



FHSA Newsletter

A monthly publication of
The Family History Society of Arizona

October 2007
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www.fhsa.org

Changes Necessary for Fall Seminar

Inside
this issue

Tricia Malone Williams notified L. Casey on September 12th that she could not keep her commitment to speak at the Fall Seminar due to imminent surgery of a personal nature.

L. Casey notified the Board president so that the Board could be made aware of the problem. L. Casey's efforts over the weekend have resulted in a new speaker

Betty Lou Malesky

Betty Lou Malesky is past president of the Green Valley Genealogical Society and editor of the society's newsletter, *Past Tracks*. She is also the First Vice President of the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (ISFHWE). In addition, she is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists; New England Historical and Genealogical Society; the National Genealogical Society; the Wyoming County Historical Society; and the Society of Mayflower Descendants. She writes a monthly column, "Genealogy Today" for the *Green Valley News & Sun*. Betty was 2nd place winner of the 2003 ISFHWE Excellence in Writing Contest, Genealogy Research Story category; and 3rd place winner in 2006, Newspaper Column category. She completed Course 4, Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama in 2006.

A native of northeastern Ohio, Betty became interested in genealogy as a teenager. She began actively pursuing her ancestry in 1963 and is planning

to publish a history of a 6th great grandfather, Dr. Gaius Smith and descendants of his five daughters through six generations. Currently she is completing a four generation narrative of the Descendants of John Sheridan, a Scots Irish 4th great grandfather who emigrated in the 1700s and fought on the New Jersey Continental Line in the American Revolution. She speaks on several topics including her favorite - finding the stories of the forgotten women in our ancestry. Betty also teaches genealogy classes in Green Valley.

NOTES FROM MARGARET

L. Casey and her committee chairs are working very hard to bring us an interesting Fall Seminar. Please support their efforts.

Regardless of which hat I was wearing this week there was a need for lots of communications. My thanks to all who sent me information via e-mails. Will try to share with you many of the hyper links received this past month. Oops, as I was sitting here typing, received 20 items from Sally Pavia a good start for next month. If you are searching in Illinois, try (<http://www.iltrails.org>). in Indiana, try (<http://www.countyhistory.com>) How many people in the US share your name? (<http://howmanyofme.com>). This one is War of 1812 Pay Roll—Basic Search (<http://shorl.com/tydubabepurso>). This was listed as a Free Search Engine to 1200 Genealogy Databases. (<http://www.myheritage.com/FP/Company/myheritage-research.php>).

See you at Fall Seminar

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OCTOBER
IS
FAMILY
HISTORY
MONTH

FHSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2007-2008 ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Margaret Rennaker	480-990-2348	margaret166@cox.net
1 st VP	Roni Falcon	602-316-9062	greatstyle1@aol.com
2 nd VP	Susi Fathauer	480-893-6689	gafaz@cox.net
Secretary	Jessie Larson	480-924-9441	genealogy1922@larson-house.com
Treasurer	Jeanne Reichenbacher	480-391-2699	jeanne@bio-con.com
Past President	Helen Seaton	480-820-7403	helen.seaton@asu.edu
Nominating	L. Casey		t1fciga@cox.net

2007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Book Fund	Sharon Leezer	480-502-3323	pastseekerusa-genealogist@yahoo.com
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Web Admin.	Jeannie Rogers	480-759-5171	jeannie@jcrogers.com
Asst.	Ted Finch	602-993-7791	tedfinch@qwest.net
Asst.	Charles Rennaker	480-990-2348	7473chas@cvrennaker.com

2007-2008 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS or REPRESENTATIVES

Daytimers	Charles Rennaker	480-990-2348	7473chas@cvrennaker.com
East Valley	Bill Gertz	480-325-3173	Gertz@asu.edu
Fountain Hills	Roseanne Hein	602-996-9082	ro_hein@hotmail.com
Glendale	Russell Strong	623-878-9084	rgstrong-genes@cox.net
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	Jan Motley	623-875-7749	janmotley7749@msn.com
Scottsdale	L. Casey		t1fciga@cox.net
Tempe	Marilyn Senn	480-705-0927	marilyns41@cox.net

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Information and materials are always welcome for inclusion into the newsletter. Information should reach the editor by the **10th** of each month to make it into the coming issue. Send items directly to the President, Margaret **Rennaker**, at 8780 E. McKellips Rd., Lot 477A, Scottsdale, AZ 85257-4803 or (margaret166@cox.net).

MEMBERSHIP PURGE

How we hate the need for this function each October. Members who have not renewed their membership are no longer eligible for Newsletter.

All e-mail and mailing address, phone number changes should be sent to Membership Chairman, Lynn **Crawford** at 1230 Leisure World, Mesa, AZ 85206 or (lcrawford46@cox.net)

DISCLAIMER

We freely admit to lovingly "lifting" some of the filler items from other publications, newsletters, the Internet, and miscellaneous sources. For that reason, some of the material contained herein cannot be verified and we apologize for any misinformation.

FHSA NEWSLETTER

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\$25 for family

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letter submissions to the
above P.O. Box.

Advertising Rates
Full page \$ 40
3/4 page 30
1/2 page 20
1/4 page 10

The FHSA takes no
responsibility for adver-
tising claims.

FORMAT CHANGES

FHSA Newsletter
has been changed
due to Postal
Regulation.

With stamps that
need cancelling all
edges of item must
be sealed.
Solution, put in an
envelope.

Reduce bulk for
envelope.
Less folds-single
sheets stapled
together.

NEW MEMBERS

Daytimers

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 DiStefano

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 Akers

Tempe

Smith, Dave
 480-820-6201
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*Editor comment: Four of these are spouses of current members. **Be sure to Welcome Janet and the fellows.***

MEMBER NEWS

Memorial Services for Lucy Ainsley who succumbed to cancer on Saturday, September 1, 2007 are planned in Phoenix at 10:00 am, Saturday September 29, 2007 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 40th St (between Shea and Cholla).

In Port Austin, Michigan at 10:00 am, Saturday, October, 13, 2007 at St. Michael's Catholic Church.

Dr. Lucy E. Ainsley joined FHSA on December 3, 1996, was a member of Paradise Valley Chapter.



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1852 California State Census

Find information at:
<http://www.library.ca.gov/calhist/pdf/StateCensusResearch.pdf> Thanks Nelson Snook

FUNNY TRUE THINGS
 My Grandfather died at the age of 3.
 (actual correspondence received by Family History)



*Locate Sources *Collect Proofs *Evaluate Evidence
 *Guide Your Research *Compile A History
Janna Larson and Daniela Moneta
 Visit our website at www.GenealogyOne-on-One.com

October is Family History Month. Let Daniela and Janna help you pull all those research notes, photocopies and photographs into a presentation notebook that you can be proud of.

When a person dies,
 a library closes.

OCTOBER CHAPTER HAPPENINGS SCHEDULE

3rd—EAST VALLEY:

Meets the 1st **Wednesday** at Fellowship Square, Bldg 4, First Floor, 6945 E Main, Mesa

6:00 PM Beginners Class: Bill **Gertz** “History of Photography”

7:00 PM Meeting: “Photo Restoration” by Charles **Rennaker**

Reminder Facilitator: Bill **Gertz**, 480-325-3173 (Gertz@asu.edu)

8th—FOUNTAIN HILLS

Meets the 2nd Monday at Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Dr (next to new Town Hall, across from Post Office) Fountain Hills.

9:00 AM **To be announced ... please check website**

10:00 AM Meeting: “New England Witches” by Bonnie **McCulley**

Reminder Facilitator: Nikki **Van Reusen** 480-836-6820 (vanreusen@prodigy.net)

8th—TEMPE:

Meets the 2nd **Monday** at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center, Globe Room, 655 E. Southern Ave., Tempe

6:15 PM How-to-Class: Panel discuss genealogy questions or brick wall solutions to questions from members.

7:00 PM Meeting: “What was Happening in America—Immigration 1600 to 1900” by Kaye **Morgan**

Reminder Facilitator: Marilyn **Senn**, 480-705-0927 (marilyns41@cox.net)

November date change—will meet on 5th instead of 12th (Veterans Day) Pyle Center is closed on 12th.

16th—PARADISE VALLEY:

Meets the 3rd **Tuesday** at Senior Center at Via Linda, 10440 N. Via Linda, Room 6, Scottsdale.

6:15 PM How-to-Class: Janna **Larson** “Immigration Records”

7:00 PM Meeting: “My German Experience” by Suzanne **Brayer**

Reminder Facilitator: Norma **Suckle**, 602-867-3087 (norma@Lsnent.com)

17th—DAYTIMERS:

Meets the 3rd **Wednesday** at Coco’s Restaurant, 4700 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale

Please plan to buy at least a beverage.

10:00 AM Come share your finds, your Research trip, a Family Treasure.

Reminder Facilitator: Charles **Rennaker** 480-990-2348 (7473chas@cvrennaker.com)

23th—SCOTTSDALE:

Meets the 4th **Tuesday** at Paiute Neighborhood Center, Bldg 9, 6535 E Osborn Rd., Scottsdale

6:30 PM How-to-Class: A Potpourri/Group Session-Tell about great summer find, your Research trip, show off your Family Treasures, etc.

7:00 PM Meeting: “Printed County Histories” by Marshall **Allen**

Reminder Facilitator: Robert **Gayle**, 602-971-3429 (ragayle@mindspring.com)

29th—GLENDALE:

Meets the last **Monday** at Glendale Public Library, 5959 W. Brown Ave, Glendale

7:00 PM Meeting: “Using Technology in Your Genealogy Research & What Can be Done With a Computer to Help Genealogy Research” by Tim Chapman

Reminder Facilitator: Ted **Finch**, 602-993-7791 (tedfinch@qwest.net)

REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEB SITE
www.fhsa.org for the latest updates on
Chapter Meeting Calendar
Chapter Information and Chapter Location Maps

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2007

- 4 Lunchtime Family History Lessons at Carnegie Center (The historic Carnegie Library) 1101 West Washington, Phx. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED IN ADVANCE, SPACE IS LIMITED. www.lib.az.us and choose link to "Other Resources" Click on Genealogy Online Registration. Registration by phone: 602-926-3938 FREE Thursday 12:00 noon—1:00 p.m. "Skeletons in the Archives' Attic" by the *Archives Staff* from *Arizona State Library*.
- 13 The Master Genealogist (TMG) users meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the West Valley Genealogical Society Library, 12222 N 111 Ave, Youngtown between 10 a.m. and noon. If you would like to learn more about the TMG program, please join us. For further information visit our website: (www.suncountrytmg.com). D.**Snook**, President.
- 20 **FHSA FALL SEMINAR**, Creighton United Methodist Church, 4900 E. Thomas Rd., Phoenix. **Our speaker is Betty Lou Malesky**. Her topics will be Internet Research: *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*; U. S. Migration Patterns: *Following Ancestral Trails*; Women Without Shadows: *Gone Without a Trace*; and Problem Solving: *Attack Those Brick Walls*. Registration forms available at www.fhsa.org home page. For more information: Call Barbara **Marshall** (480-945-5288) or e-mail (GMarsh8214@aol.com).
- 27 **Northern Arizona Genealogical Society** is hosting their annual workshop at the LDS Church in Prescott. Information will be forthcoming. For further information, contact D. Sue Crowder **Kissel** at (dskissel@cableone.net).

November 2007

- 10 **West Valley Genealogical Society** to honor their thirty fifth anniversary is holding a morning mini-seminar (half day). Jean M. **White** will speak on "The Old Northwest Territory" (OH, IN, IL, MI, WI) at the First Presbyterian Church, 12225 N. 103rd Ave., Sun City, AZ. There will be a mini brunch served. Additional information and a registration form may be found on their web site: <http://www.azwvgs.org> and click on "events." You can also contact bobbijo3@cox.net or call 623-544-8681. Registration is \$20.00.
- 17 **Arizona State Genealogical Society** Winter 2007 Seminar at the Radisson Hotel, 6555 East Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ from 8:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m. featuring Donna Potter **Phillips**. Donna is a genealogy speaker and columnist for *Everton's Genealogical Helper*, *Internet Genealogist*, *Family Chronicle*, and *The History Magazine*. Registration \$37.50 ASGS & Affiliate members; \$40.00 non-members. For further information contact Sharon **Barry**, 520-327-8097 or (sbarry36@cox.net).

February 2008

- 2 **Saddle Brooke Genealogy Club** celebrates 10th anniversary as a family history research organization with an All-Day Genealogy Seminar and Fair at the Mountain View Clubhouse. Speaker will be Barbara A.H. **Nuehring**. For more information contact Richard **McQuate** at (rillac@wbhsi.net).
- 23 **West Valley Genealogical Society** presents a Seminar at the Sun Grove Resort Village, 10134 W. Mohawk Lane, Peoria, AZ (off 99th Ave. just north of Beardsley). The speaker: Meldon J. **Wolfgang**, III; owner of Jonathan Sheppard Books. Writer of the genealogy column for the New York State Archives Partnership Trust's Magazine *ARCHIVES*. Registration fee \$40. includes continental breakfast and sit down lunch. Further information available at 623-544-8681. More facts later.

Finding a Home for Maddock Treasurers by Dee Snook

A few years ago we had to put my husband's aunt into a nursing facility. She had lived in the same house for over 50 years and had quite an accumulation of "stuff". Of course, being a genealogist, this wasn't "stuff" to me – it was memorabilia, mementos, treasures. I found three partially completed baby quilts – one for my son, now 45 and two for a niece and nephew. Those were brought home and I began learning how to quilt. Two of the quilts have been passed on to those they were intended for; the remaining quilt is being saved for a great-grandchild.

Aunt Alcenia's mother-in-law, Isabel Maddock Lawton, lived with her for about twenty-five years. She also added to the treasures. The most interesting was a place setting of china embellished in gold with the words "Ingleside". I knew that the Maddock family of Trenton, NJ had been quite well-to-do at the turn of the century. We had always heard about their cook and their chauffeur, Hubie. The Maddock family history had begun in Staffordshire, England with the pottery business and had evolved down to the Lamberton Pottery Company in NJ. They were the original manufacturers of the "porcelain oasis" here in America. In 1929 they sold the company to American Standard. Perhaps Ingleside was the name of their estate in Pennington, NJ. There was also a flat piece of porcelain, about four inches by 6 inches with the following information: 1834 – 1904, Isabella S Maddock, Ingleside, Pennington, New Jersey, Aug 16th. Following research, I found that these were the birth and death dates of Isabella. No information was available about Ingleside or Maddock. I searched through Google, county websites, message boards, asking for information about Ingleside or the Maddock family. The only response I had was that it was a street in Pennington.

Since this family wasn't related I didn't put much more time into it. Several weeks ago someone on the Rootswest Hunterdon County mail list mentioned a book titled "Hopewell Valley Heritage" by Alice Blackwell Lewis. My husband's family was from that area so I went to ABEBooks.com and ordered a copy. It was interesting reading, but became more so when I got to the paragraph "In September, 1881, Nathaniel R Blackwell of Pennington, NJ married Carrie Elizabeth Baldwin, at her lovely home called "Ingleside," just out of Pennington." So, it actually did exist. Whether it was owned by the Baldwin family or Maddock, I didn't care. The china pieces I had brought home deserved to be preserved. A week later an article in Family

Chronicle by Patrick Wohler gave many ways of searching for deaths. One he mentioned "coffin plates". Could that be what my flat piece of porcelain was?

I couldn't find descendants, so I decided to contact a local museum to see if I could donate the pieces when I came east. They were being very selective due to their lack of space and didn't seem too enthusiastic about my treasures. I thought I'd give research another try. I hadn't tried zabasearch.org and ran the name and town through that. Lo and behold, I found a Maddock in the right area. One phone call put me through to Isabel Lawton's great-great nephew. They also had one of the pieces of porcelain commemorating Isabella. Because the family was a manufacturer of porcelain, I think that's what they were – commemorative plates, rather than coffin plates. Either way, they are thrilled with the things I have which will now be their treasures. These treasures are now going home – where they belong.

Out Surfing

While surfing for county histories for our library I came across Ray's Place. <http://history.rays-place.com> Ray Brown has put together an interesting site filled with history. I just wish he could spell a little better or have used a proof reader for his site. However, some of the stories you can read include "Letter from a Repentant Loyalist" or "Early Recollections of Fairfield Life". Most stories are reflective of New England.

There are several categories of town histories, again, mainly New England, but also from New York, New Jersey, Illinois and Ohio. When I clicked on for New Jersey I found histories for many counties and several towns within the counties. Warren and Sussex Counties had histories for most of their townships.

Mr. Brown has also included copies of the Mayflower Compact and the United States Bill of Rights on this site. He has a few books listed in addition to several biographies. Some of the biographies include the Presidential Biographies and those of well known people in Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maine and Vermont. The Maine and Illinois bios include many of the states' governors.

One item not seen much are speeches and there are a few featured here. You can read Lincoln's Gettysburg speech, Patrick Henry's 1775 speech in which he proclaims "Give me liberty or give me death" plus some inaugural speeches.

No matter what the weather is outside, inside you can always "go surfing"! D. **Snook** At Large M.

A layman's experience with Y-DNA Testing

Like many others I have a "brick wall." This brick wall is on my Crawford line and occurs in the early 1800s. Court house records were burned and nothing exists to identify the parents of this Crawford. However, there were many Crawfords in America in the late 1600s and early 1700s. Some lines are well documented while others are not. If I could connect with some Crawford in the early 1700s then I could approach the brick wall from the other side and perhaps break through. Would Y-DNA testing help? Should I do this? I know nothing about DNA testing. This brought up a number of questions.

Who should I get to do the testing?

In researching DNA testing I found a number of places who will do the tests and prices varied from free to expensive. The free testing however did no comparisons, took forever to get results and the results were not posted for others to compare. I settled on Family Tree DNA, <http://www.familytreedna.com/default.aspx>. They have a large number of surname projects and do an excellent job of posting results, explaining everything, and keeping their members aware of matches. Also, they have the largest database of results. This is important because you have more to match against in hopes of finding relatives.

How many markers? Markers are locations on the DNA that are used to identify lineage. Some people chose as few as 12 which costs around \$150 to as many as 67 markers at a cost of approximately \$350.00. I chose 37 and I will explain why.

Each marker or "locus" (one of many technical names that can get confusing) has a location or specific spot on the DNA stem called "DSY#". This DSY# has a value called "alleles" which is simply a two digit number generally.

Charts of probability of a match indicate that the more markers you compare, the closer the match in terms of generations. We are all related if you go back enough generations. But I was interested in the early 1700s. Each generation is roughly 25 years so a match in 4 generations was the early 1800s, 8 generations the early 1700s and 12 generations is the early 1600s. After reviewing the probabilities of a match, I chose 37 markers.

What is probability of a match & genetic distance? If you match someone else exactly on a number of markers that is a genetic distance of 0.

If your results differ from someone else's results by one number in one place, you have a "genetic distance" of 1. For instance lets say your number for DYS# 393 is 14 and my number at that location is 13. We have a genetic distance of 1. If my number was 12 then we would have a genetic distance of 2. Or, we could differ by 1 in two places and have a genetic distance of 2.

With a genetic distance of 0 you are much closer in number of generations than with a genetic distance of 1. A genetic distance of 2 is much farther away than a genetic distance of 0. And the more markers tested the closer the ancestor. For instance, with a genetic distance of 1 on 37 markers a common ancestor is some 20 generations closer than with a genetic distance of 0 on only 12 markers.

Probability charts indicate that on a genetic distance of 0, the number of generations back to a common ancestor with 95% probability is 29 generations for 12 markers, 13 generations with 25 markers, and 7 generations with 37 markers.

Family Tree provides the genetic distance, the name of the individual you match, and their contact information. They also provide a free comparison calculator which calculates the probability of common ancestors in a specific number of generations.

What results did I receive? Unfortunately I did not get a match allowing me to break that brick wall. When I took the tests a year ago or so, there were only a couple dozen Crawfords that had been tested. Today there are over 60. So as more people get tested more possibilities exist.

I have matches with a number of Crawfords but the number of generations back to a common ancestor are too great. Surnames only began to become common in the 1600s and some standardization in spelling in the early 1900s.

I did find some interesting distant relatives. For instance, one individual was named Davidson and matched me with a genetic distance of 1 in 25 markers. How did that happen? His gg grandfather was orphaned as a baby and raised by a Davidson. He took the last name of his "father" but was told that he was a Crawford and had Crawford relatives. We are working on tying these families together.

Was it worth it? By all means and I would encourage others to do it. The more people we have tested, the better the chance of locating relatives for all of us. Lynn **Crawford**, East Valley Chapter

Managing Handouts and Notes

What do you do when you get home after a seminar or a FHSA meeting? You have handouts and/or notes that you wrote. What happens to them?

For some time I just put them in a pile on my desk. Then I moved all of the papers to a pocket folder. But what good were they? I couldn't find anything easily. Well, now I have a new system.

I put all of these papers in 3-ring notebooks. These include my notes from seminars and meetings, all of the handouts given at meetings, ideas for research that I found on the internet, and copies of some articles I found in genealogy magazines. I have separate sections (using dividers) for topics such as the following: census information, census forms, time lines, dates, writing family history, government records, repositories (including libraries and archives), internet genealogy, photographs, handwriting, migration, organization and filing systems. If a seminar handout covers more than one of these topics, I separate the handout and file the pages in the appropriate sections of my binder.

Now, when I am looking for ideas for reading confusing handwriting, or dating old photographs, definitions of terms or places to look for native American ancestors, I just look in my notebook in the appropriate sections. I save time and frustration, and no longer have piles of papers on my desk. Karen **Blackmore**, Daytimers Chapter

editor's comment: Any volunteers to tackle the stack on my desk?

"HOW"

Here is a bit of trivia from p.663 of "That Dark and Bloody River: Chronicles of the Ohio River" by Allan W. Eckert.

"The Indian greeting of "How" is not, as many people believe, a creation of B-grade western movies. It stems from the greeting the English traders originally gave when meeting the Indians "How do you do?" Unable to quite master the entire phrase, the Indians responded by parroting "How'd'do." This gradually evolved to "Howdy," which the English themselves then picked up in turn from the Indians. The evolution became complete with simply the word "How," usually accompanied either with a hand raised with palm facing forward in a peace sign, or with a simple handshake.

Janna **Larson**, Paradise Valley Chapter

HOWEVER DID WE GET STARTED WITH THIS CRAZY HOBBY?

You usually hear that children follow in their parents' footsteps. Well, the reverse is true for me and genealogy.

My family has numerous old photos and documents, some dating to the 1850's. My daughter, who is extremely organized, decided to get these documents transcribed and filed. Even though she was in graduate school, one Christmas she presented us each with a booklet that had a photograph of the ancestors on my maternal grandmother's side of the family. She scanned the photos and printed them with a pedigree chart. We loved it.

She continued to work on family research, in her spare time, although she didn't produce a lot of paper; mostly it was computer files. Then in 2001, she graduated and she and her husband took jobs in Germany. She didn't want to take these family documents overseas, for both safety issues and she didn't think she'd have time to work on them. One day I received a phone call from her. "Mom, I have all of these old family papers and photos. Would you come get them?" Naturally I said yes. No, I didn't think I'd really get into researching. However, my husband and I had just moved back to the U.S. from Canada, after spending two years there, and I had not yet established a routine with hobbies and activities. And, as they say, the rest is history: "Family History" to me
Karen **Blackmore**, Daytimers

September Board Meeting Notes

L. Casey is requesting donations for door prizes for the Fall Seminar. Even items like office supplies would be appreciated.

L. Casey also presented a list of candidates for 2008-2009. Chapter reports were presented and a hope for increased attendance was made.

FHSA still needs a newsletter editor. The FHSA web page was discussed.

Margaret announced that an effort was being made to hold a workshop for Beginning Researchers in November.

The next meeting will be held on October 6, 2007 at the studio of Karen Blackmore, 2132 E. El Parque Dr., Tempe, beginning at 9 a.m.

WARNING: National Archives Raises Fees October 1. The steepest increase is for Civil War Pension files, which will jump from the current \$37. to \$75. for a file up to 100 pages plus \$.65 per additional page.

Help Requested per e-mail

Milt Rhynard
Extraction/Indexing Director
Dayton Ohio Stake
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Thank You in advance for your assistance, I am sending this message to ask for your help with a major Name Extraction/Indexing Project. Recently, the leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints committed to digitize and index the entire holdings of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City over the next five years. The result of this project will be made available to the general public, free of charge, over the www.Familysearch.org website.

TO ACCOMPLISH THIS MASSIVE UNDERTAKING, WE NEED 250,000 VOLUNTEERS TO HELP ENTER DATA. THIS MAJOR PROJECT WILL BENEFIT ALL GENEALOGISTS & FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCHERS.

TO VOLUNTEER SIMPLY REVIEW SEND ME A RETURN E-MAIL. In a few days you will receive a User ID and password to access the Family Search Indexing website.

All work is done from your own computer over the Internet. No paper files or floppy disks to exchange.

Any level of commitment is welcome. If you can spend one hour a week or even one hour a month you can make a significant contribution.

The Church has developed new software (available without charge) to facilitate this effort. Computer based tutorials are designed to train new Indexers. Indexing is not cumbersome. It involves no paperwork. There are no significant coordination and review requirements by the extractor.

A single record batch can be completed in about 45 minutes (with basic keyboard skills)

We encourage you to invite your friends, relatives, neighbors, acquaintances, co-workers, school mates, etc. to participate.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT ME AND I WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Google.com – Images and Books

Did you know that you can look at actual images of people and tombstones by searching google.com? Have you tried to read books on-line with google books?

First, go to www.google.com. Just above the box where you type in your search words, look for “images.” Click on that. Now, you see another box that looks just like the search box that you are used to. This is where you type in a surname, a surname and “tombstone” or “cemetery” or “grave” or whatever you want to see. Surprise! If you are lucky, you will see a page of small photos. Click on one that you want to check out; some sites have lots more photos; some just one. But this is a fairly new resource for me. You may be able to print from the computer, or some of the photographs have copyrights and you can’t download or print them. If you really want one of these, contact the photographer and see if you can purchase a copy.

Now, let’s try “books.” Again, go to google.com. At the left, you will see “more.” Click on that and you’ll see “books” and click on that. Now type in a surname, a complete name, a location, or some topic you wish to read about. Some of the sites will actually have the complete text; some a summary; some you will have to look for the book elsewhere. On the far left of the screen are links to buy books at various on-line booksellers, as well as a link to find the book in a library. Click on this one and put in your zip code, state, or nothing. You will find a list of libraries that have this book available.

It’s difficult to explain these searches without a computer in front of me but please try them. And, after you check out images and books, return to google.com, click on “more”, then click on “and more” and you can investigate the huge selection of google gems that most of us never even knew existed. Karen **Blackmore**, Daytimers Chapter

Religious Institutions

When searching for vital records, consider all religious institutions as libraries. They maintain records on birth, christenings, confirmations, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, marriage banns, marriages, divorces (in some cases) and deaths. Churches with attached cemeteries will also maintain cemetery records (often called sexton’s records)

Records maintained by religious institutions are widely accepted as proof of birth, marriage, and death. (Jan 1998 FHSA Newsletter page 3)

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