

*Genealogical  
Society  
of  
Yuma  
Arizona*

# Newsletter

[www.gsya.org](http://www.gsya.org)

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**Welcome back.** The GSYA Newsletter is resuming publication; but in a new format. The volume number (as always) reflects the number of years this organization has been around. Volume 1 started in March of 1981 – the month and year the society was organized. Volume 38 starts with March – April 2018 – our 38<sup>th</sup> year.

Now, instead of reprinting complete articles which may be of interest, only an introduction will be given with a link to the original article for those who want to make the jump. [Comments in brackets are this editor's.]

Since this Newsletter will be available on our website for all to see, information that can be found on the website will not be included here, i.e. officers, upcoming programs, etc. Society members and a few other interested people will receive an email notice when each issue is posted.

Please send comments, questions, suggestions, complaints to the editor, Betsy Gottsponer at [bgottsponer@gmail.com](mailto:bgottsponer@gmail.com)

## THE LEGAL GENEALOGIST: NEBRASKA PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

[Posted: 26 Apr 2018 06:15 AM PDT](#)

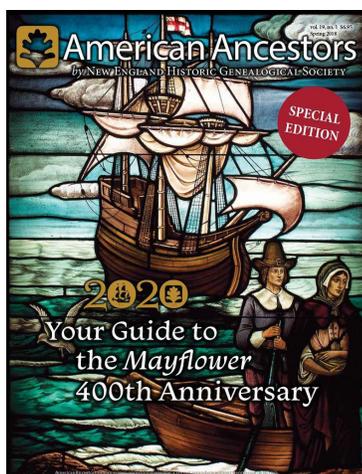
### [Nebraska Public Documents](#)

#### **A Serial Set for one state**

If the title sounds dull, it isn't. Instead, it's a terrific resource for anybody who has even the tiniest reason to do even a little bit of research in Nebraska. These are all those little obscure official reports that can explain so much about how our ancestors lived, what was impacting them, even who they were and what they were doing.

[This is something genealogists wish every state had, A fantastic source and on-line. The Legal Genealogist also mentions the U.S. Serial Set. Everyone should check this out.]

The U.S. Serial Set, a federal publication that “contains the House and Senate Documents and the House and Senate Reports. The reports are usually from congressional committees dealing with proposed legislation and issues under investigation. The documents include all other papers ordered printed by the House or Senate. Documents cover a wide variety of topics and may include reports of executive departments and independent organizations, reports of special investigations made for Congress, and annual reports of non-governmental organizations. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, executive-branch materials were also published in the Serial Set.” “[U.S. Serial Set](#),” “A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875,” Library of Congress, *American Memory* (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>)



### New England Historic Genealogical Society Publishes “2020—Your Guide to the Mayflower 400th Anniversary”

“The special commemorative issue of *American Ancestors* is devoted entirely to the history, relevance, and impact of the Mayflower and its passengers and crew.” Dick Eastman in his on-line Newsletter said. “NEHGS, with its national headquarters located in Boston’s Back Bay, is the oldest and largest genealogical society in America. NEHGS serves more than 250,000 members and millions of online users engaged in family history nationally and around the world. It is home to a world-class research library and archive, and an expert staff. NEHGS offers an award-winning genealogical research website at [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org) with 1.4 billion records and maintains a publishing division which produces original genealogical research, scholarship, and educational materials, including the *Mayflower Descendant*, a quarterly journal of Pilgrim genealogy and history.”

[Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) The Daily Online Genealogy Newsletter

[Interested in DNA. Check this out from Dick Eastman] [DNA Basics: How DNA](#)

[Testing Works](#) and [DNA that Cracked the 'Golden State Killer' Case came from Genealogy Websites](#)

Also from Eastman:

[Historic Weather](#) What was the weather like? Type in date and location. US, Canada, UK. Mostly since 1930.

[Create a Digital Diary and Your Descendants will Thank You](#) Ways to do it and how to preserve it.

About FamilySearch: FamilySearch International is the largest genealogy organization in the world. FamilySearch is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Millions of people use FamilySearch records, resources, and services to learn more about their family history. To help in this great pursuit, FamilySearch and its predecessors have been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide for over 100 years. Patrons may access FamilySearch services and resources free online at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) or through over 5,000 family history centers in 129 countries, including the main Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

*Weddings of the rich & famous*

# Married in Yuma

For Hollywood stars  
of the '30s, '40s and '50s,  
plus thousands of other Californians,  
Yuma was THE place  
for quickie weddings.

**5:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, May 1**

**at Wellton Library**

Presented by Jim Patrick

One Yuma official achieved national notoriety,  
becoming known as the "marrying judge," due to  
the many high profile Hollywood stars he married.



## THE LEGAL GENEALOGIST

### New ProGen PPS book released

Posted: 25 Apr 2018 06:00 AM PDT

There's a new book that's just been published that belongs in every genealogist's library. Its title is *Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards* and — despite the title — it's really **not** just for professionals or aspiring professionals: there's a ton of content there worthwhile for every genealogist who wants to do things right. Edited by Elizabeth Shown Mills, it's the long-awaited sequel to the 2001 volume *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers, and Librarians*. By the way, the earlier book remains in print and it's still worth having in your library: some of its content is timeless, and it addresses some needs not covered in the new book like transcribing and abstracting.

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

### Louisiana Historical Center's Colonial Documents Digitization Project

Genealogists researching Louisiana ancestry are fortunate to have many original manuscripts available from the 18th century. These include documents from New Orleans' *French Superior Council* (1714-1769) and the *Spanish Judicial Records* (1769-1803). The documents provide a rich source of data on New Orleans's earliest days, the Louisiana territory, the slave trade, and Native American relations, the Atlantic World, and Canada and the Caribbean, among other topics.

The American Antiquarian Society

“This little-known rival to the Library of Congress houses one of the largest collections of pre-1876 American books, newspapers, and manuscripts. Plenty of people in Worcester, Massachusetts, drive by the American Antiquarian Society every day, but few know about the vast amounts of knowledge held inside. This research library and learned society rivals the Library of Congress in terms of its historical content. Historians from all over the United States and beyond make pilgrimages to come here to do their research.”

The full article, along with several pictures of the American Antiquarian Society, may be found at <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/american-antiquarian-society-2>. The American Antiquarian Society's web site may be found at:

<http://www.americanantiquarian.org>

The Legal Genealogist [That dratted census fire](#) Posted: 13 Apr 2018 08:00 AM PDT  
All that burns is not lost. Really. Even when it comes to that dratted fire in 1921 that cost us the bulk of the 1890 U.S. census schedules. [Read the story of what really happened

to the 1890 census and what has been found.] So... really... before you despair, check out what does survive from 1890.

From Betsy: Over *two billion* – the number of images of genealogy records that are now available on *FamilySearch.org*. And FamilySearch is adding records to its online system to the tune of millions of records each and every week. Under the *Search* tab at the top of the page after you have signed onto the website, choose *Catalog*. Enter your place in the *Subjects* field. You'll find some of the historical record collections. But don't stop there. Enter your place in the *Keyword* field. You may find hundreds of more records. On that search page under the word “Availability” is a choice of “Any”, “Online”, or “Family History Center”. Use the “Online” to find only the records that are now digitized and posted to the website. However, if you use the “Any” you will find ALL of the records, papers, books, films, that are held by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and some associated libraries. Even though the Family History Library no longer sends out microfilms and does not loan out books, if an item is listed in the catalog. it can probably be borrowed from somewhere else. Ask your public librarian to request it on interlibrary loan.

### Military Records

<https://www.rootstech.org/video/finding-the-answers-the-basics-of-wwii-research>

Fire destroyed many military and civilian service records. Alternative record sources exist to reconstruct service history. Learn how to research World War I and II records. Type the above address into your computer to watch this video.

[info@irelandxo.com](mailto:info@irelandxo.com)

Discovering **who** lived **where** in Ireland can sometimes seem impossible. For many of us, finding an Irish place of origin can be too daunting a task to tackle on our own, which is why our volunteers and fellow Ireland XO members are here to help. Subscribe to this newsletter and visit their website. Ireland Reaching Out is a volunteer and community-based, non-profit initiative building vibrant lasting links between the global Irish Diaspora and their communities of origin in Ireland.