



KGS Newsletter • Volume VI, Issue 3 • May/June 2011

On The Road at NGS

by Paul Gregory

What could be finer than Charleston, South Carolina in the spring? In 2011 certainly not much, especially if you are into genealogy!

As you probably know the National Genealogical Society held their 2011 Family History Conference the second week of May at the North Charleston Convention Center. The South Carolina Genealogical Society hosted this year's event with over 200 individual seminars and luncheons held over the four-day period.

I started the week off by attending an extra day of skill building sessions presented by the BCG Education Fund on Tuesday. The all day event was comprised of two sessions flanking a luncheon. My morning session was "Working with Documents: From Discovery to What Comes Next" presented by Barbara Vines Little. In the afternoon I attended the session on "In the Law Library: A Workshop on Legal Research for Genealogists" by Sharon Tate Moody.

The actual conference kicked off on Wednesday morning. Held in one of the large auditoriums the opening ceremony was worth getting out of bed for. If your last name is Gregory and you hope to definitively prove you are Clan MacGregor, you couldn't help but be moved

by the Charleston Police Pipe & Drums (<http://www.charpol-pipesanddrums.com/>). They were followed by the color guard, presentations of awards, special thanks to numerous volunteers, and the keynote speaker, Ms. Buzzy Jackson. While not a "professional" genealogist but rather a writer, Ms. Jackson spoke about writing her book *Shaking the Family Tree: A Writer's Perspective on Turning Research Into Writing...* extremely entertaining.

I won't go into every session I attended but here are some of my more memorable lectures ... "Researching in Ireland: Planning is the Key to Success" by Eileen M. O'Duill; "Reporting the Facts: Record as You Go" by Pamela Boyer Sayre; and the Helen F.M. Leary Distinguished Lecture "The Genealogical Proof Standard: What It Is and What It Is Not" by Thomas W. Jones.

At one point in the week I ran into KGS Vice President Pat Layton, who was lucky enough to be able to combine her trip to

the conference with actual family research on her southeast relatives. Pat's favorite workshops at the conference were "Using Newspapers: using on line resources", "Photography: the Civil War and your Family Pictures", "Speaking from the grave: Exploring Probate Files" and "Blank or Prize: What you need to know about Georgia's Land Lottery". Pat pointed out Charleston is a great city! So much to learn - not enough time.

Have you registered for the August KGS Seminar?

It is suggested that if you are planning to attend and haven't registered that you do so right away. Seating for Ms. Mills will be limited.

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Things I learned about attending a national conference. First, you don't have to attend everything. By that I mean you can skip some luncheons and go to the trade show instead. My days were full from beginning to end and if you want you can make them long. I had two days that ran from 8:00 a.m to 8:00 p.m. Whoa... genealogy overload!

The second thing I learned was when you like history and genealogy and you are going to a town like Charleston make sure and leave a few days at one end of the conference to simply sightsee. I stayed so busy that I only made it into Charleston's French Quarter one night. Don't feel real sorry for me, because I am going to say three words "SHRIMP AND GRITS." Lordy... Low Country Cooking and Weight Watchers just don't jive very well.

One thing I know I learned was "how to attend" a conference at NGS and I won't repeat all of my mistakes when I go to FGS in Springfield in September.

So if I have made you entertain the thought of attending an NGS Family History Conference start planning now, because it couldn't get much closer than 2012. The Ohio Genealogical Society will be hosting the conference in Cincinnati the week of 9 through 12 May 2012 (http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info). And if you can wait the 2013 conference was announced to be held in Las Vegas.

BLUEGRASS ROOTS UPDATE

Lori and I would like to thank the many people who sent words of encouragement and praise for our first issue of BGR. We had great fun and many moments of anxiety-- Lori squawking at me about what I had gotten her into and me yelling back at her that we can do it.

Several people have inquired about material that they submitted to BGR previously. When Lori and I took over, we did not receive any unpublished materials from the previous editor. If you have sent anything to be published in the past year, *please resend it to me*. I can't guarantee you that we will be able to print what you send but we will certainly respond.

I'm off on a family vacation next week (researching the family as I float down the river in Gatlinburg) and we will be pulling the next

issue together the following weekend. Look for it mid July.

Johnna – johnnary@gmail.com

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 vendor's 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 our vendors:

Ye Olde Genealogie Shoppe is coming! Pat Gooldy will be bringing her books, abstracts, maps, forms, etc. to the KGS Annual Seminar. If you have a specific need for a resource, send her an email at orders@yogs.com and she will try her best to accommodate your needs.

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

Tell your friends, librarians, local genealogy society, etc. they can browse the vendors without paying an admittance fee to attend the seminar.

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 – 11 June 2011:

10:30 - 11:30 a.m., "Lineage Society Paperwork: Creating a Legacy for Your Descendants"

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.

12:30 - 1:30 p.m., "Lineage Societies: Small Groups discussions"

Representatives from various heritage societies such as the DAR and SAR will be available for one on one discussion.

Second Saturday – 9 July 2011

10:30 am to 11:30 am - "Brick Walls: A Panel Discussion"

Panel: Deborah Campisano, Betty Darnell, 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!

12:30 - 1:30 p.m., "The Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS)"

Speaker: Deborah Campisano. Genealogical problems arise when historical records either do not exist, or do not directly support a clear conclusion. Learn about the accepted standards of evidence that must be met when trying to draw a conclusion, prove a relationship or, at the very least, discriminate between what information is credible and what is not. This session is intended as an introduction to the concept of GPS, and may be especially useful for those who want to explore it more fully in the following month's KGS Annual Seminar with Elizabeth Shown Mills.

Second Saturday – August 2011

THE KGS ANNUAL SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN PLACE OF THE SECOND SATURDAY ON 6 AUGUST 2011 – SEE PREVIOUS NEWS ITEM.

Second Saturday – 10 September 2011

10:30 am to 11:30 am - "Records and Resources in Libraries' Genealogical Collections"

Hear representatives from three libraries with significant family-history holdings discuss their unique genealogy and family-history collections, including archival holdings and on-line databases.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m., "Question & Answer Session with the Library Representatives and Mentoring in the KHS Library"

Get one-on-one guidance from experienced family-history researchers in the use of library resources.

Second Saturday – 8 October 2011

In October David Dilts of Family Search in Salt Lake City is coming to tell us about Family Search, including Family Search Web sites, Wiki, Pilot, Labs and Forums. He will speak about Community Trees, and if time permits, volunteer indexing initiatives and Family Search Center Plans.

Louisville Genealogical Society 26th Anniversary Luncheon

NEW DATE AND LOCATION FOR ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The luncheon will be changed to a new day - July 26, 2011 and new location - Woodhaven Country Club, 7200 Woodhaven Road, Louisville, KY 40291

Anniversary Luncheon Program

"Dancing with Family Skeletons" presented by Susan Covey

Cases of divorce, suicide, illegitimacy, insanity, and criminal activity do shake the ancestral tree. Looking for black sheep ancestors and exploring family secrets is a significant but often overlooked part of family research. Stories about our wayward kin add real color, intrigue, and interest to family history. Often the paper trails they leave are easier to follow than those of our more respectable relatives. So high dive into the generational gene pool, locate, and celebrate your "exceptional" ancestors. Learn how to solve family mysteries and find skeletons hiding in the genealogy closet by using unique and common sources.

Susan Covey is the keeper of the genealogical flame for her family. Self taught in the field of family history, she has been researching over 25 years. Susan has a journalism degree from the University of Evansville and has attended the University of Louisville. She is a current board member and past vice president of the Southern Indiana Genealogical Society, a member of the Louisville Genealogical Society, and the National Society Daughters of the Union. Susan was born and raised in Indiana. Having lived in the bluegrass for many years, she is proud to call herself a "born again Kentuckian".

MENU: Plentiful buffet with an array of summer salads including chicken, tuna, Caesar salad, fruit, and vegetarian pasta salad with cheese torte, rolls, coffee, tea, & desserts. The charge is \$20 per plate. The price includes tax and tip.

Don't forget to bring your show and tell items.

**** Must be mailed before July 8, 2011 ****

For full details see <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kylgs/index.htm>

NEWS from the SAR

The SAR Genealogical Research Library has exciting scheduling and programming news to share with KGS members! During the summer months of June, July, and August, the library's schedule will change to Tuesday-Saturday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. This change is designed to allow additional patrons access to the library,

especially those that work during the weekdays. Each summer month the library will be presenting a Genealogy 101 class from 9:30 am -10:30 am with independent research available afterward. These dates are June 4, July 9, and August 6, 2011. Individuals that attend the seminar receive free access to the library the remainder of the day. The SAR Genealogical Research Library is excited to be able to offer alternate summer hours and genealogy programming to area societies and the public at large. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Come see what's blooming on your family tree this summer...at the SAR Genealogical Research Library

New Summer Hours: June-August
Tuesday-Saturday • 9:30am-4:30pm

FREE Genealogy 101 Seminar*

Saturday, June 4, 9:30-10:30 am

Saturday, July 9, 9:30-10:30 am

Saturday, August 6, 9:30-10:30 am

*All seminar attendees receive free admission to the library for the remainder of the day!

For more information, check out our new website: <http://library.sar.org>

SAR Genealogical Research Library, 809 W. Main Street, Louisville, KY 40202, 502-589-1776

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 his or her 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

The 2011 Seminar will take place on 15 October and their speaker will be John T. Humphrey.

John T. Humphrey, CG, is recognized nationally and internationally for his contributions to German genealogy. In 2010 he was invited to give a presentation on researching Germans in America at Schloss Dhaun in the Rhineland Palatinate; in 2008, at the request of the German Embassy, he gave the keynote address at the

400th Anniversary Celebration commemorating four centuries of German immigration into the United States. He has appeared on national television and public radio.

Mr. Humphrey's research specialties include eighteenth-century Palatines, Pennsylvania and nineteenth-century Germans. He specializes in German research at the Library of Congress, the National Archives and record repositories in southeastern Pennsylvania. The Prussian State Library in Berlin, church archives in Boppard and Berlin, the Institut für pfälzische Geschichte und Volkskunde in Kaiserslautern, the Stadtarchiv in Hamburg, the Zentralarchiv der Evangelische Kirche der Pfalz in Speyer and the Landesarchiv in Darmstadt are among the locations where he has researched in Germany.

John Humphrey is the past president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, and a past vice president of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. He is the former director of the NGS Learning Center and author of numerous books including the sixteen-volume set of Pennsylvania Births listing over 200,000 births in fifteen eastern Pennsylvania counties and *Understanding and Using Baptismal Records*. His most recent publication is *Finding Your German Ancestors: A Practical Guide for Genealogists*.

Here are the topics that will be presented by John Humphrey at the 2011 LGS Seminar:
9:00 a.m. - Finding Your German Ancestor's Place of Origin

An interesting array of records exist that can lead you to your ancestral "heimat" in Germany. Learn what those records are and their uses.

10:45 a.m. - Using Church Records Effectively

Church records are one of the more important record groups genealogists use. To fully exploit these records family historians need to understand the history of record keeping and the traditions of the church where their ancestors worshipped.

1:15 p.m. - German Immigration, Migration and Settlement Patterns within the U. S.

The process of locating information on German ancestors is facilitated if genealogists searching for that family have some knowledge of that immigrant ancestor's port of entry as well the location where he/his family initially settled.

3:00 p.m. - Reconstructing Families on the Colonial Frontier

Records kept during the colonial period can be difficult to find, or when they do exist, they are often incomplete. This void or lack of information causes serious obstacles to research. This lecture explores strategies to get around those obstacles by creatively using data found in the records that do exist.

FREE CLASSES:

9:00 a.m. - Genealogy 101: The Basics, Part 1

presented by Deborah Lord Campisano

9:00 a.m. - Fairy Tales for Genealogists

presented by Jane-Rives Williams

10:45 a.m. - Genealogy 101: The Basics, Part 2

presented by Deborah Lord Campisano

10:45 a.m. - I Found It Online presented by

Ivan Baugh

1:15 p.m. - African American Research

presented by LaVerne Dunning and Juanita White

1:15 p.m. - Land Warrants presented by Kandie

Adkinson

3:00 p.m. - The History of the Kentucky Vital

Record Law: What Every Genealogist Should

Know presented by Joe Hardesty

3:00 p.m. - Ask-A-Pro Panel

For additional information visit their website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~kylgs/seminar2.html

Speaker Announced for the KGS 2012 Annual Seminar

Another exciting speaker has been selected for the 2012 KGS Annual Seminar, Mr. Richard Eastman. As many of you are aware Mr. Eastman publishes a daily and weekly blog on all things related to genealogy and especially new technologies that relate to genealogy.

Ancestry.com to Fort Wayne, IN

With more than 6 billion historical records and in excess of 20 million family trees available, Ancestry.com is the world's largest genealogical database. Have you explored what Ancestry.com has to offer? Or are you needing guidance to navigate the website? Come learn from the experts at Ancestry.com and The Genealogy Center on July 22 and 23, when both groups collaborate for "Fort Wayne Ancestry Day." Beginning Friday night, July 22, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., you can pick up your name

tag, handout materials, and chat with the experts from both organizations at the Fort Wayne Hilton Atrium. Then on Saturday, July 23, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the experts will present five classes and provide answers to your questions during this full day event at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne, IN.

Classes include:

- Insider Search Tips for Ancestry.com
- How to Find Civil War Roots at Ancestry.com
- Hidden Treasures of The Genealogy Center in Fort Wayne
- A Dozen Ways to Jumpstart Your Family History Project

• Ask the Experts Panel

Cost for the event is \$20. To take advantage of this opportunity, register at <http://fortwayneancestryday.eventbrite.com/>.

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Finance: Russell Wright –

russellwright@fewpb.net

Publicity: Fran Salyers –

kykinsearcher@mac.com

Projects: Brian Harney –

webguy@kygs.org

Bluegrass Roots Co-Editors:

Johnna Waldon – johnnaryry@gmail.com

Lori Poole – kgsbluegrassroots@gmail.com

KGS Newsletter: Paul Gregory –

newsletter@kygs.org

Kentucky Genealogical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 153, Frankfort, KY, 40602-0153

www.kygs.org

The 36th Annual Seminar • 6 August 2011

Clearing Your Genealogical Hurdles

Featured Presenter: Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA

Seminar Location:

Asbury Hall, 2nd floor Wesley Center

(Handicap-accessible by elevator)

Frankfort 1st United Methodist Church

211 Washington Street, Frankfort, Ky. 40601

Contact Person: Fran Salyers, kykinsearcher@gmail.com

Register Early – Limited Seating Available

Browse vendors' tables from 8:15 a.m. • Seminar doors open at 8:15 a.m.

Register Today

Please provide the name of each person registering plus contact information for one.

Mark each KGS member with an asterisk.

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Seminar Registration fee includes deluxe box lunch.

KGS Members: \$40 per person if postmarked by July 10, 2011; \$45 after July 10th

Non-members: \$50 per person if postmarked by July 10, 2011; \$60 after July 10th

Members Registering:	_____ X \$ _____	= _____
Non-Members Registering:	_____ X \$ _____	= _____
Sub total		= _____
Total Paid		= _____

Make checks payable to: Kentucky Genealogical Society (KGS)

Mail to: PO BOX 153, Frankfort, Ky 40602-0153