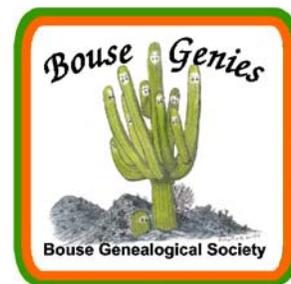


# BOUSE GENIES



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## GENEALOGY TOOLS: OLD SCHOOL



[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

There was a time before Family Search, Ancestry, Fold 3, Heritage Quest, the Internet and all the wonderful high-tech tools we discussed in the previous edition of the *Bouse Genies Newsletter*.

I can remember how excited I was in the late 1990s when I could buy the Family History Library (FHL) Catalog on a CD. It meant I didn't have to use valuable FHL time looking up microform numbers and book call numbers. I could add them to my Research Plan even before Lee and I pointed our RV towards Salt Lake City! The Catalog CD has been overcome by events (OBE) and no longer exists. Today we consider that CD an "old school" tool.

### "OLD SCHOOL" DOES NOT MEAN THE TOOLS ARE OBSOLETE

Conversely, there are many "old school" tools that are not OBE and are still vital to our research in 2012, 2013 and beyond. It doesn't mean using a quill pen to record your findings—it just means there are sources out there that can only be located using such tools.

One of the best "old school" tools used in researching your genealogy is a road trip! It is emotionally rewarding and relatively easy since [many of] our homes have wheels. Walk the roads your ancestors trod; look for their residences and places of employment; sit a spell and let your imagination travel back to the time your forebears breathed the same air you are. Visit your ancestors' final resting places and stroll along the rows of tombstones that may end up revealing an entire neighborhood of other family members. Spend time in the courthouse, State Archives, and the local historical society's research room, because seeing and handling the original records documenting your ancestors' life events is an overwhelming experience. You may want to re-read the *Bouse Genies Newsletter*, Volume 2, Number 6, published in November/December 2008, which is chock full of articles about doing on-site research.

Other "old school" tools for learning about your ancestors and their lives are the newspapers of the community where they lived. The entire *Bouse Genies Newsletter*, Volume 4, Number 4, published in October/November/December of 2010, was devoted to researching the various types of newspapers.

Plus there are countless more "old school" tools and resources just waiting to be found and used by us who live in a "high-tech" world. True, eventually many will find their way to the Internet via digitalization, but do you have the time to wait? And there are thousands so obscure it may be generations before they see the light of a scanner unless we go digging for them. In this edition of the *SKP Genies Newsletter* we are examining some of the research tools used by previous generations of genealogists. We think you will discover these old tools are still very effective and should not be ignored. 📖

## Bouse Genealogical Society

### Electronic Newsletter

Published 4 times a year for the members of the Bouse Genealogical Society

Please send all general correspondence to:

Bouse Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 624

Bouse, AZ 85325

or e-mail

[BouseGenies@gmail.com](mailto:BouseGenies@gmail.com)

The Bouse Genies meet every other Friday at the Bouse Community Building next to the Library. The schedule of meeting is posted in this newsletter.

The Bouse Genies Website is:  
<http://bousegenies.weebly.com>

# FROM THE COMPUTER DESK

## PERSI, AN INDEX TO RESEARCH TOOLS

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]



In *Researching in Genealogical Society Magazines and Quarterlies* on page 6, Carol Brown extols the tool-value of using genealogical societies' publications for discovering our ancestors and details about their lives. But how do you find these obscure gems? Try PERSI.

PERSI (pronounced purr-see) is an acronym for the Periodical Source Index, a unique often over-looked research tool.

Created decades ago by the staff of the Allen County Public Library (ACPL) Genealogy Department, it is an index of genealogical and historical journals, bulletins, magazines, newsletters and quarterlies written since the 1800s and through just a few months ago. Originally a printed index, today it is a frequently updated searchable online database.

You can access PERSI when you are at the ACPL or through Heritage Quest Online which is available at Family History Centers and many public libraries. Additionally, PERSI is included in Ancestry memberships, and older print versions may still be on some library shelves.

While PERSI is a very comprehensive index of the hundreds of thousands of periodicals in the ACPL's collection, it is not a full-text index. For instance, only the principle surname(s) appearing in an article have been indexed—individuals only mentioned do not appear. Great results can happen by searching on the name of a community or county, then filtering on a record type such as cemeteries, directories, institutions, obituaries, land, taxes, voter rolls, or wills. You can also learn a great deal about research methodology and techniques of specialized source documents from articles in periodicals.

Your search will result in a citation providing the article title, periodical title, publishing location, date, volume, and issue number. PERSI is strictly an index, thus if you can't take a road trip to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and spend some time in the ACPL, you will need to use another tool to obtain an article:

- ◆ For contemporary publications check to see if the periodical is available online by going to the society's website.
- ◆ Search Google Books <<http://books.google.com>> for older historical and genealogical publications that are past copyright.
- ◆ Contact the publisher and ask for a copy of the particular article or edition of the publication. A donation to the society is appropriate whether or not a fee is charged for printing and mailing.
- ◆ Request the publication through interlibrary loan.
- ◆ Place an order with the ACPL for a photocopy of the article. There is an order form on the library's website at <[www.acpl.lib.in.us/database/graphics/order\\_form.html](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/database/graphics/order_form.html)>. There is a reasonable fee.

So the next time you are in a library try this great tool. You never know what oddball articles may be hiding in obscure periodicals that will enrich your knowledge of your ancestors. 📖



**Archives and libraries are multi-use tools.**

**To find those closest to where you are parked, try these websites:**

List of NARA Facilities  
Address Book of State Archives  
Locator of Public Libraries by State

[www.archives.gov/research/guides/regional-resource-aids.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/guides/regional-resource-aids.html)  
[www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/state-archives.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/state-archives.html)  
[www.publiclibraries.com/](http://www.publiclibraries.com/) 📖

## *A FEW WORDS ABOUT "OLD SCHOOL" RESEARCH TOOLS*

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]



**PROVENANCE** is an audit-trail of the origin and the ownership history of an archival item, a work of art or an archaeological find. This is important to genealogists because through time we are often confronted with name and jurisdictional changes. Take for instance, the records of the United Presbyterian Church in Wild Rose, Wisconsin, from 1873 to 1980. The provenance states the collection includes the history and the records of its predecessors, the Caersalem Church, 1873-1925, and the Horeb Church 1907-1959.

**EPIHEMERA** is a generic word used in describing archival collections containing items originally designed to be short-lived but which now have historical research value. This includes such items as pamphlets, brochures, posters, theater programs, menus, invitations, and memorabilia.

**RECORD GROUP** is the name of the filing method used by the National Archives Records Administration (NARA) and many State Archives to organize their collections. A Record Group (RG) is created as the need arises; thus there is no specific pattern to RG numbers. They are usually based on the creating agency or a purpose rather than the material's physical characteristics (i.e., manuscripts, governmental documents, private papers, microforms, photos, electronic media). As an example, some Connecticut State Archives Record Groups are:

- RG 001, Early General Records, 1629–1820
- RG 003, Judicial Department, 1636–1991
- RG 004, Probate Courts, 1636–1946
- RG 013, Military Department, 1776-1986
- RG 024, Connecticut Historical Commission, 1776–1987
- RG 064, Pictorial Archives, 1770–1996
- RG 069, Manuscript Collections, circa 1631–2000
- RG 074, Genealogical Materials, 1713–2006
- RG 178, Department of Children and Families, 1855–2000

A listing of NARA's Record Groups is at <[www.archives.gov/research/alic/tools/record-group-clusters.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/tools/record-group-clusters.html)>.

**FINDING AIDS** are guides prepared by archives describing the origin, background, contents, and arrangement of their collections. Some repositories have put their Finding Aids online. Although you will notice Finding Aids have various formats depending on the archives, they all provide the record's creator, a brief description of the scope and content of the materials, and locator information. Some also include the physical size of the collection, provenance, any restrictions, related sources, and container lists. This is an example of a State Archives Finding Aid:

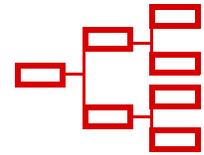
<b>Title:</b>	Wisconsin. Circuit Court (Grant County): Naturalization Records, 1836-1962
<b>Creator:</b>	Wisconsin. Circuit Court (Grant County)
<b>Quantity:</b>	9.4 cubic feet (2 card boxes, 10 archives boxes, 16 volumes, and 1 flat box) and 16 reels of microfilm (35mm)
<b>Call Number:</b>	Grant Series 25
<b>Abstract:</b>	Records of naturalization cases in the Circuit Court of Grant County. Records include Declarations of Intention (1836-1958), Petitions (1856-1962), Certificates of Naturalization Stub Books (1907-1929), Indexes to these records and Repatriations (1941-1954), and Orders Granting and Denying Petitions (1929-1962).

**INTERLIBRARY LOAN** is a service provided by participating public and academic libraries. Through it you can borrow most books and microfilms—except reference materials—from a distant library via your local library. To use Interlibrary Loan you will need to have a library card from the requesting library and fill out a form with the title of the work, the author and the name of the library that has the item in their collection. All this information can be found by doing a search using the WorldCat <[www.worldcat.org/advancedsearch](http://www.worldcat.org/advancedsearch)> online catalog. Some libraries charge a fee for this service, but you will have the material in about two weeks, which may be less than the driving time to those distant libraries. 📖

## START AT HOME

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

The first thing genealogists tell people just beginning their genealogy research is to “start at home.” This is very true; you must have the information about your ancestors which is known to your immediate family before you can attempt to look anywhere else. Those of us who have been doing genealogy for a while can take this same advice to help expand our research.



ANCESTRY CHART

Why, you may ask, would someone who has been doing genealogy for a while need to look for information at home? Because we will be looking at the information we gathered some time ago in a different light today. We have learned more about our family and information that may be in one of those old letters, an old photograph, or somewhere else, will mean something different to us now.

Maybe you have done what I did on one of my husband, Sid's, ancestral lines. While I was working his WINN line I got so tied up in researching the BROWN-WINN connection 30 years ago that I overlooked the wife's line of one of his WINN ancestors. I had some information about her from family records, but I forgot about her until just a few weeks ago when I needed to verify some information concerning her husband. I had entered her data in my genealogy program years ago and never looked at it again.

When I pulled out the old file and looked at an ancestry chart I had hand printed for the WINN family, there she was—out there hanging all alone on the tree branch! I had worked on that line years ago when the Internet was in its infancy, and had not bothered with it after that.

When we used to have to fill in family group charts and ancestry charts by hand, we kept copies of all of those papers in a binder or folder where we could see the family at a glance. Today those charts are in our computers and unless we look at each family line again, we miss those hanging branches.

Thanks to the Internet I now have her ancestry back another couple of generations, but it would not have happened if I had not gone back and looked at the information I missed. 📖

## BEGINNERS PITFALLS FALLS

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

### I AM THE ELDEST—SO THERE IS NO ONE TO ASK ABOUT FAMILY STORIES

As beginners most people have no idea where to start, so they ask parents, aunts and uncles for any information about their ancestors which may have been passed down to them. In many cases it doesn't take too long and they have a list of ancestors back a couple of generations.

How much do you talk to your elders about their ancestors? This is the time to gather all of those stories you can use to place your extended family in context. This is wonderful if you have family members older than you, but you may not have started asking these questions until you are a member of the “oldest living generation” and there is no one else to ask.

What should you do then? It is time to turn to your siblings and cousins. Some of them will remember stories you forgot, or they may have stories about events you were not involved in. By recording all of these first- or second-hand stories you can piece together a good start to your family history. This is also true of the younger generation. They may have been told stories by their grandparents that you never heard or don't remember.

When two people tell the same story there are slight differences in the way the events are remembered. Family members telling family stories together often brings the individuals involved closer together. You may even find someone interested in working on the family's ancestry with you.

There is an old saying, “When a person dies, a library closes.” Don't let your family lose one of their libraries of information without trying to gather the stories they will take with them when they go. 📖

## ***GENEALOGY GEMS IN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND LIBRARIES***

**By Carolyn H. Brown & Barbara A. H. Nuehring**

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

This wonderful age of technology has helped genealogists to find more information faster. However, not every book and manuscript is online and some may never be digitized. So it is time for us to get up from the computer chair and take a road trip to the towns where our ancestors lived to find the “rest of the story.” While there, visit the historical and genealogical societies and every library in the area.



**Old Assay Office Museum  
Bouse, Arizona**

### **SOCIETIES**

Historical and/or genealogical societies in large cities or small towns often have museums associated with them which maintain information about the people who lived there. Some of the information may only be a snippet from an old newspaper, a letter someone gave to the society, or it could be a whole packet of documents passed to them by a family member long ago.

In small towns without a genealogical society facility, the historical society may be the place where genealogical information is preserved. It is not uncommon to find old town photographs, and photographs of past residents who lived there many years ago, in their records. They may have copies of high school year books or books written about the town years ago. If there was an organization in the town which has closed, their documents may have been sent to the historical society.

What if the community is so small it doesn't have a historical society? Some may not, but there may be a town museum. In Bouse, Arizona, where I live we do not have a historical society, but we do have a small museum in the old assay office with interesting information about the town and some of the people.

### **LIBRARIES**

It doesn't matter what type of library is located in the area, they will probably have some information about the people who lived there. Even a very small town library may have a local history section.

If the town has a genealogical society which does not have their own library, then the society may house their holdings in the town library or the local Family History Center (FHC). In some small libraries where we have researched, the genealogical group has a single shelf which contains information they have gathered about the town. There may not be much there, but it may be just the gem you are looking for.

The bigger the library, the more far reaching the information they house. They often maintain publications which cover the entire state or even the entire region of the country. All state libraries have large genealogical sections.

### **LIBRARIES WORTHY OF A VISIT**

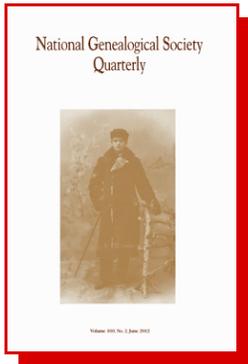
In addition to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah <<https://familysearch.org/>> there are several public libraries that have large genealogy departments or entire branches dedicated to family history research:

- ◆ Clayton Library, Houston, Texas <[www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton](http://www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton)>.
- ◆ Fiske Library, Seattle, Washington <[www.fiskelibrary.org](http://www.fiskelibrary.org)>.
- ◆ Midwest Genealogical Center, Independence, Missouri <[www.mymcpl.org/genealogy](http://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy)>.
- ◆ Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana <[www.genealogycenter.org/Home.aspx](http://www.genealogycenter.org/Home.aspx)>.
- ◆ The Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois <[www.newberry.org](http://www.newberry.org)>.
- ◆ Sutro Library, San Francisco, California has a new location on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> floors of the San Francisco branch of the California State Library, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, California 94132. You can check their holdings through <<http://melvyl.worldcat.org>>.

Plus, there are genealogy societies with such large holdings they have their own libraries. Most notable are:

- ◆ The New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts <<http://library.nehgs.org/>>.
- ◆ Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, DC <[www.dar.org/library](http://www.dar.org/library)>.
- ◆ National Genealogy Society, St. Louis, Missouri <<http://webpac.slcl.org>>.

Isn't it time for you to try researching the "old school" way and visit the libraries and historical societies in the area your family lived many years ago? 📖



## *RESEARCHING IN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MAGAZINES AND QUARTERLIES*

**By Carolyn H. Brown**

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

In this age of the computer and expecting everything to be online many of us have never used or don't currently use genealogical society magazines and quarterlies—and we should. In the age before computers this was the only way we had to share scholarly articles based on our research. Most people new to genealogy have never heard of this resource which has been available for over 100 years.

Genealogy society magazines and quarterlies were created to help members share information about the families they are researching in a very scholarly manner. The articles are well sourced and meet the strict standards of the societies' publishing guidelines. The biggest complaint is "the family I am researching never appears in one of these quarterlies." We should read every article anyway. It is through these articles we learn the proper way to record our family information. By reading the footnotes we find where the author of the article found the information recorded. Many times the author has discovered records we never knew existed.

At a recent genealogy conference I attended, one of the vendors was selling stacks of past issues of *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* at four issues for only a dollar. I bought six stacks not knowing if I would find anything or not. Since I have New England ancestors it was worth a try. I was down to reading the last stack when I came across an article which took one of my ancestral lines back ten generations with sources.

Most genealogy libraries carry copies of many of these quarterlies. Some of the quarterlies publish the annual index in the last edition of the year.

Following is a sample of some of the major genealogical quarterlies and magazines:

- ◆ Published quarterly since 1847, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* is the flagship journal of American genealogy and the oldest journal in the field. *American Ancestors Journal*, a new annual supplement to *The Register*, provides genealogical content of national scope, with an emphasis on New York State and migrations from New England. They can be accessed through the NEHGS website <[www.americanancestors.org/publications/](http://www.americanancestors.org/publications/)>.
- ◆ The *William and Mary Quarterly* is a journal of early American history and has been published in Virginia since 1892 through today under various names. The first series ended in 1919, and the second series began in 1921. The first series and volumes 1-2 of the second series are freely available online through <[www.jstor.com](http://www.jstor.com)>.
- ◆ The *Virginia Genealogists* was published from 1957 through 2006. Volumes 1 thru 40 are available from the New England Historic Genealogical Society <[www.americanancestors.org/Blogs.aspx?id=23342&blogid=124069](http://www.americanancestors.org/Blogs.aspx?id=23342&blogid=124069)>.
- ◆ *The Record* is a publication of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society. It has been published since 1870. *The Record* at present comprises 567 issues. It is available through the NYG&BS at <[www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org](http://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org)>.

- ◆ The *Mayflower Quarterly* is published by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. It was first published as four pages in 1935 and is now a magazine with 100 pages. Society information is available at <[www.themayflowersociety.com/](http://www.themayflowersociety.com/)>.
- ◆ The *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (NGSQ) celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. It is a scholarly booklet filled with family histories, case studies, articles on unique resources, and book reviews. The NGS website is <[www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)>

Those are the “biggies”, but don’t discount publications from other genealogical organizations—particularly ethnic-focused societies and those based in the geographical areas where your ancestors lived. Two sources for finding genealogy society magazines and quarterlies are PERSI and Google. As I discovered, you never know what you will find in these research tools that have been around for over a century. 📖

## ***GOLDEN-AGERS—A GOLDEN RESOURCE***

**By Janice Fleenor Smith**

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

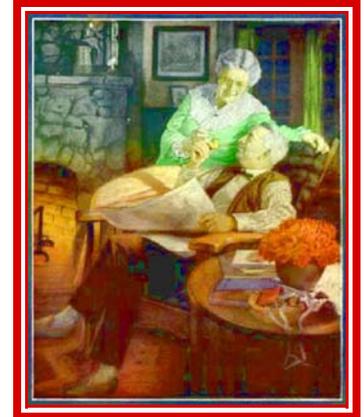
Family history researchers routinely use library and internet resources, message boards and collaborative websites, and occasionally are successful corresponding with scattered relatives to search for information about the past. Joining local genealogy clubs and historical societies may also be among your tools of choice in pursuit of family history. However, there is another people-oriented resource you should consider.

Senior citizens and the organizations that serve seniors in the communities where your research subjects once lived, are a rich resource available to everyone. The personal family anecdotes and insights into events of times past a senior may remember from their own experience, or something they recall having heard about from a parent or grandparent, is valuable information not available in any library or digital record. Think of seniors as books in a library just waiting to be checked out by someone eager to learn what they know.

Family history researchers seek to learn about the people in our past, but quickly discover it is necessary to first learn about the locations in which ancestors lived so as to discover the source of records about the people living there. Consider this: A person in their mid-80s today witnessed a huge span of history and has stories to share. Just think. The young child born in 1927 wouldn’t have first-hand memories of the economic excesses prior to the stock market crash of 1929, or remember much of the beginnings of the Great Depression, but his or her life would have been greatly affected by those events. It’s likely they will have recollections of family stories about the conditions that existed in their communities.

Did you know that in 1927, for example, Charles LINDBERGH’s flight to Paris took place; and the Mississippi River flooded in 145 places in that same year, affecting over 700,000 people as it flooded over 27,000 square miles of land in a dozen states? These are the events of just one year within the memory span of some of the seniors you may be able to reach. By 1941 at the outbreak of World War II, the then 14-year-old would have clear personal recall of the community and the conditions existing during WWII. They might have known someone in your family at that time of their lives, or know someone who attended the same school or church, or worked with one of your ancestors. It’s important that you consider everyone you meet as a golden opportunity to “check out” the book of memories each person represents. (On that issue, you must make certain that you document your own life in such a way as to preserve memories for future generations who will be very interested in reading first-hand accounts of your family and experiences).

Family history must be based on documentation. To find documentation, one must learn about the history of the development of local communities in which our ancestors lived. Community history, especially for small rural areas, may not be available in written form. However, the residents with distinct memories of earlier times, and hobbyists and professionals who have made community history their focus of study, are just as valuable. Golden-agers and senior service organizations, as well as independent and assisted living facilities, are gold mines of both historical information and local family data.



Take every opportunity to talk with seniors residing in the communities of interest to you. You may have a chance to view their collections of photos, documents, or newspaper clippings. Each small clue builds a better picture of your family's past. Ask them to share their early memories of the community, especially their recollection of the location of schools, churches, and graveyards that existed in earlier times, but have disappeared, or are now on privately-owned land. Though closed or abandoned, such places are still accessible by the researcher who already knows of their earlier existence and is armed with that knowledge when pursuing current custodians of the official records.

The personal stories you collect may just be the missing clue you need. Even if their memories don't provide you with a worthwhile clue to your own family, you'll learn a tremendous amount about "the good old days" and at the same time you will give the senior a wonderful opportunity to reveal a few chapters of their own life story.

If you need to prime the pump a little to help a senior begin to share their recollections, have a few notes on hand that provide you with some of the major historical events or community happenings within the time frame of interest. A good site for a year-by-year historical time line is <[www.thepeoplehistory.com](http://www.thepeoplehistory.com)>. A good site for community history information is <[www.hometownusa.com](http://www.hometownusa.com)>.

Brick walls can be removed from your path of discovery one memory at a time. Take advantage of the memories of golden-agers in your ancestors' home towns. Your efforts are sure to yield interesting results. 📖

## ***GENEALOGY CONFERENCES:***

### ***LEARNING AND NETWORKING THE "OLD SCHOOL" WAY***

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]



If you are a dedicated reader of the *Bouse Genies Newsletter*, then you know through our articles Carol BROWN and I are passionate about genealogy conferences with the continuing education and networking opportunities they have provided us through the decades. This is the reason I do the "What's Happening" list in every edition—to share with you a small sampling of the hundreds of genealogical multi-day conferences, one-day seminars, and hands-on workshops taking place across the nation during the year.

The best part of a genealogy conference is that everyone there appreciates and shares your enthusiasm for your hobby. You can talk about your ancestors without someone's eyes glazing over and wondering why you are so interested in a bunch of dead people! This "old school" method of networking may result in meeting a distant cousin, and you will certainly learn from those with common research interests.

#### **THE ANATOMY OF A GENEALOGY CONFERENCE**

Most genealogy conferences are structured much like an [Escapees] Escapade. Whether they are hosted by a national, ethnic, regional, state or local genealogy society they normally have seminars, a vendor hall and meals often with entertainment; and you must register in advance, pay a fee and do a bit of traveling.

Whether you are a novice or a veteran, the lectures given by leading genealogists of the day will provide you with an opportunity to learn new-to-you methodologies and ways to improve your research and recording techniques. Topics range from the general (Using the New Family Search) to the specific (Reading 18<sup>th</sup> Century German Church Records); from the simple (How to Find Your Ancestor) to the advanced (Reading and Plotting Metes and Bounds); from the universal (Genealogical Proof Standard) to the limited (Medieval Manorial Documents). The conference program usually states the experience level each seminar is geared towards.

The Vendor Hall is usually called Exhibitors' Hall at a genealogy conference. In it a wide variety of merchants offer all types of genealogy materials (i.e., software, online databases, archival supplies, clothing and gizmos) and books. Loads of books. Shelves and tables and boxes of books from the newest releases to out-of-print

books. This is your chance to see, touch, feel and leaf through publications to determine if it is helpful to your research and to try out products before you buy—and its all under one roof! Many vendors offer special discounts to attendees, others offer free samples. I've picked up some nice promotional give-aways, among them highlighters and pads of sticky notes.

The larger conferences also have several luncheons each day with a nationally-recognized speaker presenting a light-hearted look at some aspect of genealogy. Those held on the same day share the same menu. A banquet is usually held on the last night with entertainment. They have always been good, but my most memorable one was the history and a medley of American folk songs, which soon turned into a sign-a-long.

Conference attendees receive a conference syllabus containing the handouts of every seminar. In recent years they are published on CDs. Sometimes Early Bird registrants are offered a printed syllabus for an additional fee. I like the CDs because they don't take up much room in the RV, but some prefer the print syllabus because it facilitates their note taking.

### TIPS FROM A CONFERENCE JUNKIE

**Dress comfortably but conservatively.** Layers are best because the temperatures in the seminar rooms, public rooms and outdoors will vary. Wear comfortable shoes, since seminar rooms are scattered throughout large conference facilities, exhibitors' halls are huge and Segways are not permitted.

**Map out your courses.** The larger national conferences (i.e., RootsTech and those held by the National Genealogy Society [NGS], the Federation of Genealogy Societies [FGS], and the Family History Expos) schedule well over a hundred seminars in the course of three days, which means choosing one from several every hour! Study the conference program (often online, an app for your phone or iPad, or part of the registration packet) and decide which seminars and lecture-luncheons you want to attend. Each morning check the facilities map and learn where the classrooms are. Thus, you'll be able to get to the room early enough to get a good seat.

**Don't miss the Exhibitors' Hall.** It in itself is a great learning opportunity. Even if you are just "window shopping" you have a chance to network with other genies wandering through the aisles. Caution: some exhibitors pack up early on the last day in order to make flights or get home before dark. So don't leave your shopping to the last minute.

**Genealogists do not live by seminars alone.** If a conference offers several lecture-luncheons to choose from each day, I suggest picking one(s) according to the speaker or topic. I have found that I benefit more from the lecture than from the calories, no matter how good the food may be. If you are not attending a lecture-luncheon, there is often a small food court, but I pack a "brown bag" for there are usually several places I can sit and enjoy it—inside or outside. Bottled water is pricey and drinking fountains may be few and far between. Save by bringing your own bottle and when it is empty refill it.

**Don't leave them guessing.** Take business cards with your contact information on the front and the surnames with locations you're researching on the back—you may run into someone researching your lines or they may know a friend back home who is related to you. Address labels that include your email address and phone number are handy for sticking on entry forms for the many door-prize drawings done over the course of the conference.

**Remember, you are not alone.** I go to conferences solo and it seems like everybody is friends with at least one other attendee. But I go knowing two things:

- 1) I'm an Escapee, so strangers are just friends I've yet to meet.
- 2) Genealogists are as friendly as RVers, plus they love to talk family history.

So before presentations begin I strike up a conversation with the person next to me or sitting behind me. I glance at their name badge which includes where they are from and start from there. "I see you are from Chicago. My SCHOBBER line immigrated there in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century." Or I ask what ethnic group they are researching or how long they have been doing genealogy. After the first day, while walking the halls I'm able to say "hi" to a lot of my friends.

**Be an "Early Bird."** Register early to get discounted conference fees. Also in recent years, computer labs and hands-on workshops have been added to the schedules. They are limited to a small number of attendees and

may have an additional cost. If you want to be one of the “select few” you’ll need to get your registration form in as soon as they are accepted.

**Get mentally ready before you go.** Michael John NEILL’s excellent article “Preparing for a Genealogical Conference” is at <[www.genealogy.com/genealogy/67\\_neill.html](http://www.genealogy.com/genealogy/67_neill.html)>.

### **THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERY RVER**

Even non-genealogists can find ways to spend conference time. My husband’s genealogy-skills are intentionally limited to photographing tombstones and being a “go-get-her” when I call him from repositories to pick me up. But there is always plenty to keep him busy exploring the area where we are camped. Plus I know he also enjoys several days of alone-time.

For me and other genies we have several great days of networking with like-minded people and many opportunities to improve our research expertise. The more I learn about my ancestors and how to research their lives, the more I find there is more to learn. As another genealogist put it: “As we mature as researchers, we will need to learn new methodologies and resources. As technology unfolds, we will need to learn how to use each application effectively.” And I have found genealogy conferences, seminars and workshops are the most accessible and cost-effective way for me to advance my knowledge and skills.

So always check out the “What’s Happening” column for the larger national conferences and check with the genealogy society where you are parked to find out when and where they hold their annual seminars. You’ll love learning and networking the “old school” way. 📌

## ***THE NEXT BEST THING TO BEING THERE***

**By Barbara A. H. Nuehring**

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

Yes, our homes have wheels, and some of us also have a steering wheel in the living room, still there are times when we want to go to a conference, but can’t for various reasons. The conference is on the opposite side of the country, or the area is not conducive to RV parking, or the timing is all wrong. Don’t despair. You can still get some of the benefits from the conference. Purchase the syllabus which has seminar outlines, bibliographies and website resources. You can also buy post-conference CDs of selected seminars. The larger national conferences contract with a private company to record, with the agreement of the speakers, presentations for resale. Although you’ll miss the visual aids of the seminar, the CDs contain a wealth of information. Find out about purchasing these resources by visiting the conference’s website. 📌



### ***GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS***

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

Many genealogy societies have an annual workshop with multiple speakers or a one-day seminar with one guest speaker. The cost is much less than multi-day conferences, but will be worth your time. Most of these smaller events have something unique about them. They will not have a large group of vendors as conferences do because the audience and facilities are much smaller.

The Northern Arizona Genealogical Society offers several tables of free used books from the library. The Bouse Genealogical Society has had Geoff RASMUSSEN from Legacy Family Tree as their speaker for the last three years. He brings Legacy products for sale and the society gives away some really great door prizes.

Other groups have special one-day events, so check out the societies near where you will be staying. 📌



## *CRUISE THROUGH A LEARNING EXPERIENCE*

**By Barbara A. H. Nuehring**

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

During the past decade the study of genealogy has found its way onto the High Seas. Cruises with a focus on family history have been growing more popular each year, and this September yours truly experienced this fun way to combine the learning experience of a traditional genealogical conference with a vacation at sea. My husband Lee and I took The Master Genealogist (TMG) sponsored cruise on the Star Princess through the Alaskan Inside Passage.

Occasionally a cruise line will have a genealogy-theme cruise, but the majority of the genealogy cruises are hosted by a lineage database software manufacturer (Legacy, The Master Genealogist, Roots Magic) on a scheduled sailing. The hosting company sets the program, books the guest-lecturers and does the advertising; and with help of a travel agency picks the ship and route and arranges for private meeting facilities. Those wishing to attend book their rooms and pay their fees through the travel agency. The cost is based on the size and location of the selected cabin and includes a conference fee. The tour company will also help the individual with booking a round-trip flight, pre- and post- hotel arrangements and transfers if requested.

On our cruise the genealogy seminars were held in one of the ship's theaters. That meant the seats were luxurious and tiered for optimal viewing, and the audio/visual support was top quality. The speakers were first-class, too—among them Mark LOWE, Tom JONES and Paul MILNER. I attended most of the seminars and Lee even went to those dealing with Cloud Computing and Google. While there were a few classes geared specifically for TMG users, the majority of the seminars were about research techniques. A big plus was the sessions only took place during our days at sea, giving me plenty of time to take advantage of the shore excursions at the ports-of-call with Lee.

Optional genealogy events included brickwall roundtable discussions in the evenings; scheduled one-on-ones with the speaker of your choice; and breakfast with a speaker and five other attendees three different mornings. One of the nice amenities was the "anytime dining" for the evening meal, so during the day we could arrange to dine with various other genies and set the time we wanted.

Of course, all the ship board facilities and amenities are part of the fun of genealogy cruising. Besides the shore excursions, there was much to entertain us—a casino, spas, salons, boutiques, pools, an outdoor movie theater and the ability to eat 24 hours a day with choices from hot dogs pool-side to fine dining to room service. Guess the latter is why there is also a gym and plenty of decks to walk. One of the nice features is the ability for family members and non-genealogy friends to book passage on the same cruise, even arrange for adjoining cabins, so you can spend your off-time with them.

The base price of a genealogy cruise is said to be competitive with that of most national conferences. However there are tips and extras—such as shore excursions, boutique purchases, massages and drinks—that can run the price up. The true benefits of cruising over traditional conferences is that it is not just seminars and workshops, there is play-time to keep you fresh, you see new places and you are pampered. So consider the possibility of a genealogy cruise next time you are planning a vacation or a genealogy conference. 

## *CHRISTMAS TURKEY*

It was Christmas Eve in at the meat counter and a woman was anxiously picking over the last few remaining turkeys in the hope of finding a large one.

In desperation she called over a shop assistant and said, 'Excuse me. Do these turkeys get any bigger?'

'No, madam,' he replied, 'they're all dead.' 





When you have decided on the pages you want to copy, take the original or microfilm along with your list to the printer—you'll be able to turn right to the page. Now you have a full list of what you have looked at and what you have not found. You also have a head start on citing your sources.

### SOURCE LABELS

Other small helpful tools I take with me to libraries and courthouses are source labels. You can create a page of these labels in your wordprocessor for each type of document you will be searching. Save the files to your flash drive and take a few blank label sheets with you in case you need more labels.

Place a label on the front of each document you print so the source is shown when you want to copy it later. Do not cover any of the text with these labels.

FOR A CENSUS COPY LABEL:

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ ED: \_\_\_\_\_

Township/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Page #: \_\_\_\_\_ Film #: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR A BOOK COPY LABEL:

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Page #: \_\_\_\_\_ Pub. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR A LEGAL DOCUMENT COPY LABEL:

Document Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Book #: \_\_\_\_\_

Page #: \_\_\_\_\_ Film #: \_\_\_\_\_

### SURNAME LIST

No matter where or how you are researching you will need an alphabetized list of every possible spelling of the surnames you are researching. This list can be created in any word processor or spreadsheet application. To get as many names on the page as possible, I use five columns per page as shown in the example below and use a small font, if necessary.

<b>A</b> Adam Adams Arnold	<b>C</b> Cary Calloway	<b>F</b> Forrest Franklin	<b>H</b> Holmes Hutchinson	<b>J</b> Johnsen Johnson Jones
<b>B</b> Boatfield Bortfield Brown Browne	<b>D</b> Darnell	<b>G</b> Gaines Gains Gardner Gardnier	<b>I</b> Ingersal Ingersol	<b>K</b> Klein Klien
	<b>E</b> Edan Eden			

Censuses, court and vital records are notorious for having multiple spellings of names for the same individual. I have one deed where the person's name is spelled three different ways in the same document. Remember also that the first name can have many variations of spelling and usage such as middle names, nicknames and initials. The same methods used for researching names on the Internet should be used with court records.

### BE PREPARED

Before you go to the courthouse it is important to find where the particular records you are seeking are located and what restrictions, if any, there are to accessing those records. Additionally, researching in courthouses can be a dirty process, so dress accordingly. Wearing comfortable jeans, a modest shirt and walking shoes will make your visit much more pleasant, as you may have to get down on your hands and knees to access some of the large books that contain the records, deeds and certificates you want.

Please be courteous to the clerks in the records office. They are not there to do your research for you. They may be able to direct you to the various record types they have at the facility, but it is up to you to do the research. 🐾

### *SAYING A PRAYER FOR THE CHRISTMAS MEAL*

Lee, a seven-year-old boy, was asked to say thanks for the Christmas dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. Lee began his prayer, thanking God for his Mommy, Daddy, brothers, sister, Grandma, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food.

He gave thanks for the turkey, the stuffing, the Christmas pudding, even the cranberry sauce. Then Lee paused, and everyone waited ... and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the Brussels sprouts, won't he know that I'm lying?" 🐾



## *CITY DIRECTORIES—AN "OLD SCHOOL" TOOL FOR FINDING URBAN ANCESTORS*

By **Barbara A. H. Nuehring** [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Winter 2012]

Researching our ancestors who lived in heavily populated urban areas—where many people shared the same name, where people relocated frequently, and where a large percentage of the population did not own their home and therefore did not have deeds—requires some extra help. We have it! They are city directories.

Think of city directories as the alphabetized annual censuses of the town's residents. They also provide a comprehensive listing of governmental offices, city officials, religious institutions, cemeteries, funeral homes, schools, entertainment venues, social clubs, philanthropic organizations, and businesses. Plus, there is a map of the city; ward boundaries; paid advertisements of goods, services and commercial enterprises; and a section or supplemental directory of reverse listing of addresses. Talk about a genealogical all-purpose tool!

### WHAT THIS TOOL HAS TO OFFER

The listings of residents in city directories augment the data we find in federal/state censuses. They are particularly valuable as a replacement for the 1890 federal census; for discovering the first names of some family members prior to the 1850 census; for tracking the movement of ancestors and their families between censuses; and for finding possible relatives scattered throughout the community.

The content and layout varied by year, by location and by publisher. While realizing no two directories are alike, these snapshots illustrate what is typically listed.

**ADULT INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR OCCUPATIONS.** In some directories the surname is repeated for each person and some only list the surname for the first person with a type of ditto-mark preceding the others. Note in 1935 many first names were abbreviated.

**PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AND/OR ADDRESS.** Note in 1914 business owners' names were in bold if they had an advertisement in the directory.

**STREET NAME AND HOUSE NUMBER OF RESIDENCE.** I've also seen a physical location given. For instance "r s s Chestnut, nr. 16<sup>th</sup>" meant the residence was on the south side of Chestnut near 16<sup>th</sup>.

**NAME OF THE SPOUSE.** Note in 1935 the wife's name is annotated. If she is also listed, the title of "Mrs" is stated rather than her husband's name (in 1935 see Albert's wife Sylvia).

**UNEMPLOYED WIDOWS.** Their late-husband's first name was often included in the listing.

**CODES FOR HOME OWNER OR RENTER/BOARDER.** Note in 1914 adult children living at home are coded as boarders and in 1935 as renters.

" Mary widow William h 202 Turtle  
 " Ralph H electrician bds 752 Allen  
**Geibel Katherine widow Nicholas J h 213 Turtle**  
**Geiger Albert V machinist bds 441 N Salina**  
 " Carl J physician 314 Butternut bds 441 N Salina  
 " Charles police 225 W Willow h 113 John  
 " Frank J engineer N Y C h 345 Elm  
 " Frank J machinist bds 441 N Salina  
**GEIGER FRANK X granite works and monu-**  
**ments 1413 Highland h 441 N Salina—See**  
**page 1213**  
 " Frederick J conductor N Y C h 345 Elm  
 " George V tailor 132 Rosenbloom bldg h 102  
 First av  
 " John M foreman h 239 W Kennedy  
 " William J meatcutter 119 N Salina bds 605 S

### 1914 CITY DIRECTORY, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Geiger Albert V (Sylvia B) toolmkr h 1721 W Gene-  
 see  
 —Benj H (Margie) pharm h 734 Maryland av  
 —Carl J (Catherine J) asst prof SU and phys 713  
 E Genesee rm 301 h 204 Sedgwick  
 —Chas (Barbara) h 350 Harford rd  
 —Chas L (Bessie) pressman 220 Herald pl h 114  
 Oakdale dr  
 —Danl E (Marjorie M) (Galluppi & Geiger) restr  
 147 Oak h 115 Trinity pl  
 —Dorothy F sten r 200 Glenwood av  
 —Edwd clk r 200 Glenwood av  
 —Edwd J (Geraldine L) patrolman 125 W Willow r  
 350 Harford rd  
 —Eleanór R studt r 204 Sedgwick  
 —Eliz M r 117 Trinity pl  
 —Francis J chauf r 117 Trinity pl  
 —Frank J eng NYC h 117 Trinity pl  
 —Frank J (Kathleen) toolmkr h 1103 Pond  
 —Fred J (Tina) slsmn 810 Burnet av h 200 Glen-  
 wood av  
 —Geo V (Alice B) tailor 324 W Fayette h 318  
 Wadsworth  
 —Helen B tchr City Normal sch r 200 Glenwood ay  
 —Irving J (Marguerite C) firemn Engine No 16, 913  
 S State r 340 Harford rd  
 —John A mach r 239 W Kennedy  
 —John M (Mary) formn h 239 W Kennedy  
 —Sylvia W Mrs hairdrsr 1713½ W Genesee r 1721  
 do  
 —Willard L bkpr r 239 W Kennedy

### 1935 CITY DIRECTORY, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Abbreviations and codes are rampant in directories because it saved ink and paper, and therefore publishing costs. They also varied by publication. For instance, I have found the “r” preceding the address meant residence, renter or rear in various directories. Therefore, check/copy the pages where codes and abbreviations are listed for each city directory.

Not every person in the city was listed—inclusion in the directory was voluntary. And it was the publisher’s decision as to the geographical area to cover and who was “eligible” to be listed. The most common omissions in the older directories are women, day-laborers and immigrants if their English skills were lacking. That was because directories were published so businesses could locate customers for deliveries and contact potential customers. Thus, directory publishers wanted to list as many “useful” names as possible. Accuracy was also important, so many directories had a section of “names received too late for insertion” before or after the alphabetized list. This contained names of those who had recently moved into or within the area and corrections/additions of information of those already listed.

Detailed maps of the city were important to the users of the day and are invaluable to today’s genealogists. Often this will be the only source of maps of our ancestor’s time. Sometimes ward and precinct maps are also included, or there may be a description of the boundaries of the jurisdiction.

There have been times when streets have been renamed and house numbers have been realigned. The city directory will have an explanation of the changes and a cross-reference from the old to the new.

There will be an alphabetical listing of businesses either in a separate section or integrated in the residential section. Since publishing costs were covered by the sale of advertisements as well as the purchase of the directories, you will likely find a classified section; strip ads across the top and bottom of the pages listing the residents; and display advertisements in a separate section usually at the back of the book. Additionally, business owners who had placed a paid advertisement often received special recognition in the residential list. (See the 1914 City Directory on the previous page.)



1914 CITY DIRECTORY, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

### RESEARCHING TIPS

Search every year for which you can find a directory. Don’t stop searching if your people did not appear one year. There could be any number of reasons why a person was not listed in a particular year. Some years a city may have had several directories published by different companies, so don’t ignore competing directories.

An important tool for identifying people with different surnames living at the same address is the reverse street directory, sometimes called a crisscross directory. This lists the street alphabetically, then house number, then the names of the people residing at that location. Numbered streets (i.e., 16<sup>th</sup>) may be listed before or after the named streets, or they could be in the alphabetized list (i.e., Sixteenth).

Don’t settle for just the year of publication. Look in the publisher’s preface for the time frame the data was collected in order to have a more accurate picture of when the information was current.

Large metropolitan areas were not the only ones with city directories. Although they didn’t begin as early as those of larger cities, some smaller communities have directories. So it doesn’t hurt to check.

### FINDING CITY DIRECTORIES

The state archives, state historical libraries/museums, academic libraries in the area and the local public library are good places to start looking for city directories. Additionally, the Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Department (Fort Wayne, Indiana), the Wisconsin State Historical Society (Madison, Wisconsin) and the American Antiquarian Society (Worcester, Massachusetts) are known for their large holdings of city directories from around the country.

Many directories are available on microfilm/fiche. The Library of Congress (LOC) has a significant number of city directories. Search for “city directory” + [city] on their home page <[www.loc.gov/index.html](http://www.loc.gov/index.html)>. Check the

Family History Library (FHL) Catalog <[https://familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset\\_fhlc.asp](https://familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp)> by doing a PLACE SEARCH then check DIRECTORIES. Remember—you can order microfilms/fiche through the nearest Family History Center for a small fee.

Naturally, a growing number of directories are appearing on the Internet. The Distant Cousin website <<http://distantcousin.com/directories>> has scanned images (JPGs) of selected city directories for specific years. Since they have been indexed you can either search by surname and state, or browse by state for available cities and then by surname. You can download specific pages for free. Also check the USGenWeb <[www.usgenweb.org](http://www.usgenweb.org)> pages for the state and/or county as some may have transcriptions or digital images of city directories. Ancestry has a limited number of directories. You can browse what is currently available by state, city and year at <<http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2469>>, but only subscribers can access the database.

The local genealogy society may have reprinted, transcribed, or abstracted older city directories for your city. They will probably appear over several issues. Check PERSI—see page 2 for information about accessing PERSI.

### USE CITY DIRECTORIES

If you are doing urban research in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, city directories are probably the most valuable tools you can use for finding clues about your ancestors. Whether they are the original book, a microfilmed copy or a digital image, you will be able to use what you have discovered in the city directories to locate other source documents. Guaranteed, you will love this all-purpose genealogy tool! 📖

# BOUSE GENIES NEWS

## CONGRATULATIONS TO CAROL BROWN

Recipient of the AZGAB 2012 Founders Award

Congratulations to Carol BROWN, our Chairman and Newsletter Editor for the past 5+ years, who was recently awarded the prestigious Founders Award by the Arizona Genealogical Advisory Board (AZGAB) for her organizational leadership in starting the Bouse Genealogy Society. When Carol moved to Bouse, Arizona in 2005, La Paz county did not have a genealogical society within its borders. Carol presented a series of 10 genealogy classes from beginning through advanced twice within the 2006-2007 winter season for the Bouse Public Library. It was solely through her initiative the Bouse Genealogical Society was established in late spring of 2007 with 10 attendees from those classes. The society has continued to grow and as of this year has a paid membership of 52 people from all over the state.

Although the basis of the award was for her efforts in establishing a new genealogy society, she was also recognized for her participation in creating and publishing the two volume set of the Corp of Discovery Descendants Project in 2003—an undertaking of the Clatsop County (Oregon) Genealogical Society. She has also published seven family histories and four genealogy “how-to” books.

Carol has been teaching genealogy classes for over 25 years. She joined Escapees Genies Birds of a Feather genealogy group (SKP Genies BOF) in 1993 and has helped out the SKP Genies during several Escapades in the mid-1990s. Additionally, Carol taught classes at the Northern Arizona Genealogical Society (NAGS) annual workshop in 2012 in Prescott, and will be teaching again at the Pinal County Genealogists Workshop in Casa Grande, Arizona, in January 2013.



CAROL GETS THE PHONE CALL TELLING HER SHE WON THE AZGAB FOUNDERS AWARD DURING A BOUSE GENIES MEETING.

## 2012 GENIES IN THE DESERT GENEALOGY TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR

By Carolyn H. Brown

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, we had another great seminar with Geoff RASMUSSEN as our guest speaker. The topics were very timely and as always, Geoff's presentations were very informative. The attendance was down again this year with only 48 attendees. These included 26 members and 17 non-members, including six walk-ins.

Our guest speaker for the luncheon was our member, Norm CUTSHALL, who was adopted at birth. He knew he was adopted, but did not try to find his birth mother until after his adopted parents had died. He told the story of how he found what he thought would be his half brothers and sister, which turned out to be his whole brothers and sisters. It is a really touching story and had several of us in tears. The luncheon meal was better this year, since meat and cheese were added to the menu.

We had voted back in October to purchase 20 webinars from Legacy at the seminar and when I went to get them during the lunch break I was told by Dave BERDAN, co-owner of Legacy, that they had not boxed the items I had sent him. Therefore, I had to pick and chose from our list and the webinars spread out on their table. I had found three we wanted and was looking for a fourth, when Dave leaned over and whispered in my ear, "Take one of each for the society." Needless to say, I could not hold back the tears that flowed while I was collecting the CDs. We had planned to spend \$9 each for a total of \$180 (the price they were selling for in a quantity of 20 CDs last year) on the new webinars. At this seminar they had been marked down to \$6 each for 20 CDs or \$120 we would have spent on the webinars. When I got home I found that he had given the Bouse Genies 63 new webinars for us to share free.



**NORM CUTSHALL SPEAKING AT LUNCH.**



**DAVE BERDAN, CAROL BROWN  
& GEOFF RASMUSSEN**

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

At the Christmas party on December 14<sup>th</sup>, which was our first Christmas party, and we celebrated by having a potluck salad luncheon. Some members brought their family and/or friends. We had 24 present for the event. Before lunch Norm CUTSHALL gave a class on using DNA in your genealogy research. Thanks Norm for a very interesting class. The food was wonderful and a great time was had by all.

At the meeting we voted for me to purchase enough blank CDs, labels and thin cases to make a copy of each of our new webinars. We will keep the originals in a safe place and only the copies can be checked out by our members. There will be a change in the method used for checking out the webinars. A book will be kept with the share CDs listed, and members who check out webinars must sign for each CD removed from the box.

I bought the box of our current share CDs home and found that we have several donated by others for which we don't have a back-up copy. Copies of those will be made as well as our new webinars.

### BOUSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library will be open on January 8, 2013 after being closed from the flood in the building on October 11, 2012. Nikki MACKEY has been re-shelving our genealogy book collection. She has removed the magazines from the library shelves. These will be made available for our members to take and enjoy. Since we decided they were not getting used in the library we will not keep them. We will not renew our subscriptions to the genealogy magazines.

The books we have received over the past several months will be placed in the library for our members to check out. Thanks to Joanne JENSEN for procuring two big boxes of wonderful research material to add to our collection. The books came from the Havasu Branch Library of Mohave Community College.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

We tried to hold the annual election of officers at the December meeting. However, the nominating committee did not have their list of proposed new officers available. The election of officers was postponed until the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The offices which need to be addressed are: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Librarian. This is the end of the second year for the Chairman, Corresponding Secretary and Librarian.

The current Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer have submitted their resignations. We need our membership to step forward for these positions. You don't need to be here all year to handle any of these duties. Carol BROWN has agreed to remain as Chairman for another two years. Harry JENSEN feels he can't be depended upon, because of family issues, to take over the meetings when Carol is not available. He will be willing to work with the new Vice Chairman on the program side of the job. As we all know, he has done a great job with the new changes in our meeting structure, and he has the programs pretty well pre-planned for the remainder of this year with volunteer speakers and webinars.

The treasurer needs to be in the area from November through March. Carol will continue to be the alternate Summer/off-season treasurer.

Right now we have six people doing all of officer jobs in the Society. Some are handling two of the societies major positions. Carol BROWN is the Chairman and volunteer Newsletter Editor. Gloria FREEMON is the Secretary and Historian. Nikki MACKEY is Corresponding Secretary and Librarian. Harry JENSEN is our Vice Chairman, Brenda DIXON is Assistant Treasurer, however, she is moving and will not be wintering in the area any more. Brenda has agreed to continue to help the Treasurer while we are waiting for the Federal Government to issue our 501c3 status. Dennis CHAPMAN is our Webmaster, and as a volunteer, will continue in that position.

As you can see, this is a very important issue for us. We need other members to step forward to help as an officer. Those of us who can will help any of you who step forward. 🙌



## —THE TWELVE DAYS OF A GENEALOGIST'S CHRISTMAS—

- On the first day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me one extended pedigree tree.
- On the second day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the third day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the fourth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the fifth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the sixth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the seventh day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me seven death certificates, six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the eighth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me eight marriage records, seven death certificates, six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.
- On the ninth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me nine christening documents, eight marriage records, seven death certificates, six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three

research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.

On the tenth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me ten birth registrations, nine christening documents, eight marriage records, seven death certificates, six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.

On the eleventh day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me eleven land records, ten birth registrations, nine christening documents, eight marriage records, seven death certificates, six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree.

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my ancestors sent to me twelve estate files, eleven land records, ten birth registrations, nine christening documents, eight marriage records, seven death certificates, six obituaries, five grey tombstones, four census records, three research plans, two family group sheets and one extended pedigree tree. 📄

## From the Editor's Desk

By Carolyn H. Brown

A special thanks to all of you who were involved in me receiving the AzGAB Founders Award. It was a total surprise to me the day I was presented with the award document, and the phone call from Linda McCleary, President of AzGAB.



Another year has come to an end and we have produced four more information-packed newsletters to help you in your personal search for your ancestors. With the 1940 census being released in May, we focused the first two issues on census research. The last two issues were focused on genealogy tools using both old-school and high-tech techniques.

In 2013 the themes for the four issues will focus on the steps for leaving your legacy for future generations by preparing to publish your family history.

**SPRING 2013:** *Putting Meat on the Bones.* Looking for articles on sources you use to find more than just names, dates, and places, such as: manuscripts; county histories; genealogical journals; history magazines; church histories and minute books; business and plantation descriptions; newspapers; encyclopedias. (Deadline is 1 March 2013.)

**SUMMER 2013:** *Evidence, Analysis, and Proof.* Looking for articles about methods for resolving conflicting information, including but not limited to explaining the types of information and types and weight of various sources. (Deadline is 1 June 2013.)

**FALL 2013:** *Citing Your Sources Correctly.* Looking for articles on gathering source information, footnotes, endnotes and reference formats, layout samples. (Deadline is 1 September 2013.)

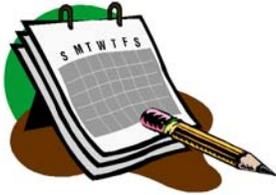
**WINTER 2013:** *Writing a Proof Argument and a Case Study.* Looking for articles on explaining Proof Argument vs Case Study; organization and layout. (Deadline is 1 December 2013.)

We would love to have you help us make this a newsletter you don't want to miss, so pass your thoughts along. We have a very talented newsletter staff that will help you make your ideas come alive. We are always looking for articles for our "Great Journeys Into the Past" series even if you don't write about one of our topics. An advantage to writing an article is getting family history writing experience. This gives you a chance to "get published" and learn at the same time, because of the proofing and editing assistance we can provide.

Input for the Bouse Genies Newsletter is accepted at any time, day or night. Just email it to me as an attachment in any word processing format or in the body of the email message to <[GenieCarol@gmail.com](mailto:GenieCarol@gmail.com)>.

Please consider sharing your experience on our Yahoo Group at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BouseGenies>. 📄



## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The article about the value of conferences as a genealogy tool on page 8 should have convinced you it is time to add one or more to your 2013 route.

Here are some suggestions that are well worth a trip.

### **Pinal County Genealogists**

*9<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop*

26 January in Casa Grande, Arizona

Info at: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~azpcg](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~azpcg)

### **Hill Country Family History Seminar**

2 February in Boerne, Texas

Info at: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc)

### **2013 RootsTech Conference**

21-23 March in Salt Lake City, Utah

Info at: [www.rootstech.org](http://www.rootstech.org)

### **New England Genealogical Conference**

*Woven in History—The Fabric of New England*

7–21 April in Manchester, New Hampshire

Info at: [www.nergc.org](http://www.nergc.org)

### **NGS 2013 Family History Conference**

*Building New Bridges*

8–11 May in Las Vegas, Nevada

Info at:

[www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conferences\\_and\\_events](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conferences_and_events)

### **SKP Genies Magic**

7–14 July in Salt Lake City, Utah

For info contact Barbara NUEHRING at

[GenieInACoach@TheDreamHunters.net](mailto:GenieInACoach@TheDreamHunters.net)

### **Germans from Russia Heritage Society**

*43<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Convention*

17–21 July in Bismarck, North Dakota

Info at: [www.grhs.org](http://www.grhs.org)

### **FGS 2013 Conference**

*Journey Through Generations*

21–24 August in Fort Wayne, Indiana

Info at:

[www.fgs.org/upload/files/FGS2013\\_Conference\\_Flyer.pdf](http://www.fgs.org/upload/files/FGS2013_Conference_Flyer.pdf)



[NOTE: Carol Brown will be giving two of the classes at the Pinal County Workshop.]

## BOUSE GENIES 2013 MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are held in the Bouse Community Building from 9:30 AM -2 PM unless otherwise specified.

4 & 18 January

1 & 15 February

1, 15 & 29 March

12 & 26 April

10 & 24 May

*If you asked me for my New Year Resolution,  
it would be to find out who I am.*

Cyril Cusack



### **Current BGS Officers:**

Chairman - Carol Brown

Treasurer -

Vice-Chairman -

Assistant Treasurer - Brenda Dixon

Secretary - Gloria Freeman

Librarian - Nikki Mackey

Corresponding Secretary - Nikki Mackey

Webmaster - Dennis Chapman

Historian - Gloria Freeman

Newsletter Editor - Carol Brown