



President's Message

Irma Hardin

I would like to thank all the outgoing officers for their tireless work these past two years. You have worked hard and accomplished much and we appreciate each of you.

2016!!!! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

Remember when there was almost a panic as to whether computers, etc would be able to change from 1999 to 2000? And now 16 years later, we can hardly remember what it was like back then. Back then.....before we had our beautiful building, before we paid off that building, before we had such a cracker-jack computer group constantly working to bring us into the 21st century, before we had 16,000+ books, before we had such a terrific collection of maps; before SIGS existed. So many 'before's.....



Our Society has really come a long way since January 1, 2000. Now we are looking forward to another year working together to make WVGS even better. **YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!** One of my goals is that each member volunteer to do **ONE** task. None of us can do everything, but most of us can do something! Can you type? Paste a label on a packet? Read a shelf of books to be sure they are in the right order? Greet people at the Open House? Clean a bathroom? Run a sweeper? Teach? Write publicity? Take minutes at a meeting? Some tasks are for 1 -2 hours each month, others take more time; however, whatever your talent or gift, WVGS needs **YOU!** PLEASE CONTACT ME OR THE LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR to be included in the fun of volunteering at WVGS!

Don't forget our Annual Seminar is February 27th. Hope to see you there!

January Calendar

- 4 WVGS Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
- 11 General Membership Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 17 Open House, 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- 18 Library Tour 9:30 - 11:00 am
- call the Library to reserve a spot*
- 18 Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestors, 11:00 am
- 21 Research Night, 5:00 to 9:00 pm

call the Library to reserve a spot

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

January 11th Speakers

WVGS Members

"Getting the Most From the WVGS Library"

The speakers for this meeting will be members who are knowledgeable in each of the following areas:

- Filby Passenger lists
- Surname books
- Periodicals
- Obituaries
- Maps

They will share what is in each collection, and how to get the information wanted.

Dues Renewal

Bob Gallagher, Membership Registrar

Renewal season is here!

You can renew your WVGS membership no later than January 31st. Submit your renewal forms at the Library, mail them to the Library or renew online at azwvgs.org.

I never forget my wife's birthday. It's usually the day after she reminds me about it.

Author Unknown

WVGS is now the number one Genealogical Library in Arizona!

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
- Kansas/Missouri..... 1st Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Maryland & Southern States.....1st Friday 9:30-11:30 am
- Legacy..... 1st Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- DNA Sep-Apr..... 1st Saturday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Norway Oct-Apr2nd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- Salem2nd Saturday, 10:00 am-noon
- New England States Sep-Apr2nd Saturday 1:00-3:00 pm
- Germany/Poland.....3rd 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
- Adoption 3rd Saturday 10:00 am to noon
contact Lou McLean for details: mml16ddm@yahoo.com
- Writing Family History..... 4th Thursday, 9:30-11:30 am
- 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
- TMG.....5th Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016, 10:00 am to noon

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

Adoption SIG

Lou McLean

Are you or a relative adopted? Have you had any luck in finding biological information?

We will be holding an Adoption SIG on Saturday, January 16, from 10:00am – 12:00 noon at the Library for anyone who may be interested in sharing their stories.

This SIG is only held periodically as it doesn't usually have a large number of people. So if you know of anyone (non member) who would like to attend with you, bring them along.

The facilitator is Lou McLean and she will happily share any information or materials she has accumulated along her own path to locating her biological family.

Please email Lou at mml16ddm@yahoo.com in advance so she will know how many copies to make for folks.

Canada SIG Guest Speaker

Cathy Gallagher

The Canada SIG is hosting a special guest speaker, Laverne Lardner Aitchison, on *Thursday, January 21st from 10 AM-12 Noon*. Ms. Aitchison is a Canadian genealogist and will be talking about Quebec and Ontario genealogical research and how to use the collections at the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

Laverne Aitchison got the genealogy bug when she became the first member of the Kamloops Family History Society of British Columbia formed in 1982. (There are benefits if your surname is the first letter of the alphabet).

She has taught genealogy classes in the valley and specialized in Canadian classes for the Mesa Family Search Library. She is still a member of the Canadian Committee. She publishes the Eastern Townships of Quebec Connector (ETQC) e-letter twice a year.

Ontario and Quebec has been her focus for her personal family research. In 1992 she authored a family book, "Where Have All the Yandeu's Gone?" This led her to publish an e-letter twice a year on her French-Canadian "Guindon" family. She recently visited Loudun, France, where the Guesdon/Guindon family lived in the 1600's.

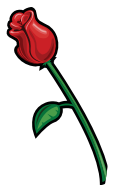


Condolences

Our sincere sympathy at this most difficult time to the Bartel family upon the death of their dear, loved Karla.

Karla Bartel died recently of pneumonia. She was a well know member, a former President of our Society, and a very nice person. She will be sadly missed.

The memorial service for Karla will be scheduled after the first of the year and as soon as the arrangements have been made, the information will be passed on to the membership.



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.

December Volunteer of the Month

Barb Behrman, Director Membership Outreach

Vikki Bolles

Our December Volunteer of the Month is another import to Arizona. She was born in New Mexico but moved to our wonderful state in time to graduate from Greenway High School.

Along the way she met the man she was to marry, Del, and they took the big step at Sahuaro Ranch Park in Glendale 16 years ago. Two children have come from their union, Demi and Devin.

The whole family loves the outdoors and enjoy camping and taking family vacations all over the desert southwest.



As with so many of our members, she is involved in too many activities within the Society to list here. Suffice to say without her helping hands, WVGS would not be as successful as it is. Vikki has always been helpful and friendly with whomever she comes in contact with, a big smile always on her face.

She is passionate about genealogy, researching her many ancestors in Kentucky, going back several generations.

Since 2006, she and her husband, have owned a tile, grout, and carpet cleaning business named 3D Home Services, they kindly donate a portion of the bill back to WVGS.

A big job was scheduled at work the same day as the General Membership meeting. One of our other members, Cathy Gallagher, had to come up with a reason for her to attend the meeting instead of helping her husband. Of course, he knew all about it and was glad to give up her help for a few hours and encourage her to join us.

I knew she figured out I was talking about her, and for the members and guests in attendance, we honored Vikki Bolles as the December Volunteer of the Month.

Donations – Thank You!

Many, many thanks to all of our donors of materials, equipment and publications. This month's donors are: Judith Bourassa, Janet Buchanan, Lynn Corbett, Joyce Cornelius collection, Cathy & Bob Gallagher, Dee Snook & Linda McCleary in Memory of Dr. Ruby Daniels Gordon, Linda Caldwell McCleary in Memory of Dr. Ruby Daniels Gordon, Estate of Dr. Ruby Daniels Gordon, Irma Hardin, Joanne Harroun, CDC in Memory of WVGS Charter Member Evelyn J. Jeffers, Barbara McDonald, Daniela Moneta, Dee Snook, Stephanie Sparks and Penny Williams.

Introducing The 2016 WVGS Board



President: Irma Hardin
First Vice President: Pam LaFond
Second Vice President: Adrienne Haupt
Secretary: Barbara Stenberg
Treasurer: Mary Ellen Bloomburg
1st Assistant Treasurer/Director: Anne Vaughn
2nd Assistant Treasurer/Director: Betty DeRentis
Director of Education: Connie Sheets
Director of Membership Outreach: Barb Behrman
Director of Fundraising: Sharon Brown
Director of Technology: John Davis
Library Administrator: Karen Zeppenfeld



Welcome New Members

Bob Gallagher, Membership Registrar

Please welcome the new members who joined the Society during November 2015. The New Members are: Judith Bourassa, Betsy Bykerk, Virginia Carlin, Al Carsey, Suzy Elfritz, Heather Goebel, Barbara Hays, Paul Jeffers, Diane Kruse, Leona Lindvall, Joyce Loehne, Judy Lohavanijaya, Vito Massana, Evelyn Nightingale, Jim & LaVonne Rasmusson, June Schwertfager, Phyllis Smith, Harold Thiedeman and Sara Ziker.

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.

As of November, we have 164 members. This figure includes Life Members and those who have either joined or renewed during the month of November 2015.

Library New Book Report

Linda McCleary, Book Accessioner

Karen Zeppenfeld, Library Administrator

- 1836-1845 Bytown Gazette Abstracts of Births, Deaths & Marriages. Bytown Independent for 1836. [Ottawa, Ontario Canada]
- Abstracts from Loudoun County, Virginia Guardian Accounts. Books A-H, 1759-1904
- African Americans of Washington County, Georgia: From Colonial Times through Reconstruction
- Berrien County [Michigan]
- Communities of Kinship: Antebellum Families and the Settlement of the Cotton Frontier
- Complete Idiot's Guide to Irish History and Culture, The
- Creating a Winning Family History: A Guide to the NGS Family History Writing Contest
- Czech Immigration Passenger Lists: New York Passenger Lists 1870-1880. Volume 5
- Czech Immigration Passenger Lists: New York Passenger Lists, 1887-1896. Volume 7
- Digitizing Your Family History: Easy methods for preserving your heirloom documents, photos, home movies, and more in a digital format
- Documents and Letters Intended to Illustrate the Revolutionary Incidents of Queens County, N.Y., with Connecting Narratives, Explanatory Notes, and Additions
- Family Maps of Ouachita County, Arkansas. Deluxe Edition With Homesteads, Roads, Waterways, Towns, Cemeteries, Railroads, and More
- Family Photo Detective: Learn How to Find Genealogy Clues in Old Photos and Solve Family Photo Mysteries
- Family Tree Guide Book to Europe, The: Your Passport to Tracing Your Genealogy Across Europe
- Finding Family: My Search for Roots and the Secrets in My DNA
- Forgotten People, The: Cane River's Creoles of Color
- Genealogical Standards of Evidence: A Guide for Family Historians
- Genealogist's Google Toolbox: A Genealogist's Guide to the Most Powerful Free Online Research Tools Available!
- Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors, A: How to find and record your unique heritage
- Genealogy 101: How to Trace Your Family's History and Heritage
- Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond
- Going to Ireland: A Genealogical Researcher's Guide
- Grow a Family Tree! Seven Simple Steps
- Guide to Ontario Land Registry Records, A. [Ontario, Canada]
- Hemingses of Monticello, The: An American Family
- History for Genealogists: Using Chronological Time Lines to Find and Understand Your Ancestors
- History of Lawrence County, Ohio 1990
- How to Trace Your Irish Ancestors: An essential guide to researching and documenting the family histories of Ireland's people
- Irish Kings and High-Kings
- Jamestown: The Buried Truth
- London Stereoscopic Company OWL Stereoscope, The [to be used with A Village Lost and Found] [English Villages]
- Mastering Genealogical Proof
- Mayflower and Her Passengers, The
- Mayflower Pilgrims, The. Roots of Puritan, Presbyterian, Congregationalist, and Baptist Heritage
- Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War
- Naked Quaker, The: True Crimes and Controversies from the Courts of Colonial New England
- Obituaries from Ontario's Christian Guardian 1873-1880 [Ontario, Canada]
- Ontario Marriage Notices [Ontario, Canada]
- Organized Family Historian, The
- Ouachita County, Arkansas: Biographical and Historical Memoirs
- Pennsylvania German Church Records of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, Etc. in Three Volumes. Vol. 1, Part B
- Pioneer Records of Trinity County, California: A Century of Facts, 1850-1950
- Providence Baptist Church, Half Rock, Missouri. Sesqui-centennial 1884-1994 [Mercer County, Missouri]
- Reforming People, A: Puritanism and the Transformation of Public Life in New England
- Religion in Colonial America
- Researching Your Colonial New England Ancestors
- Richmond Virginia Uncovered: The Records of Slaves and Free Blacks Listed in the City Sergeant Jail Register 1841-1846
- Riding the Nightmare: Women & Witchcraft from the Old World to Colonial Salem
- Saco Valley Settlements and Families: Historical, Biographical, Genealogical, Traditional and Legendary (New Hampshire and Maine<.
- Settlers of the Beekman Patent, The. Dutchess County, New York. Volume 12. Smith to Spaulding*
- Storm of Witchcraft, A: The Salem Trials and the American Experience
- Surnames Listed in the 1790 United States Census
- Those Weren't the Days: Surviving the Arizona Territory
- Tracing Your Irish Ancestors
- Tracing Your Irish Roots
- Trespassers in Time: Genealogists and Microhistorians

- Twentieth Report of the Department of Public Records and Archives of Ontario. 1931 [Ontario, Canada]
- Unlocking Your Genetic History: A Step-by-Step Guide to Discovering Your Family's Medical and Genetic Heritage
- Village Lost and Found, A [English Villages]
- Wagons, Buggies, Stagecoaches, in the West
- Walking with Your Ancestors: A Genealogist's Guide to Using Maps and Geography
- Weights, Money and Other Measures Used by Our Ancestors
- Welsh Genealogy
- William E. Coe and Relatives Who Served in the Military from the Revolutionary War to the Iraq War
- Writing True: The Art and Craft of Creative Nonfiction
- You Can Write Your Family History

*CDC - Collection Development Committee

**50/50 club

50/50 Books Report

Jean White

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, IL.*
Chapman Bros, 1886
Cost \$65.00Balance Due \$32.50
- *The History of Allen County, Ohio,* Warner & Beers, 1885
Cost \$65.00 **Paid**
- *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
- *The History of Williamson County from the Earliest Times Down to the Present, 1876 (Illinois)*
Cost: \$45.00 Balance due \$22.50
- *The Great Migration Directory Immigrants to New England 1620-1640*
Cost: \$64.95 Balance due \$32.44

Put These Numbers In Your Wallet

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

Past President's Presentation



Outgoing President, Arlene Sampson, along with incoming President, Irma Hardin, presented "President Pins" to past WVGS President's Cathy Gallagher, Ada Sullivan, Jean White, Peggy Morphew and Ethel Sanders.



Surname Update

Lou McLean

If you wish to see all the Surnames that are currently being researched by the membership, simply log on to the WVGS website; Click on "Surnames"; click on "Submit" without filling in any names, and the entire list will come up. If you notice any surnames in common with your own, you will be able to contact the WVGS member that may have the same name.

There are too many names to include in the *Desert Tracker* or *Tidbits*, but the printed list is always available in the basket behind the Aides desk.

If you wish to add any of your surnames you may email Lou McLean at surnames@azwvgs.org and she will add them to the database.

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
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 our website for instructions on how to access them.

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 in to 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

- We still collected them 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 3 pm 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

January 18th, 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

Save the Date!



Lunch With Your Ancestor and Tea
Monday, March 28, 2016,
12:30 pm

at Lou McLean's Residence

Aluminum Cans

Gale Kristof, The Can Man

Through the November meeting the YTD total is \$1,074 about \$100 below last year at this same time. All of the deficit is due to the lower price for cans being paid this year. I have located a recycler that is currently paying \$1 a pound. This is 10-20 cents more than we have seen in the past few months.



Help Wanted: Someone is needed to pick up cans from the Library on a weekly basis and hold them for me. I will pick them up once or twice a month depending on how many are collected. If you have the time and space and willing to help out, please contact me at 602-973-1135 or email gokristof@msn.com. Thanks from your "can" man, Gale.

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.

In Memory of Ruby Juanita Daniels Gordon

28 December 1917 – 9 December 2015

Linda Caldwell McCleary, WVGS Life Member

Ruby began her journey into genealogy in the early 1980's. She would come down several days a week to the State Genealogy Collection Library at the State Capitol where I first met her. Since this was before the era of computers, she would peruse the collection and garner information on her various lines which eventually led her to joining the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and also going back to the New England area where one of her ancestors was executed for being a witch during the Salem witch trials. One of her lines also link to the Mayflower Pilgrims.



In addition to her love of genealogy, which she taught at Phoenix College and at local genealogical society meetings, she was an accomplished artist with some of her art still displayed at the Freedom Plaza Retirement Center. She also was a self-taught pianist, and enjoyed spending some nights just playing for her own enjoyment.

She was a life member of WVGS, and was active in several Special Interest Groups (SIGs) until her recent illness. She was very generous with her time, expertise and experience when quizzed about most areas of genealogy. She donated all of her genealogical periodicals to the WVGS, and upon her death, her genealogy books were donated to the WVGS Library. She was also a life member of the National Genealogical Society, the North Carolina Genealogical Society, Arkansas Genealogical Society, and was a member of the Family History Society of Arizona, and several Arkansas and southern genealogical organizations.

She was my mentor, my friend and my national conference roommate. She was constantly reading and learning more about a variety of subjects. She was an amazing lady who will be sorely missed by her family and the genealogical community!

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

Jean White, Instructor

Problem Solving (limited to 10 people) 3 Classes
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Jan 20, 27, Feb 3

Research Techniques I 4 Classes
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Feb 10, 17, 24, and Mar 2

Research Techniques II 4 Classes
Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Mar 9, 16, 23, 30

Cathy Gallagher, Instructor

Facebook for Genealogy 1 Class
Tuesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm February 9

What to do with your Genealogy Research? 1 Class
Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm March 15

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.

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*.



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.

Winners of the Stained Glass Wall Hanging

Circle - Sally Pavia

Chill - Peggy Morpew

Grace - Brenda Parker

Love - F. Bennett

Relax - F. Bennett

Truth - Judy Linnebach