Questions or comments about NARA’s digitization program should be addressed to <digitization@nara.gov>.

NARA raised their copying fees once again on 1 October 2012. Some of the most popular copying service fee changes are listed below:

- Self-service copies will be $0.25 per page at all NARA facilities. NARA-made copies will be $0.80 per page. Fees for reproductions not listed will be unchanged; current fees are online at <www.archives.gov/research/order/fees.html>. For more information on NARA’s fees, fee calculations, payment, and refund policies, see the Code of Federal Regulations 36 CFR 1258 online at <http://tinyurl.com/CFRfees>. (See chart on next page.)

States
California: The J. A. Freitas Library of San Leandro, California, a private library owned by the Supreme Council of the Portuguese Fraternal Society of America, recently hosted a newspaper-digitization project. Fourteen Portuguese-language newspapers published in California between 1885 and 1940 were digitized for preservation purposes and better access.
**Connecticut:** The Connecticut Historical Society (CHS) recently partnered with Merritt Scanning, a division of Joseph Merritt Company, to digitize the early-twentieth-century social scrapbooks belonging to Mary Morris. Digitizing the scrapbooks has assured the preservation of the fragile papers that documented the lifestyles of Connecticut citizens during this time. The physical scrapbooks have been placed back in the archives, but the digitized pages are available for viewing at the CHS website [www.chs.org](http://www.chs.org).

**Illinois:** The DeKalb County Clerk and Recorder’s Offices have added a genealogy feature to their website: Researchers can now search birth certificates seventy-five years or older, marriage licenses fifty years or older, death certificates twenty years or older, and naturalization certificates one hundred years or older at [www.dekalbgenealogy.com](http://www.dekalbgenealogy.com). Searching the index, which includes a person’s name and record-filing date, is free. Downloading copies of the records cost fifteen dollars each.

**Indiana:** The Lake County Recorder’s Office and the Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society (NIGS) have partnered to create an index to the 5,840 deed and mortgage books kept by the Recorder’s Office. NIGS members write down transactions and dates on the first and last pages of the books for cataloging, then other members go through the books, page by page, writing down page numbers, names, and transactions. Records from 1997 to present are already digitized; records from 1969 to 1997 are available on microfilm. Visit the Resource Center on the Lake County Recorder’s Office website at [www.lakecountyin.org](http://www.lakecountyin.org).

**Maryland:** The Maryland State Archives building, like many other archives, can no longer accept records, paintings, or documents because there is no more room to store these precious items. Even though there are at least two off-site storage units in addition to the archives building, the archives staff can no longer accept materials. Maryland’s history starts nearly four hundred years ago, and the older records are in jeopardy of becoming lost unless a new building can be built or more money can be garnered from the state legislature or grants.

**Missouri:** The St. Louis Genealogical Society (SLGS) has completed volume 4 of the Index to St. Louis Burials CD, containing more than 270,000 names of people buried in nineteen cemeteries in St. Louis City and County, Missouri. SLGS has now indexed every known cemetery, except for one. Volumes 1 and 2 are available free of charge to SLGS members on the St. Louis Genealogical Society website [www.stlgs.org](http://www.stlgs.org). Volumes 3 and 4 of the index are available from the society, at the above-mentioned website, for a nominal charge.

**North Carolina:** Both the State Library of North Carolina and the

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**Description** | **Old Fee** | **New Fee**
---|---|---
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Book Reviews

By Paul Milner

Publications for review should be sent to Paul at 1548 Parkside, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

In *Women’s Lives: Researching Women’s Social History 1800–1939*, author Jennifer Newby suggests that there is the perception that women are “invisible” in history, and she wants to dispel this myth. She acknowledges that women are often poorly represented in archives but with creativity and luck it is possible to find fruitful resources. The sources used may even be the same ones used to find men, but when researching women, the researcher often is looking for different things, such as the stories behind the dates and names. The book focuses on the life of English women for the period 1800 through 1939.

The book is divided into six chapter, each of which discusses women in groups: women in domestic service, women on the land, women in the factories, middle-class women, aristocratic women, and criminals. Newby admits this study does not catch all women, but certainly a large percentage of the population. Even if your female ancestor does not fit into one of these groups, reading the book will provide ideas on the social issues involved and the resources available to research her life. The format for each chapter is similar, first discussing who the group was or who worked in certain occupations. This is followed by an examination of what these women did and how they lived. Each section then ends with recommendations of record groups useful when searching the specific population. Some of these records may have been published, some may be available online, but many likely are accessible only in English archives.

The illustrative material here is thought provoking. For example, the various discussions on how women lived address issues of health, wages, leisure, dress, food, and accommodation. It becomes obvious that not everyone had the same standards of living or deal with the same life issues. The book is full of contemporary quotes, often from memoirs or parliamentary reports, creating a very vivid picture; the source of most can be identified. However, there are many interesting comments made and statistics quoted for which no source can be identified, as there are no footnotes. The bibliography keeps the same grouping structure, with separate sections identifying primary sources (often memoirs, contemporary accounts, or parliamentary reports) and secondary sources.

This book is definitely of value to those tracing female English ancestors and seeking to put them into a social context. Researchers working on North American female ancestors will certainly find the book thought provoking in terms of how the groupings compare on either side of the Atlantic and provide ideas for research. Comparison will, in fact, be aided by an appendix providing a short timeline of key events in women’s social history, 1810–1929. This is a good idea book for researchers seeking to put female ancestors into a social context.

Paul Milner
Park Ridge, Illinois
In his introduction to *My Ancestors Settled in … The British West Indies*, John Titford acknowledges that the book’s focus is not on the people of the British West Indies who were colonized but rather on the people who went to the British West Indies. They might be the rich and powerful, of middling wealth only, or poor and exploited. It does not focus on the late-twentieth-century diaspora of those who traveled away from the region moving to Britain in search of work or a new home. What will be of interest to North American readers though is the mentioning of migrations from specific islands to different parts of the thirteen colonies in different periods.

The book begins with two introductory chapters on sources for settlers in the British West Indies, including what Titford calls the unsettled settlers (pirates and buccaneers). He defines terms that are used to describe different parts of the area. He includes a large number of resources that are familiarly used for North American emigration research, and thus readily available. I personally had not thought about using these sources for West Indies research, but again this highlights the constant movement between the islands and the thirteen colonies.

There are separate chapters for: Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guyana (Guyana), British Honduras (Belize), British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, Turks and Caicos Islands. Bermuda, British Guiana, and British Honduras are technically not in the British West Indies, but they do fit geographically and politically.

Each country’s chapter includes discussion of location, history, economy, people (key individuals, social and religious groups), dependencies, records (UK and local depositories), secondary sources, further reading, and websites. Many of the records you would expect were created in these countries, such as civil registration, church records, probate, monumental inscriptions, and census. There are also many records researchers may be less familiar with, such as dowers, indexes to plantations, inhabitant lists, land deeds, and so on. Sadly many records have been damaged by neglect, rot in an unfriendly environment, rodents, insects, destructive fires, hurricanes, earthquakes, civil strife, and uniformed officials. The book does try to highlight when such preservation issues have had a major impact on collections. I do like the extensive further-reading lists for each of the islands pointing the researchers towards additional resources. The author acknowledges that some islands (Barbados and Jamaica) have too much material for all to be included in the book, while for others (Caymans, Turks and Caicos) there are too few records.

The author, though British, has done extensive onsite research in the islands, which shows in the onsite comments and numerous pictures. There are separate indexes by subject, place, and name, making finding material easy.

The book focusses on the British who went to the British West Indies, but the records used for research will be the same for all segments of the population, so this book will be of value to many North Americans, especially with early immigrants. It is the only book currently available that addresses research on multiple islands in the British West Indies and would make a good addition to genealogical libraries, and it priced so that it can easily be added to your personal collection.

Paul Milner
Park Ridge, Illinois
Between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, many thousands of Protestants fled religious persecution in France and the Low Countries (modern day Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxemburg). They settled in the German Protestant States and the British Isles, some permanently while others later migrated to North America, the West Indies, South Africa, and Australia. Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestors: A Guide for Family Historians by Kathy Chater opens with a very good summary of the wars and religious conflict that led to these migrations, reminding readers just how important religion was in the lives of our ancestors.

The book focuses on the Huguenot communities within Great Britain and Ireland. It clearly identifies and summarizes the history, development, and decline of the specific Huguenot and Walloon communities in London, Kent, East Anglia, the West Country, Ireland, Scotland, and the Channel Islands. Chater continues by suggesting a research plan with issues to consider. Research is not necessarily easy since the wealthy Huguenots often chose to assimilate by joining the Church of England and seeking business and education opportunities, while the poor needed the support of their own community. Because the Huguenot communities could easily be connected with the Church of England or the dissenting churches (Congregationalists, Baptists, English Presbyterians) and often with specific occupations, a broad research perspective is required. The book provides a nice research checklist of both specific and general sources, with chapters for each. The chapter on specific resources is very valuable addressing: denizations and naturalisations, returns of strangers, Huguenot church records, going beyond the church registers, poor relief and charity records, schools, charity apprenticeships, friendly societies, wills, and other foreign churches. What is nice is that these records are not usually high on the priority list for researchers, and so their importance and specificity for this community is valuable. The chapter on general sources points to more commonly used records, but again highlights clues to look for that might clearly identify people from the Huguenot community.

The closing chapters address how to research Huguenot communities within individual European countries and the rest of the world, including a brief section on North America. The bibliography includes a complete listing of all titles in the Huguenot Society Quarto Series and New Series, as well as how the titles have been combined and reissued on CD-ROM, along with a select bibliography. Compared with other volumes in this series, the bibliography and guidance for further research is one of the weaknesses in this otherwise up-to-date research guide. For example, although the chapter on the religious wars and edicts in Europe that created the Huguenot migration is well summarized, neither the chapter nor the bibliography offer guidance for researchers who want to know more. It should also be pointed out that discussions about the European Huguenot churches mention which records have been microfilmed by the Family History Library, while no mention is made of which British Huguenot church records have been filmed.

This is a useful, up-to-date, practical guide for anyone who has, or thinks they have, Huguenot ancestors in the British Isles. It provides social and contextual assistance along with guidance on where to find and how to use surviving records.

Paul Milner
Park Ridge, Illinois
This must-have Irish reference-book keeps getting bigger and better. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* by John Grenham was first published in 1992, revised in 1999, and again in 2006, growing from 319 to 396 to 550 pages. The fourth edition, published in 2012, now has 604 pages. Irish research has changed radically since the 2006 edition due to expanded finding aids, the Internet, and access to digitized records. All of these changes are reflected in the fourth edition. Much of the book has been rewritten to incorporate these changes. Online transcripts, where they exist, are listed alongside the descriptions of the original records, and research strategies are supplied for the major dedicated websites.

In Irish research, a researcher will spend more time attempting to learn what records exist for a specific geographic area than will actually be spent searching in the records. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* is designed to make the search and learning curve easier. The book consists of fifteen chapters but can be thought of as three sections. The first section, consisting of the first twelve chapters (187 pages), describes the records that were created. These cover the topics you would expect in any genealogical research book, but also other record groups that have become important research tools because of record destruction in 1922. Thus there are chapters on records for General Register Office (B/M/D records), census, church, property and valuation, the Internet, wills, heraldry and manuscripts, emigration and Irish abroad, deeds, newspapers, and occupations.

The book’s second, and largest section, provides the county source lists. This is the research reference section that users will read in detail for a county of interest. The following are specifically identified for each county: census returns and substitutes, major internet sites, local histories, local journals, gravestone inscriptions, and estate records. And although these lists are extensive, Grenham reminds readers that they are by no means exhaustive.

The third section is a listing of copies of Roman Catholic parish registers arranged by county. The important word here is “copies” that are in public repositories such as the National Library of Ireland, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, the LDS Family History Library, and local heritage centers, or where ever the records have been published. For each parish, the listing identifies the diocese, the dates of coverage for the baptism, marriage, and burial registers, where the copies are located, and their local reference number. Coverage dates for original registers held in local custody are not included, unless there are no public copies available. A nice touch are the maps of each county showing the Roman Catholic parishes. These maps are larger and easier to read than in earlier editions. The book’s final chapter lists research services, societies, repositories, and publishers with their contact information.

The fourth edition includes an index for the first time, which is a good addition. It is not clear what has been omitted in this volume. The author’s introduction states that omissions due of space will be found at the Irish Ancestors website <www.irishtimes.com/ancestor>. One item from the third edition that is missing is the table of variant names of Roman Catholic parishes, 22 pages, which also does not appear to be on the website.

This book is a must for Irish researchers and should be added to all collections. Care and more use will be needed before deciding whether to dispose of the earlier volumes.

Paul Milner
Park Ridge, Illinois

Companion books, 6 volumes, Branching Out: Genealogy for Students. Index, Softcover.
1st–3rd Grade Students, Lessons 16–30, x, 62 pp. $29.95.
4th–8th Grade Students, Lessons 16–30, x, 70 pp. $32.95.
Genealogy for High School Students, Lessons 1–15, x, 65 pp. $29.95.
Genealogy for High School Students, Lessons 16–30, x, 65 pp. $34.95.

Engaging the Next Generation: A Guide for Genealogy Societies and Libraries, and its accompanying Branching Out series of six books with lessons for all ages, are “written specifically for groups looking to create youth programs” to promote genealogical research. Engaging the Next Generation succeeds in accomplishing this aim at a high level through a clear, logical sequence of topics, detailed examples, and attainable lesson goals. Holik’s books provide a wealth of credible resources and links for accessing additional information for each topical lesson. These aspects of Holik’s publications are strong and focused. Where her work falls short is in the directions, content, and methodology of the actual lessons for the students.

Engaging the Next Generation is an overview of thirty genealogical lessons with suggested outlines, procedures, and projects for adult genealogy society members to use for workshops or classes but can be incorporated into public-school or home-school settings. Every numbered chapter in the guidebook corresponds to a matching lesson in each grade-level volume of the Branching Out series. Although the instructions in each lesson are clear, concise, and logical, they are not written on the comprehension level of students younger than sixth grade. The directions are scripted and therefore, must be understandable. The word choice and methods of explaining the procedures rarely varies between grade levels. A greater distinction between preparing lessons for first through third graders verses high-school students is lacking. Directions, procedures, and vocabulary should change to match the reading level of the targeted audience.

On a positive note, the sequence of lessons is exactly right for introducing genealogical researching. Certain sources of genealogical data, such as checking census and vital records, must be taught prior to using military databases or immigration records. Occasionally, too many databases are highlighted within one lesson rather than focusing upon each database in its own lesson. Even with the youngest students, focusing upon one database would yield better retention for the highlighted genealogical resource.

There is an obvious lack of educational best-practices and minimal understanding of twenty-first century methods for introducing concepts in the books. For example, word searches are commonly used throughout Holik’s lessons on every grade level. Completing a word search is a great time filler or transitional tool, but little is learned. Adding graphic organizers as a means of manipulating and synthesizing the information would be better. Students could fill out a graphic organizer independently while referring to a sample document, and then collaborate with peers to discuss the information. Rather than focusing on vocabulary in every lesson, it would be more current to interact with online examples and case studies, especially for seventh grade and above. These lessons are designed for paper and pencil, but students today have a stronger preference for using technology. The lack of integration with technology is a flaw. There is a recurring question posed to students: “Why Should I Care?” but this question allows for the possible answer, “I don’t.” Teachers are trained to refrain from posing questions like this.
The Battle of Spion Kop was fought on 23 January 1900 during the campaign to relieve the siege of Ladysmith, South Africa, and was the single bloodiest episode in the campaign. It was also a harbinger of the bitter and desperate fighting still to come during the Second Boer War. Spion Kop was the largest hill (more than 1,400 feet high) in the region, just northwest of Ladysmith. The British assumed that if they could capture this position and bring artillery to the hill, they would command the flanks of the surrounding Boer positions. A large British force attacked at night, but they mistakenly entrenched on a plateau they thought was the top, only to find in the dawn that they were not at the top and that the Boer soldiers were able to fire down onto their positions. The Boers did not have it all their own way and were finally inclined to admit defeat when they found the British had retreated during the following night leaving behind many dead and wounded. In spite of this loss, the British were able to relieve Ladysmith four weeks later.

**Hill of Squandered Valour: The Battle of Spion Kop, 1900**


Hill of Squandered Valour: The Battle of Spion Kop, 1900.


and to rely instead on developing interesting, interactive presentations of concepts with informative examples.

*Engaging the Next Generation* and the companion books *Branching Out* are rock-solid for accuracy of information, suggestions about resources, and sequence of lessons. Holik's genealogical knowledge and expertise are very apparent throughout the content of the book series. Although the overuse of framing questions and redundant lessons despite various grade levels does detract from the quality of the books, this series is still a very dependable source for creating workshops and classes. The addition of instructional technology will hook today's youth immediately into the lessons and enhance the learning experience of all genealogical students.

With such revisions in future editions, Holik's goals of promoting the future of genealogy and enticing younger members into societies will be easier to achieve.

Susan L. Ennis, M.Ed.
Zelienople, Pennsylvania
of the decisions and the actions are good, but this is one place a map showing the relationship between these locations would have been helpful, and as a reader I referenced other publications to understand the relative locations of these places. The book does include a good map of the Spion Kop itself, showing the movement of positions of both the Boer and British troops.

The book is also about the major clash of personalities between Lieutenant-General Sir Redvers Buller and his second in command, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Warren. An excellent chapter describes their respective military careers and exemplifies of the varied life of a Victorian British soldier both in terms of world geography and military experience. The book highlights both officers inability to actually lead and press forward towards the goal as well as indecision leading to missed opportunities. The chapter also highlights how difficult it is to create an accurate portrayal of the decision-making process from sources such as outside observers, written orders, and finger-pointing that attended later investigations.

*Hill of Squandered Valour* is well written, easy to read, and focusses on the British perspective of the battles involved and includes much about the action and leadership of the Boers. It provides good, focused context for anyone with ancestors involved in this campaign.

Paul Milner
Park Ridge, Illinois

Researchers whose forebears, or who themselves, served in the US Armed Forces will find Linda D. Swink’s *In Their Honor: The Men behind the Names of Our Military Installations*, a catalog of the nation’s military bases, an interesting gathering of facts about the men for whom the bases themselves are named. Beyond the names, though, some bits of information as to their lifespan and disposition are provided where known. Information about the bases’ current status (that is, open or closed) and whether they have been renamed or repurposed are added, too.

Mostly, though, these mini biographies detail something of the careers of the men whose bravery, skill, and heroism deemed them suitable to serve as namesake of the military’s bases around the world. Divided by branch, the book covers the Air Force, Air National Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Army National Guard, Army barracks in Germany and South Korea, and Army airfields, stagefields, and heliports. Further, the author lists installations alphabetically by branch of service and all installations by state and overseas location.

Any student of American military history will want this work on their reference shelf. Even when brief, the stories and dutiful devotion of these soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen are interesting and inspirational. Their memories are well-served by this compilation. Libraries and collections on or near military installations, or with significant numbers of veterans, will do well to include this work in their collections as well.

Rev. Dr. David McDonald, CG
De Forest, Wisconsin
In their efforts to tell the story of the 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, authors Bradley Quinlin and Joshua Haugh have shown that the old proverb “good things come in small packages” still holds true. While not the longest regimental history you will ever read, *Duty Well Performed: The Twenty-First Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War* is divided almost exactly page-wise into regimental history and roster. The book also gives a great view into this Ohio unit.

This is not the first book to chronicle the story of the 21st Ohio. When the Civil War ended, men who served returned home and turned their backs on soldiering. Then, in the 1880s, interest in the Civil War returned and ex-soldiers joined together to share and remember the years spent in uniform. This led to soldiers writing histories of their personal or unit experiences, and thus in 1893 Captain Silas Canfield of the 21st Ohio wrote a history of the regiment at the request of his comrades at a regimental reunion.

Given that, one might ask what is the use of a new book, written when all the participants have long passed away and cannot contribute to its content as they did with Canfield’s work. The answer is twofold. First is the authors’ use of official records and documents generated by the unit as well as soldiers’ letters and pensions that were not available in 1893. By culling those sources as well as others, Quinlin and Haugh have done an admirable job of adding to the record of the 21st Ohio as well as bringing to life the men who composed it. Secondly the authors are re-enactors and living historians in addition to their historical interest, which allows them to write with an understanding of regiment maneuvers and to explain experiences of wearing the uniform that those who have not tread in the soldier’s shoes cannot comprehend. Since Canfield and his comrades had lived these experiences, they never felt the need to explain them.

The book’s first half well documents the raising and field experiences of the 21st Ohio. Likewise, the unit’s history unit ends with the regiment’s final days in Washington, DC, at the Grand Review, followed by the later years of comradeship as members continued to meet at reunions. *Duty Well Performed* is filled with pictures of individual soldiers and detailed maps of the unit’s movements in its various actions. These maps are perfect for showing details of the ground the 21st Ohio fought and died on. However, to best understand where the 21st Ohio fits into the battles at large, readers might want to consult other works for more comprehensive battle maps.

While the historical narrative is of great use to anyone interested in the regiment, it is the second part, the roster that will be of even greater interest to genealogists. Twice the length of the roster in Canfield’s work, *Duty Well Performed*’s roster includes data about each soldier from every source Quinlin and Haugh could find. This comprises both military data as well as (when available) the soldier’s date of death and place of burial. Readers should note that the roster is arranged in a military manner by company and is ordered by rank rather than alphabetically by last name. Thus officers are first, non-commissioned second, rank and file next, followed by musicians, teamsters, and...
The Civil War was a period well documented in photographs. Many a soldier posed before a backdrop and perhaps held a musket prop to have their image taken photographic studios. Likewise, more adventurous photographers took outdoor views of buildings, fortifications, or military formations. The 1860s' camera, however, was incapable of taking the casual, every-day view of life or the moment of action, due to the long exposure time needed to create images. Instead these views were captured by sketch artists, either hired by a newspaper or an amateur who enjoyed capturing life in the field. Thus, the enlistment of Adolph Metzner brought about a view of 32nd Indiana and its men a Civil War–era camera could never capture.

Adolph Metzner was born in 1834 in the German state of Baden-Wuerttemberg and was trained as a pharmacist prior to coming to the United States in 1856. Metzger settled in Louisville, Kentucky, a border state at the war’s beginning, but he crossed into Indiana to join the then forming 32nd Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment. His decision to join the regiment was probably driven by the fact that the 32nd was a “German” regiment, composed of immigrants from a German states or men from German-speaking families. That cultural familiarity was a strong draw for men looking to join regiments.

Thankfully, Metzner not only carried a rifle as he lived and marched with the 32nd but also a pencil and watercolors. With those, he created sketches and paintings of the 32nd's men and the Civil War events they experienced. His art ran the gamut from camp scenes and portraits of comrades to battlefield combat. Some are caricatures showing his sense of humor and attitude towards those he knew while other works show the battlefield realities of life and death. In such works, Metzner captured the casualties and the horrors of how lead and shot could destroy the human form that a period photograph might show. Interestingly, Metzner’s art runs the spectrum from having an unpolished “folk” aspect to being quite well done. Whether this was due to time, conditions, or simply his talent is unknown, but his work conveys the feel for the moment.

In addition to gathering Metzner’s art, Blood Shed in This War: Civil War Illustrations by Captain Adolph Metzner, 32nd Indiana, author Michael A. Peake provides a short but well-researched and well-written biography of the artist and the 32nd’s Civil War service. That along the images reproduced in full color, make this book a must for those interested in either the regiment or those whose ancestors who served in it.

Marc Storch
De Forest, Wisconsin
Genealogists dream of finding records of their ancestors’ lives, written in their own words. Mark A. Miner was fortunate to find just that: the Civil War diaries of his great-great-grandfather’s brother Ephraim Miner. Miner used these diaries as the basis for a biography of Ephraim.

In *Well at this Time*, The Civil War Diaries and Army Convalescence Saga of Farmboy Ephraim Miner of the 142nd Pennsylvania Infantry and the 22nd Veterans Reserve Corps, Miner combines the diaries with other records to recount Ephraim’s life. The records used include Civil War-era pension files, newspapers, censuses, and published histories. The biography covers Ephraim’s entire life, not just his Civil War service. Ephraim lived in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, except while he was in the Union Army. His unit, the 142nd Pennsylvania, saw its first action near the battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, in December 1862. The unit engaged the Confederate Army at the Slaughter Pen Farm, several miles from the main battle. During the fighting, Ephraim lost hearing. In the battle’s aftermath, Ephraim’s feet froze. His injuries were severe enough for him to be sent to a hospital in January 1863. He stayed at various hospitals in and around Washington, DC, until October 1864 when he was transferred to the 22nd Veterans Reserve Corps.

Miner does a good job of placing Ephraim into historical context. The author included complete transcriptions of Ephraim’s diaries. Miner then annotated some of the diary entries with information from the sources listed above. In the annotations, Miner describes what Ephraim’s former unit, the 142nd Pennsylvania Infantry, was doing while Ephraim was recovering from his injuries.

*Well at this Time* is well written. There are a lot of images, including scans of some of the diary pages, which add interest to the book. There are two weaknesses. The first is a fair amount of conjecture about what Ephraim felt and whether he interacted with famous people such as Clara Barton and Walt Whitman during his convalescence. Ephraim’s diaries do not provide enough information to support such conjecture. The other weakness is a lack of citations. There are some endnotes, however the author failed to meet genealogy standard by citing every statement. Overall this book is a good example of what can be done with an ancestor’s diary.

Amy E. K. Arner
Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania

One of the many challenges of genealogical research is becoming familiar with the major resources available for a locality of interest. Since entire families rarely stayed in one place over multiple generations, researchers need to understand the records of all the states or countries where their ancestors lived. The Genealogical Publishing Company is currently producing the Genealogy at a Glance series to assist genealogists in quickly learning about research in various localities. More than a dozen topics are now covered.

Carol McGinnis recently contributed Michigan Genealogy Research to the series. This reference guide begins with some helpful facts about the state, including relevant settlement information. The remainder of this work focuses on Michigan’s major source collections and where they can be accessed. Coverage includes vital, church, cemetery, land, military, and census...
records, with a brief summary of county histories and newspapers. McGinnis also provides contact information for the major repositories.

This work focuses on records available onsite at various repositories in Michigan, as well as online resources. The vital records available at FamilySearch.org are highlighted, but unfortunately, the book does not mention the remainder of the microfilm collection at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City. It would have been helpful to mention the FHL film collection since it is available through loan to thousands of Family History Centers worldwide, while Michigan’s onsite records only in that state. Although experienced genealogists will be familiar with the FHL’s collection, new researchers need to be informed.

The information highlighted in the Genealogy at a Glance series is similar to the FamilySearch Wiki, which is available online without charge. Because it is electronic, the Wiki will be more current as more records become available. But for those who prefer working with a hard copy, these summaries are much more compact than printing the Wiki. Overall, this is a good beginning resource for anyone conducting genealogical research in the state of Michigan.

Jill Crandell
Provo, Utah

By Carol McGinnis.
Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore.
2011. 4 pp. Laminated. $8.95.

Sharon DeBartolo Carmack’s American Cemetery Research is another new contribution to the Genealogy at a Glance series. This booklet includes a timeline for typical stones used for grave markers, types of cemeteries, and useful equipment for a cemetery visit. It also summarizes the best practices for photographing markers and creating tombstone rubbings. Appropriate warnings are given about cleaning and other practices that may be harmful to the stones.

Although this work includes a section on “Locating Your Ancestor’s Final Resting Place,” the discussion focuses on how to learn the name of the cemetery where a family burial has occurred. Unfortunately, there is little information to guide the researcher in locating the cemetery once its name has been discovered. If researchers are dealing with a large cemetery, this might not be a problem. However, small, local cemeteries without a sexton’s office can be challenging to find. There are several helpful resources, but one that probably should have been mentioned is the Geographic Names Information System at the US Geological Survey website <www.usgs.gov>. This database includes cemeteries in its list of federally recognized features, all listed by their official names. Each cemetery listing provides latitude and longitude information, as well as the USGS map on which it is located.

American Cemetery Research provides quality information that will be very helpful to those who are new to researching their ancestors’ burial places.

Jill Crandell
Provo, Utah

Genealogy at a Glance: American Cemetery Research.
By Sharon DeBartolo Carmack.
Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore.
2012. 4 pp. Laminated. $8.95.
New Englanders in the 1600s: A Guide to Genealogical Research Published between 1980 and 2010 by Martin E. Hollick is an absolute must for anyone doing pre-1700 New England research. This book indexes all articles, multi-family genealogies, many single-family genealogies, and scholarly compendia that have dealt with New England immigrants born before 1700. The period 1980 to 2010 includes the publication of twenty-three volumes of the Mayflower Five Generation Project, ten volumes of the Great Migration Study Project, six volumes of the Dean Crawford Smith ancestry (a model of a good multi-ancestor work), plus many more thoroughly researched publications.

The first edition of this book was published in 2006, covering sources published between 1980 and 2005. This volume is thirty-six pages longer and contains some important additions, such as: all volumes of Magazine of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists from 1980–2010, the final three volumes of The Great Migration Study Project, the final three volumes of John Howland of the Mayflower, and updates on all recent articles in the major New England periodicals.

Each person’s name is in bold letters in alphabetical order, with a key identifier as to why they are included, which may be a birth or death date and a location. This is followed by an abbreviation for the publication, with page citations. If there are published analytical reviews of the publication these are also identified.

As with all compilations like this, the introduction should be read carefully to understand what is and is not included. Obviously there is much published material prior to 1980 and guidance is provided on how to access this material. But the extensions and revisions that build upon the work of earlier researchers will be found in this book, making it a must-have book, even if you own the earlier edition.

Paul Milner
Park Ridge, Illinois

The National Society Sons and Daughters of Antebellum Planters, was formed on 17 October 1997 with the intent to acknowledge Antebellum-era (1607 until 12 April 1861) “planters” within the US’s current forty-eight mainland states. A planter is defined as a person maintaining more than five hundred acres of land on which more than twenty individuals were engaged in agricultural work. To be eligible for the society, the acreage must have produced a profit, but the land could be divided among multiple regions or states. National Society Sons and Daughters of Antebellum Planters, 1607–1861, Lineage Book I, by Karen Avery Miller is a compilation of 268 society-member applications dating from the formation of the organization through 30 April 2011. Applications were accepted from direct descendants of the planter or full-blooded siblings of the planter.

Each submission is organized like an ancestral chart, beginning with the society member marked as the first generation followed by each consecutive generation ending with the planter. The number of generations varies from four to sixteen generations per entry. In addition, some members have supplements documenting their lineage to several planters. The details are limited to birth, marriage, and death dates for each ancestor and his/her spouse. Although the society’s focus is the planters, the locations of

Note: Book info appears on page 41.
their property holdings are omitted. Within each entry, the county and state of the member’s birth is the only location given. References are available at the end of each submission, ranging from family history books, periodicals, census records, deeds and wills, but it is not clear whether the references are for the planter generation specifically or for the entire application. The book includes a comprehensive index.

This resource can be a stepping stone for those seeking information on an ancestor who owned and profited from land in the United States prior to the Civil War.

Melissa Shimkus
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Who knew that Germans could be Methodist? In *A Forgotten Heritage: The German Methodist Church*, Barbara Dixon, the granddaughter of a German Methodist Episcopal preacher, demonstrates the presence and strength of the roots established by German Methodists throughout the upper Midwest, but especially in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. Combining her grandfather’s diaries concerning churches he had served or visited with denominational records and local histories, Dixon has assembled a concise catalog of these congregations.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church began with the influx of Germanic immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century. As the number of such immigrants grew, so did the church. Like so many other organizations, though, the second- and third-generation descendants of the earliest arrivals shifted away from their ancestral tongue and grew increasingly American in their outlook and approach. After more than ninety years of service, the German Methodist Episcopal tradition was incorporated into the broader Methodist Episcopal Church, now known as the United Methodist Church.

*A Forgotten Heritage* is divided into sections based around four church districts: Louisville, Cincinnati, Michigan, and North Ohio, which were the largest-level of organization within the tradition. Below the districts, the circuits, a smaller grouping or cluster of churches, show the individual churches, where known. The entries on the churches themselves vary from several pages to a brief paragraph or two. Some are shown with historical images, others as the buildings now appear.

The author has carefully logged the sources used, and each section of the book has a substantial listing of endnotes pointing the way to additional research possibilities. Those with Protestant, non-Lutheran, German immigrant forebears from the mid-nineteenth century onward who lived throughout the northern Ohio Valley will find this a useful resource. Students of Germanic-religious expression and of the United Methodist Church and its forebears will also find the book a good acquisition.

Rev. Dr. David Mc-Donald, cg
DeForest, Wisconsin
In *Shakers of Indiana: A West Union Reader*, Cheryl Bauer chronicles the Shakers, a frequently misunderstood and mischaracterized nineteenth-century sect, through period-based writings: diaries kept by the Shakers themselves, advertisements from newspapers, and correspondence about the Shakers and their circumstances by political and military leaders in the Indiana Territory. The Shaker's West Union settlement, begun in 1808, survived less than twenty years. Located in modern-day Knox County near the Wabash River, the community was initially known as Busro, after the creek and township. It was fifteen miles north of the territorial capital at Vincennes. The community's population peaked at 340 in 1811 and was at less than half that number in 1827 when it was disbanded and its remaining inhabitants dispersed.

*Shakers of Indiana* showcases writings by Shakers in its first section; outsiders' accounts are contained in the second. The work concerns interaction with the native tribes as well as Governor Harrison's efforts to induce the Shakers to, in effect, spy upon the followers of The Prophet, the Indian chief whom Harrison defeated in 1811. Throughout the War of 1812, the West Union settlement was caught between the Americans and the natives. Having befriended the Indians upon arrival, the Shakers were suspect in the eyes of Harrison. With the war, the friendly natives were dispersed and the settlement was no longer safe for the Shakers. By the fall of 1812, the community had removed to relative safety at Union Village, Ohio, returning in 1814 to rebuild.

Bauer's introductory chapter provides a very useful sketch of Shaker history and customs. Though not detailed, it does offer guidance for those unfamiliar with the role of Shakers in the opening of the American interior as well as the group’s roots in Quakerism. Those seeking the character of the old Northwest Territory at the turn of the nineteenth century and first-hand accounts of the hardships endured by pioneer settlers in the federal era will be well served by this work. Students of early Indiana history will find this a “must have” for their collections.

Rev. Dr. David Mc-Donald, CG
DeForest, Wisconsin

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