

# BOUSE GENIES

## HISTORY OF THE BOUSE GENIES

The Bouse Genies are a group of people (mostly ladies to begin with) who are interested in their personal genealogical research. All of the original members at some time throughout the winter of 2006 -2007 attended genealogy classes given by Carol Brown at the Bouse Library.

Following the classes, the attendees wanted to continue to meet to exchange ideas, share experiences, and seek help from others. By a general consensus of opinion they agreed to meet at a members home every other Friday from 10AM - 12 Noon. The first meeting was held February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Carol Brown and was attended by 7 people. We discussed some of the problems members were having and made plans for the rest of the season. The group was informed that a friend of Carol's, Maryalice Gordon, wished to donate a major part of her genealogy library to a group that needed them and we agreed to accept the donation to be placed in the Bouse Library.

The second meeting was held Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> at the home of Shirley Baker. Carol brought a visitor, Barbara Nuehring, who was exceptionally knowledgeable in German research. Six members attended, and all were very impressed with Barbara's knowledge. Carol had received a box from Maryalice Gordon containing about 40 pounds of genealogy magazines covering several years of various publications. The box contained three ring binders with the magazines separated and in chronological order ready to be placed on the Library shelves. Each member attending donated \$5 to help pay for the shipment of the box. Carol delivered the box to the library the next Tuesday and mailed \$35 with a thank you card to Maryalice.

On Friday March 23<sup>rd</sup> the third meeting was held at the La Paz RV Park recreation hall, hosted by Betty Gilbert. Betty brought a visitor, Donna, who is planning to join the group next winter. The major discussion was about obtaining certified birth records. It was a very lively and interesting discussion. Carol also reported that Maryalice would be sending another box of genealogical related materials. It was agreed that we would collect \$5 from each member to cover the shipping cost.

Beth VanSickle's was the site of the fourth meeting on Friday April 6<sup>th</sup>. Six members were in attendance. Some computer problems were discussed as well as suggestions on purchasing a new computer and the new Windows Vista operating system. This turned out to be more of a business meeting than a sharing meeting. Roberta has been working on a logo for the group. She showed us her design, which is a trailer being pulled by an ATV with a tree in the trailer. Following much discussion we decided that the tree should be a Saguaro cactus. The logo will be in color and the final design will be approximately 3x3 or 4x4 inches.

(Continued on page 2)

Vol 1, No. 1  
Apr 2007

## Contents

12 Strategies for Brick Walls . . . .	6
Beginners Pit Falls . . . . .	3
Bits & Bytes . . . . .	4
Graphics Conversion Prog . . . . .	2
History of Bouse Genies . . . . .	1
History Trivia . . . . .	4
How to Fail at Genealogy . . . . .	5
Important Dates in Passen.. Lists	4
List of books Donated . . . . .	2
Screen Capture Program . . . . .	2
Steve Morse's 1-step Search . . .	5



## BOUSE GENIES Electronic Newsletter

Published 6 times a year for the members of the Bouse Genealogy Group

Please send all general correspondence to:

Bouse Genies  
c/o Carol Brown  
P.O. Box 625  
Bouse, AZ 85325



The Bouse Genies meet every other Friday from October thru April at one of the members homes. You may email Carol at [sidcarol@escapees.com](mailto:sidcarol@escapees.com) for the time, place and schedule.

(Continued from page 1)

The logo will be used for this newsletter and any other group correspondence. Beth informed the group that she was asked to submit an article to the local Bouse Newsletter about the group meeting. The article she submitted was very concise, to the point, and was greatly appreciated by all. Carol passed out a article from the Legacy Newsletter and as well as the list of books in the box that had arrived from Maryalice Gordon.

There was a long discussion on the placement of the books from Maryalice. Since these books should be able to be checked out by members and other visitors to the library, some method needs to be setup whereby we will be assured that the books will be returned.

Roberta Willis was asked to take the box of books to the library on Saturday and discuss with Nikki (the Librarian) just how this can be arranged. These books are too valuable to us to have someone check them out and never return them. Again a \$5 donation was taken to cover the shipping costs of the box. Carol will see that the donation gets to Maryalice. Labels will be made indicating that the books were donated by Maryalice Gordon.

Carol also brought four stacks of genealogy magazines she has been collecting over the years. These were sold to members for 25 cents each, with the understanding that when they have been read, the magazines would be returned to the group and be resold to other members. This is one way for us to get a little money in the kitty to help in the shipment of the books from Maryalice and to purchase other needed items, namely Ancestry.com, for use at the library.

Carol volunteered to create an electronic newsletter. There will be no snail mailed copies. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please inform Carol and you will be removed from the list.

We will not collect dues for the 2006-2007 season, but will start them at the October meeting. No amount for next years dues has been established at this time. The monies collected from the genealogy classes given by Carol this winter are to go toward the purchase of Ancestry.com for the library next season, if needed. The librarian has informed us that they are trying to get a grant for Ancestry.com for the Bouse Library.

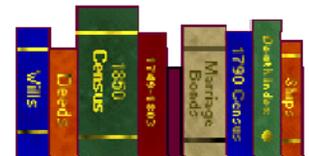
Carol donated all issues of History magazine to the library to be placed in the general collection, not in the genealogy collection. Roberta will deliver these to the library when she takes the box of books.

The next meeting will be a social gathering for a luncheon tea. The members will meet at Bouse Library the 10:30AM on Friday April 13 for a trip to Wendon to the tea room. We will car pool as the trip is approximately 45 minutes from Bouse. All members are welcome to join us.

This will be our final meeting for the season. We will reconvene the first Friday of October for the 2007-2008 season.

It should be noted that these meetings are about more than discussing our personal genealogical problems. We are learning about new things that are happening in the genealogy world as well as new things happening which will help us at the Bouse Library.

## LIST OF BOOKS DONATED BY MARYALICE GORDON



### The following list of books has been donated to in the Bouse Library

Immigrant & Passenger Arrivals (catalog of Nat'l Archives microfilm publications)

The 1920 Federal Population Census (catalog of Nat'l Archives microfilm)

The 1910 Federal Population Census from National Archive Trust Fund board

Map Guide to American Migration Routes

National Archives Microfilm Resources for Research (A Comprehensive Catalog)

Your Guide to the Federal Census (Kathleen W. Hinckley)

Military Service Records (A Select Catalog of Nat'l Archives Microfilm Publications)

The Genealogist's Question & Answer Book (Marcia Yannizze Melnyk)

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy (Christine Rose & Kary Germain Ingalls)

Genealogy 101 (Barbara Renick)

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register (Vol 155, Oct 2001)

500 Brick Solutions (from Family Chronicle Magazine)

My History Is America's History (15 Things You Can

Do To Save America's Stories)  
 First Steps in Genealogy (Desmond Walls Allen)  
 Introduction to Genealogy (Family Chronicle)  
 How to Research American Indian Blood Lines  
 (Cecelia Svinth Carpenter)  
 Beginner's Guide to Family History Research) 3rd  
 Edition, Desmond Walls Allen & Carolyn Early  
 Billingsley)  
 Adventures In Genealogy ( Patrick G. Wardell)  
 Secrets of Tracing Your Ancestors ( W. Daniel Quillen)  
 They Came in Ships (John P. Colletta)



## GRAPHICS CONVERSION PROGRAM

### *IrfanFiew*

There is a free program available which can open most graphics/audio/video formats. It allows you to change the format to any of the other related formats. Once loaded on your system it will change all of the standard graphic/audio/video icons to the IrfanView logo and when you click on the file it will display in IrfanView. Some IrfanView features:

- \* Many supported file formats
- \* Multimedia player
- \* Thumbnail/preview option
- \* Fast directory view
- \* Multipage TIF editing
- \* Change color depth
- \* Slideshow (save slide show as EXE/SCR or burn it to CD)
- \* Batch conversion (with image processing)
- \* Scan (batch scan) support & cut/crop
- \* Effects (sharpen, blur, filters unlimited, etc.)
- \* and much much more - from <http://www.IrfanView.com>



## BEGINNERS PIT FALLS

### MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDMOTHER HAD 18 CHILDREN.

Sure it was possible, but not very likely. What was more possible was that your grandfather had married two or more women with same first name. When you see a man with children born over a 30+ year span, look for multiple wives.

Look for multiple marriage licenses for the man. Do multiple the census records show a much different birth date or place for the wife? Check for baptism

records for the children. Look at naming patterns of the children. Did they change significantly at one point in time?



## STEVE MORSE'S ONE- STEP SEARCH PORTALS

Sometimes a genealogy researcher will do something that really astounds us all.

One of these people is Stephen Morse. He has provided, absolutely free, a major set of search tools the he has developed that can make our internet researches so much easier. His tools are more flexible, take fewer steps, and use more fuzzy logic abilities to allow us to quickly search other websites online records. Some of the databases his search tools work on are pre-castle Garden, Castle Garden, Ellis Island, arrivals to other ports, and ship picture sites. They also work on census records (US, Canada & the UK) Social Security Death indexes, New York naturalization records and living persons' listings. If you have not tried his tools yet you need to take a look at <http://stevemorse.org>.

Because you can use wildcards and sounds like options, you have a higher possibility of finding someone than with the regular search capabilities of the actual sites themselves.

## SCREEN CAPTURE PROGRAM

### *5 Clicks*

Have you ever wanted to take a snapshot of something on your computer screen? This can be anything from a document to a web page and everything in between. **5 Clicks** lets you to place a box around anything on the screen, no matter how large or small, and take a snapshot of it.

The clip can be saved in bitmap (.BMP), Jpeg (.JPG) or Portable Network Graphics (.PNG) format. Once saved you can also place it on the clipboard and paste it into other programs. It becomes a file like any other graphic.

5 Clicks cost is \$9.95 and it is available from <http://www.screen-capture.net>. I got my copy and find it is really easy to use.



## BITS AND BYTES

Web sites come, move and go on a regular basis. These URLs were current at the time of publication and are subject to unannounced changes.

### MAPS ONLINE

#### Library of Congress - Map Collections

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/> - Search or browse historic maps and birds-eye drawings.

#### University of Texas, Perry-Castañeda Library

[www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/index.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/index.html) - 5,000 map images on-line covering all areas of the world.

**1895 US Atlas** [www.livgenmi.com/1895/](http://www.livgenmi.com/1895/) - Scanned images of the original Rand McNally Atlas printed in 1895

**Atlas of the World** <http://woldatlas.com> - Continent, country, city maps; statistical data; timelines; related links

**National Atlas by USGS** [www-atlas.usgs.gov/](http://www-atlas.usgs.gov/) - Printable maps in GIF or PDF format of every state

## Heh! Heh!

### from the Rocky Mountain Buckeye

Another great idea! If you have trouble getting family group sheets back from relatives, make one out as completely as possible, but make the wife 10 years older than you think she is. This almost always works!

## HISTORY TRIVIA

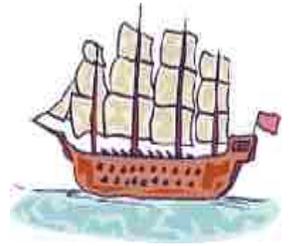
In the late 1700s, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board was folded down from the wall and used for dining. The "head of the household" always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Once in a while, a guest (who was almost always a man) would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. Sitting in the chair, one was called the "chair man." Today in business we use the expression or title "Chairman or Chairman of the Board."

Check old photos for uniforms. Identifying the uniform might lead to more info about an individual.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR U.S. PASSENGER LISTS

by Michael J. Leclerc

[from NEHGS eNews No. 278 of July 5, 2006]



1800-1819 — Beginning of US Passenger Lists with keeping of Baggage Lists (mostly Philadelphia).

1820-ca 1900 — Customs Passenger Lists start being kept.

1882 — Administrative control of immigration placed under the Secretary of the Treasury.

1893 — First major changes to 1819 law. Information on passenger lists was now to include: Name, Age, Sex, Marital Status, Calling or Occupation, Ability to Read or Write, Nationality, Last Residence, Port of US Entry, Final Destination, Whether Possessing a Ticket to Final Destination, Whether Immigrant Paid Own Passage, Whether in Possession of Money, Whether Upwards of \$30 or How Much if Less Than \$30, Whether Going to Join a Relative and if so What Relative as well as Their Name and Address, Whether Immigrant had Ever Been in US Before and if so When and Where, Whether Ever in Prison, Almshouse, or on Charity, Whether a Polygamist, Whether Under Contract to Perform Labor in US, and Mental and Physical Health Status

1903 — Category of Race added.

1906 — Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization established. Manifests were now to carry a personal description of each immigrant and their birthplace, not just country of allegiance.

1907 — Name and address of the nearest relative in the country from which the immigrant came.

Genealogy begins as an interest,  
Becomes a hobby;  
Continues as an avocation,  
Takes over as an obsession,  
And in its last stages,  
Is an incurable disease.  
- Author unknown

## HOW TO FAIL IN GENEALOGY

by **Bonny McDaniel**

[Reprinted with permission from the SKP Genies Newsletter Vol. XVI, No. 4 Jan / Feb 2007 page 6]



Have you ever met people who seem to have death wishes? I often wonder if some genealogists have a desire not to succeed and to hit every brick wall possible in their ancestor quest.

However, some of the poor results could be a result of insufficient schooling in the ways of research... .so, here's a reverse psychology list of tips on how to fail.

1. Be really stubborn about how your surnames are spelled. Always remember your kin's admonishments "We always spelled it Pearce not Pierce".

When looking in census indexes, land records, marriage lists, book indexes, and other resources NEVER check the variant spellings of the surname you are researching... .that way you won't be bothered by all those other names.

2. Make sure you never research any of the lateral lines. After all, you only descend from certain people and all those other people mean nothing.

Just because your g-g-grandfather had a sister who had ten children and she fell heir to the family Bible, is of no concern to you. Why in the world would you waste your time searching for one of the cousins of that line who might know where that Bible is or what secrets it contains?

3. By the same token, don't seek out others searching for your lines that are on web sites or in newsletters or magazines. If they don't have the very same line as yours you don't want to be bothered by what they know even if their branch of the family lived in the same county and engaged in the same pursuits.

4. Be sure you ignore the "Source" button or space on your genealogy forms. It takes extra time away from your research efforts to make these comments and you aren't going to take this family history to a court attorney. The fact that your research will be ignored or even looked upon as sloppy and inaccurate is of no concern of yours because you don't really need all those generations of your family that the experienced researcher has compiled. Since he/she doesn't think your info is credible, without the documentation, you are highly insulted by that high and mighty jerk.

5. When you read a census, just rush to the one family

you are looking for and write down the names and ages and state of birth and then roll up the film and return it to the librarian. No need to waste time looking for others with the same surnames or to take the effort to enumerate the neighbors if they don't have the same name. Also, make sure you don't write down the township and the household number either... .this will guarantee that, later, you won't have any basis for comparing how near your people lived to these other lateral lines.

6. Never, ever bother with land records. After all, you know where they owned land and you don't need the record to show that. Just because the land records sometimes show a previous county/state of residence or give the heirs of a piece of property is a detail you can live without.

7. Whenever you read a genealogical quarterly or get onto a web site with queries, make sure you read all of them for your ancestor and then make sure you don't post a query of your own. No sense in cluttering up your mailbox or email with all those replies from others who have the same lines. And if you do have to take valuable time to write a "snail mail" letter, then make sure that you don't include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) for a reply....you didn't really expect an answer anyway.

8. Make sure and check the county histories for your family, check the index, if it has one, and if your people aren't listed then put the book back on the shelf. Don't take valuable time to find out what ethnic group or religion the first settlers of that county were and where they came from if it doesn't bother to name them. And information about cholera outbreaks and other tragedies probably don't help you find out what happened to anyone in your family.

9. If you checked the marriage or will records ten years ago, don't check them again. After all, if they weren't available then there doesn't seem to be any chance they would materialize since then. Besides, someone told you that the "courthouse burned" and you know, for a fact, that there aren't any records of that county. And you don't think that all these genealogy societies are keeping busy recording any data that would help you.

10. And make sure that all this information you gathered stays stuffed in boxes somewhere, as disorganized as possible, so that your heirs will have plenty of material for a bonfire when you leave this earth. Never get all those details into a readable form because the grand kids probably aren't interested anyway.

*Breaking Through  
The Brickwalls*



## 12 STRATEGIES TO BREAK THROUGH YOUR BRICK WALLS

All of us have come to brick walls in our research. It is just part of the genealogy hobby.

Many of these brick walls can be broken down by following these 12 steps.

- (1) Keep a positive frame of mind. If you don't find the answer after what seems to you to be a thorough search, put the project aside for a while, but don't give up. Keep it in mind as you are doing other research. Your answer might come when you least expect it or new resources might become available to you.
- (2) Broaden your research on the problem. Try various spellings of all names and places. Research in adjoining counties and states.
- (3) Expand your research to relatives and neighbors. If you can't find the parents of your ancestor, look for the parents of your ancestors siblings. Follow collateral lines. If your ancestor was named Smith, but his sister married a Jones, check out the Jones family. If a group of people are listed in the place your ancestor lived and you know that a lot of them came from the same town in another state, look in that other town for your ancestor or relatives.
- (4) Make a chronology. List the date and place for every known event (birth, marriage, immigration, move, death or any other known event) in your ancestor's life and the life of their parents and children. Follow these moves on a time line as you do your research. Don't forget that people often went back to their place of birth for various reasons, or might have been visiting a relative when they died.
- (5) Analyze what you've gathered and question everything. Double check where you got the data and how valid it is. If anything was based on an assumption—re-evaluate it and try to find proof. Check the spelling of all names and places. Check those dates. Have you entered an event for your ancestor that was not possible or not probable?
- (6) Look for alternative sources. Try to get at least two records that verify a date and place of an event. Remember that dates and the spelling of names in census records are often wrong. Death records of also often wrong.
- (7) Follow every clue and lead. Review all of your records for additional clues that you might have missed in your earlier research. A clue might be in a record that does not become obvious until you put it with another record.
- (8) Get another opinion. Show your complete problem to another researcher. Have them look at your data before you try to explain your conclusion. See if they reach the same conclusion that you did. Discuss your problem at length with others.
- (9) Study the social history of the area and times. Try to put yourself in that time frame. Know as much as you can about it. One example might be what the locals called the area your family lived in. If they lived in "Little Dixie" Missouri, they may have come from Virginia.
- (10) Read as many case studies as you can find. Read how others have over come dead ends. Study the analysis, records and methods used. Read *The National Genealogical Quarterly* and *The American Genealogist* for good examples of case studies.
- (11) Ignore the problem and it will go away. It is amazing how you can put a problem away for six months and come back to it with a fresh outlook. Your knowledge will have changed during that time and other resources might become available. If you have been working on a problem for several years and have been gathering data all this time, *stop*, take out all of the data you have and review each item carefully. You may see something you missed before.
- (12) Find the end of the road. If you can't find the exact record that answers your problem, and in many cases you never will, piece together what you have and see if by the process of elimination you can't come up with a logical answer. Some research questions will never be answered, but you can often come to a good conclusion through the process of elimination. Prove the negative as well as the positive.