

President's Message

Arlene Sampson



I want to thank all of our members for your support, suggestions and input during the two years I served as President. Many of you volunteered for important and sustained committees bringing your expertise and the ability to explore different and new avenues which will make a difference in the sustainability of the Society and Library for the future.

The members, who served on the Board of Directors during my time in office were involved and willing to tackle some of the tough decisions, we had to make. The issues weren't always easy but after discussion we managed to make a consensus decision.

I hope that the Society continues to move forward technologically with the help of our computer guru's and donation of equipment. The current atmosphere we live in, and libraries in general is technology.

I would like to thank each and every one of you personally, that probably isn't possible but I do appreciate your help and will continue to work with you for the future at West Valley Genealogical Society.

Sincerely - Arlene H. Sampson

Dues Renewal

Bob Gallagher, Membership Registrar

Renewal season is here!

You can renew your WVGS membership beginning November 1, 2015.

Submit your renewal forms at the Library, mail them to the Library or renew online at azwvgs.org.

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.

WVGS Library:

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

Hours:

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
1:00 - 4:00 pm Sunday
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

December 14th Speaker

Michelle Goodrum

"Digging For Ancestors at the Bureau of Land Management"

Using land records is another way to find our ancestors. Michelle will be sharing her secrets to finding records through the BLM.

Michelle is the author of the book, *Digging for Ancestors* and pens the column, *Timeless Territories*, for the monthly digital magazine, *Going In-Depth*. She also regularly writes for The In-Depth Genealogist blog and her personal genealogy blog, The Turning of Generations where she writes about various family history topics.



December Calendar

- 7 WVGS Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
- 14 General Membership Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 17 Research Night, 5:00 to 9:00 pm;
call the Library to reserve a spot
- 21 Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestors, 11:00 am
** New setup - see page 4 for details*

No Library Tour for December

WVGS is now the number one Genealogical Library in Arizona!

Are you planning to, or have you, upgraded your PC system?



We could use your working Desktop and Laptops with Windows 7 or later operating system and 20" or larger LCD monitors

(We can use your software DVDs and license info)

Questions? Call: Roger 623-214-3233 or Rich 480-209-9129

Because of very low scrap prices we can no longer accept older or non-working items.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Karen R. Zeppenfeld



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

- NY/NJ/PA Sep-May1st Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- Italy1st Thursday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- *Maryland & Southern States *Cancelled for December
- Legacy..... 1st Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- DNA Sep-Apr..... 1st Saturday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Salem2nd Saturday, 10:00 am-noon
- Norway Oct-Apr2nd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- *Kansas/Missouri..... *Cancelled for December
- *New England States Sep-Apr *Cancelled for December
- Germany/Poland3rd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- Canada Sep-Apr..... 3rd Thursday, 10:00 am to noon
- Sweden Oct-Apr..... 3rd Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- *Writing Family History *Cancelled for December
- *British Isles..... *Cancelled for December
- Family Tree Maker Sep-May.....4th Friday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Illinois/Indiana/Ohio 4th Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Next meeting is on **Wednesday, December 23rd**
from 1:00-3:00 pm
- TMG.....5th Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016, 10:00 am to noon
- Adoption Watch for new dates/times or contact
Lou McLean for details: mlm16ddm@yahoo.com

If there are any questions, call the WVGS Library or contact the SIGs Coordinator, Karen R. Zeppenfeld, at sigs@azwvgs.org or 623-271-7370

Welcome New Member

Bob Gallagher, Membership Registrar

Please welcome the new Member who joined the Society during October 2015. The New Member is: Sandra Kube.

When you see this new member, be sure to introduce yourself and encourage her 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 was 713 as of October 31, 2015.

Classes

Connie Sheets

Reminder: all checks should be made out to WVGS.

In addition to cash or check, you can register and pay via the online store at

<http://www.azwvgs.org/Products.asp?cat=1>

For current schedule of classes, dates, times, class descriptions and costs, please check our website, 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

Every third Friday unless noted

Monthly

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Donations – Thank You!

Many, many thanks to all of our donors of materials, equipment and publications. This month's donors are: Carlita Beltz, Cornelius Collection, Marilyn Collins, Kay Earixson, Sue Firth Cathy Gallagher, Nan Hoffman, Charlie Lindquist, Jerry A. Matney, Sally Pavia, Arlene Sampson and Wallace Turnage.

November Volunteer of the Month

Barb Behrman, Director Membership Outreach

Brad Ames

Our November Volunteer of the Month was born, like so many of us, in the Midwest. This member being



born in Chicago. When he was 11, his father's health brought the family to Sunnyslope (then the northern edge of Phoenix). While in school he joined the track team and especially enjoyed the long distance events. At 16, he began working at the construction company where his dad was an estimator.

After high school our volunteer attended Glendale Community College and then ASU where he majored in Engineering. Most of his career was then spent working in the engineering department for the City of Glendale.

He met his wife while he was attending Glendale Community College and they have 3 children. One lives in Oregon, one in Virginia and one here in the valley. They enjoy hiking, international travel and spending their summers in Utah. They are also kept busy visiting with and enjoying time with their 5 grandchildren.

As with many of us, genealogy became an interest after he retired. Again, like so many of us, he realized he didn't know much about his heritage and decided to join our ranks to find out where he came from and how. He was the first in his family to do any genealogy so he really had to start at the beginning. Since then he has found ancestors who came to the colonies in the early 1600's. One of his ancestors, Rebecca Blake, was accused of being a Salem witch. Another ancestor was at Valley Forge and still another was in the Infantry during the Civil War. Many of us may be able to join him with ancestors who have even been at those locations when his were. I know we have a few folks with ancestors accused of being witches among our group so he's in good company there. I'm sure he'll continue to find interesting people as he continues working back in time.

About 6 years ago he learned about WVGS when he was hiking with member Wally Klovstad. Roger Hanneman then invited him to stop in and see what the group did. That was all it took and Brad has been an integral part of the team ever since.

We proudly presented the November Volunteer of the Month Award to Brad Ames.



Library New Book Report

Linda McCleary, Book Accessioner

Karen Zeppenfeld, Library Administrator

- Annals of Haywood County, North Carolina, The. 1808-1935. Historical, Sociological, Biographical, and Genealogical.
- Battle of Bushy Run, The [Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. American Revolutionary War]
- Cemetery Records of Greene County, Mississippi. Book A
- Cemetery Records of Greene County, Mississippi. Book B. VOL 2
- First State: An Illustrated History of Delaware, The
- Firth Collection. Volume 1 including #1 Sarah, #5 Rachel and #6 John Thomas
- Firth Collection. Volume 2 including #3 Rowland, Tooker and Fontaine
- Firth Collection. Volume 3 including #7 Joseph Henry, #9 Frederick, #10 Alice Belle and #11 George
- Friends and Indians in South Jersey [Society of Friends / Quakers]
- History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. Volume 3
- History of Methodism in Alabama, A
- Memorial Record of Alabama: A Concise Account of the State's Political, Military, Professional and Industrial Progress, Together with the Personal Memoirs of Many of Its People. Illustrated. Volume 1.
- Memorial Record of Alabama: A Concise Account of the State's Political, Military, Professional and Industrial Progress, Together with the Personal Memoirs of Many of Its People. Illustrated. Volume 2.
- Reminiscences of Public Men in Alabama for Thirty Years with an Appendix
- Who Married Whom. Greene County, Mississippi



WVGS Mini-Bookstore

Adrienne Haupt

Visit our new mini-bookstore located by the Aides desk in the WVGS Library.

- New titles have been added.
- Enjoy looking for new treasures to add to your genealogy library.
- Remember only cash or checks may be used for purchase.

Generous donations of genealogy books from WVGS members make this store possible. Thank you.

Fund Raising Opportunities for WVGS

Sharon Brown, Director of Fundraising

dir.fundraising@azwvgs.org

New E-smile through Amazon is now up and running
Check the WEBSITE for instructions

Now Collecting Coke Rewards

- Collect Coke products reward codes and turn them into the Fundraising Committee
- Codes are located under caps, inside the tear-off on 12-packs and on multi-pack wraps. You may have to tear open the carton to locate rewards code.
- We will redeem points for door prize and raffle items

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

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. Last year's collections paid for about 2 months of utilities.

Used Ink Cartridges

- Are still collected at the Library. The vouchers we receive help to buy office supplies. Last year they brought between 1/4 to 1/3 of our supplies.

Cookbooks on sale

- \$10 for cookbook *only \$5.00 for the CD*

The Fundraising Committee meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3pm in the Library during the months of August through April. We are always looking for new committee members and new ideas; either would help.

Put These Numbers In Your Wallet

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

Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestor

on December 21st, from 11 am to 1 pm

- Meetings will be a sack lunch held in the multi purpose room of the Library.
- We will be adding research from 1:00 to 3:00 pm for anyone interested.
- Please put *research* next to your name when signing up in order to have someone to lock up the Library at three o'clock.

All lunches require sign up and a \$5.00 fee which includes dessert and a drink.

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

Aluminum Cans

Gale Kristof, The Can Man

With the October meeting cans we are just a few dollars short of \$1000 for 2015. This puts us about \$100 less than last year at the same time. Looking at the November collection of cans, I would guess that we will stay this way after the November meeting cans are recycled. The lower price received this year is the primary issue. With a super effort in December, we might just match last year's dollars in spite of lower prices all of this year. Bring in the cans and we can do it.



Thanks to all! Your "can" man.

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.

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.

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

WVR and Fold3 are also available to members from home. Visit our website for instructions on how to access them.

WVGS Annual Seminar

February 27, 2016

“Resource Treasures for Genealogists”

with Rick and Pam Sayre

Registration: 8:30-9:00 am - Seminar 9:00-3:30 pm

Lakeview United Methodist Church

10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd- Smoot Hall, Sun City, Arizona

Registration Fee*: \$40 before 12/31/15; \$45 effective 1/1/16.

*Fee includes Program, Continental Breakfast, Box Lunch, Beverages & Prizes.

Online registration available at the WVGS Store

Seminar speakers, Rick and Pam Sayre are both Certified Genealogists and hold the additional endorsement as Certified Genealogical Lecturers. They are fascinating, knowledgeable speakers who will keep you entertained as they educate you. Find out more about the speakers at sayreandsayre.com.



Morning session:

“Maps! Wonderful Maps!”

Maps enable genealogists to understand more about an ancestor’s migration, community, and occupation. In this two-hour hands-on workshop, students will learn about traditional and online resources for finding historical, topographical, birds-eye view, and other maps, how to interpret the maps’ symbols and notations, and how to correlate other information with map data to place an ancestor in time and place. In on-line demonstrations, students will see some of the myriad sites for finding and downloading appropriate maps. For hands-on exercises, students will be provided with hard copies of maps, documents, and other tools to be used in correlating deeds, censuses, newspaper articles, or other documents with maps to solve genealogical problems using various kinds of maps, from deed plats to land ownership maps to panoramic maps. Demonstrations and exercises will include a mix of rural and urban problems and solutions.

Afternoon sessions:

“The Serial Set, American State Papers, and the Territorial Papers”

This session explores the foundation publications of the United States Government, how to effectively access these documents, and how to use them in an effective research plan.. These records document the lives of individuals who interacted with the government in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Pensions, petitions, records of government service, and much more are found in these publications.

“Our National Treasure: The Library of Congress”

Even if you never visit Washington, DC, you should explore the holdings of the Library of Congress. We’ll mine the online collection for its wealth of documents, maps, books, photographs, even sound recordings, and learn to successfully search the online catalogs

DAR Book Donation

The Estrella Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented to the West Valley Genealogical Society a copy of the book “Virginia in the American Revolution” at the November 9th General Meeting. The book is a collection of resources from the Revolutionary War era in Virginia. Marsha Hanson, Regent of the Estrella Chapter and Jody Johnson presented the book to our president Arlene Sampson. The DAR Chapter intends to donate each colony/state book published by the DAR in this series.



West Valley Genealogical Society

12222 N. 111th Avenue

Youngtown, AZ 85363-1225

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



November 2015

WVGS is now the number one Genealogical Library in Arizona!

Online Book Store

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.

Do You Have Programming Or Web Design Experience? We Want You!



Would you like to help improve WVGS information for our members?

If so, contact

Rich sysadm@azwvgs.org

or Roger cec@azwvgs.org

You will be playing an important role in the future of our organization.

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*.

