



**Genealogy Society 2024 Programming – All are in-person speakers except perhaps February.  
All are Tuesdays at 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted**

| Date   | Presentation/Topic  | Presenter  |
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| 23-Jan | <p><b>Unlocking Ancestral Legacies: Exploring Vital Records and Their Alternates</b></p> <p>We will discover what a vital record is, the history of vital records, and where to find them and what records can act as substitutes.</p>  | <p><b>Amy Urman</b> – Amy Urman, a private investigator, professional genealogist, and speaker, has dedicated her professional life to uncovering hidden stories, tracing ancestral threads, and locating elusive assets. As the founder and owner of Nosy Wilma LLC, Amy has utilized her skills to search for both the living and the dead. She specializes in heir searches, land records, skip tracing and asset searches. As a co-founder and former president of the Pima County Genealogy Society she contributes to the program and workshops committees along with heading the Great Lakes Special Research group. She also volunteers on the Arizona DAR State Lineage Committee. Amy is an alumnus of ProGen28, and earned a certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University. She is a member of the Arizona Association of Licensed Private Investigators, DAR, Arizona Genealogical Advisory Board, Chicago Genealogical Society, Illinois State Genealogical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists.</p> |
| 27-Feb | <p><b>Weaving Cultural History into our Family History</b> - Sometimes family historians have only names, dates, and places for ancestors. But the more we gather names, dates, and other genealogical facts, the more we yearn for more personal connections to and understanding of those who came before us, found in stories about their lives and accounts of their daily struggles, hopes, and dreams. How can we enrich the stories that we write about our ancestors if we have relatively few details about their lives? Duane Roen will talk about using cultural/social history to flesh out the stories that we write about ancestors. Such history can give us a better understanding of what our ancestors experienced.</p> | <p><b>Duane Roen – probably Zoom, but TBD</b> - Duane Roen has been tracing his roots since his teenage years, building a database with more than 32,000 ancestors. He and his wife, Maureen Roen, have also been recording their family history since 1978 by writing more than 19,000 daily journal entries on their children and other family members. Combining his professional and personal interests, Duane worked with colleagues to establish courses on writing and recording family history at Arizona State University. He also is founding coordinator of the Project for Writing and Recording Family History in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts at ASU.</p>  |
| 26-Mar | <p><b>German Records</b> - Germany is important to genealogists because so many immigrants came from Germany. It is not easy because there are variations in the alphabet and script compared to English. We will begin with a little about the differences and how to navigate them. We will then cover a bit about the country via maps, have the village names might have changed over time and how to begin to</p>  | <p><b>Ed Storey</b> – Ed Storey grew up in Rochester, where he worked for General Motors, as an engineer. He also lived in El Paso and Beijing before moving to Colorado with his wife, Nancy, and finally to Arizona. Storey writes regularly for genealogy magazines like <i>Your Genealogy Today</i> and <i>Internet Genealogy</i>. His ancestors seem to have come from England and Germany, with a time in India. Storey’s specialty is</p>   |

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|               | <p>understand. Fortunately, there are many published books of interest to genealogists. We will go through some, including how to find them. Overall, I will try to balance a lot of information whilst not overwhelming the listeners.</p>  | <p>showing how to find copies of records for ancestors. He still has mysteries in his tree that he is trying to sort out. Recent presentation topics include finding older records and how to look up records for England and her colonies, such as India or St Helena.</p>   |
| <p>23-Apr</p> | <p><b>Modern Photo Storage</b> - How Mylio solved my problem of organizing a large, random collection of photos and helped me lay the groundwork for an entertaining family history.</p>   | <p><b>Sue Horsfall</b> – Sue has dabbled in family history research since she joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 1968. While the idea of digging out and producing documents relating to her family’s background sounded fascinating, it also seemed daunting as the available time for such pursuits eluded her entirely. Over the years, she took workshops on the latest versions of the Church’s Family Search software and about a year ago decided it was time to stop “dabbling” and to get serious. She took another workshop and this time was able to make meaningful additions to the nuclear family tree that her husband, now deceased, had created a few years previously in Family Search, and to organize the files of historical family hard-copy her father had collected. In the meantime, 2 children were born and in 1990 the family moved to Switzerland where Sue and Frank lived until 2008. Over the 18 years they lived in Switzerland, Sue and her husband took lots of pictures: family, friends, holidays, Scout outings and ceremonies, trips around Europe, etc., using whatever medium was in vogue at the time.</p> <p>Now widowed and living in Sunflower, the desire to create an organized family history has become more urgent. So, as she continues to move forward with the research part of her family history, she is also actively pursuing the creation of a succinct pictorial history of her nuclear family that she plans to make available to her descendants.</p> |
| <p>28-May</p> | <p><b>Immigrants and their Stories</b> - Where did they come from? What port did they enter? Where did they settle? These are the questions we wish answered about our immigrant ancestors. We also want to know their stories and every immigrant has a story. The fate of the girl whose betrothed stood her up at Ellis Island, the Russian who walked the Siberian Railroad tracks to Japan to board a ship for San Francisco, the starving child who scavenged in the trash from first class. These are a few of the stories we will share.</p> | <p><b>Suzanne Young Brayer</b>—Suzanne is an educator, researcher and avid genealogist. She graduated with degrees in history and education from Arizona State University.</p> <p>Her involvement in researching her family history began when she and her father worked together gathering the pieces of their ancestry puzzle. From Mayflower ancestors to Revolutionary War patriots to</p>  |

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|                              |  | <p>19<sup>th</sup> century German immigrants and a few criminals along the way, she, like most of us, represents the “melting pot” of American culture.</p> <p>She is past President of the Family History Society of Arizona, Past Vice President of Arizona Genealogical Advisory Board (AzGAB), liaison from AzGAB to the Arizona State Library, Archives. She is also a member of The Arizona Council of Professional Genealogists, NGS and DAR as well as numerous local and national societies. She has taught genealogy classes and spoken to numerous groups throughout Arizona and the West. She is a lecturer, teacher and genealogist with over 30 years’ experience.</p> |
| Summer                       | <b>Summer off</b>  |  |
| 24-Sep                       | <p><b>Field Work: Researching the Old-Fashioned Way on the Ground</b> - Genealogical research was once done only in such locations as courthouses, cemeteries, libraries, and archives. While the internet provides a plethora of convenient at home resources, many records are still only available in person. Plus, it is fun to not only hold those original records in your hands, but to experience the locations your ancestors lived, worked in and trod in their lives and repose in their deaths. Find out where to look and what you will find on that genealogical field trip!</p> | <p><b>Paulette Weiser</b> – a native of North Dakota and a life-long history buff, Paulette has undergraduate and master’s degrees in history. She worked for 30 years in the history field as an archivist, historian, local history museum curator and author in Wyoming and Ohio. She spends her days now happily retired, traveling around the world, weaving baskets, playing pickleball and doing genealogy.</p>   |
| 22-Oct                       | <p><b>Researching with Genealogy Programs and the Internet</b> - There are many online services, both free and subscription-based, that are available for genealogy research. Kim will review some of them, including Family Search, Ancestry, and MyHeritage. She will also show you other Internet websites and tricks for making them work in your favor. The challenge of keeping your tree as accurate as possible in the online environment will be discussed.</p>   | <p><b>Kim Gunyou</b> – Kim is an SGS board member who has been interested in her family tree ever since her grandpa told her they were related to Patrick Henry. While Patrick Henry may be a very distant connection, the passion for looking at her ancestry has expanded over the years into helping friends with diverse backgrounds. A former diabetes research study coordinator, Kim realizes the importance of good sources for accuracy. She and her husband have been in Sunflower for six years.</p>  |
| 19-Nov<br><b><u>1:00</u></b> | <p><b>Field Trip – Family History Center East- <u>1:00 p.m. tour</u></b></p>    | <p>We are off to the Family History Center on 500 South Langley Ave. in Tucson. We will tour the facility and have time to look at the resources. Watch for details regarding carpooling from the Village Center.</p>  |
| 17-Dec                       | <b>Video and Party</b>   |  <p>Let’s watch a 30-minute video on genealogy, then enjoy holiday treats and beverages together.</p>   |