



President's Message

Arlene Sampson

By the time you read this newsletter, "The WVGS Store" will have or be very close to using credit cards, which for those of you who are internet shoppers you'll be in your element. At the December General Meeting the announcement was made that membership renewals and new memberships are now available on the store.

To follow in the next weeks are "Seminar" reservations and then "Classes." This is all due to our dedicated programmer, Ed Crabbe, who has worked many hours, listened to many people and then worked within the parameters of our software, to arrive at the successful conclusion for the Society. Additional store committee members are: the three treasurers, Kathie Welch, Mary Ellen Bloomburg and Lori Gurcius who have worked hard to define the process of accepting credit cards and how to track and enter them. Bob Gallagher and Connie Sheets inputted the information for both membership and classes and found ways to monitor and gather information that cannot be gathered during a credit card transaction. We saw the need and added Liz Wright to the committee that handles Customer Service and contributed ideas to the process.



Finally, but certainly not the least, Kathy Stromer and Adrienne Haupt who worked with the programmer, spent many hours in discussion, created and maintain the indexing system and testing. They were the first to develop a product for the store which includes presenting, selling/marketing, and mailing "duplicate books."

Please thank these members for their diligence and dedication to this project!

January Calendar

- 5 WVGS Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
- 12 General Membership Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 15 Research Night, 5:00 to 9:00 pm;
call the Library to reserve a spot
- 19 Library Tour, 9:30 to 11:00 am;
call the Library to reserve a spot
- 19 Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestors, 11:00 am

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

January 12th Speaker

William "Bill" Kane

"Genealogy - More Than Names"

Author and accomplished genealogist William "Bill" Kane will be the featured speaker at the January monthly meeting. After researching his ancestors back to France and Ireland, he wrote and published *Journeys Taken*, relating the history of New France from its beginning in 1605, as told through the lives of his ancestors. He has written over 50 articles which have been published in several genealogical journals. Mr. Kane is now Vice President of the Societe des filles du roi et Soldats du Carignan, Inc. (Society of Kings Daughters and Soldiers of the Carignan Regiment) and regularly contributes articles to their journal, *Sent By The King*. He also has a query and answer column in each issue.

In another book, *The Brothers and the Sisters*, Bill tells the story of two families that left Croatia and immigrated through Ellis Island to Wisconsin. He also serves on the Canadian committee of the Mesa Family Library Center. He recently researched where his 402 immigrant ancestors came from in Europe. Most of the 391 of his French ancestors emigrated to North America before 1700 and he has plotted on a map the 197 towns where they lived before leaving the mother country.

A native of Massachusetts, Bill has made Arizona his home for the past 43 years. He is very passionate about the stories behind the facts. He not only wants to get to know his ancestors but to figure out the 'why' and 'how' as well as the 'who', 'what' and 'where'.

Classes

Connie Sheets, First Vice President

Please make checks payable to WVGS.

All classes are limited to the first 20 people to register unless otherwise noted.

Barbara Stenberg, Instructor

Novice Genealogy Monthly
Every third Friday unless noted 1:00 - 3:30 pm

Jean White, Instructor

Research Techniques I 4 Classes
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Jan 14, 21, 28, and Feb 4

Research Techniques II 4 Classes
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Feb 11, 18, 25, and Mar 4

Problem Solving (limited to 10 people) 3 Classes
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Mar 11, 18, 25

Judy Crawford, Instructor

Research in Salt Lake City 1 Class
Friday, 10:00 - 12 noon January 16

Cathy Gallagher, Instructor

Facebook for Genealogy 1 Class
Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm January 29

Suzanne Brayer, Instructor

The Taxman Cometh 1 Class
Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm February 5

Location, Location, Location: Using Maps in Research 1 Class
Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm March 5

Using Internet Sources 1 Class
Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm April 2

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

Donations – Thank You!

Many, many thanks to all of our donors of materials, equipment and publications. This month's donors are: 50/50 Club, Carol Abernathy, Archives of Michigan, Arizona Historical Society, Jean Belzer, Dee Snook in Memory of Bonnie Bileski, Estate of Joseph Brumit, Donald Campbell, CDC Purchase to honor Dorothy Sprague's Work on the CDC, CDC Purchase to Honor Lori Gurcius' work on the CDC, Lynne Corbett, Estate of Joyce Z. Cornelius, Beverly Craig, Marilyn Dase, Jean Ferris, Adrienne Haupt, Doris Hopkins, Indian River County Main Library, John Irwin, Jody Johnson, Susan Krueger, Charlie Lindquist, Shirley McAllister, Linda McCleary, Dorothy McGowan, Verlyne Henry Meck, Peggy Morphew, Rosalie Ogden, Rita Sanders, Dee Snook, Dorothy Sprague, Jean White and Lou Williams.

Raffle Prizes

Charlie Mannino, Tidbits Editor

At December's meeting a pair of tickets were donated from **Ghostlight Theater**, 13541 West Camino Del Sol, Sun City West, for *Steel Magnolias* scheduled for January 15th through February 1st.

Tickets for *Over The River and Through The Woods* from March 5th through the 22nd will be raffled at January's Membership meeting. For February we have tickets for Neil Simon's, *Lost In Yonkers* from April 23rd through May 10th, which is the final show for the season.

A complete schedule of dates and times can be found at www.ghostlightaz.com.

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.

Italy SIG Christmas Luncheon

The Italy SIG met for a wonderful Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 4th at the Portofino Restaurant in Surprise.



In attendance were: Italy SIG Facilitator Carol Watson, Del Kunz, Shirley Anne Smithey, Peggy Morphew, Cathy Gallagher, Pam LaFond, Chris Thorsen, Ron Foster, Rich De Lillo, John and Sue Spreitzer.

December Volunteer of the Month

Arlene Sampson for Barb Behrman

Don & Shirley Lawrenson

Don and Shirley Lawrenson are our Volunteers of the Month for December. Both have graciously contributed time and energy to the Society. Don was on the Financial Review Committee for several years, some of which turned out to be a committee of one. Shirley was editor of *Tidbits* for five years from September 2000 through May 2005 and was an experienced newsletter editor. They currently are proofreaders for the *Desert Tracker* and *Tidbits*, making sure that all the "i's" are dotted, "t's" are crossed and the comma's are in the right place.



Shirley is a native Arizonian and Don grew up in Oregon. They moved to Arizona from Connecticut in 1999 and over the years have enjoyed traveling the world and especially "cruising." They have two sons with families that include grandchildren.

50/50 Books Report

Janet Buchanan

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. The "Balance Due" is after current contributions.

- *The Past and Present of Warren County, Illinois*. H F Kent & Co., 1877
Cost \$65.00Balance Due \$32.50
- *Portrait & Biographical Album of Warren County, ILL.* Chapman Bros, 1886
Cost \$65.00Balance Due \$32.50
- *The History of Allen County, Ohio*, Warner & Beers, 1885
Cost \$65.00Balance Due \$30.50
- *The History of Ashland County, Ohio*, George W. Hill, 1880.
Cost \$65.00Balance Due \$32.50
- *The Early History of Auglaize County, Ohio*, J.D. Simkins, 1901
Cost \$65.00 Balance Due \$24.50

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Cathy Gallagher



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

- **New Writing Family History** Sat, 1/17, 2/28, 9:30 am
- **NY/NJ/PA** *Sep-May 1st Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- **Italy** 1st Thursday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Maryland & Southern States** 1st Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Legacy** 1st Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- **DNA** *Oct-Apr 1st Saturday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Norway** *Oct-Apr 2nd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- **Kansas/Missouri** 2nd Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **TMG** *Sep-Apr 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- **New England States** *Sep-Apr 2nd Saturday 12:30-2:30 pm
- **Germany/Poland** 3rd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- **Canada** *Sep-Apr 3rd Thursday, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- **Sweden** *Oct-Apr 3rd Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **British Isles** 4th Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Family Tree Maker** *Sep-May 4th Friday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Illinois/Indiana/Ohio** 4th Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Adoption** - Contact Lou McLean for details:

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

Benefits for Members

There are four Subscriber Genealogy Databases available as part of your WVGS membership. Be sure to take advantage of this generous benefit.

	Database Cost	Member Cost
New England Historic Genealogical Society	\$200	\$3.25
Ancestry.com	775	from our
World Vital Records	600	membership
Fold3	<u>500</u>	dues pays for these
	\$2,075	subscriptions

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

Put These Numbers In Your Wallet

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

Library New Book Report

Linda McCleary, Book Accessioner
Karen Zeppenfeld, Library Administrator

- 82nd Seabees Roster of Members. 1969 edition
- A Few Wurttemberg Families of Grafenberg, Kohlberg, Riederich & Tischardt (Ancestry of German-American Families) [Doster Family]
- Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri
- Buckeye: The First 100 Years, 1888-1988
- Burial Grounds of Lansingburgh, Rensselaer County, New York, The
- Columbiana County, Ohio Probate Abstracts 1803-1830. Books 1-6
- Cousins by the Dozens: Descendants of James and Sarah (Riggs) Ellis 1759-1995. Part One
- Cousins by the Dozens: Descendants of James and Sarah (Riggs) Ellis 1759-1995. Part Two
- Dictionary of American-Indian Place and Proper Names in New England*
- Early Ohio Census Records
- Erasmus Rosenberger and His Families in Germany and America: A History and Genealogy
- Genealogy and History of the Ingalls Family in America, The: Giving the Descendants of Edmund Ingalls Who Settled at Lynn, Mass. in 1629
- Giles County, Virginia History - Families
- Graveyards of Chicago: The People, History, Art, and Lore of Cook County Cemeteries [Chicago, Cook County, Illinois]
- History and Antiquities of Every Town in Massachusetts, The*
- History of Boone County, Indiana Compiled in 1984
- History of Elliott County, Kentucky, The [Volume 1]
- History of Elliott County, Kentucky 1869-1990, The. Vol 2
- History of Randolph Township: Morris County's First Bicentennial Community, A. [Morris County, NJ]
- Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Fontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties, Ontario [Canada]
- Index to the Obituary and Death Notices Appearing in the Dziennik Chicagoski 1900-1909 [Chicago, Cook County, Illinois newspaper]
- Index to the Obituary and Death Notices Appearing in the Dziennik Chicagoski 1890-1899 [Chicago, Cook County, Illinois newspaper]
- Joseph Brumit Collection
- Legends of Carter's Grove and Other Mysteries, The: A Selection of Essays from the Journal of Colonial Williamsburg
- Life of General Stand Watie and Contemporary Cherokee History, The
- Marilyn Dase Collection. A-B, C, D, E-G, H-K, L-R, S-V, W
- Marriages and Deaths (with comments) from the Account Book of Darling Whitney & Daniel Darling Whitney of Woodbury, Long Island, New York 1808-1848. Towns of Huntington and Oyster Bay [Nassau

County, New York]

- Mayflower Pilgrim Descendants in Cape May County NJ
- Menomonie Centennial Souvenir Program, July 2-5, 1946, Menomonie, Wisconsin
- Middlesex County New Jersey Heirs to Estates from Partitions and Divisions Filed at New Brunswick 1780-1870
- Montbeliard Immigration to Nova Scotia, 1749-1752
- New Albany and Floyd County, Indiana First Families: A Guidebook Listing Early Pioneers and Many of Their Descendants In Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the City of New Albany, Indiana*
- New Netherland in a Nutshell: A Concise History of the Dutch Colony in North America
- Notices of Marriages and Deaths About 4,000 in Number Published in Newspapers Printed at Poughkeepsie, New York 1778-1825. Volume 4
- Nova Scotia Vital Statistics from Newspapers, 1840-1843
- Nova Scotia Vital Statistics from Newspapers, 1844-1847
- Ohio Patriot Abstracts June 16, 1810 to December 27, 1866* [Columbiana County, Ohio newspaper]
- Oregon Trail: Yesterday and Today, The. A Brief History and Pictorial Journey Along the Wagon Tracks of Pioneers
- People of Mifflin County Pennsylvania 1755-1798: Pioneer Settlers and Defenders of the Frontier During the Revolution, The.
- Pioneer Church in a Pioneer City: The Story of Sacred Heart Parish, Yankton, South Dakota 1871-1971
- Pioneers of Utica: Being Sketches of Its Inhabitants and Its Institutions, with the Civil History of the Place, from the Earliest Settlement to the Year 1825, -- the Era of the Opening of the Erie Canal, The. [Oneida County, New York]
- Prairie is My Garden: The Story of Harvey Dunn, Artist, The
- Reconstructed 1810 Census of Tennessee, The: 33,000 long-lost records from tax lists, court minutes, church records, wills, deeds and other sources
- Settlers and Residents. Town of Clermont 1756-1899. Volume 2. Part 1 [Columbia County, New York]
- Ulster County in the Revolution (A Guide to Those Who Served) [Ulster County, New York]
- Upstate New York in the 1760s: Tax Lists and Selected Militia Rolls of Old Albany County 1760-1768

New Periodicals

- Crossroads (Multi)
- Grand Prairie Historical Society Bulletin (KS)
- Highland Family History Society (Scot)
- The Lawson Letters (Surnames)

*CDC - Collection Development Committee

**50/50 club

Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestor

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

Monday, January 19th

from 11 am to 1 pm

Come share family memories and mementos at

Marley's Restaurant

15226 W. Bell Road, Surprise, AZ

**New Location and
WVGS gets a
percentage of the bill.**

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

Contact: Sharon Brown at dir.fundraising@azwvgs.org

Fund Raising Opportunities for WVGS

Sharon Brown, Director of Fundraising

dir.fundraising@azwvgs.org

Fry's cards

- Link your VIP card using #80153
- WVGS will get a percentage of your purchases
- Need help, contact Sharon Brown

Albertson's Community Rewards

- Pick up a rewards card at the Fundraising table at the general meeting or at the Library
- WVGS will get a percentage of your purchases

Office Max & Staples

- When checking out, give the cashier the Library phone number, 623-933-4945
- WVGS will get a percentage of your purchases

Marley's Restaurant

- Located at 15226 W. Bell Road, Surprise
- Put the Library phone number 623-933-4945 or WVGS on top of your receipt
- WVGS will get a percentage of your purchases

Goodsearch.com

- Use this search engine on your computer. WVGS will get one cent for every search entered

Aluminum Cans

- Continue to turn in aluminum cans in a plastic bag at the monthly meetings (preferred) or inside the Library

Cookbooks on sale

- \$10 for either the cookbook or the CD

And remember to continue stuffing your piggy banks for the April Homecoming!

Special Swedish SIG Meeting - December 2nd

Sheri Erickson

Prof. Sam Blixt from Sweden, guest of Alan Strom (one of our SIG members), was the special speaker at the December Swedish SIG meeting.

Sam Blixt, a well-known Swedish Genealogist, visited the WVGS in early December where he made a presentation on "Using Computer Databases to Do Swedish Genealogy Research." Mr. Blixt is President of the Person och Lokalhistorisk Forskarcentrum ("PLF" <http://www.plfoskarshamn.se/sv/om-oss/sprak/english/>)



in Oskarshamn, Sweden. This is a large regional genealogical society in southeastern Sweden and is known for its work in developing a database of over 5 million names from Swedish church records, primarily in the county of Kalmar län in the province of Småland, and in parts of Östergötland.

Sam Blixt, formerly a computer science professor, has been a key person in the development of the PLF database together with PLF members. Genealogy is very popular in Sweden and the country has been a leader in digitizing many of its historical records.

Mr. Blixt demonstrated the use of certain key Swedish databases which are available for genealogy research on personal computers and answered questions.



West Valley Genealogical Society

12222 N. 111th Avenue

Youngtown, AZ 85363-1225

WVGS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Discover Your Ancestry



January 2015

Aluminum Cans

Gale Kristof, The Can Man

A little over \$90 was collected during December. We're about \$100 below last year's total, due primarily to the lower price received for cans this year. Members did a great job all year and much better the past few months in separating out the cat food cans.



We also need to repeat the note about cat food cans and drink cans not being mixed. We had several mixed bags this month and it really does slow down the recycling process.

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

Find Us On Facebook

WVGS has a Facebook page? To access, just click the Facebook symbol on our web site, or from home, type in "West Valley Genealogical Society." Once there, view the page and give us a *Like*.

