

PastPorts

News and tips from the St. Louis County Library
Special Collections Department

Vol. 1, No. 2—April 2008

PastPorts is a monthly publication of the Special Collections Department located on Tier 5 at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters, 1640 S. Lindbergh in St. Louis County, across the street from Plaza Frontenac.

Contact us

To subscribe, unsubscribe, change email addresses, make a comment or ask a question, contact the Department as follows:

By mail

1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63131

By phone

314-994-3300, ext. 208

By email

scollections@slcl.org

Regularly scheduled tours of the Special Collections Department are conducted on the **first Wednesday** and **third Saturday** of the month at 10:30 am. No advance registration is required. Group tours are gladly arranged with advance notice. Please call the Special Collections Department at 314-994-3300, ext. 208 for scheduling information.

OF NOTE

New collection guides now available

Collection guides for Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Quaker research have been added to those already available in the Department (see March 2008 issue of *PastPorts* for a list of other available guides). The free guides are designed to give an introduction to resources available in the Department. Copies may be obtained in person from the Special Collections Department, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Special Collections Department at the address above. Please limit requests to three guides per mailing.

Special Collections welcomes Ozarks Genealogical Society in April

Members of the Ozarks Genealogical Society, Springfield, Mo. will make a special research trip the St. Louis Library Special Collections Department, April 14 – 16. Information about the Society is available on its website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ozarksgs/>.

Introductory genealogy classes added for May and June

More introductory genealogy classes sponsored by the Special Collections Department are scheduled for the upcoming months. "AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com" classes will be offered on April 17, May 14, June 11, and June 16. A new course, "Genealogy in Newspapers," will instruct participants how to use *19th-Century Newspapers*, a database featuring almost 18 million articles, the

St. Louis Post-Dispatch database, and others. The class will be offered on May 6, May 14, May 19, May 28 and June 19.

See the "Calendar" section below for class times. A complete schedule of computer classes offered by the St. Louis County Library is online at:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=SLCL>.

Printed schedules are available at all library branches. To register, call 314-994-3300 and tell the operator you would like to register for a computer training class, or stop by the Reference Desk on the mail level of the St. Louis County Library Headquarters.

Germans tattle on STLGS members

Be careful what you do half-way around the world—news of it is likely to make it back to St. Louis—eventually! We received the latest edition of *Osnabrücker Familienforschung* (Osnabrück Family Research), a semi-annual publication of the *Arbeitskreis Familienforschung Osnabrück e. V.* (Study Group for Family Research in Osnabrück). Wolfgang Dreuse, leader of the organization's Emigration Group, reported that eleven members of the St. Louis Genealogical Society visited the *Arbeitskreis* in September 2007. The delegation enjoyed *Kaffee und Kuchen* with *Arbeitskreis* members, browsed the *Arbeitskreis* library and electronic database, and was treated to a sight-seeing tour of the Osnabrück area. The St. Louisans brought Missouri research materials with them to contribute to the *Arbeitskreis* library. The article includes a group photo of the Missouri delegation.

The *Arbeitskreis* focuses on genealogical research throughout the Osnabrück region, which includes the former Kingdom of Hanover and areas of the present-day German states of Lower Saxony and North-Rhine Westphalia. Many emigrants from that area settled in Missouri and southern Illinois. Towns, such as New Melle, Mo., Cappel, Mo. and Venedy (Venne), Ill., are named after villages located near Osnabrück.

Issues of *Osnabrücker Familienforschung*, can be viewed by inquiring at the Special Collections Department Reference Desk.

FAMOUS PERSONS DEPARTMENT

A staff person recently came across the following record:

*State of Missouri
County of St. Louis
(seal)*

*I certify that I have this 6th day of March A.D. 1866 joined in the holy bonds of matrimony Mr. William F. Cody of Leavenworth City, Kansas and Miss Louise L. Frederici of St. Louis, Missouri
Julius F. Schneider, Justice of the Peace
Filed and recorded May 28, 1866, Julius Conrad, Recorder*

(Source: St. Louis Marriages and Index, Vol. 12, page 223.)

William F. Cody, of course, is better known as "Buffalo Bill."

TIPS

- Ancestry's World War I Draft Registration Card database includes listings for Draft Board no. 1 (Clayton) and no. 2 (Ferguson) but **omits** Draft Board no. 3 (Kirkwood east to the Missouri River). If your ancestor registered at Draft Board No.3, you can still obtain the record by searching the *World War I Draft Registration Cards* (M1509) microfilm set, located in the Special Collections Department in Aisle 1A, Shelf 46.
- On the microfilm index to the St. Louis County Marriage Records, surnames beginning "Mc" appear separately on the last "M" roll after all other names beginning with "M." Names beginning "Mac," however, appear in normal alphabetical order.
- The *Ancestry* 1880 U.S. Census database will not search correctly if "St. Louis" is entered in the county blank of the search screen. Enter "Saint Louis" (spelled out) instead.

BOOK CHAT

Better late than never: Women's History Month

February was Women's History Month. Although we are a little late with the commemoration, this month's "Book Chat" focuses on researching women ancestors.

The problem of anonymity

Researching women in one's family tree can be a challenge. Not only did women generally lose their family names upon marriage, until the early 20th century they could not vote, often had limited property rights, and faced obstacles surviving apart from a father, brother or other male "custodian." Because of this, women generally created fewer official records than men until they began to achieve their own legal rights. These factors sometimes create roadblocks in matrilineal research. It is common, for example, to come across records that refer to a woman only as "Mrs. [insert husband's family name here]". The Special Collections Department has several resources for researchers who are researching female ancestors:

- *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Female Ancestors: Special Strategies for Uncovering Hard-to-Find Information About Your Female Lineage* by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack (Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 1998; call no. R 929.1 C287G) provides an overview of the special problems faced by those researching ancestral women. Carmack addresses not only the "silence" of women, but also explores the special sources created by and about them. Information about the development of women's legal rights in America, tips for finding women's identities, and sources for researching African American, Native American and Jewish American women are included, as well as a resource checklist and bibliography. Carmack demonstrates her methods by providing a research case study.

- *The Hidden Half of the Family: A Sourcebook for Women's Genealogy* by Christina Kassabian Schaefer (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1999; call no. Q 929.1 S294H) gets down to the nuts and bolts of research. An introduction reviews essential information, such as an overview of the development of legal rights in U.S. history, types of records pertaining to women, and finding women (including ethnic women) in federal records. The main text features a state-by-state guide with historical timelines, development of legal rights, types of records available,

bibliographies, and locations of archives and other special resources for women's history.

■ *In Her Place: A Guide to St. Louis Women's History* by Katherine T. Corbett (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1999; call no. R 977.866 C789I). No one exists in a vacuum. Genealogical research is incomplete without an investigation of the broader historical and social forces that shaped ancestral lives. Finding such information not only puts flesh and blood on the bare bones of genealogical data, it can also uncover information sources otherwise overlooked. While many books are available on women's history, Corbett discusses the role of women in the specifically St. Louis political, economic and social context. Corbett discusses each time period from colonial days to the mid-20th century, covering important events, movements, issues and organizations involving or affecting women. Stories of famous and not-so-famous St. Louis women help bring to light the daily challenges and opportunities experienced by our fore-mothers.

NEW IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

We are grateful to the St. Louis Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, Julius K. Hunter and Friends, and our patrons for recent donations.

Print resources

Call numbers follow each title. Complete bibliographic information for each item is available in the St. Louis County Library's online catalog at <http://webpac.slcl.org/>.

■ Family Maps by Gregory A. Boyd (abbreviated titles):

Benton County, Iowa R 977.761 B789F
Clay County, Missouri R 977.816 B789F
LaSalle County, Illinois R 977.327 B789F
McDonough County, Illinois R 977.342 B789F
McHenry County, Illinois R 977.332 B789F
Warren County, Illinois R 977.3415 B789F

A surname index for Arphax Family maps is available online at <http://www.arphax.com>

■ Other new titles

Colket, Meredith. *Founders of Early American Families: Immigrants from Europe 1607-1657*. R 973.2 C696F

Death Sentences in Missouri, 1803-2005. R 977.8 F848D

Diocese of Baton Rouge, Catholic Church Records : Pointe Coupee Records, 1770-1900: Individuals Without Surnames. R 976.318 C363D

Doherty, Frank J. *Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York: An Historical and Genealogical Study of All the 18th Century Settlers in the Patent*, vol. 9, *Mills to Page*. R 974.733 D655S

Feldman, Jody S. *Faith, Family, Future: Shaare Zedek: The First Hundred Years 1905-2005*. R 296.832 F312F

First Families of Iron County, Missouri, 1857-2007: A Register of Early Settlers and their Present-Day Descendants. R 977.8883 F527

Greene, Shawn Buchanan. *Turkey Day Game Centennial, 1907-2007*. R 977.865 G812T

Hlavac, James R. *A Hidden Impact: The Czechs and Slovaks of Louisiana from the 1720's to Today*. R 976.3 H677H

Irvine, Sherry. *Scottish Ancestry: Research Methods for Family Historians*, 2nd ed. R 929.1 I72S

Larson, Denise R. *Companions of Champlain: Founding Families of Quebec 1608-1635*. R 971.4 L334C

Map guide to German Parish Registers, vol.18, Kingdom of Bavaria Regierungsberzirk Schwaben. R 943 H249M

Map guide to German Parish Registers, vol.19, Kingdom of Bavaria VI, Regierungsberzirk Niederbayern I. R 943 H249M

Mattson-Schultz, Virginia. *Far Northern Connections: Researching Your Sami (And Other) Ancestors in Northern Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia*. 929.1 M444F

The New History of Shelby County, Kentucky. R 976.9435 N532

Peden, Henry C. *A Guide to Genealogical Research in Maryland*. 5th ed. R 975.2 P371G

Shea, Jonathan. *Going Home: The Guide to Polish-American Family History Research* 943.8 S539G

Welsh, Jack D. *Two Confederate Hospitals and Their Patients: Atlanta to Opelika* (includes CD with list of patients). R 973.776 W462T

Willsher, Betty. *Understanding Scottish Graveyards*. R 941.1 W741U

CDs

CD numbers precede each title. Ask for CDs by number at the Special Collections Department Reference Desk. A complete list of available records on CD is available on the Special Collections website at <http://www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/cds/cd-title.htm>.

Cemetery records

M61 *Maryculter, Kincardineshire: The Church of Scotland Parish Registers, 1696-1855*

- M56 *Newington Cemetery, Edinburgh: Monumental Inscriptions*
- M67 *Warriston Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions, Edinburgh*
- M65 *Zoar Cemetery, New Hanover, Illinois*
- M63 *2005 Genealogical Data of Those of Whiteside*

Church records

- M51 *St. Paul Catholic Church, Highland,,IL, Baptism Records, 1848-1965. See Baptisms Recorded at St. Paul Catholic Church, Highland, Madison Co., Illinois (R 977.386 L754B) for index.*
- M54 *ISee St. Paul Catholic Church, Highland, Illinois Marriage Records, 1848 – 2004 (R 977.386 L754M) for index.*
- M52 *St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Marine, Madison Co., Illinois, Baptisms and Marriages, 1861-2005. See St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Marine, Illinois Baptism, Marriage, Death Records, 1861 – 2005 (R 977.386 L754B) for index.*
- M53 *St. James Catholic Church, St. Jacob, Madison Co., Illinois, Baptisms, Marriages, and deaths, 1895 – 2005. See St. James Catholic Church, 1895 – 2005 (R 977.386 L754B) for index.*
- M55 *St. Gertrude Catholic Church, Grantfork, Madison Co., Illinois, Baptisms, Marriages, and Death Records, 1875 – 2005. See St. Gertrude Catholic Church, 1857 – 2005 (R 977.386 L754B) for index.*

Land records

- M66 *City Sub-Division - 1910: Cape Girardeau County, Missouri Town Plat Maps and Lists of Town Property Owners*
- M64A *Georgia Colonial and Headright Plat Index, 1735-1866*
- M64B *Georgia Colonial and Headright Plat Index, 1735-1866 (circulating copy)*

Military records

- M68 *Two Confederate Hospitals and their Patients: Atlanta to Opelika*
- M58 *United States Submarine Men Lost During World War II*

New Jersey Archives

- M69 *Calendar of New Jersey Wills, 1670-1817*

- M71-1 *Colonial Documents, 1631-1756 (First Series, v. 1-10)*
- M71-2 *Colonial Documents, 1631-1756 (First Series, v.11-19)*
- M73 *Extracts from American Newspapers, 1756-1775*
- M74 *Extracts from American Newspapers, 1776-1782*
- M72 *New Jersey Colonial Documents, 1664-1703*
- M70 *New Jersey Marriage Records, 1665-1800*

Other records

- M62 *Colorado Marriages, 1858-1939*
- M59 *Dalton Family of Western North Carolina*
- M60 *Ricker Compilation of Vital Records of Early Connecticut*
- M50 *Switzerland Place Names Index*
- M57 *Southside Virginia Genealogies*

Microfilm

Cemetery records

Cemetery records are filed in Drawer 96. A complete list of cemetery records is available on the Special Collections Department website at <http://www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/sc-findaid.htm>.

The following cemetery records were filmed and donated to the Special Collections Department by the St. Louis Genealogical Society. Roll numbers follow each title.

Bellefontaine Cemetery, 1850-2005. Burials are listed alphabetically. SLCEM 82 – 84

Oakdale Cemetery, 1901 – 1990. SLCEM 81

Sunset Memorial Park, 1901 – 1990. Burials are listed by section and lot.
SLCEM 68 – 69

Washington Park. Alphabetical listings: SLCEM 70 – 78; by lot and section:
SLCEM 79 – 80

Military records

Applications for Headstones for U.S. Military Veterans, 1925-1941 (M1916). Most applications for those who died between 1925 – 1941, many are for veterans who died in earlier eras, including a few in the Revolutionary War. Includes veterans from both Union and Confederate personnel. Located in Aisle 1A, Shelves 11 – 13.

Discharge Certificates and Miscellaneous Records Relating to the Discharge of Soldiers from the Regular Army, 1792 – 1815 (M1856). Includes soldiers from the regular army but not volunteers or militia men. Most records cover 1812 – 1815, but a few from the 1790s are included. Located in aisle 1A, Shelf 48.

WEB WATCH

Web finds

- Encyclopedia of Genealogy: <http://www.eogen.com/>

A searchable database of words and phrases researchers may encounter in genealogical research, including medical, religious, archaic and obscure terminology. Includes links to related resources.

- Genealogy Book Links: <http://genealogybooklinks.com>

This well-organized site features links to more than 10,000 family histories available on the Internet. Sources include state archives, libraries and historical websites. The site also provides links to maps, histories and personal papers and diaries. Links to family histories are listed alphabetically by family name. Other documents are categorized by subject, document type and state. Although far from exhaustive, this site is a great place to start looking for full-text documents on the Web.

- OhGen.Net: <http://www.ohgen.net/index.html>

Provides a handy short-cut for finding vital records on microfilm using the International Genealogical Index (IGI). The IGI program extracts data from microfilm in the Family History Library collection and is made available online at <http://familysearch.org>. The OhGen.Net site provides a customized process that allows researchers to limit a search to a specific county. On the website, choosing a state will return a page listing counties with available IGI extracted records and their batch numbers. Choosing a county transfers the user to the IGI search form on the Family Search website with the IGI Batch Number already inserted. The user simply fills in the name and other data. If the search is successful, the researcher will obtain the Family History Library (FHL) number (labeled "Source number") for the microfilm from which the information was extracted. FHL microfilm can be ordered and viewed in the Special Collections Department. Although the process sounds complicated, the site is actually very easy to use.

More information about the IGI is available at:

<http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/helps/default.asp?topic=Search/Ancestors/igisearch.htm>.

Web news

- Rootsweb.com will be transferred to *Ancestry's* server beginning around April 1, 2008. The new URL will be <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com>. Not to worry: it is reported that the site will remain free, unchanged, and accessible indefinitely *via* the old URL.

New databases on *Ancestry*

- Missouri Birth Records, 1805 – 1980: Records are available for each county but are not complete. The database includes St. Louis records for 1850 – 1909, with a few

scattered records for later years. *Ancestry* provides no documentation as to the source of the records used. Search results provide links to document images.

■ Missouri Death Records, 1834 – 1931: Records are available for each county but are not complete. St. Louis records appear only to cover the city. The database seems to be based on various documents, such as death registers, partial index to deaths, burial permits, and administrators' and cemetery records; however, no source information is given with the search results. *Ancestry* does not provide documentation as to the source of records used for the database.

■ Missouri Marriage Records, 1805 – 2002: Includes at least some records for each county, but St. Louis records appear to cover only the county. The database appears to be a mixture of marriage registers and applications but offers no source documentation. The marriage location is sometimes missing when results are returned.

CALENDAR

April

■ Wednesday, April 2, 9:30 - 11:30 am
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class:
AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Saturday, April 12, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Maryland Heights Centre, 2344 McKelvey Rd., Maryland Heights
St. Louis Genealogical Society 38th Annual Family History Conference
Door opens for registration at 7:30 am. Conference information is available on the Web at <http://www.stlgs.org/fair.htm>.

■ Thursday, April 17, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class:
AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Tuesday, April 22, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters East Room
St. Louis Genealogical Society Irish Special Interest Group:
Program: "St. Louis Circuit Court Irish Records"

May

■ Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class: Genealogy in Newspapers

■ Wednesday, May 7, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters East Room

St. Louis Genealogical Society Jewish Special Interest Group

Program: "Jewish Emigration: From Shtetl to US Ports"

■ Wednesday, May 14, 2 – 4 pm

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class:

AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Monday, May 19, 9:30 – 11 am

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class: Genealogy in Newspapers

■ Wednesday, May 21, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium

St. Louis Genealogical Society German Special Interest Group

Program: "Concordia Historical Institute and More"

■ Wednesday, May 28, 2 – 3:30 pm

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class: Genealogy in Newspapers

■ Wednesday, June 4, 9:30 – 11 am

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class: Genealogy in Newspapers

■ Wednesday, June 11, 9:30 – 11 am

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class:

AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Monday, June 16, 2 – 3:30 pm

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class:

AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Thursday, June 19, 2 – 3:30 pm

St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab

Special Collections Class: Genealogy in Newspapers