

## Presidents Message

Arlene Sampson

I thought I would write about St. Patrick's day which my family celebrated with the traditional corned beef, cabbage and potatoes dinner, but not being "Irish," I never really understood the history of St. Patrick's day.



Traditionally it is a "Cultural and Religious Holiday" celebrated around the world with festivals, religious services and parades. For those who are Irish, think they might have some Irish heritage or just join the festivities for the day, the wearing of the "green" and the Lenten restrictions of eating and drinking are lifted for the day.

The March 17th date celebrates the arrival of Christianity to Ireland by St. Patrick, and has been a holiday since the 17th century, and a holiday which celebrates being Irish.

## March 10th Speaker on DNA

Daniela Moneta

Today genealogists use DNA to help them locate the homeland of their ancestors and contact cousins and distant relatives. How to use DNA testing, how to contact distant cousins, which test to take, and how to interpret the results will be the topics of this presentation.



## Good News for Members

There are four Subscriber Genealogy Databases available as part of your WVGS membership *at no cost*. Be sure to take advantage of this generous benefit.

	<u>Database Cost</u>	<u>Member Cost</u>
New England Historic Genealogical Society	\$80	\$0
Ancestry.com	\$299	\$0
World Vital Records	\$90	\$0
Fold3	<u>\$80</u>	<u>\$0</u>
	\$549	<b>totally free</b>

WVR and Fold3 are also available to members from home. Visit the web site for instructions on how to access them.

### WVGS Library:

12222 N. 111th Avenue, Youngtown, AZ 85363-1225

### Hours:

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

6:00 - 9:00 pm Tuesday nights

12:30 - 4:00 pm Sunday

*Last Saturday of the month open 9:00 am-6:00 pm*

Closed Monday and Wednesday for classes/meetings

**Telephone:** ..... 623-933-4945

**Website:** ..... <http://www.azwvgs.org>

**Monthly Meetings:** September through May

Second Monday of each month - Doors open at 1:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church, 12225 N. 103rd Avenue, Sun City

## Online Book Store is Open

WVGS members have online access to our store that sells gently used and reasonably priced genealogical books.

Shop when it's convenient for you and have books sent to your home or choose to pick them up at the WVGS Library.

Support the Genealogical Society and shop at [azwvgs.org](http://azwvgs.org).

## Calendar

March	3	WVGS Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
	10	General Membership Meeting, 1:30 pm
	20	Research Night, 5:00 to 9:00 pm, call the Library to reserve a spot
	17	Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestors
	31	Library Tour, 9:30 to 11:00 am, <b>call the Library to reserve a spot</b>

# Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestor

We would love to have you join us with a story about your ancestors

**Monday, March 17th**

**from 11 am to 1 pm**

come share family memories & mementos at the

**5 & Diner Deluxe**

**11341 W. Bell Road, Surprise**

All lunches require sign up and a \$5.00 fee; lunch & tip on your own

Contact: Sharon Brown at [Dir.Fundraising@azwvgs.org](mailto:Dir.Fundraising@azwvgs.org)

## Fundraising News

*Sharon Brown*

**We really need your help by linking your Fry's VIP Cards with the WVGS account #80153 to help our organization earn money. WVGS will get a percentage from all our shopping purchases by signing up and using your card. Tell your friends and neighbors as well, everyone is eligible. Go online to the Fry's web site and either create an account or sign in; then go to account settings. It's simple and easy.**

**New** Eat at Marley's Restaurant and Bar in Surprise at 15226 W Bell Road, 623-251-4854, and WVGS will get a percentage of your cost just by showing your FREE Marley's Card available at the WVGS Library.

We also get a percentage on your purchases at Albertsons. Need a card? They can be picked up at our Library.

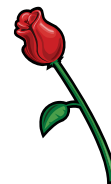
Any out of town guests coming to visit can get a discount at the Comfort Inn in Surprise. Pick up a FREE card at the Library and check out the requirements. We get a percentage from them as well.

Raffle tickets for the picture painted by Irma Hardin's husband are on sale at the Library and at the General Meetings. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Drawing will be in May at the General Meetings.

*Remember, by supporting these business partners you are also helping our WVGS Library.*

## Condolences

WVGS Life Member Dorothy De Armond Sadler passed away in June 2010. Her husband Milton F. Sadler died in 1984. Dorothy is survived by her only child, a daughter Judy Sadler who lives in Sun City, and a brother who lives in Prescott, AZ. Our sympathies go out to Dorothy's family on their loss.



## Welcome New Members

*Membership Registrar - Bob Gallagher*

Please welcome all the new Members who joined the Society during January 2014. The New Members are: Jan Baker, Kathy Ann Bartow, Jim Bates, Christopher Beisner, Susan Bender, Bonnie Bileski, Kayla Briesch, Ann Buchanan, Ward Case, Howard Clewett, Milton Diedrick, Doris Egge, Dianne Evans, Victoria Fachner, Doug Fairchild, Don Faust, Dudley Gibson, Tina Hancox, Dick Hanson, Gayle Isley, Lesle Kouba, Marilyn Lancelot, Penny Lee, Susan Major, H. Richard Matthews, Lorinda McArthur, Daniel O'Connell, F. William Pack, Peter Kimball Pierson, Cheryl Riley, Alice Sadowski, Mireya Vance, Rod Vessels, Carolyn Vollendorf, Patricia Watson, John Wilson, Judy Woznicki and Elaine Wright.

When you see these new members, be sure to introduce yourself and encourage them to participate in the Society's many activities. We welcome everyone to many years of continued membership, fellowship, and research within the Society.

The total active membership of the Society is 497 as of February 10, 2014.

## Donations - Thank You!

**M**any, many thanks to all of our donors of materials, equipment and publications. **Donors:** 50/50 club, CDC, Sharon Brown, Bob & Cathy Gallagher, Joye and John Kohl, Linda McCleary, Ann Mitchell, Sally Pavia, Arlene Sampson, Dee Snook, Barbara Stenberg, Ada Sullivan, Joan Ratner, Carole Roath, Michelle Warren and Karen R. Zeppenfeld.

## Use: Goodsearch.com

GoodSearch.com works much like Google, but WVGS receives a penny for each of your searches. Read the instructions on the home page and be sure to enter **West Valley Genealogical Society** in the lower box so we receive the credit.

## Put These Numbers In Your Wallet

Office Max Perks..... #012748337  
Staples Rewards ..... #04050-4355-5  
**Or just use WVGS phone number 623-933-4945**

# February Volunteers of the Month

Barb Behrman

## Carolyn Filer

Carolyn joined the Society in 2007, and has been most involved in the money side of the organization. She grew up in Kansas where she worked for a financial company. So when she joined the Society it was an easy and natural step to become involved as Treasurer. While serving for two years, she was very involved in setting up the Quick Books program to better handle our finances. She wrote the manual for the program and spent countless hours fine tuning the program in time for its debut this past January 1st. One of the wonderful things this program offers is the ability for the Treasurer to work both from home and from the office. In addition to that, she wrote the manual and procedures for our new E-store. This too required lots of testing and bringing the Assistant Treasurers up to speed. In her spare time she can be found working with the Sun City Silver Stones Club making beautiful silver jewelry, and she also finds time to make fusion glass.



## Sheri Erickson

Sheri Erickson has been a member since 2005 and has been involved in just about everything in the ensuing eight years. She hails from Osage, Iowa, and returns to the corn fields and humidity every summer. Her two daughters, two grandsons and her church keep her busy



there as does teaching a beginning genealogy class. While here in the winter, Sheri has served as 1st Vice President, volunteers as a Library Aide, is on the cleaning crew, and leads the Swedish SIG. She always has a wonderful smile. She also has just recently agreed to become the book purchaser for the CDC. Sheri is a terrific lady and we are pleased to present her with a certificate and pin as a Volunteer of the Month.



“I have sometimes been wildly, despairingly, acutely miserable, but through it all I still know quite certainly that just to be alive is a grand thing.”

Agatha Christie

# Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Cathy Gallagher



**Be Sure To Check With The Library Or WVGS Website To Verify SIG Schedules**

- NY/NJ/PA .....1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- Italy ..... 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- Maryland & Southern States ..... 1<sup>st</sup> Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Legacy..... 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- DNA ..... 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- in April & May*
- Norway .....2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- Kansas/Missouri..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- TMG..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- Germany/Poland .....3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- Canada .....3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- Sweden ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- New England States ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- British Isles.....4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Family Tree Maker.....4<sup>th</sup> Friday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- from September through May*
- Illinois/Indiana/Ohio..... 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Adoption..... *please watch for days/times or contact Lou McLean for details: [mlm16ddm@yahoo.com](mailto:mlm16ddm@yahoo.com)*

If there are any questions, call the WVGS Library or contact our SIGs Coordinator Cathy Gallagher at 623-266-1330 or [sigs@azwvgs.org](mailto:sigs@azwvgs.org)

## Classes

Connie Sheets

**Important change:** As of January 2014, all checks should be made out to WVGS instead of the instructor.

For schedule of classes, dates, times, class descriptions and costs, please check our website [www.azwvgs.org](http://www.azwvgs.org) or call the Library at 623-933-4945.

All classes are limited to the first 20 people to register.

### Barbara Stenberg, Instructor

**Novice Genealogy** Monthly  
Every third Friday unless noted 1:00 - 3:00 pm

### Suzanne Brayer, Instructor

**Tips for Successful Research** 1 Class  
Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm March 13

### Jean M. White, Instructor

**Research Techniques II** 4 classes  
*Research Techniques I suggested*  
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm March 19 & 26, April 2 & 9

## Library New Book Report

*Inventory still taking place.  
No book list this month.*



### Thank You for Duplicate Books

West Valley Genealogical Society would like to thank members for their continued support and development of the Library's extensive book collection by the donation of their gently used genealogical books. These books are either added to the collection or duplicate books are placed for sale in the WVGS Store. Funds from book sales are used to buy additional books for the Library collection. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Questions may be addressed to [dupbooks@azwvgs.org](mailto:dupbooks@azwvgs.org).

### You Know You Are Living in 2014 when. . .

1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a website at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)
12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
14. You actually looked back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list.

AND

15. FINALLY. . . NOW you're LAUGHING at yourself.

Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves, for they shall never cease to be amused!

*This article was from "In Communiti"  
with no author listed.*

*Submitted by Lou McLean*

## Display Cases

*Sally Pavia*

Our display case in the main Library is still filled with wonderful toys from our childhood. There are some that will bring back some wonderful memories.

**Multi-purpose Room** - the glass cases in the media room will be in honor of our military men and women from our members' families. Some are from the Civil War. There is still room for more, so if you have some that can be displayed, please contact Sally Pavia, [dir.specprojects@azwvgs.org](mailto:dir.specprojects@azwvgs.org) or 623 974-0195.

*We would really like the display to be extra special.*

**Please remember to carry your badge.  
We will be scanning badges at the Library  
and the General Membership Meeting.**



## Research Night

*Sally Pavia*

Be sure to come on Thursday, March 20th, 5-9 pm. Bring your dinner and \$3.50. We provide dessert and drinks. If anyone needs help with researching, someone will there to assist. Come for lots of fun company and you'll have a great time.

## Upcoming Speakers

**April 14**

Leonard Marcisz

*"The Stoneman Military Road"*

**May 12**

James L. Tanner

*"The New Family Tree Program at the  
Family History Library"*

## Aluminum Cans

Gale Kristof, *The Can Man*

We have several pieces of good news and a slight bit of bad news. The good news is that we did hit our monthly target of \$100 this month and the price paid per pound for cans has increased to \$1.15. The bad news is that we are still about 20% behind where we were in February last year. So, once again, we need more cans to catch up with last year's effort. And, with the 15% increase in price paid per pound this month, a few (or lots of) extra cans this month will help to close the gap very quickly.



**PLEASE NOTE:** Do not leave cans in the caged area due to thefts. Bring them into the Library or to the General Membership meeting.

### Notice - Notice - Notice

We **do not** recycle plastic bottles. Please put them with your regular recyclable items at home.

## 50/50 Books Report

Lu Williams

The Society pays one-half of the cost of the books listed; interested members donate the remainder. Members may suggest titles to be considered for the list.

The following books can be purchased through your participation in the 50/50 program:

- *Marriage & Death Notices From Raleigh Region and NC Gazette, 1799-1825, 2 volumes in 1*  
Cost \$21.50 ..... **Paid In Full**
- *Marriage & Death Notices From Raleigh Region and NC Gazette, 1826-1845, 2 volumes in 1*  
Cost \$36.50 ..... Balance Due \$15.25
- *Marriage & Death Notices From Raleigh Region and NC Gazette, 1847-1867, 2 volumes in 1*  
Cost \$22.50 ..... Balance Due \$5.25
- *Early Church Records of Monmouth County, NJ*  
Cost \$13.00 ..... **Paid In Full**
- *Special Presidential Pardons For Confederate Soldiers*  
Cost \$60.00 ..... **Paid In Full**

## May Raffle

*This painting, donated by Irma Harding, will be our May Raffle. Tickets may be purchased at the Library or our General Meetings for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 from now until then.*

### The Way I Heard It

A young man was researching his family tree. He remembered a story he'd heard as a child about his great-great grandparents. He had been told that they had traveled West looking for new land. On the way they became ill and died. They were buried in the desert. The couple had two children. One of the other couples took the children to raise.

The young man spent his vacation time driving from town to town in the western states looking for the two graves. On about the third trip, he stopped at a garage in a little town in New Mexico to have his car serviced. He told the owner the story of his quest. One of the other men working there said as a youth on an outing with a church group, he saw two graves with wooden crosses. He gave the young man directions to the ranch where he thought the graves were.

The man went to talk to the owner of the ranch. He was quite elderly. The rancher admitted there were two graves on his property. He loaned him a horse and told him where to look for the graves. After finding the graves, he returned to the ranch and talked some more with the elderly rancher.

The rancher told him that his great grandfather had decided to stop here and build a ranch. The member of the party who took the children decided to go back East. The ranchers grandfather was a brother to the man in the grave and the woman who took the children to raise was a sister to the woman in the grave.

The elderly rancher took him to the barn and showed him a piece of wood from the broken cross and by matching stories handed down from family members, confirmed that the two graves were those of the young man's great-great grandparents and the elderly rancher was his great-great uncle.

