



KGS Newsletter • Volume VI, Issue 2 • March/April 2011

Elizabeth Shown Mills to Speak at 2011 KGS Seminar

The Kentucky Genealogical Society is pleased to announce the guest speaker for the 2011 Annual Seminar is the renowned genealogist and lecturer Elizabeth Shown Mills. Ms. Mills will present four one hour lectures:

Genealogical Problem Solving: Professional Techniques for Everyday Success

Stuck on a line? Finding new books to buy is usually not the answer. Learning effective methodology for using common records and advanced techniques for finding elusive ancestors are the skills that separate the real genealogist from “name gatherers.” This lecture covers 12 important success techniques to apply every day that you do research.

Proving ‘Oral History’: How to Find the Truth about a Family Story

Handed-down stories usually contain a core of truth, hidden within layers of confusion, pride, and fancy that have built up over time. How do we balance “tradition” against documentation to discover that core? This session provides a blueprint to follow, illustrated by actual cases.

In a Rut? 7 Ways to Jump-Start Your Research

Stuck? It happens to everybody. So, how do really successful genealogists “prime their pumps” when their wells seem to go dry? This session offers both sources and methods to recharge your batteries when you think both you

and your opportunities are totally exhausted.

The Genealogical Proof Standard: How to Build a Case When No Record States the Answer

Genealogists may never find a document that says exactly what they hope to find. Yet it is still possible to build a convincing case—if one does it properly. This presentation shows how. It defines the standards, describes the research foundation necessary for a credible case, and details the manner in which an effective argument must be presented.

The author of 13 books, Ms. Mills may best be known for essential titles *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian* (Baltimore: GPC, 1997) and *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors Lecturers, and Librarians* (Baltimore: PGC, 2001). Seminar attendees are certain to gain a higher knowledge of research as Ms. Mills has served on the faculty of Samford University Library’s Institute since 1979, where she developed the groundbreaking Advanced Methodology Course.

Along with the four lectures will be two breaks for browsing the vendors area and a lunch break featuring a deluxe box lunch included in the price.

The seminar is planned for Saturday, 6 August 2011. **Please note this is a first Saturday and not a second Saturday.** The doors will open for registration at 8:15AM and the welcome and introduction will begin at 8:45AM. Cost for

KGS members is \$40 per person, \$50 per non-members if postmarked by 10 July 2011 and \$60 after 10 July. The event will be held at the Frankfort First United Methodist Church, 211 Washington Street, Frankfort, Kentucky. For directions to the church please visit their website <http://firstumcfrankfort.com> and click on the 'I'm New' tab for directions.

For more details and/or a registration form visit our website www.kygs.org. Contact person: Fran Salyers, kykinsearcher@gmail.com; Interested vendors can contact Doyle Mills at wd4hxe@gmail.com.

For a preview of one of the vendors: **Family Tree Tours** provides vacations like no other. Whether you choose a group heritage tour, private genealogy tour, or independent heritage trip, we provide you the opportunity to learn more about your family roots, to connect with family, and to learn about your ancestors before they made their emigration journey. We specialize in German heritage trips. www.familytreetours.com and www.familytreetours.blogspot.com

KGS/KHS Family History Workshops

Family History Workshops are held the second Saturday of each month at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History, 100 West Broadway in Frankfort, KY.

Each month, the typical workshop format will be:

10:30 am to 11:30 am—KGS Program

11:30 am to 12:30 pm—optional box lunch

12:30 pm to 1:30 pm—KHS Program

1:45 pm to 3:00 pm—optional KTIG Program

The workshops are free, but registration by noon of the preceding Friday is required. An optional box lunch may be reserved, if requested at the time of registration, for \$6 (payable at the door). To register, call the KHS Library reference desk at 502-564-1792, ext. 4460, or email refdesk@ky.gov.

Second Saturday – 9 April 2011

10:30 am to 1:30 pm - "The Cemetery Preservation Program at KHS"

Speakers: Ann Johnson and Phil DiBlasi

This session will focus on the resources available to family historians and cemetery preservationists through KHS: tracking

databases KHS maintains, advice on legal issues governing property and descendent rights, stone cleaning and rubbing techniques as well as cemetery mapping practices.

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm – Kentucky Technology In Genealogy

Future Workshop Topics for 2011

14 May 2011: "Preserving Your Family Treasures" 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Speakers: Louise Jones, Trevor Jones. Every family has treasures: Grandma's bible, Great grandmother's coverlet, letters and diaries, china and glassware. We all worry about storing, displaying and using these family heirlooms. Two curators will discuss basic techniques for handling, storage and preservation of artifacts as well as paper materials.

11 June 2011: "Lineage Society Paperwork: Creating a Legacy for Your Descendants" 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Speaker: Roger Futrell. The session will focus on the preparation and documentation of standardized application forms for membership in Revolutionary War societies, Civil War groups, and other patriotic lineage entities. Emphasis will be placed on careful documentation of the lineage application form. The solid proof standards of the 'First Families of Tennessee' and the 'Civil War Families of Tennessee' will be discussed.

"Lineage Societies: Small Groups discussions" 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Representatives from various heritage societies such as the DAR and SAR will be available for one on one discussion.

9 July 2011: "Brick Walls Panel Discussion" 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Panel: Deborah Campisano, Valerie Edgeworth, and Roger Futrell. Panelists will respond to submitted questions as well as those from the floor about research obstacles, alternative resources, and creative genealogy problem solving. There will be something for everyone!

Second Saturday – August 2011

THE KGS ANNUAL SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN PLACE OF THE SECOND SATURDAY ON THE FIRST SATURDAY, 6 AUGUST 2011 – SEE LEAD STORY.

National Genealogical Society Family Conference

The National Genealogical Society (NGS) Family Conference will be held in Charleston, South Carolina on 11 - 14 May 2011. The theme for 2011 will be "Where the Past is Still Present." The South Carolina Genealogical Society will be the local host society. The conference will be held in the Charleston Area Convention Center and is only 20 minutes away from Charleston's historic district. For additional information review their website: www.NGSgenealogy.org

Cumberland Gap Genealogy Jamboree

By the time Kentucky was admitted to the Union more than 100,000 people had used the Wilderness Trail to gain access to the Bluegrass country. The Cumberland Gap Genealogy Jamboree (CGGJ) will be held at the Cumberland Gap National Park in Tennessee on 9 - 12 June 2011. A roster of ten speakers is assembled and lectures will be in the Theater of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park Visitor's Center. For more information contact Mark Treadway (sparky@netmichigan.net) or visit their website: www.wil-syl.com/jamboree3/

Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) Conference will be held in Springfield, Illinois on 7 - 10 September 2011. This year's conference "Pathways to the Heartland" offers an exciting opportunity for anyone interested in researching their family history. The event will take place at the Prairie Capital Convention Center. For additional information visit their website: www.FGS.org

Louisville Genealogical Society (LGS) Family History Seminar & Book Fair

After a hugely successful 2010 Seminar featuring Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak the LGS announces their 2011 Seminar. The headline speaker will be John T. Humphrey, CG, who is recognized nationally and internationally for his contributions to German genealogy. This year's seminar will take place 15 October 2011. For additional information visit their website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kylgs/seminar2.html

Online Sources For Genealogists

I (Paul Gregory) recently subscribed to *Internet Genealogy Magazine* (www.internet-genealogy.com). First as a person who has worked in the printed word for over 30 years I find it ironic that there is still a place in the world for a printed magazine covering any aspect of the internet. Maybe there is hope for the printed word after all! I certainly feel like I am getting my money's worth out of this Canadian publication.

One article in particular seemed very worthwhile to pass along. In the February/March 2011 issue Gena Phillibert Ortega presented a very useful article on the evolution of library card catalogs and their emergence online. Ms. Ortega compiled a very useful list of online resources I would like to point out. You may have already heard of some, but you might want to revisit them anyway.

To connect with over 10,000 libraries worldwide: www.worldcat.org

For a Directory of Genealogy Libraries in the US: www.gwest.org/gen_libs.htm (**BOOKMARK!**)

Allen County Public Library (Fort Wayne, Indiana): www.genealogycenter.org/Home.aspx

Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research (Houston, Texas): www.houstonlibrary.org/clayton

Midwest Genealogy Center (Independence, Missouri): www.mymcpl.org/genealogy

National Genealogical Society Book Collection (St. Louis, Missouri): www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/

New York Public Library (New York, New York): <http://tinyurl.com/2fvlh9d>

Newberry Library (Chicago, Illinois): www.newberry.org/genealogy/collections.html

Sutro Library (San Francisco, California): www.library.ca.gov/collections/#sutro

Ms. Ortega is also the author of the book *Cemeteries of the Eastern Sierra* (Arcadia, 2007), and you can read more of her writings and blogs at <http://www.yourfamilyhistoryresearch.com/>.

Another article by Diane L. Richard was on the Genealogy Blog Finder site at www.genealogue.com. All I have to say is in this day and age of blogs...don't ask for someone's opinion unless you are ready to read! I had no idea there were this many blogs related to genealogy.

If you are researching the Civil War I would highly recommend an article by David A. Norris. The

magazine ran the first of a two part article on *Civil War Genealogical Resources in a State-by-State* rundown. A pdf of this article is available at the magazine website. Mr. Norris is the author of the newly released *Tracing Your Civil War Ancestors*.

And finally for the February/March 2011 issue of *Internet Genealogy* (www.internet-genealogy.com) a look at Pennsylvania through the lens of a camera. If you like old photos — put the dog out, the spouse to bed and a pot of coffee on the stove. Go to <http://phillyhistory.org>, they have over 92,000 photos from the late 1800's from one of the country's largest municipal archives. In a word fascinating.

Getting To Know Our Members

In this part of the *KGS Newsletter* we want to take time to introduce a KGS member. These short bios can be on anyone in the KGS membership. This is simply a way of helping us build connections between each other in the society. This month's feature member is KGS Publicity Committee Chairperson Fran Salyers.

Fran (Nelson) Salyers is a Louisville native and a seventh-generation Kentuckian, thanks to a Wilkins fourth great grandfather who moved to Muhlenberg County from North Carolina by 1803. Both her paternal and maternal lines were in western Kentucky before 1850.

Fran started researching her ancestors in 2004, when she retired after 29 years as a writer and editor for various state agencies. She joined the Kentucky Genealogical Society in March 2005 and has attended most Second Saturday workshops and August seminars for the past six years. She is chairperson of the society's Publicity Committee.

Fran, a journalism and mass media graduate of Western Kentucky University, has lived in Frankfort since 1966. Her interests include travel, choral singing, tutoring new readers, finding and staying in touch with far-flung cousins, and enjoying time with her husband, Dave, their two adult children and 18-month-old grandson. She is a member of Frankfort First United Methodist Church, where she helps with church communications, serves as class treasurer, and sings in the Chancel Choir and the Madrigal Ensemble.

She is researching these direct ancestors:

Nelson, Wilkins, Cardwell, Fitzsimmons, Roark, Lewis, Jarvis, Millard, Ingram, Diver, Oberhausen, King, Davis, McCoy, Griffith, Williams. She invites others with these surnames in their ancestry to e-mail her at kykinsearcher@mac.com.

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