



MESA FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

DECEMBER 2011

NEWSLETTER



41 S. Hobson , Mesa, Az 85204 Phone:480-964-1200

Volume 1 issue 3

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mesafhcnewsletter@gmail.com

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Our beginnings as a library consisted of a few family histories that were purchased and donated for our use in 1930 by the Maricopa County Public Library and placed in a small room in the Mesa Public Library. About 1933, the library asked that they be moved. They were then transferred to what is now the Arizona Temple Cafeteria. It was then moved to what is now the MFHTC. The land and money for our current facility was donated by John and Delia Allen and the doors opened in 1992.

Publicity Committee
 Marsha Atkin: Chairman/Editor
 Gordon Mulleneaux: Assistant Editor
 Betty Jean Perry
 Steve Packer Melba Preece
 Darlene Carroll
 Matthew Watts :Graphic Designer
 Nick Randall :Graphic Designer
 Sherril Harmon: Director
 Bruce Evans: Assistant Director
 Adrian Kuzdas: Assistant Director

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
<http://www.mesarfhc.org/>

Early close dates:

5 pm Dec. 1-30.

Closed Dates:

Dec. 23, 24, 26 & 31

What classes would be beneficial to you?

Send us your ideas-

mesafhcnewsletter@gmail.com

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

In this month's newsletter we are focusing on our own Mesa Family History Center. If you are a regular patron to our Center, we count you among the 35,000 or so who visit each year, but want you to know that you individually are very special and dear to us as a person or group doing inspired work for your ancestors! How grateful they must be for you and your efforts! How grateful are we too for your dedication to this marvelous work!

Each month in this newsletter we will "drill down" into various portions of our website for you to experience the tremendously powerful tools we provide. This month we will highlight the specific website links that allow you to get to know our Center better, and each month hereafter, we will pick a new topic to explore. Be sure to visit our website at www.mesarfhc.org regularly. It will be your "one stop shop" for genealogical tools. We are a bit biased, but we feel confident in saying that it is one of the top websites in the world for the work you are engaged in. You won't find many that are more comprehensive.

When you visit us, you have access to over 150 trained missionaries and volunteers who can make your search quicker and more productive. The 81,000 rolls of microfilm and 52,000 microfiche, 40,000 books, 700 commercial CD's packed with information, and 130 computers with access to thousands of websites (all completely free) will greatly assist you in finding those individuals who have been waiting so long to be found.

Be sure to check out our class schedules each month on our website (and in this newsletter) and take advantage of the 80+ classes offered each month to learn from the experts how to use the new programs and how to best do your research. Many Family History Centers charge for these services to cover overhead. All of our classes are free! They are available 6 days a week and are offered both day and evenings to best accommodate your individual schedules. Come check them out!

If you are a regular visitor here, thank you! If you haven't been here in awhile, stop by and take in the many changes that are occurring almost daily. We love it here! We know you will too!

From all of us to all of you, have a very wonderful and Merry Christmas!

- Adrian Kuzdas Assistant director

We would like to highlight
the 8 week series of free
US Research classes

Starting on January 24, 2012,
two sessions of classes will be held.
The first will be Tuesdays at 1:30pm,
and the second on Wednesdays at
6:30pm. Classes are held in the
Training Center Auditorium,
464 East 1st Ave., Mesa
(West of the Temple).
Each participant may purchase
a "USB flash drive"
(\$10 or less) which will have all
the course materials and slides.
Call 480-964-1200 to sign up.

Lesson 1:

Surveying and researching the
Internet

Tuesday and Wednesday
Jan 24 & 25

Lesson 2: US Census Records

Tuesday and Wednesday
Jan 31 & Feb 1

Lesson 3: US Civil and Church
Vital Records

Tuesday and Wednesday
Feb 7 & 8

Lesson 4: US Immigration
and Naturalization

Tuesday and Wednesday
Feb 14 & 15

Lesson 5: US Land Records

Tuesday and Wednesday
Feb 21 & 22

Lesson 6: US Probate and
Court Records

Tuesday and Wednesday
Feb 28 & 29

Lesson 7: US Military Records

Tuesday and Wednesday
March 6 & 7

Lesson 8: Tools

Tuesday and Wednesday
Mar 13 & 14

British Isles Research

Classes start January 25
At the training center.

Classes start at 1:30 pm. Includes
courses about records in England,
Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Lesson 1: Overview and Internet

Wednesday Jan 25

Lesson 2: Census Records

Wednesday Feb 1

Lesson 3: Civil Registration

Wednesday Feb 8

Lesson 4: Church Records

Wednesday Feb 15

Lesson 5: Probate and court
records

Wednesday Feb 22

Lesson 6: Immigration Records

Wednesday Feb 29

Lesson 7: Land Records

Wednesday March 7

Lesson 8: Military Records

Wednesday March 14

The Mesa FHC Is The "Swiss Army Knife"

To Family History
"Tools you can use"

Books that Endure

We have every type of genealogical resource book imaginable! Over 40,000 of them. The books are organized by locality and include: parish church records, maps, atlases, gazetteers, military records, vital records (birth, marriage, death), cemetery records, probate and land records, census and tax records, local histories and in addition, we have several thousand family histories and biographies. Come in and look for your family's history! It may be here! We also have books on CD's (many family histories) and books on-line accessed through our on-line catalog. There are even "How To" books that will teach you how to do research in specific localities. The internet is nice, but it is also nice to hold a book!

- Marliyn Crandall

Microfilms, Microfiche, ScanPro

The Mesa Family History Center has approximately 81,000 rolls of microfilm and more than 52,000 microfiche. These rolls of microfilm as well as the sheets of microfiche contain Census, birth and death records, marriage, LDS records, passenger lists, cemetery records, military involvement, church records, public records from all many different countries and much much more. There are 14 standard microfilm readers and 3 standard microfiche readers.

Our newest tools for microfilms are the **ScanPro digital scanners**. These machines are ideal for viewing information found on microfilm and also microfiche. Start with traditional readers and then use a ScanPro to edit them for reviewing, printing, and even storage on a USB Drive. It edits size, color, cropping, and lighting and many other helpful tools and options. The best part of these machines is that they are digital and electronic, making them very easy to use and operate. Plus, we have missionaries at the center that specialize in these machines and can assist any patron that might need some extra help.

- Nick Randall

A Hidden Treasure at the Family History Center!

Can't find that elusive family history information?

Need another full, exciting, diverse information base to search?

Come into the copy room and use our CD Computers. These are pre-loaded with over 700 CDs that have been put together by companies or individuals, that have exclusive rights to their use. Most of this information is not yet found online!.....but is available here....Free! . . . (even when the internet is down)

These CD Computers contain details of marriages, deaths, births, maps, immigration, Native Americans, wills, family files, biographies, states and country information, many books, and much, much more! A family treasure of information may be hidden in the CDs!

-DeAnna Johnson

GET READY!

The Expos are coming!

For registration, classes, speakers and other details go to familyhistoryexpos.com

Yuma Family History Expo 2012
Hilton Garden Inn / Pivot Point Conference Center
310 Madison
Yuma, AZ 85364
January 17 , 2012

Arizona Family History Expo 2012
Mesa Convention Center
263 N. Center Street
Mesa, AZ 85201
January 20 - 21, 2012

St. George Family History Expo 2012
The Dixie Center
1835 Convention Center Dr.
St. George, UT 84790
February 24 - 25, 2012

Tech Tip

**Works for Windows 7
Works on macs only if
setup to do so.**

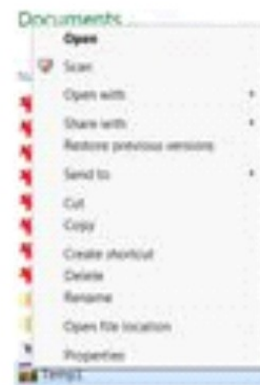
Right Clicking :

Is one of the easiest ways to get a drop down list. This will work in almost any program like PAF, Ancestral Quest, RootsMagic or Legacy. The drop down list will allow you to print, edit or perform other special functions. The drop down list (example shown on right) will also work on most pages, giving you the option to print as well.

Right clicking on or in different objects or pages will give different drop down lists of options available. No problem has been found when performing a right click.

DID YOU KNOW?

We have 10 Specialty Committees that meet monthly and present training courses immediately following their meetings... Join them and become an expert!



-Wayne Van Kirk

NEWS YOU CAN USE

GATHER AND SAVE

Are you sure all the information you have gathered and “saved” will always be there when needed.

I invite you to access the preservation tips available through Family Search. Follow these links, family search>learn>try tech tips>learn about>preservation. Or go straight to [Family search.org/techtip](http://Familysearch.org/techtip).

The step by step summary of personal archiving summarizes 4 articles teaching how to preserve your records. Read this and much more. Don't lose all your hard work.

-Darlene Carroll

What's New in



What is FamilySearch.org

FamilySearch.org is a free website maintained by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Its use is available to everyone at no charge or obligation and there are no advertising links on the site. The site is available to all individuals doing genealogical or family history research. FamilySearch will be reviewed in this newsletter each month to encourage users to avail themselves of the many free data bases to research and other important research information present on this site.

Research Wiki in FamilySearch.org

In addition to free access to indexed databases and copies of microfilmed records, the research Wiki provides thousands of articles on a variety of topics affecting family history research. Weekly classes are provided at the Mesa Family History Center to teach individuals how to use and contribute to the Research Wiki. The contributions may be as simple as editing corrections to articles or the submission of articles to the Wiki – thus adding information which may be useful to other researchers. A researcher must have an account to make contributions, to the Wiki. As of November 15, 2011, there were over 64,000 such articles available to researchers.

Research Courses in FamilySearch.org

FamilySearch.org also provides instructions to assist in family history research. Written records are also interpreted and assistance is given in the deciphering of foreign documents. The translation of foreign words to English is also provided in courses designed to assist the researcher.

New additions to the FamilySearch.org databases

During the period, October 15, 2011 thru November 14, 2011, there were over 111 databases added to the collection of existing databases of original records available to be researched on line. Twenty seven were indexed 93,520,746 records (searchable by a person's name) and eighty four of the databases were not indexed. The databases are from information sources and from countries worldwide (e.g. several of the continents, the Caribbean and Pacific Islands).

-Gordon Mulleneaux

Class in Spanish

Every Thursday at 6-8 pm there is a Hispanic class to help patrons. The Hispanic Committee teaches research and computer techniques all in Spanish.
Instructor Carmen Rodriquez
Phone (480) 964-1200

COMMITTEES

Eastern European
Committee

German Committee
Norene Thomas
Chairman

Immigration
&
Naturalization Committee
Robert Marshall
Chairman

Land & Probate Committee
Bob Wilcock
Chairman

LDS Records Committee
Edith Haws
Chairman

Military Committee
Denis Brimhall
Chairman

British Isles Committee
Joan Rowley
Chairman

Native American, Hawaiian
&
African-American
Committee
Hattie Mason
Chairman

Scandinavian Committee
Karen Keath
Chairman

Hispanic committee
Ronald Evans
Chairman

MESA FAMILY HISTORY WEBSITE

<http://www.mesarfhc.org/>

Each month we will focus on a page or pages of our website. The Mesa Family History Center web site is helpful for getting started and progressing with your family history work.

“ABOUT US”

Our web pages provide information about our staff, location, and how to contact us. To access this information click on the blue underline type.

Who We Are

This link leads you to our facilities, computers, film, microfiche, Cd's and more. This link also link provides staffing information.

FHC Locations

Not living in Mesa, Arizona or even the U.S.? Then find a Family History Center nearest you! Using Family History Center Locator.

Schedule a Tour

Interested in what we do or what we have?
Schedule a tour. Great for youth and family activities!
Your guide will be an expert who knows the center and will answer your questions.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, comments, problems about our website or want to sign up for classes.
Is your group holding a genealogical event where the use of our facility would be helpful, if so please contact us to schedule our facility. (480) 964 -1200)

- **Matthew Watts**

FAMILY HISTORY CLASSES

DECEMBER 2011

ALL CLASSES ARE FREE

CLASSES HELD IN CLASSROOM AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS/ELEVATOR

Category	Class Description	DAY	DATE	DATE	Time	Instructors
	Research Basics -Getting Started- Includes Tour	Tue	every		1:00	Preece/Carroll/Sherwood
	Organizing a Research Notebook	Fri	2	16	1:00	J. Taylor
Research Classes	Planning a Search	Thu	every		3:00	J. Rowley
	Church Records	Fri	2	16	10:00	M. Preece
	Emigration/Immigration	Wed	21		10:00	J. Taylor
	Land and Probate	Wed	7		10:00	R. Wilcock
	LDS Records	Tue	13		10:00	E. Haws
	Military	Wed	14		10:00	D. Brimhall
	Native American,African American, Polynesian	Mon	12		10:00	H. Mason
Geographic Specialties	British Isles	Tue	27		10:00	J. Rowley
	Canadian	Tue	6		10:00	M. Welch
	German	Fri	9		10:00	N. Thomas
	Hispanic	Wed	28		10:00	R. Evans
	Scandinavian (Not available in December)	Fri	X		10:00	K. Keath
Specialty Classes	US Census & Vital Records	Wed	14		1:00	D. Molgard
	Basic Computers	Tue	6	20	11:00	C. Shults
Using the Websites	Mesa Regional Fam Hist Ctr Website	Wed	28		1:00	D. Molgard
	Family Search Historical Records/Catalog	Thu	every		11:00	Marshall
	Family Search Wiki Learn/Videos	Wed	7	21	11:00	J. Tanner
	How to Input on the Wiki (Not Avail on the 19th, 26th)	Mon	every		11:00	J. Tanner
	Godfrey Memorial Library/Heritage Quest	Fri	2	16	11:00	D. Crawford
	Animaps/Historic Map Works/Google Map	Thu	1	15	1:00	W. VanKirk
	Progenealogist	Thu	8		1:00	D. Carroll
	Ancestry	Wed	21		1:00	R. Johnson
	Fold3 (Not available on the 23rd)	Fri	9	X	1:00	J. Taylor
Interfacing with New Family Search	Roots Magic: Using With New Family Search	Wed	14	28	11:00	J. Tanner
	Ancestral Quest: Using With New Family Search	Tue	13	27	11:00	W. Haws
	Legacy: Using With New Family Search	Wed	every		3:00	D. Brady
	Family Insight: Using With New FamilySearch	Tue	6	20	3:00	S. Barnwell

DECEMBER 2011 - SCHEDULE OF CLASSES FOR THE JM ROOM & TRAINING CENTER

	Class Name	Class #	Day	Date	Begins	Ends	Place	Teacher
RESEARCH	Maps, Goog. Earth, Animap	504	Mon	5-Dec	10:00 AM	11:45 AM	Training Ctr	W. Haws
	Favorites Sites	505	Mon	12-Dec	10:00 AM	11:45 AM	Training Ctr	S. Barnwell
	Google Gen, Whats New etc	506	Mon	19-Dec	10:00 AM	11:45 AM	Training Ctr	J. Tanner
SOFTWARE	Ancestral Quest (sign up required)	682	Fri	2-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	JM Room	D. Brimhall
	Ancestral Quest	303	Mon	5-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	JM Room	D. Brimhall
	PAF 5.2 (sign up required)	684	Mon	5-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Training Ctr	L. Melville
	Roots Magic (sign up required)	681	Tues	6-Dec	10:00 AM	11:45 AM	JM Room	E. Haws
	Using Irfanview Effectively (sign up required)	680	Wed	7-Dec	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	JM Room	A. Kuzdas
	Legacy (sign up required)	683	Wed	7-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	JM Room	R. Johnson
	Roots Magic	304	Mon	12-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Training Ctr	K. Percy
	Legacy	305	Mon	19-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	Training Ctr	J. Tanner
NEW FAMILY SEARCH	Intro/Combining Records	411	Sat	3-Dec	1:30 PM	3:00 PM	JM Room	L. Atkins
	Contributing Information	412	Sat	10-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	JM Room	D. Brady
	Temple Submission & chk for Prior Ord.	413	Sat	17-Dec	1:00 PM	3:00 PM	JM Room	E. Haws
	Problem Solving 1	414	Sat	24-Dec	Closed			
Prsthd Leaders	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (Spanish)	These classes are offered monthly. However, during the month of December, the Mesa Family History Center closes at 5:00 pm. Therefore, these classes are not available in December but will be taught beginning in January 2012.	1-Dec	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	JM Room	C. Rodriguez	
	Intro/Combining Records		1-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	Classroom	D. Brady	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (English)		6-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	JM Room	D. Crawford	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (Spanish)		8-Dec	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	JM Room	C. Rodriguez	
	Contributing Information		8-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	Classroom	D. Brady	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (English)		13-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	JM Room	D. Crawford	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (Spanish)		15-Dec	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	JM Room	C. Rodriguez	
	Temple Submission & chk for Prior Ord.		15-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	Classroom	D. Brady	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (English)		20-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	JM Room	D. Crawford	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (Spanish)		22-Dec	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	JM Room	C. Rodriguez	
	Problem Solving 1		22-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	Classroom	D. Brady	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (English)		27-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	JM Room	D. Crawford	
	Prsthd Leaders & Consultants (Spanish)		29-Dec	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	JM Room	C. Rodriguez	
	Problem Solving 2		29-Dec	7:00 PM	8:45 PM	Classroom	D. Brady	
	Closed	12/23/2011 - 12/26/2011						
	Closed	31-Dec						

21-Nov-11 1:00 PM

mesafhcnewsletter@gmail.com

Comment or suggestions? click on the link or email at mesafhcnewsletter@gmail.com