



President's Message

Irma Hardin

PARTICIPATIONThe success of every volunteer organization depends on participation by members. Some members 'participate' simply by attending the monthly meetings while others donate several hours each week. Currently there is a need for additional members on some committees, a programmer, a person willing to store cans at their home between Membership Meetings, more aides (receptionists) to work 3.5 hours a month, and even people to clean the Library every other week in the early morning hours before the Library is open.



Do you have an extra hour (or several) each month that you could volunteer to your Library? If you are willing to PARTICIPATE to improve YOUR Library, please send me at email at pres@azwvgs.org or contact Karen Zeppenfeld, the Library Administrator and we will do our best to 'plug you in.'

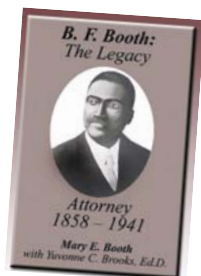
February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. There is another special holiday we need to celebrate in February: PRESIDENT'S DAY. We need to honor all the men who have held the office of PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. Their participation provided us the freedoms we enjoy today. Even the freedom to research genealogy records!

February 8th Speaker

Mary E. Booth Bowan

"B.F. Booth: The Legacy"

Mary E. Booth Bowden is Benjamin Franklin Booth's granddaughter. As a child Mary heard family stories about her grandfather. He had been born into slavery in 1858, but was determined to get an education – despite having to continue to work on farms to help his mother support the family after his father died. He became a teacher, principal, and a successful lawyer.



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

Storebooks

Donna Meszaros, New Volunteer Contact

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.

Check out a new category of duplicate used genealogy books available online for sale. We received these books from the Arizona State Library genealogy section. To access the information:

- *Go to www.azwvgs.org
- *Click on STORE tab
- *Click on Used Books
- *Click on Unique Genealogy Books

*Support the Genealogical Society
and shop at azwvgs.org.*

February Calendar

- 1 WVGS Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
- 8 General Membership Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 15 Lunch With Your Favorite Ancestors, 11:00 am
- 18 Research Night, 5:00 to 9:00 pm
call the Library to reserve a spot
- 22 Library Tour 9:30 - 11:00 am
Cancelled
call the Library to reserve a spot
- 27 Annual Seminar - *see page 7 for details*

WVGS is now the number one Genealogical Library in Arizona!

Class Schedule, Winter 2016

Connie Sheets, Director of Education

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

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
Tuesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm March 15

Judy Linnebach, Instructor

Uncovering Hidden Treasures at FamilySearch.org
1 Class Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:30 am February 23

Judy Crawford, Instructor

Family History Research in Salt Lake City 1 Class
Friday, 10:00 am - 12 noon March 4

Save the Date!



**Lunch With Your
Ancestor and Tea
Monday, March 21, 2016,
12:30 pm**

at Lou McLean's Residence

Donations – Thank You!

Many, many thanks to all of our donors of materials, equipment and publications. This month's donors are: 50/50 Club, Marie Beernink, CDC, Linda Hannah, June Schwertfager, Penny Williams, Karen R. Zeppenfeld, and the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Arizona Estrella Chapter, NSDAR, Sun City West, AZ.

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.....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
- Kansas/Missouri..... 2nd Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Salem2nd Saturday, 10:00 am-noon
- New England2nd Saturday 1:00-3:00 pm
- 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..... 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, 10:00 am to noon
- Adoption Saturday, Feb. 13 from 10:00 am to noon
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 Members

Bob Gallagher, Membership Registrar

Please welcome the new members who joined the Society during December 2015. The new Members are: Michele Aschittino, Barbro Garland, Denae Harding, Greg Harshman, Debi Norton, Terri Shaw, Alvin and Viola Smith, and Bob and Jean Walters.

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 December 31, 2015, we have 737 members. This includes Life Members and those who have joined or renewed since November 1, 2015.

January Volunteer of the Month

Barb Behrman, Director Membership Outreach

Bob Gallagher



Our January Volunteer of the Month has a smile for everyone and puts his heart into everything he tackles. He grew up in Clifton, New Jersey and through a series of jobs and life events gradually made his way to the Valley of the Sun. As his life unfolded he got both a bachelor and a master's degree from the University of Maryland.

After completing college, he joined the Army and stayed on for 20 or so years, making it a career. I'm told he was stationed at several embassies during his enlistment, including Taiwan, Poland, Germany, and Iran. While serving in Poland, he had the opportunity to learn the language.

When he left the army, he started a small computer company but gave that up when his daughter suffered a terrible injury in an attack by an unknown person. Taking care of her was more important than computers, so it was put to the side. He has two daughters and a son from his first marriage and a 10 year old grandson, who calls him Opa. One of his daughters lives in nearby Wickenburg.

When he returned to work he went into sales and remained in that line of work for the rest of his working life, finally retiring in 2012. While employed by National Leisure Group, he attended a sales meeting on a cruise ship. There, he met a lovely lady, who was with the same company, in a management position. Thus began a long distance romance (Bob in the southwest, Cathy in the northeast), happily ending with their marriage more than 10 years ago in Kennebunkport, Maine, and settling here in Arizona.

They love to travel and have done both just for pleasure and for genealogy research. I know they went to both Ireland and New Foundland for genealogy research. I understand they may be planning another trip to Ireland soon. Alaska is included in the "fun" trips. He is a dedicated baseball fan, a cat lover, and a staunch conservative. He also is one of the few people I know who loves the Arizona summer heat.

As a member of WVGs, he and his wife Cathy, volunteered to scan member's documents and photos onto discs for safe keeping, he has been an aide, served as the British Isles SIG leader, a member of the Membership Outreach Committee and just finished serving admirably as our Society's Registrar.

Besides volunteering for these important tasks, he is

always willing to lend a helping hand. Right now a bum shoulder and hip prevent him from some things, but he still helps however he can, always with that smile we know so well, on his face. He often helped Cathy when she was our President, with an extra pair of hands. A friend describes him as "jolly, funny, smart, just a really nice guy." I know we all agree.

I could go on and on about this valuable volunteer and friend, Bob Gallagher, as the January 2016 Volunteer of the month.

Forest...Trees...Yada Yada

By Karen R. Zeppenfeld, Library Administrator

As genealogists and historians we are often so immersed in our search for Adam and Eve amongst the many valuable resources of Arizona's largest genealogical collection at WVGs, we may lose sight of another – YOU and the 762 other YOUs (as of January 14, 2016)!

A genealogy chart of the 43 years of WVGs would be enormous, showing the many individuals who created the benefits of the legacy we enjoy today. All of them volunteers in steering it into the future, caretakers of its resources, participants in the many activities and opportunities, and the many donors that made it all possible.

Give yourself a gift and get involved with a great group of people. Take a class, join a SIG, attend a seminar, go on trips with us to America's genealogical meccas, donate periodicals and books you no longer need, drop off snacks and drinks to keep us fresh, make use of all the maps, periodicals, books and websites we offer.

I guarantee you will have a good time, learn more, have a few laughs, and feel good in the process.

YOU are what makes us GREAT!!

90th Birthday Book Presentation



Sheri Erikson presented a book for the Library to member Sandy Sanders to honor his 90th birthday. He is also the husband of Ethel and has a son Jim who are both members.

Records

Lou McLean

If you wish to view past Administrative Files or you want to read old Tidbits or Society Historical Books, these items are in a "View Only" mode on the lab computers at the Library.

If you have any questions about the documents on the computers you will have to ask a member of the Digitizing Team.

So, enjoy the past through these documents and publications!

Listed below are the RECORDS that are viewable on the computers:

- Annual Reports – this has been included as a hard copy in the History Books
- Attack Plans
- Board Meeting Minutes
- By-Laws / Policies & Procedures
- Committees
- Financials
- Guidelines
- Long Range Planning Goals
- Manuals
- Membership Meetings Minutes
- Position Descriptions
- Publicity
- Rare Books – these can be accessed through our catalog
- Society Calendar
- Society History
- Tidbits

Aluminum Cans

Gale Kristof, *The Can Man*

It looks pretty certain that we collected about 75 pounds of cans at the January meeting. In checking back to last year, we collected a little over 100 pounds at the January meeting. So, I would ask that all members keep saving their cans for WVGS and hopefully that a few more will start doing so. Bring the cans to the Library when you do research or to the next Monthly Meeting. We just need more cans to exceed last year's totals.



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 are willing to help out, please contact me at 602-973-1135 or email gokristof@msn.com. Thanks from your "can" man, Gale.

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

Please note: Albertson's Community Rewards cards have been discontinued

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

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

February 15th, from 11 am to 1 pm

- Meeting 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.
- If you stay, 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

Bookcase Raffle

- Library glass door bookcase
- Drawing at the March 14th General Meeting
- Tickets are \$5.00 each
- Winner will be notified



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.

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.

Salt Lake City Research Trip

April 24 - May 1, 2016 (7 nights)

Pick up a flyer or visit our web site www.azwvgs.org for complete details

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.



First Vice President Pam LaFond presented outgoing President Arlene Sampson with a president's pin at the January 11th Membership Meeting.

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.

Library New Book Report

Linda McCleary, Book Accessioner
Karen Zeppenfeld, Library Administrator

- Across the Rhine. Volume 22 [World War II]
- Aftermath: Asia, The. Volume 38 [World War II]
- Air War in Europe, The. Volume 16 [World War II]
- Assassination, The: Death of the President. Volume 26 [Civil War]
- Battles for Atlanta: Sherman Moves East. Volume 19 [Civil War]
- Coastal War, The: Chesapeake Bay to Rio Grande. Volume 09 [Civil War]
- Commandos, The. Volume 31 [World War II]
- Confederate Ordeal: The Southern Home Front. Volume 07 [Civil War]
- Death in the Trenches: Grant at Petersburg. Volume 22 [Civil War]
- Fall of Japan, The. Volume 37 [World War II]
- Fight for Chattanooga, The: Chickamauga to Missionary Ridge. Volume 17 [Civil War]
- Gettysburg: The Confederate High Tide. Volume 15 [Civil War]
- Graphic Street Guide of Greater Youngstown-Warren and Sharon-Hermitage Area including Campbell, Canfield, Girard, Hubbard, Lordstown Village, Lowellville, McDonald, New Middletown, Niles Poland, Struthers, and Other Outlying Areas. [Mahoning County, Ohio]
- Graveyard Shift, The: A Family Historian's Guide to New York City Cemeteries
- History of Allen County, Ohio**
- Killing Ground, The: Wilderness to Cold Harbor. Volume 20 [Civil War]
- Mayflower Families Through Five Generations: Descendants of the Pilgrims Who Landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in December 1620. The Descendants of Elder William Brewster. Part 1: Generations 1 - 4.*
- Nation Reunited, The: War's Aftermath. Volume 27 [Civil War]
- Nazis, The. Volume 21 [World War II]
- Nebraska, Our Towns... The Panhandle
- Neutrals, The. Volume 35 [World War II]
- Passage to Liberty: The Story of Italian Immigration and the Rebirth of America
- Poweshiek County Heritage [Poweshiek County, Iowa]
- Rebels Resurgent: Fredericksburg to Chancellorsville. Volume 13 [Civil War]
- Sherman's March: Atlanta to the Sea. Vol 21 [Civil War]
- Soviet Juggernaut, The. Volume 25 [World War II]
- Spies, Scouts and Raiders: Irregular Operations. Volume 18 [Civil War]
- Stark County Plat Directory [Stark County, Ohio]
- Struggle for Tennessee, The: Tupelo to Stones River. Volume 16 [Civil War]

- Tales of the Old Dutch Burying Ground: A Walking Tour of the Burying Ground of the Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow [North Tarrytown, Westchester County, New York]
- Tenting Tonight: The Soldier's Life. Vol 10 [Civil War]
- Virginia in the American Revolution: A Source Guide for Genealogists and Historians Donors
- War on the Frontier: The Trans-Mississippi West. Volume 23 [Civil War]
- War Under the Pacific. Volume 23 [World War II]

New Periodicals - Marie Beernink

- Dyfed Family History Journal
- Magazine of American History (Multi)
- The Stagecoach Bulletin for Genealogists (Multi)

*CDC - Collection Development Committee
**50/50 cl

The Legal Genealogist - Facebook Follies

Watch out for those apps!!

People tell The Legal Genealogist that Facebook is now where the old folks hang out.

Okay by me since, first of all, I'm a genealogist - it's the old folks I'm most interested in; secondly, I myself have always had an "auld soul;" thirdly, some old lady has taken over my mirror and won't ever step aside for the youthful person I am, so I'm coming to terms with living with her; and fourthly, it's the old folks in my life that I treasure the most.

And besides - Facebook is fun. All those cool apps that tell us what animal we'd be, or what our color preferences mean, or the new one I've seen the past couple of days on the first photo we ever posted to Facebook.

And it's because we all do tend to hang out on Facebook, and because those apps are fun, that today's post has to be a public service announcement — because we all need to be a little careful at times not to simply click through on those apps without stopping to read what they tell us.

Let's use that new one - What Was The First Photo You Uploaded to FB? Did you click on that one? If you did, this is the screen that popped up first - the screen we all tend to click right past to get to the fun stuff:

Read that again. Carefully.

If we click through on that screen, some outfit called NameGuess gets our public profile (everything we've said about ourselves, like our education, or marital status, or home town), our email address, our Timeline posts and our photos.

Do we really want NameGuess to have that?

Do we even know who NameGuess is, or what NameGuess will do with that information?

Do we really want to give up that much information just to see what the first photo was that we ever posted on Facebook?

I sure don't. I'll bet you don't, either.

Now if we click on that "Edit the info you provide" link, we can limit what the app gets — but we need to be very very careful in giving any app access to any part of our information.

Because we don't know who NameGuess (or any app developer) is, or what NameGuess (or any app developer) will do with that information.

So we need to carefully read the warnings before we click through on some cute app from some outfit we don't know.

Oh, and that other new one, the one from Facebook itself on "Your Year In Review?" That one's just fine — go right ahead and click through to your heart's content. You're not giving up anything you haven't already given up. So have fun.

After all, that's what Facebook is for - not handing over tons of personal info to some app developer who doesn't tell us what it's going to do with it.

***NOTE:** Feel free to repost, republish and share this blog post as widely as possible - no additional permissions required!*

*Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist,
18 December 2015*

WVGS Annual Seminar

February 27, 2016

"Resource Treasures for Genealogists"
with Rick and Pam Sayre

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

Lakeview United Methodist Church

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

Registration Fee*: \$45.00

*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, you 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, you will see some of the myriad sites for finding and downloading appropriate maps. For hands-on exercises, you 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.

Annual Duplicate Book Sale

Donna Meszaros, WVGS Store Books

The WVGS Annual Seminar is February 27th. The Annual Duplicate Book Sale will be held in conjunction with the Seminar. Many gently used genealogy books will be available for sale on a wide variety of topics. Please remember to bring your checkbook or cash.

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.