



President's Message

Irma Hardin, President
pres@azwvgs.org

This is an exciting year for WVGs!

We just completed our 40th Annual Seminar with over 200 people attending. Geoff Rassmussen, the designer of Legacy Family Tree, was our speaker. Many of you remember him from the classes he taught at our Library before moving to Utah. The Seminar Committee did an outstanding job of organizing this event - as usual. *Thank You, Chairwoman Adrienne Huapt and all your committee volunteers!*



In October we will celebrate the 45th Anniversary of WVGs! Several activities are planned to celebrate this special occasion, so watch for updates and articles in the *Tidbits*, newspapers, etc.

Online Bookstore Now Open

The bookstore is accessible from the WVGs website, www.azwvgs.org; click on the Store tab, then click on Books. WVGs invites you to browse the titles for the book(s) that may aid you in discovering more ancestors and appreciate the times in which they lived.

General Membership Meeting March 13th - Suzanne Brayer

"Immigrant Stories"

Where did they come from? What port did they enter? Where did they settle? These are the questions we wish answered. We also want to know their stories and every immigrant has a story. The fate of the girl whose betrothed stood her up at Ellis Island; the Russian who walked the Siberian Railroad tracks to Japan to board a ship for San Francisco; the starving child who scavenged in the trash from first class. These are a few of the stories we will hear from Suzanne.



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

New Member Luncheon

Tina Hancox

dir.membership@azwvgs.org

WVGs will be hosting a *New Member Luncheon* on March 27th, at 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. Members who have joined the Society since October 2016 are invited.

This event will be held immediately following the Library Tour by Karen Zeppenfeld. The tour will be conducted at 9:30 am. Please come and meet some of our Board and hear about the important programs that are offered at WVGs. Please RSVP to:

dir.membership@azwvgs.org

PowerPoint Help

Charlie Mannino

I'm looking for someone who would be willing to be my backup for the General Membership Meetings when I am not available. Two files would be prepared in advance and sent to the volunteer, one for the announcements and one for the agenda.

Contact me at Tidbits@azwvgs.org.

March Calendar

6 WVGs Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
 13 General Membership Meeting, 1:30 pm
 16 Research Night, 5:00 to 9:00 pm
 call the Library to reserve a spot
 27 Library Tour 9:30 - 11:30 am
 call the Library to reserve a spot

Welcome New Members

Bonnie Belza, Membership Registrar

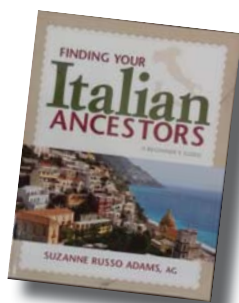
Please welcome the new members of the West Valley Genealogical Society who have joined since January 2017: Debra Bettes, Carolyn Clark, Donna Dempsey, Marie-Helene Dere, Nikki Diebolt, Lorraine Fulks, William Fulks, Sam Giordano, David Gleason, Gwen Green, Helen Hobold, Diane Huffman, Judy Hunt, Kathleen Lawrence-Davis, Leonard Lazoff, Linda Lundberg, Suzanne Polzel, Stan Polzel, Margaret Rehfeld, Carla Rideout, Peter Ruminski, Rita Sattazahn, Bill Schwingendorf, Ryan Vanderark, Jerry Walczak, Lynda Weichel, Jim Weichel, Diana Wolfe and Robert Wordell.

Because of members not renewing as of January 31st, the number of active members as of February 13th, is 484.

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.

Special Presentation

When a WVGS member reaches age 90 or older a book is placed in the Library in their honor. Recently the book "Finding Your Italian Ancestors" was placed on our shelves on behalf of Geraldine Recla who turned 94.



Class Schedule

Connie Sheets, Director of Education

Reminder: All checks should be made out to WVGS.

You may register and pay online at

<http://www.azwvgs.org/categories.asp>,

or visit the Library and pay with cash or check.

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

Barbara Stenberg, Instructor

Novice Genealogy

Saturday, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

March 25

Jean White, Instructor

Problem Solving

Wednesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

3 sessions

March 15, 22, 29

Suzanne Brayer, Instructor

Are You A Name Collector or A Researcher?

Tuesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

March 21

New classes are added frequently, so check periodically for an updated schedule.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Karen R. Zeppenfeld



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

- **Adoption** Watch for new dates/times or contact Lou McLean for details: mlm16ddm@yahoo.com
- **African American Lineage** ... 3rd Sat., 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
- **British Isles** 4th Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Canada Sep-Apr** 3rd Thursday, 10:00 am to noon
- **DNA Sep-Jun** 1st Saturday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Family Tree Maker** 4th Friday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Germany/Poland** 3rd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- **Illinois/Indiana/Ohio** 4th Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Italy** 1st Thursday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm
- **Kansas/Missouri** 2nd Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Legacy** 1st Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- **Maryland & Southern States** 1st Friday 9:30-11:30 am
- **Native American Oct-May** 3rd Sunday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **New England** 2nd Saturday 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Norway Oct-Apr** 2nd Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- **NY/NJ/PA** 1st Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 am
- **Quaker** 1st Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Roots Magic** 1st Tuesday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **Salem** 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- **Sweden Oct-Apr** 3rd Thursday, 1:00-3:00 pm
- **TMG** 5th Saturday, 10:00 am to noon
- **Writing Family History** 4th Thursday, 9:30-11:30 am

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.

African American Lineage SIG

2017 Topics for Research and Discussion

March 18, Saturday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon.

Using City Directories and where to find them.
Educable children lists, exploring the information found in them.

April 15, Saturday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon.

Researching in the State of Mississippi.

May 20, Saturday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon.

Researching in the State of Texas.

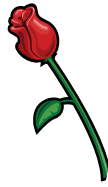
Rosalind Matthews

rozmatthews@gmail.com

(909) 816-3564

Condolences

The WVGS Board extends our sincere and deepest sympathy to the families of Pat Bennett, wife of Rich Bennett, a WVGS member who passed away December 14, 2016. Dr. John Donaldson who passed away 25 January 2017 at 73 years old and James Sanders, husband of Ethel, passed away 26 January 2017 at 91 years old.



Donations in memory of 'Sandy' Sanders and/or Dr. John Donaldson may be forwarded to the Treasurer at WVGS and should be marked: *In Memory of* _____.

The Spirit of Commitment

Karen R. Zeppenfeld

The WVGS Library is maintained by many volunteers serving on many committees, every one of them a genealogist in their own right, donating their time and effort to making it available for other WVGS members and the genealogy community.

The Library Aides Chair, Pat Tomaro, oversees the scheduling of 31 Library Aides. She prepares a schedule for every month. Some aides prefer certain time slots consistently every month, others fill in where needed. A small group, in addition to their own assigned times, has volunteered to help out if another volunteer has an emergency and Pat needs someone to take their place on short notice. Through everyone's cooperation, regular hours are maintained, but I'm sure Pat is glad when a month is finally all booked. She also pitches in as a Library Aide.

These volunteers answer phones, turn on computers and printers, answer a variety of questions, sign people up for classes or events, handle sales of several items and much more. Their time may be very busy or very quiet; they never know what to expect.

Through all this they have a smile for everyone and are eager to help in your genealogical pursuit. If you would like to join this group, meet some more nice people and help out, please contact Pat Tomaro at libraryaides@azwvgs.org or contact the Library at 623-933-4945.

Call for Genealogy Volunteers

Robert M. Wilbanks IV

The Caledonian Society of Arizona is seeking experienced practicing genealogists to assist attendees of the 2017 Phoenix Scottish Games who visit the Society's official genealogy tent. The 2017 Phoenix Scottish Games will be March 4th and 5th, at Steele Indian School Park. <https://arizonascots.com/06genealogyvolunteers.shtml>

WVGS Cares

Your Membership Outreach committee is now sending cards to members who are ill, shut-in, or have had a loss of a family member. These Get Well Wishes, Sympathy, or Thinking of You thoughts, can only be accomplished with your help. If you are aware of a member who is in need of our caring wishes, please contact either our President at pres@azwvgs.org or our Director of Membership Outreach at dir.membership@azwvgs.org with that information. Our members and their families will appreciate our thoughtful gesture. We will get a card to them as soon as possible, signed with "Your friends at WVGS Care." Thank you.

Donations – Thank You!

Many, many thanks to all of our donors of materials, equipment and publications. This month's donors are 50/50 Club, Rich Bogdanovich, Sharon Brown, CDC in Honor of Geraldine Recla's 90th Birthday, Church of the Advent Episcopal Book Committee, Ed Crabbe, Dusti Ides, Delfina Kunz, Jill Mitchell, Doris Morris, Denise Olds, Dee Snook in Memory of Timothy Arthur's Mother, Elsie Arthur, and in Memory of Susan Harmon Mulvena, Wally Turnage and Jean White.



Periodical Digitizing Update

Lou McLean

The periodicals that have been scanned and are now searchable through our Catalog are the following: Arkansas, Alaska, Arizona, Alaska. If you log in to the WVGS website you can go under the "Resources" category and scan down to "Research Periodicals." If you choose the state you wish, then type in the name of interest, you will be able to pull up and read the specific periodicals that name is mentioned in.

Currently there are 2,090 issues available for you to research. Good luck!

The digitizing team intends to do the smaller collections next, so some of the states will be done prior to the larger state collections. We won't be going alphabetically.

Fund Raising Opportunities for WVGS

Roz Matthews, Director of Fundraising

dir.fundraising@azwvgs.org

Amazon Smile

The Amazon Smile Program is up and running. Check the WVGS website under "Fundraisers" for instructions.

Lanyards

- WVGS Lanyard w/Flash drive \$10.00.
- Available at the Library or General Meetings.

Ink Pens

- Select from 7 colors, available at the Library or General Meetings, three for \$1.00.

Coke Rewards

- Coupon Rewards from cartons and bottle caps.

Fry's Cards

- Link your VIP card using #80153.
- WVGS will get a percentage of your purchases.
- Need help? Contact Roz Matthews, 909-816-3564.

Office Max & Staples

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

Used Ink Cartridges

- We still collect them at the Library - the vouchers we receive help to buy office supplies - last year they bought between 1/4 to 1/3 of our supplies.

Aluminum Cans

- Continue to turn in aluminum cans in a plastic bag **only at the monthly meetings** - last year's collections paid for about 2 months of utilities.

Cookbooks

- On CD for \$1.00.

Fundraising Ideas Wanted

We need your help and ideas to raise additional funds for WVGS. Please contact Roz Matthews, Director of Fundraising, dir.fundraising@azwvgs.org, with some concepts, preferably recurring programs like Fry's, Office Max, Staples and the like. We are always looking for new committee members and new views; either would help.

The Fundraising Committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 pm in the Library during the months of August through April.



Appraisal Day, Sunday, March 5, 2017

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cathy Gallagher

WVGS is hosting a special Appraisal Day so members can bring in their treasures for a verbal appraisal for their market value and replacement values (written appraisals can be arranged to be done later). Mr. Bo Robert Patrick is a third-generation native of Arizona. He is a Member of the Certified Appraisers Guild of America (C.A.G.A.). His family has been in the business for 31 years and he has professionally been in the business since he was 19 - he is now 30 years old. His company is Fidelity Estate Services and they specialize in Estate Auctions, Estate Sales, Appraisals and brokering fine antiques and jewelry. This is his third season on the PBS channel 8 television show 'Arizona Collectibles' which airs on Thursdays at 7:30 pm and Saturdays at 10:00 am. His passion is researching and selling his clients' possessions at the highest possible price to help them out. He enjoys it when clients are surprised when the possessions they have are worth a lot more than they ever anticipated! Educating them on what they have, and then selling items for them, is a joy. His specialties include: jewelry, coins, glass and silver, but there is no personal property he cannot handle (including china, antiques, furniture, artwork, guns and more).

Call or Sign-up at WVGS to add your name to the Customer List and bring your treasures to the Library, Sunday, March 5, 2017. Cost is \$10 each/\$25 for 3 items. Call Cathy Gallagher for details: (623) 266-1330.

Bo sold this rare French early 20th century Daum Nancy landscape cameo glass vase for \$12,500 several months ago.



Do You Have a Product Or Service To Offer Fellow Genealogists?

If you have a genealogy related business, there is now a great opportunity to advertise in *Tidbits*. We are accepting business card sized ads and will run them for a full year (9 issues) for the low price of \$100. This is a wonderful way to reach a selected audience to let them know what you do! Limited spaces are available and are being offered first to our members, so act now to reserve your space. Please contact Judy Linnebach at judylinnebach@gmail.com or call (208) 659-3911.

Library New Book Report

Linda McCleary, Book Accessioner

Karen R. Zeppenfeld, Library Administrator

- 100 Years of Progress: A History of the First 100 Years of Edgar, Nebraska 1872-1972 [Clay County, Nebraska]
- Castaways: The Narrative of Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca
- Church of the Advent Episcopal. Sun City West, Arizona: Our Story (1979 to 2016)
- Exploring 200 Years of Oneida County History [Oneida County, New York]
- Finding Your Italian Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide*
- Gazetteer of Indian Territory, A**
- Genealogisches Handbuch der Adeligen Hauser [Genealogical Manual of the Noble House]
- Heritage of Stokes County North Carolina, The. Volume 2, 1990
- Index to Marriages in Monroe County, WI for Registration Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4, From 1855 to 1907
- Michigan Atlas & Gazetteer: Detailed Topographic Maps, Back Roads, Recreation Sites, GPS Grids. 2016
- Norland Family Tree, The. 1824-1979
- Nova Scotia Vital Statistics from Newspapers, 1848-1851
- Richmond County, Virginia 1692-1992: A Tricentennial Portrait
- Service Record Book of Men and Women of Volga, S. D., and Community
- Tidewater Virginia: A Picture Book to Remember Her By

Periodicals - Karen R. Zeppenfeld

- Lawco Lore (OH)
- The Pennsylvania Packet, and Daily Advertiser (GEN)

CD's - Marie Beernink

- 1858-1859 Indiana State Gazetteer
- 1860 Missouri State Gazetteer
- A History of Rockingham County, Virginia
- A History of the Original Settlements on the Delaware
- Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia
- Google Earth for Genealogy
- History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison and Nicholas Counties, Kentucky
- History of Carrollton Manor, Frederick County, Maryland
- History of Harford County, Maryland, 1608-1812
- History of Lancaster and York Counties [Pennsylvania]
- History of Surry County [North Carolina]
- History of the German Element in Virginia
- History of the Kreutz Creek Charge of the Reformed Church [Pennsylvania]
- History of the Lower Shenandoah Valley Counties [VA]
- History of Union County, Kentucky
- History of York County, Pennsylvania

- Kentucky Genealogy and Biography, Hancock, LaRue, Hardin, Edmondson, Breckenridge, Grayson, Hart and Meade Counties
- Massachusetts Atlas & Gazetteer: Detailed Topographic Maps, Back Roads, Recreation Sites, GPS Grids**
- Old Tenth Legion Marriages in Rockingham County, Virginia
- Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and Their Descendants [Frederick County, VA]
- State of the Accounts of Jacob Barnitz, Esquire
- State of the Accounts of John Hay, Esquire [York County, PA]
- State of the Accounts of John M'Clellan, Esquire
- State of the Accounts of the Collectors of Excise for York County, Pennsylvania
- State of the Accounts of Thomas Armor, Esq
- Tenth Legion Tithables...Rockingham County, Virginia
- The German Element...Shenandoah Valley of Virginia
- The History and Topography of Dauphin Counties... [Pennsylvania]
- The History of Montgomery County, Maryland from its Earliest Settlements 1650-1879
- The Lutheran Church in York, Pennsylvania
- Virginia Valley Records...Strasburg, Va.
- York County, Pennsylvania Heads of Families 1790 Census

*CDC - Collection Development Committee

**50/50 club

Jackman Cousins Meet for First-Time at WVGS

Marilyn Vollmer

Pamela Hughes Sirmans (r) and Devin Hoar (l) were researching in the Computer Lab at the WVGS recently and discovered they were cousins.

Pam resides in Dyersburg, Tennessee and Sun City, Arizona and Devin resides in Phoenix, Arizona.

They trace their ancestry to two brothers, Edward Jackman and Robert Jackman, who were born in Ireland in 1735 and 1739 and resided in Washington County, Pennsylvania, as young men where they served in the Militia. The rest of the story will be in the Spring issue of the *Desert Tracker*.



Put These Numbers In Your Wallet

Office Max Perks.....#012748337

Staples Rewards #04050-4355-5

Or just use WVGS phone number 623-933-4945

Scanning Services Day
Saturday, April 22nd from 10 am to 4 pm.
WVGS Members Bob and Cathy Gallagher



Do you have boxes of fading photographs that you want to save and share with family members? Attend our special Scanning Services Day. Bob and Cathy will scan your photos and docs to a DVD using a High Speed Scanner that is 30 times faster than a regular flatbed scanner! *Protect your precious memories from fire, water, theft, mold, dust and more!*

Plan on one hour to scan 200-300 photos. Be sure to sort your photographs by size, family or timeline so they can be scanned easily. They can scan photos/docs up to 8-1/2" wide & 34" long, laminated, color or black and white, Polaroids, postcards and some photos on cardboard (fragile, tin types, large photos can be scanned on their flat bed scanner and added to the DVD). Cost is 35 cents per scan (includes DVD and case). 15 cents will be donated back to WVGS.

They also convert VHS tapes to DVDs. Cost is only \$11 with \$1 going to WVGS (compare to drug store chains charging \$25 and wholesale clubs charging \$18.95)!

Call or Sign-Up at the WVGS Library and plan your time accordingly (about 200-300+ photos per hour). For any questions, contact Cathy at 602-421-0848 or cwhite57@hotmail.com.

GH[●]OSTLIGHT THEATRE

Ghostlight Theater has graciously donated a pair of tickets for each show during the rest of their 2016-2017 season. The tickets are valued at \$40 and will be raffled off at the monthly General Membership meeting.

The next show is "Rabbit Hole," from March 23rd to April 2nd and will be raffled at the March 13 meeting. The seasons' last production is "Nunsense," running from April 27th to May 7th, and will be raffled off at the April 10th meeting.

Individual tickets for any of these plays are available for \$20 each by contacting the box office or on line at www.GhostLightAZ.com.

13541 West Camino Del Sol
Sun City West, AZ 85375
623-252-5127

Ghostlight Theater is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



Surnames

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.

15th Annual WVGS Research Tour to Washington, DC

November 29 - December 7, 2017

Linda Swain, Tour Leader

- Visit the "Big Three" - National Archives, Library of Congress and the DAR Library.
- Cost of tour is \$1,365/per double occupancy or \$1,925 per single occupancy.
- Includes round trip air fare from Phoenix, shuttle transfers between airport and hotel.
- White House Tour if your \$500.00 deposit is received by Linda Swain by June 7, 2017 (security check required by Secret Service).
- See flyer for complete details at the WVGS Library or online at www.azwvgs.org, click Events tab, then click Washington, DC Trip 2017.

Contact tour leader, Linda Swain, 480-893-0469

Did you recently replace your desktop or laptop?



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.

Aluminum Cans

Gale Kristof, The Can Man

We had 72 pounds of can this month and the YTD total is now \$140. We could certainly use more in future months.



Reminder: *We can no longer store cans at the Library. Please store them at home and bring them to the next WVGS General Membership Meeting at the church. Your cooperation and help would greatly be appreciated.*

Benefits for Members

There are three 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	<u>600</u> \$1,575	dues pays for these subscriptions

WVR is available to members from home. Visit our website for instructions on how to access them.

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 Library 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*



"It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see."

Henry David Thoreau

High Speed Scanning Services

We will scan your photos and documents to a DVD for 1/3 the cost of retail prices.

Bob & Cathy Gallagher
623-266-1330

FamHistResearch@cox.net
 www.FamHistResearch.com
 www.StoryBookMaker.com

012018

West Valley Genealogical Society

12222 N. 111th Avenue

Youngtown, AZ 85363-1225

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



March 2017

WVGS is the number one Genealogical Library in Arizona!

Attention Seasonal Visitors

It is the member's responsibility to change your address to reflect your location. To do this please send an e-mail with your current address to: Bonnie Belza, Membership Registrar at: membership@azwvgs.org. You must do this each time you move with the season.

The Spring issue of the WVGS Tracker periodical will be mailed April 1st and is sent to all dues paying members by USPO Bulk Mail. **Bulk Mail Is Not Forwarded.** An additional cost of \$8 is available to send your Trackers by USPO First Class Mail, which would be forwarded.

If you have questions, contact me at bosac3@yahoo.com.

Shirley Conley, Mailing Coordinator

