

FGS Voice

Volume 16, Number 8 - 2009 August

The monthly newsletter of the
Federation of Genealogical Societies
“Linking the Genealogical Community”

IN THIS ISSUE:

- From the Editor
- FGS Conference News
- Your Society and the IRS
- Calendar of Upcoming Events for Member Societies

FROM THE EDITOR

A year ago was my first issue as editor of the *FGS Voice* (then known as the *FGS Delegate Digest*). During that time, I've worked to improve upon an already excellent and useful publication, and I look forward in the next twelve months to looking for new ways to obtain genealogy-related news that can help FGS member societies accomplish their objectives.

As part of that, I'm packing today to head to Little Rock, Arkansas, for the annual FGS conference. While some of my time will be tied up with giving presentations, and much of my time will be occupied with seeing old friends and making new ones, I'll also be hoping to talk to you, the *FGS Voice* reader, to get your feedback and to hear your ideas for what an FGS news publication should look like. There will be lots of time for interaction, including a Delegate 101 program and a Delegate Luncheon, but no matter where you find me, please bend my ear and say what's on your mind.

If I don't happen to see you in Little Rock (or at the next FGS conference in Knoxville), you can still e-mail me with your comments and suggestions. And when you do, let me know how you use the *FGS Voice*. Do you forward it to your membership? Do you print copies and make them available at meetings? Do you read out highlights

during the business portions of your meetings?

When you hold an annual seminar, do you ask your attendees where they heard about the event? How many of them hear about your event through the *FGS Voice*, through the FGS website, or through the Voice's sister publication, the *FGS FORUM*? I'd like to know the answer to that question!

See you in Little Rock!

Drew Smith, MLS
Editor, *FGS Voice*
fgsvoice@fgs.org

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE VOICE:

Send the name and e-mail address to the *FGS Voice* editor, Drew Smith, at fgsvoice@fgs.org.

HOW TO SUBMIT CONTENT FOR THE VOICE:

Send all correspondence, announcements, and other newsletter items directly to the *FGS Voice* editor, Drew Smith, at fgsvoice@fgs.org. Deadlines for submission of content for inclusion in upcoming issues of the *FGS Voice* are the 10th day of each month for that month's issue.

FGS CONFERENCE NEWS

Some last minute conference FAQs

It's just days till the Federation of Genealogical Societies 2009 Conference opens in Little Rock. Volunteers from FGS and from the host society, the Arkansas Genealogical Society, have been putting in a lot of hours to prepare a scintillating, educational, stimulating, exciting, fun, memorable, passionate and rewarding experience for registrants, speakers, and vendors. It's going to rock in Little Rock! And the influx of Delegates from FGS member societies will make it rock even more. I hope you are bringing your society's successes, questions and tips to the Delegate activities.

I haven't registered yet, can I still do that at the conference?

Definitely. Just visit the Registration Area in the Rotunda on the lower level of the Statehouse Convention Center on Tuesday, September 1st from 2:00-6:00 p.m. or anytime after 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday-Saturday. You may register for single days or all four days. Look for the line that covers on-site registration. Check out the full program and other details at www.fgsconference.org.

I have pre-registered, what do I do when I arrive at the Statehouse Convention Center?

Go to the Registration Area to pick up your registrant's packet. Look for the registration line that covers the first letter of your surname. If you are a conference speaker there will be a separate line for you. If you have a booth in the Exhibit Hall you have received separate instructions from the Exhibits Chair. If you pick up your materials on Tuesday, then you can walk a block to Historic Arkansas www.arkansashistory.com/ to join other conference registrants at a free Ice Cream Social. Enjoy a couple hours listening to music, learning more about Arkansas history, and meeting other conference registrants.

As a delegate to FGS what should I do at the conference?

- Proudly wear your Delegate Ribbon. If you don't receive a Delegate ribbon with your registration materials, please ask for one.
- Attend the Delegate 101 on Wednesday morning September 2d.
- Attend the Delegate Luncheon on Wednesday.
- Attend the Society Management sessions and take ideas back to your society.
- Visit the Exhibit Hall to browse and purchase books and software for your society library.

How will I know what room will have a specific lecture?

Each registrant receives a Conference Guide that has this info, maps of the Peabody Hotel and Statehouse Convention Center lecture rooms, the Exhibit Hall layout keyed to the list of exhibitors, and reminders about special events. This will be with the materials you pick up at registration that also include your name tag, tickets for meals ordered, door prize tickets, syllabus on CD, and other info.

More questions? Check the FGS Conference News Blog www.fgsconferenceblog.org for additional important information. See you in a few days!

Paula Stuart-Warren
National Publicity Chair
FGS/AGS 2009 Conference

AND MORE FGS CONFERENCE NEWS (from Ann Staley)

Free Photos and Document Scanning

High-Speed Scanners - September 3-5, 2009

Ancestry.com is excited to provide FGS conference attendees the opportunity to have their family records scanned, for free, on high-speed scanners. The scanners will be available for up to 15 minute scanning sessions on Thursday, September 3, through Saturday, September 5, during the exhibit hall hours. Scanning-session signs-ups will open each morning-sign up Thursday morning for a Thursday time slot, Friday morning for a Friday time slot, and so on. The scanning machines and sign-ups will be located in the Toltec Lobby registration area of the Statehouse Convention Center.

Will you be bringing items to scan? Please help us finalize our plans by visiting the following URL and letting us know if you'll be bringing items with you to scan: FGSscanners.eventbrite.com

Details about Scanning

- a. Ancestry.com imaging specialists will operate the scanners
- b. Ancestry.com is bringing two scanners to the conference: a high-speed, loose-leaf scanner that will scan documents and photographs in full color and a planetary scanner for books and more fragile items
- c. Attendees will be able to scan about 100 family photographs or documents during a 15-minute session
- d. Scanned images will be saved to flash drives (provided at no cost by Ancestry.com) and given to attendees. (Note: Scanned images will NOT be uploaded to the Ancestry.com website by Ancestry.com personnel.)
- e. Due to anticipated demand, conference attendees will be able to sign up for only one scanning session during the conference
- f. There is always a possibility that damage to older, more fragile documents may occur during the scanning process. Ancestry.com urges patrons to use their best judgment when choosing documents to be scanned.

StoryCorps Coming to the Conference

The latest Press Release by Paula Stuart-Warren tells about StoryCorps coming to the conference. This is another fabulous opportunity. She says that StoryCorps is "an independent non-profit project whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another's lives through listening." They will be at the conference recording our oral history. She says "Each conversation is recorded on a free CD to take home and share, and is archived for generations to come at the Library of Congress."

Reservations are required. Contact Sara Thompson at storycorps@fgs.org or 501-320-5718 by September 1st. You can also visit the FGS Conference Blog for more details on this wonderful program. <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org/2009/08/storycorps-is-coming-to-federation-of.html>
To learn more about StoryCorps visit their website. <www.storycorps.org>

Tips for Your Trip

Bringing a laptop? What to know how to get around the area? (The trolley is wonderful!) Driving and need to know about parking? Want something to do before/after the conference or need to entertain a non-genealogist traveling companion? Answers to all of these questions - and many more - can be found on the blog at <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org/>

Society Hall

In a previous message I noted that "Pre-registration is required." Didn't finish the sentence! Should have said "Pre-registration is required to exhibit. To look at the displays - that's free; roam as much as you like in the area."

Baseball Tickets

If you ordered baseball tickets, you will receive them in your registration packet. Jan Davenport, the National Conference Chair, said that your packet will have an arm band, tickets for the ballgame, and "another" ticket. The "other" ticket will be for a drawing for a 7-night stay at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. So be sure to put your name on the back of the "other" ticket and put it in the box at the Hospitality Booth in the Rotunda/Registration area.

Door Prizes

In your registration packet you will be getting a sheet of door prize tickets - I heard there are 20. Be sure to bring some of those extra address labels you have around the house; they're great for putting on door prize tickets. There will be boxes in the vendor hall, at the participating vendors, for you to place those tickets in. The names of the winners will be posted in the Exhibit Hall on a bulletin board.

Recording of Lectures

Got too many sessions that you really want to go to and can't get to them all? Jamb-Inc. will be audio recording some of the sessions for us again this year. They will be for purchase on CDs.

Other Things of Interest

Our blogger, Paula Stuart Warren, suggests the following:

- . Check the FGS Conference Website at <www.FGSConference.org>
- . View the continually expanded Conference Blog at <www.FGSConferenceBlog.org>
- . Visit the Arkansas Genealogical Society at <www.AGSGenealogy.org>
- . See the Statehouse Convention Center layout at <www.littlerockmeetings.com>
- . See more about the Peabody Hotel <www.peabodylittlerock.com>
- . See more about the DoubleTree Hotel at <www.doubletree.com>
- . Check out the Trolley System at <www.cat.org/rrail>
- . Check the many topics and speakers at <www.FGSConference.org>
- . Prepare for Arkansas tourism at <www.Arkansas.com>
- . Plan for visiting Little Rock at <www.LittleRock.com>
- . Learn about the great things in the Little Rock River Market District <www.RiverMarket.info>
- . Prepare for research at the Arkansas History Commission at www.ark-ives.org
- . Learn about the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at <http://www.butlercenter.org/>

Conference First-Timers

And there are a lot of you! Welcome to your first FGS Conference. When you get your registration packet, be sure to check it for your name badge and all of the items you purchased - before you leave the registration desk. You will also receive a Conference Guide. This is where you will find the sessions, whether they are being audio taped, a map laying out where the meeting rooms are, information about the exhibitors, and much more. Be sure to study it.

Next 2 bits of information: 1) Be sure to talk to the vendors; they are a wealth of information. 2) Be sure to say "Hi" to the person you are passing by in the hall, the person you are seated next to in a session, or the person at your meal table. You never know when you will meet that one person who has the clue to lead you further up your family tree.

Volunteers and the Local Host

Please be sure to say "Thanks!" to the Arkansas Genealogical Society (AGS) volunteers for the work they have done to help make this a great Conference.

We will see you in a few short days.

Have safe travels.

Have fun!



Your Society and the IRS

Many genealogical organizations have applied and been accepted by the IRS as 501(c)3 organizations. In the past, those organizations that had average annual income of less than \$25,000 were exempt from filing any paperwork once their initial five-year qualification period was over.

This is no longer true. Starting in 2008, while still exempt from Federal income tax, genealogical societies are among those organizations that must file an

annual return no matter how little their income is. The good news is, if average income is below \$25,000 per year, the society will only need to file 990-N, or e-Postcard. This form takes just minutes to fill out. You will need your FEIN and contact information when you access the postcard from the IRS website at www.IRS.gov.

For those who feel slightly intimidated anytime they deal with a government form, the IRS website offers a wealth of materials to help the non-profit society determine their filing requirements, which form to use, and how to complete it.

Failure to file a return for three years will result in an organization losing their non-profit status. If your society hasn't filed for 2008, be sure to do so right away. Late is better than never.

Watch for an expanded article on IRS filings in the Winter *FORUM*. For further help with society bookkeeping issues look for the new FGS Strategy Paper, "Bookkeeping 101 for Genealogical Societies" available soon in the Members Only section of the FGS website.

Cath Madden Trindle, CG
FGS Treasurer



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MEMBER SOCIETIES

If your FGS member society would like to have one of its major events (annual seminar, conference, etc.) listed on this calendar, please send the following information to fgsvoice@fgs.org: date, state/province, city, name of sponsoring society, additional details (such as speakers and topics), contact information, and a URL for more details. To ensure that the information will appear in multiple issues, please submit information several months in advance of the event. For additional events, check the online FGS Calendar at fgs.org/calendar

2009 September

September 2-5, 2009 – Arkansas, Little Rock, Federation of Genealogical Societies

“Passages through Time”, the FGS/AGS 2009 Conference. For more information, visit fgsconferenceblog.org.

September 10-11, 2009 – New York, NYC, New York Genealogical & Biographical Society

The Education Committee of the NYG&B, in partnership with the Holland Society of New York and the New York Public Library, presents a two-day Dutch Research program, including presentations on the history of the Netherlands and its colony, as well as the persistence of Dutch culture in America. Thursday will be a full day of lectures at the South Court Auditorium of the New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue between 40th and 42nd Streets. Presenters include **Harry Macy Jr.**, **Firth Haring Fabend**, **Christopher Brooks**, and **Janny Venema**. Friday offers a day of research at the NYPL’s Milstein Division of Genealogy and Local History. The two-day program is available to NYG&B members and Holland Society members for \$150. Non-members \$200. Registration for the Thursday lecture program only is \$90 members/ \$125 non-members. To register, please contact Lauren Maehrlein, education@nygbs.org, telephone 212-755-8532, ext. 36, or register online at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

September 11-13, 2009 – Washington, Spokane, Washington State Genealogical Society

The Washington State Genealogical Society will hold its 2009 Annual Conference on September 11-13 in Spokane. For more information on this conference as it becomes available, visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/

September 18-19, 2009 – Illinois, Schaumburg, Polish Genealogical Society of America

The Polish Genealogical Society of America presents its annual conference, "Unraveling the Mysteries", on Friday, September 18th (1/2 day) and Saturday, September 19th (all day), at the Chicago Marriott Schaumburg, 50 North Martingale Road. Speakers include **Don Litzer**, former

librarian of the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN; **Kahlile Mehr**, manager of the Slavic/Germanic Collection at the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City; Dr. **Michael J. Mikos**, professor of foreign languages and linguistics at University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee; **Cynthia Piech**, Board Member and Treasurer of the PGSA; **Craig Pfannkuche**, president of Memory Trail Research, Inc. and genealogical archivist at the Chicago and Northwestern Historical Society; **Julianna Smith**, editor of Ancestry.com newsletters, author of genealogy books and magazine articles; and **Loretto Szucs**, author of genealogy books and executive director and vice president of community relations at Ancestry magazine. For more information, visit www.pgsa.org/PDFs/Conference2009.pdf, or register online at www.pgsa.org/Conference/ConferenceReg.php

September 18-19, 2009 – Minnesota, South St. Paul, Minnesota Genealogical Society

The Minnesota Genealogical Society presents its North Star Conference. For more information, visit mngs.org.

September 19, 2009 – Massachusetts, Williamstown, Friends of NARA - Pittsfield

The Friends of the National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, Pittsfield, MA, will hold its annual full-day genealogy conference, "Life in the Past Lane VI", on Saturday, September 19, 2009, at the Williams Inn (williamsinn.com) in Williamstown, MA. As they become available, details and registration forms will be posted at narafriends-pittsfield.org under Calendar of Events. For additional information call 413-236-3600.

September 26, 2009 – Florida, Tampa, Florida Genealogical Society

The Florida Genealogical Society of Tampa will hold its 2009 Fall Seminar on Saturday, September 26 at the Dale Mabry campus of Hillsborough Community College. Featured speaker **Elizabeth Shown Mills** will present four topics during the day. For more information about this all-day seminar as it becomes available, visit fgstampa.org.

September 26, 2009 – Maine, Bangor, Maine Genealogical Society

The Maine Genealogical Society will hold its next annual meeting on September 26, 2009. For more information, visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~megs/

September 26, 2009 – Michigan, Detroit, Detroit Society for Genealogical Research

The Detroit Public Library's Friends of the Library, the Burton Historical Collection, and the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research present the 4th Annual Family History Festival at the Detroit Public Library. Featured speaker **Christine Rose** (CG, CGL, FASG) will present "County and Other Local Land Records" and "Solving the Problems in 25 Hours or Less". For more information, contact Catherine Phillips at phillips@ltu.edu.

2009 October

October 3, 2009 – Ohio, Shelby, Ohio Genealogical Society

Eric Johnson, Lois Lambert, and Marjorie Waterfield will be the keynote speakers at the Ohio Genealogical Society's Fall Seminar on "Researching Military Records in Ohio". Visitors are welcome to join the group at the Kehoe Center for Advanced Learning at North Central State College, Shelby Campus. Sessions begin at 9:30 AM and last all day with a post-conference reception at the Ohio Genealogical Society Library in Mansfield from 4:00-8:00 PM. Registration for the event is \$35 for non-members (\$30 for OGS members paying by Oct. 1). Reservations may be made by calling OGS at 419-756-7294, online at www.ogs.org/fallseminar.php, or by sending payment to the Ohio Genealogical Society, 713 S Main St, Mansfield OH 44907.

October 5-9, 2009 – Utah, Salt Lake City, International Society for British Genealogy and Family History

The 8th Annual British Institute, sponsored by the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History, has been announced. Instructors are **Barbara Baker** and **David Rencher**. A registration brochure is available at <http://www.isbgfh.org> as well as further information about this week-long event.

October 10, 2009 – California, Northridge, British Isles FHS USA

The British Isles Family History Society - U.S.A. presents its annual seminar featuring **Judith Eccles Wight AG**, at the Noski Auditorium on the campus of California State University, Northridge. Topics: Census and census substitutes, poor law records, and estate records for the UK and Ireland. For more information, see www.bifhsusa.org/seminar.

October 10, 2009 – Virginia, Winchester, Virginia Genealogical Society

The Virginia Genealogical Society will present its 2009 Fall Conference in Winchester. For more information as it becomes available, visit www.vgs.org/events.htm

October 10, 2009 – Wisconsin, Madison, Dane County Area Genealogical Society

The Dane County Area Genealogical Society will sponsor a Genealogy Fair on 10 October 2009 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4505 Regent St., Madison, Wisconsin. This will be a showcase for genealogically-oriented societies and exhibitors. There will be several educational lectures and tours of the Family History Center. Admission is free. There is no charge for exhibit tables. For more information on this fair as it becomes available, visit www.dcags.org. You can also contact Pat Skubis at <p3l8skubis@hughes.net> or (608) 424-3919.

October 17, 2009 – Kentucky, Louisville, Louisville Genealogical Society

The Louisville Genealogical Society presents its 2009 Family History Seminar and Book Fair at the Beargrass Christian Church, 4100 Shelbyville Road, Louisville. Featured guest speaker **George G. Morgan** will present on the following topics: (1) Bring 'em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestral Profile; (2) State-Land States & Federal-Land States: Researching U.S. Land Records; (3) The U.S. Naturalization Process and Documents: 1790-1954; (4) Using the HeritageQuest Databases. Everything except the guest lectures and lunch is included in the \$5 general

admission charge. This year's free classes include Adoption Research (led by **Susan C. Brown**), Library Resources (**Joe Hardesty**), Planning a Research Trip (**Betty Darnell**), On-line Databases (**Ivan W. Baugh**), Orphan Trains: A Genealogical Challenge (**Mel Arnold**), "Siblings for Sarah"--Using Whole-Family Research (**Deborah Campisano**), Organization 101 (**Barbara Freeman Davis**), and Rescue, Preserve, and Protect--Cemetery Preservation (**Ann Johnson**). For more information, visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kylgs/seminar2.html>, or e-mail lougensoc@yahoo.com.

October 24, 2009 – Illinois, LaGrange, Czech & Slovak American Genealogy Soc. of Illinois

At 1:30pm, **Mike Karsen** presents "Preserve Your Ancestor's Legacy: Write Their Life Story". For more information, visit www.csagsi.org, e-mail czechmail@ameritech.net, or call 312-527-0506.

October 24, 2009 – Massachusetts, Framingham, Massachusetts Society of Genealogists

The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc., will hold its Annual Meeting & Conference at the First Parish Church (Hall), 24 Vernon St., Framingham, Massachusetts, 9 AM-4 PM. Please join us to hear "Civil War Medicine, with a Focus on Dr. J. Franklin Dyer, Surgeon for the 19th Massachusetts Infantry" by **Michael Chesson**, Ph.D., "Lost Babes: Birth Records and Maiden Names in Fornication Cases" by **Melinde Lutz Sanborn**, F.A.S.G., and "World War II in Federal Publications" by **Connie Reik**, M.A., M.S.L. & Vice President, Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc. For more information, visit www.massachusettsocietyofgenealogists.org/

October 24, 2009 – Missouri, Sunset Hills, St. Louis Genealogical Society

"Virginia: The Old Dominion State" by **Barbara Vines Little**, CG at the Viking Conference Center in Sunset Hills, Missouri. Her topics will be: County Records: The Nuts and Bolts of Virginia Research; Patents and Grants: Virginia's Land Records; Virginia's Tax Records: A Gold Mine of Information; Virginia's Military Records: Colonial Militia through the Civil War. Fees: \$45.00 member/\$55.00 non-member includes lunch, prices increase after October 9. For more information, visit www.stlgs.org.

October 24, 2009 – New Mexico, Roswell, Wilson-Cobb History & Genealogy Research Library

The Wilson-Cobb History & Genealogy Research Library in Roswell, NM will hold its Fall Workshop, "Genealogy CSI--Collecting, Selecting, Identifying Your Ancestors," October 24, 2009. Featured speaker **J. Mark Lowe** (CG, FUGA) will present "Finding Your Landless Ancestors," "Cemeteries as a Genealogical Resource," "Using the Internet for Genealogy & Research," and "Land Barons or Dirt Farmers: Finding Land Transactions." For more information, contact the Wilson-Cobb Library: 575-622-3322 or wilsoncobb@dfn.com.

October 24, 2009 – Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, North Hills Genealogists

The North Hills Genealogists present their fall conference, "Discover Your Roots, Discover Yourself: The Search for Lost Treasures", 9am-4pm, at Christ Episcopal Church, 5910 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh. **Paula Stuart-Warren**, CG, of Minnesota, and **Sandra MacLean Clunies**, CG, of Maryland present such topics as church records, NUCMC and manuscript collections, tracing poor ancestors and immigrant families, writing the family history, and research in Washington, DC, from home. A continental breakfast, hot lunch, and door prizes are included in the

registration fee of \$50. An early bird discount of \$45 is available until September 15. North Hills Genealogists members receive a \$10 discount below these fees; become a 2009-2010 member for \$15. Parking is free at the conference. More information and a registration form may be found at www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org. Credit card payment is accepted through the web site or mail to North Hills Genealogists, PO Box 304, Ingomar, PA 15127.

October 29-31, 2009 – Indiana, Fort Wayne, International Black Genealogy Summit

The International Black Genealogy Summit will be held October 29-31, 2009 at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This momentous event signifies the first time that all of the black historical and genealogical societies in the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean will come together to celebrate the joys and challenges of black genealogy. This conference is to include all AAHGS chapters, the SIGs (Special Interest Groups) of larger societies, the black groups that make up the West Coast Summit, as well as independent black genealogical and historical societies in the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean. For more information, visit www.blackgenealogysummit.com.

October 31, 2009 – Indiana, Bristol, Elkhart County Genealogical Society

The Elkhart County Genealogical Society presents its Fall Workshop, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM, at the Elkhart County Historical Museum, 301 West Vistula, Bristol, Indiana. Featured speaker **Juliana Smith**, editor of *Ancestry Weekly Discovery*, will speak on the following topics: A Dozen Ways to Jumpstart Your Research, What's New in Family History, The Legacy of Immigration, and Exploring City Directories. Vendors will be on hand. \$25 pre-registration (\$30 at the door) includes lunch and snacks. Registrations must be received by October 25. To register, send \$25.00, checks payable to ECGS. Include Name, Address, City/State/Zip, Phone, E-Mail Address. Mail to: Elkhart County Genealogical Society, PO Box 1031, Elkhart, IN 46515.

October 31, 2009 - Oregon, Milwaukie, Genealogical Forum of Oregon

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will hold its fall seminar on Saturday, October 31st. For more information you can visit: www.gfo.org, click on the 'Seminar' tab.

2009 November

November 4-6, 2009 – New York, Albany, New York Genealogical & Biographical Society

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society is sponsoring a three-day research trip to the New York State Archives and Library in Albany. The next Research in Albany program will be held Wednesday, 4 November, through Friday, 6 November, 2009. Once again we will provide our registrants with three days of assisted research at the Library and Archives, plus social events. The program fee, including the banquet, reception, and all other arrangements, is \$110 for members, \$150 for non-members. We have arranged a special room rate at the Crowne Plaza of \$99 per night, single or double. Please call the hotel directly at 518-462-6611 and mention that you are attending the NYG&B program to get this rate. To register, please contact Lauren Maehrlein, education@nygbs.org, telephone 212-755-8532, ext. 36, or you may register online at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

November 6-7, 2009 – Michigan, Grand Rapids, Western Michigan Genealogical Society

WMGS presents “GotAncestors?! – ‘Guydes to Genealogical Research’”. During 2009, the Western Michigan Genealogical Society is celebrating 55 years. The main celebration of this will be held the weekend of 6/7 November 2009, with a banquet on the evening of Friday 6 November, and an all-day Seminar on Saturday 7 November. Our speakers are “The Genealogy Guys” – **George G. Morgan** and **Drew Smith** – who will each present 3 lectures during the day, and then for the last session they will record one of their famous Podcasts. For more information including a list of classes and updates, please check GotAncestors.com or send email to Seminar@GotAncestors.com

November 7, 2009 – Michigan, Livonia, Western Wayne County Genealogical Society

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society and the Livonia Civic Center Library present an all-day seminar, "Shortcuts to Somewhere", from 8am (registration begins) to 5pm at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI. Featured speaker **Stephen Morse** will present "One-Step WebPages: A Hodgepodge of Lesser Known Gems"; "One-Step Webpages: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools"; "Navigating the New York State Census with Fewer Tears"; and "Playing Hide and Seek in the U.S. Census". Registration is \$25 by October 31st, \$35 at the door. A box lunch is available for purchase for \$7 (with early registration only). For further information, please contact Sue Cromwell at 248-477-5846.

2010 January**January 30, 2010 – Florida, West Palm Beach, Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County**

The Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County presents **George G. Morgan** at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 1601 Belvedere Rd, West Palm Beach, on the topics of Using the HeritageQuest® Databases; Expand Your Research with Interlibrary Loans and Digitized Book Collections Online; Introduction to U.S. Immigration Records; Bits about Obits: Reading Between the Lines. Pre-registration is required, and price includes: Morning break; Deli or Wrap Lunch; Afternoon break. Members: \$35.00 (before 10/24/09) Non-members: \$45.00; \$40.00 (after 10/24/09). Pre-register: Genealogical Society of Palm Beach Co. with payment P O Box 17617, West Palm Beach, FL 33416. Please Memo: Winter Program. Phone: (561) 616-3455. Email: ancestry@bellsouth.net

2010 February**February 6, 2010 – California, San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo Co. Genealogical Society**

The all-day seminar, Genealogy Now--Photos, DNA, Documents, and the Internet, will feature **Megan Smolenyak** and **Patti Hacker**. Registration and more information at <http://kcbx.net/~slogen/>

February 20, 2010 – Arizona, Green Valley, Green Valley Genealogical Society

The Green Valley Genealogical Society will sponsor our annual Seminar on Saturday, February 20, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Green Valley Elks Lodge, 2951 S. Camino Mercado. **John T. Humphrey**, CG will present the following topics: "Developing the Skills to Become a

Genealogist," "Researching Pennsylvania Ancestors," "Using Church Records Effectively," and "German Ahnentafels at the National Archives." Registration is \$37.50 for members, \$42.50 non-members and includes a buffet lunch. For more information and a map to the Elks Lodge, see the society website, www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~azqygs/.

2010 April

April 22-24, 2010 – Ohio, Toledo, Ohio Genealogical Society

The annual Ohio Genealogical Society conference, "Guiding Your Way through the Past", will be held 22-24 April 2010 at the SeaGate Convention Centre in Toledo, Ohio. The event will feature national, state, and local speakers, workshops, and exhibits. Registration will begin Fall 2009. For additional details, conference updates, and registration, visit the OGS web site: www.ogs.org; e-mail: conference2010@ogs.org or ogs@ogs.org; or phone (419) 756-7294.