



Fig. 1: The home page for JewishGen, a Jewish genealogy website.

FOR THE RECORDS

Sites for Jewish Genealogy

May is Jewish American Heritage Month. For those embarking on Jewish genealogy research, one may encounter many hurdles, but initially the process will be much the same as non-Jewish research. The same beginning steps are taken, such as gathering information from relatives and searching through census and vital records. Eventually, your research will take you across the ocean. Names, both first and last, may have been changed by the immigrant to more easily navigate American life. This can prove challenging in determining former identities. (Contrary to myth, names were not changed at Ellis Island.) Spelling is frequently inconsistent due to transliteration from other alphabets, and if one is able to research far enough back, they may have been using patronymic naming patterns whereby a son or daughter took a name derived from the father's, e.g., Abraham ben David. Fortunately, a number of websites exist to aid the Jewish researcher.

JewishGen

The most well-known is JewishGen (Fig. 1). The JewishGen organization was founded in 1987 by Susan E. King. By 1995, it had launched its own website. It has grown to be the primary source for Jewish genealogy with resources that aid beginners as well as the more advanced genealogist. Registration is required, but the databases are free with additional search features available for those who donate over \$100.

See page 8 for information on History & Genealogy's move to the Clark Family Branch.

On the site's home page, you will find a series of tabs to help navigate the website. You may opt to perform a comprehensive search using the Unified Search form, which produces results from all of their collections. Using the tabs at the top of the page allows for a more focused approach, however.

Research

After clicking on the "Research" tab, you will find a number of databases. The Unified Search form is again available, or you may target specific databases. They fall under three main categories: general, country or regional, and utilities, such as a calendar calculator-converter.

The "General" category encompasses topics of interest to Jewish researchers from any location. Records regarding the Holocaust, family trees, and burial records are just a few of those available to search.

You may also search within a specific region or country. Israel, for example, has the [U.S. Department of State Jerusalem, Jaffa, and Haifa Consular Post Records](#). This database indexes births, marriages, deaths, probate, and wills of American citizens, along with immigration and naturalization information. Original records can be obtained from the National Archives facility in College Park, Maryland.

Worldwide, volunteers have been indexing or digitizing information from archives to compile and preserve documents. The [Ukraine](#) Research Division is one of the largest and has been transcribing, digitizing, and uploading up to 150,000 records a month. Records are first transcribed from Cyrillic handwriting into typed Cyrillic, from typed Cyrillic to Latin script, and from there, translated into English and uploaded to JewishGen. The Russo-Ukrainian War has generated additional urgency to digitize as many records as possible. Work proceeds at a furious pace with the dual purpose of preservation and providing access.

Shul Records America

There is an exciting development in the JewishGen USA research division. They are in the process of compiling a finding aid for synagogue records. For the genealogist, synagogue records may provide birth, marriage, and death information, as well as bar and bat mitzvot lists, and other religious milestones. Frequently, there is information regarding the community, such as donor and membership lists, community history, and possibly even photographs.

The first step in locating these records is to contact the synagogue your family may have attended. Where this finding aid becomes invaluable is when the synagogue your ancestors attended is now defunct. Tracking down records has always been exceedingly difficult. With [Shul Records America](#), it is now possible to see where a closed synagogue's records are located (Fig. 2). They can end up in any number of repositories. It may be an archive dedicated to Jewish culture and history, or it could be a university or similar institution. The finding aid is arranged alphabetically by state, and then by city. Four congregations in St. Louis have records with the [St. Louis Genealogical Society](#) for example. They are, B'nai Amoona, B'nai El Congregation, B'rith Sholom Kneseth Israel, and Shaare Emeth. Mostly, these consist of marriage records, apart from B'nai Amoona, which also has death records. The information supplied is in the form of transcriptions, and generally not a reproduction of the originals, with the exception of B'nai Amoona.

Discover

The Discover tab contains databases that enable you to fill in details of an ancestor's life, give background, and allow for participation. The [Jewish Communities](#) database provides information on the geographical location as well as present and former names of a particular town. A direct link to the Family Finder database of individuals researching in that town is also featured. JewishGen has worked for many years to make [Yizkor](#) books, memorial books written after World War II describing Jewish life in villages before their destruction, more accessible. This includes providing support through translations and indexes. The History & Genealogy department at the St. Louis County Library has a selection of print copies of these books. Volunteer-maintained pages focusing on Jewish towns are the subject of [KehilaLinks](#). For information regarding the work of the many regional research divisions, you may view their individual pages. There, they elaborate on current projects and goals, while offering tips and guidance for research in their respective areas.



The screenshot shows the 'Shul Records America' website interface. At the top, there is a logo with a house icon and the text 'Shul Records AMERICA'. Below the logo, it says 'More Information about Shul Records America' and 'JewishGen USA Research Division Website'. The page is updated as of 4/8/2024. There are filters for State (MO) and City (St. Louis), and a search bar. Below the filters is a table with columns: State, City, Synagogue/Rabbi/Mohel/Cemetery Collection, Record Type, Year Range, and Repository. The table lists several records for St. Louis, MO.

| State | City | Synagogue/Rabbi/Mohel/Cemetery Collection | Record Type | Year Range | Repository |
|-------|-----------|--|---------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| MO | St. Louis | Asher, Arnold Rabbinical Papers (F'nai Amooona and Shaare Zedek) | Marriage, Bulletins | 1960-1978 | Jewish Theological Seminary |
| MO | St. Louis | F'nai Amooona | Marriage, Death | 1883-1985 | St. Louis Genealogical Society |
| MO | St. Louis | F'nai El Cong. | Marriage | 1832-2016 | St. Louis Genealogical Society |
| MO | St. Louis | E'vith Sholom Kneseth Israel | Marriage | 1960-2013 | St. Louis Genealogical Society |
| MO | St. Louis | Cong. Shaare Emeth | Marriage | 1869-1974 | St. Louis Genealogical Society |
| MO | St. Louis | United Hebrew Cong. | Manuscript | | American Jewish Historical Society |

Fig. 2: Shul Records America, part of JewishGen, displaying St. Louis synagogues.

Learn

Improving your skills is fostered through classes and seminars that cover a variety of topics and levels. A beginner might want to start with online classes that are available for a fee through [JewishGen Education](#). They can be very general or more specific according to the course. Peer study groups are also available for certain topics, and if you're experiencing a brick wall or in need of more in depth help, an individual consultation can be booked. The site also has its own YouTube channel at youtube.com/@JewishGen613/videos. There, you can view videos on a variety of topics relating to Jewish genealogy.

The second link under this tab is for the [JewishGen InfoFile Index](#) which provides guides and recommendations for search methodologies and strategies. You can also join special interest groups composed of fellow genealogists researching the same geographic area.

Connect

Under the "Connect" tab you'll find a highly useful feature named [ViewMate](#). ViewMate allows you to submit documents, pages from a book, or letters for translation. In addition to encountering a foreign language with Jewish research, you are frequently dealing with different alphabets which create an additional barrier to interpretation. Volunteers fluent in a variety of languages are available to help translate and transliterate text. In addition, there is also an archive of past requests that may aid in your research through shared family members. A search can be made by surname or location. Photos may also be submitted for help with identifying a person, location or event, or perhaps even an object that may have belonged to an ancestor.

Collaborate with other researchers with the [JewishGen Family Finder \(JGFF\)](#). You may search using a family surname or ancestral town to find others with shared interests.

JewishGen has additional databases that may augment and enhance your research as well. Most of these will have a narrower scope of interest.

Yad Vashem

As a pioneer Holocaust museum, Yad Vashem was founded with the mission “to collect, examine and publish testimony of the disaster and the heroism it called forth...”. Their primary goals are education and keeping alive the memory of the millions lost during the Holocaust. Of interest to the family researcher are their online [digital collections](#). Among them are the Shoah Names Database, the Online Photo Archive, Survivor Testimonies, and a Holocaust Deportation Database.

The Reference and Information Department of their archives offers consulting services by email or telephone. You may also schedule an initial 30-minute Zoom meeting with a personal consultant to get started. A listing of the record groups held by [Yad Vashem Archives](#) is available.

American Jewish Archives

The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati, Ohio was established in 1947 to collect and preserve materials relating to the history and culture of Jews and their communities in the Western Hemisphere with an emphasis on the United States. The AJA is a semi-autonomous division of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) founded by Dr. Jacob Rader Marcus. Their goal is to gather records from congregations and organizations in the United States, rabbis' papers, and any other relevant genealogical items. As an example with a St. Louis connection, they have the papers of a fraternal organization, the [B'nai B'rith Isidor Bush Lodge No. 557](#). If you think your ancestor may have been a member, you can check membership records, dues paid, and meeting minutes.

The AJA has created a genealogy [guide](#) to apprise researchers of what sources their facility offers and how to go about obtaining access.

Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary

The Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary is located in New York City and claims to have “the greatest collection of Judaica in the Western Hemisphere.” From their archives' [homepage](#), you may search their catalog or click on a link to their digital collections which include collection guides, historical documents, bookplates, and various other ephemera. A selection of materials from the Conservative St. Louis congregation, B'nai Amoona, is held there. They include the B'nai Amoona Bulletin, 1963–1964, and from a former rabbi, The Arnold Asher Rabbinical Papers.

U.S. Holocaust Museum

The U.S. Holocaust Museum describes itself as a living memorial to the Holocaust. Dedicated in 1993, the museum sponsors onsite and traveling exhibitions, provides outreach for educators and students, and gathers documents, artifacts, and personal stories—many of which are searchable online through their [Collections Search](#).

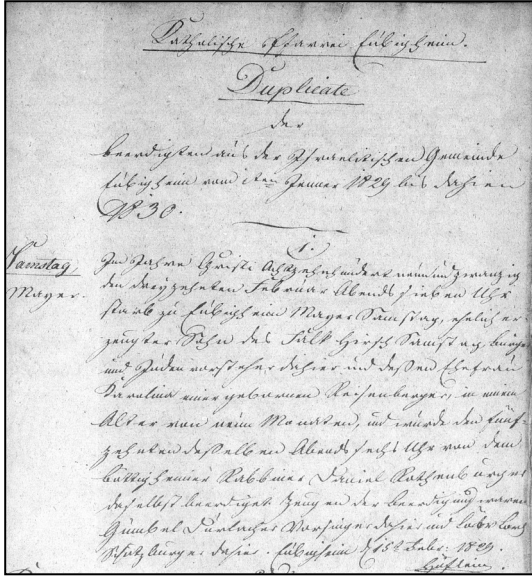


Fig. 3: Death record from 1829 for Mayer Samstag, a nine-month old Jewish boy in the Catholic records of Eubigheim, Baden, Germany. The burial was attended by a rabbi. FamilySearch.org, Katholische Kirche Eubigheim (A. Baxberg), FHL 1055291

Ancestry.com/Ancestry Library Edition

To target record sets specific to Jewish research in Ancestry.com, begin by searching the catalog using the keyword “Jewish.” Many of the databases featured are collaborations with the U.S. Holocaust Museum, JewishGen, NARA and others. Ancestry Library Edition is available at all St. Louis County Library branches.

FamilySearch.org

At [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org), you may also do a catalog search using the keyword “Jewish” and filter results by century, language, and record type. Likewise, you may search by location and see which records are available for that specific locality. Another option is to do a subject search using the term “Jews.”

For both Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org, it’s important to realize that Jewish records may also be found within records concerning the general populations. As they were members of the community, governmental records are also another source to be checked.

In Europe, Catholic and Protestant church books may have Jewish records where no synagogue was in existence (Fig. 3). Likewise, some Jews converted to the dominant religion of the area and there may be notations of that in the record. In Latin church records, they can be described as *conversus* or *conversa* depending on gender. In areas before civil registration began, the church was responsible for recording births, marriages, and deaths. Copies of these would be sent to a central governmental authority. AncestryLibrary.com is available at branches of the St. Louis County Library while FamilySearch.org is accessible from home with registration being the sole requirement.

Newspapers.com

Newspapers.com is a searchable database of papers from around the world and various time periods. You may specify a location and browse the available papers. In many larger cities, there will often be a paper dedicated to the Jewish community where you might find a mention of an ancestor. The *St. Louis Jewish Light* and *The Modern View*, for example, are two papers that were published in the St. Louis area and are searchable. The articles may give color to an ancestor’s biography or provide vital information to understanding family relationships. Newspapers.com is available through the St. Louis County Library’s website for library cardholders.

Miscellaneous Resources

Arolsen Archives
collections.arolsen-archives.org/de/search

IGRA-Israel Genealogy Research Association
genealogy.org.il/AID/

Miriam Weiner Routes to Roots

rtrfoundation.org/index.shtml

National Library of Israel-Historical Jewish Press

nli.org.il/en/discover/newspapers/jpres

Ohio State Union List of Digitized Jewish Historic International Newspapers, Periodicals and e-Journals

library.osu.edu/projects/hebrew-lexicon/Jewish-Press.htm

Facebook Groups

facebook.com/groups/1609914609245515/

Jewish Surname Project FB group

facebook.com/groups/tracingthetribe/

Tracing the Tribe- offers tips and members post items for others to translate

facebook.com/groups/GenealogicalTranslations

Genealogical Translations- must join group. Not specific to Jewish research



Check out the St. Louis County Library's new Digital Archives! The site already contains hundreds of digitized records including Missouri yearbooks, St. Louis newspapers, St. Louis City and County directories, burial certificates, maps, and atlases. The site will continue to grow as items are digitized and added to the collection. New enhancements include search query performance and quicker search results. Explore the archives at slcl.recollectcms.com/.

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

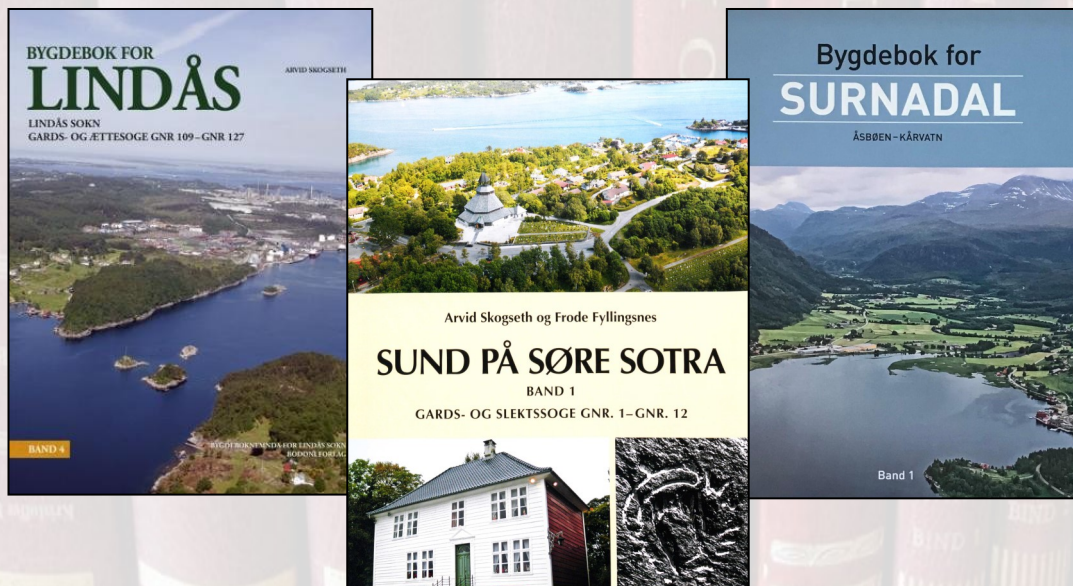
Bygdebøker Collection

Do you have Norwegian ancestors? History & Genealogy @ SLCL now has a bygdebøker collection!

Bygge means “to settle.” One’s “bygd” is a rural settlement. This settlement is a loosely organized community that might include a village, a church, or a series of connected gårds (estate farms). Bygd is a general term and is often used to describe “rural” Norway.

Since the early 20th century, Norwegians have produced print manuscripts known as bygdebøker. English-speaking researchers often refer to these volumes as rural settlement, village, or farm books. Bygdebøker can include a variety of information including local history from the time of writing back to antiquity, immigration history, genealogies, and biographies. Published locally in limited numbers, bygdebøker are a project taken on by municipal government, a local history organization, or a local resident. Residents provide the author(s) with family histories, photographs, and other resources via surveys. The majority of bygdebøker are farm or village books which blend the concept of published family history with local history. These volumes will include published genealogies, photographs, and histories which are organized by village or farm. Most publications are done as part of a series, with some volumes covering history and others farms.

For more detailed information, and a map featuring the department’s collection of over 400 bygdebøker, see slcl.libguides.com/SLCL_genealogy/Norway.



AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

May is Asian and Pacific Islander month! Check out these St. Louis County Library program offerings:

Legacy of the Nisei Soldiers in WWII

Multiple dates and branches

Embark on a journey as we highlight the courage and resilience of the Nisei soldiers, Japanese Americans who served in World War II despite facing prejudice and adversity at home. Delve into their stories of patriotism, and contributions to the Allied victory and shed light on a remarkable chapter of American military history. In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month. Adults. Registration required.

Baseball in Japan: History, Culture, and Sports Fervor

Multiple dates and branches

From a small after-school club introduced by an American teacher in the 19th century to producing Shohei Ohtani, the highest paid athlete in the world, baseball has surged in Japan. Using library resources, we will explore the history of America's pastime across the Pacific Ocean and some of its most notable players. In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month. Adults. Registration required.

The Art of Chopsticks

Multiple dates and branches

Learn the history and art of using chopsticks as you taste test a variety of Chinese, Japanese and Korean snacks. In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month. Children and families. Registration required.

See slcl.org/events-classes to register for these and other SLCL programs.

H&G CLOSURE/MOVE

History & Genealogy's temporary location at the Daniel Boone Branch will be closed beginning Monday, May 20. The department will reopen on Tuesday, July 9, at our permanent location inside the Clark Family Branch.

While [Book a Genealogist](#) and [Lookup services](#) will be available via website forms, response times will be impacted during the department's move to the Clark Family Branch. Visit the [Digital Archives](#) and [Online Genealogy Resources](#) 24/7.



Clark Family Branch, 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.,
St. Louis, MO 63131

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

All branches of the St. Louis County Library will be closed on Monday, May 27, in honor of Memorial Day.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

On May 20, 1927, Charles Lindbergh took off from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, in the "Spirit of St. Louis," attempting to win a \$25,000 prize for the first solo nonstop flight between New York City and Paris. Thirty-three hours later, after a 3,600 mile journey, he landed at Le Bourget Airport, Paris, earning the nickname "Lucky Lindy" and becoming a worldwide hero.

H&G OUTREACH

Stop by and see us! History & Genealogy @ SLCL will be represented at the following upcoming events:

St. Louis Scottish Games
Saturday, May 11
Schroeder Park, Manchester, MO
stlouis-scottishgames.com/

Missouri River Irish Fest
Saturday, May 25
Lewis & Clark Boathouse Parking Lot, St. Charles, MO
mrifsc.com/

VOTER REGISTRATIONS

Looking for elusive ancestors? Try voter registration records! Ancestry Library Edition has recently added the following record sets:

Oklahoma, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1960-2023
2,281,185 records

Florida, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1942-2023
15,542,877 records

North Carolina, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1900-2023
8,274,868 records

Ohio, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1900-2023
7,915,424 records

Connecticut, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1800-2023
2,483,673 records

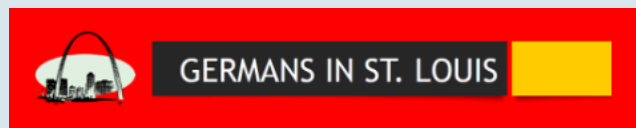
Arkansas, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1900-2023
1,774,406 records

Mississippi, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1801-2023
2,078,991

Use Ancestry Library Edition at any SLCL library branch!



SOCIETY SECTION



“The GERMANS IN ST. LOUIS RESEARCH GROUP has evolved from a long line of organized genealogical research activity in the St. Louis area. German immigration to America started in earnest in the early 1830s and continued through the 1860s and 1880s. A very large portion of the American population can trace their ancestry back to Germany. St. Louis, Missouri is part of the large triangle of German immigrants that includes Milwaukee and Cincinnati.

Among many of the group’s interests is the study of our German culture at the time of immigration and before, what led them to immigrate, what the immigration was like, and locating the hometowns of the German immigrants. This also encompasses additional research that includes church and civil records in Germany.

German research may include research of neighboring countries such as France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Switzerland, and others because borders were shifting over time. Germany itself did not become a unified country until 1871.

Our goal is to advance our knowledge of all aspects of our German ancestors’ life and culture.”—Website

Meetings are held monthly, usually on the third Thursday of each month at 1:00 pm at: the Webster Groves Library, 301 E. Lockwood Webster Groves, MO.

For more information and upcoming events, see germansinstlouis.com/.

CLASSIC CLIPPINGS



DIGESTIVE HEALTH

May is Digestive Health Month. "Digest" these newspaper ads for what ailed your ancestors!

a midnight SNACK
... and a later **Attack!**

Pepto-Bismol
when your stomach is upset

June 6, 1939, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

CHILDREN LOVE IT!

Youngsters' eyes brighten when you give them Ex-Lax. They just love its delicious chocolate taste! And mothers know that they can trust Ex-Lax when the children need a laxative! It's so effective, yet so gentle too! Ex-Lax is America's most widely used laxative—the favorite of grown-ups and children alike. As a precaution, use as directed, 10¢ and 25¢.

EX-LAX Acts well... Tastes swell

March 4, 1947, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

TAPE WORM.

Dr. M. Ney Smith to-day relieved me of a tape-worm thirty-two feet long with head intact in 45 minutes, without sickness, fasting or any inconvenience. WM. KRANKE, Pawbroker, Nov. 25, 1888. 208 N. 4th st., St. Louis, Mo. Call or write for circulars, terms, etc.; inclose stamp. DR. M. NEY SMITH, Specialist, 718 Olive st., St. Louis, 74

December 2, 1888, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

LET THE AFFLICTED SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

FROM MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND communications, received from all parts of the United States, we compile the following plain statement of the effects of:

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

Upon invalids who suffer from diseases of the digestive and nerve organs, and from general and local debility arising from every variety of causes. By thus putting into a small compass, the substance of a mass of authentic testimony, which, if published in full, would fill a volume, we present at one glance all the prominent reasons given by recovered patients for their confidence in a preparation which has restored them from a state of bodily suffering and mental depression that rendered life a burden. In a condition of perfect health. Let it be clearly understood, then, that this statement is not the advertisement of the proprietors of:

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS,

January 17, 1861, Daily Missouri Democrat

SQUEEZY STOMACH?

If you've never tried Alka-Seltzer® you don't know how speedy relief can be!

Relief is just a swallow away with Alka-Seltzer, because it's liquid-quick when you take it.

Alka-Seltzer contains medically proven alkalis that reduce stomach acid, comfort your stomach, and relieve that stuffy, too-full feeling. You get Speedy Alkalinizing Action when you drink Alka-Seltzer.

When your stomach strikes a sour note due to overeating, acid indigestion or heartburn, take pleasant liquid-quick Alka-Seltzer.

RELIEF IS JUST A SWALLOW AWAY

May 10, 1964, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ADVERTISEMENT

"SYRUP OF FIGS" CHILD'S LAXATIVE

Look at tongue! Remove poisons from little stomach, liver and bowels—say "California"

Accept "California" Syrup of Figs only—look for the name California on the package, then you are sure your child is having the best and most harmless laxative or physic for the little stomach, liver and bowels. Children love its delicious fruity taste. Full directions for child's dose on each bottle. Give it without fear. Mother! You must say "California."

September 5, 1920, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

CURES ALL DISEASES OF THE LIVER, KIDNEY'S STOMACH AND BOWELS. GENERAL DEBILITY, CONSTIPATION, DYSPEPSIA, PILES & C.

PRICKLY ASH BITTERS

MEYER BROTHERS & CO. ST. LOUIS AND KANSAS CITY

February 8, 1881, Westliche Post

Be Sure You Get the Original and Genuine

Feena-mint
The Chewing LAXATIVE
Chew It Like Gum

August 25, 1926, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

DR. RADWAY'S Regulating Pills!

THE GREAT LIVER AND STOMACH REMEDY.

Perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated with sweet gum, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. Radway's Pills for the cure of all disorders of the stomach, liver, bowels, kidneys, bladder, nervous disease, headache, constipation, costiveness, troubling feelings, etc.; indigestion, dyspepsia, biliousness or flatulence of the bowels, piles, and all derangement of the internal viscera. Purely vegetable, contains no mercury, minerals or deleterious drugs.

Observe the following symptoms resulting from Diseases of the Digestive organs: Constipation, inward pain, fullness of the blood in the head, acidity of the stomach, nausea, heartburn, disgust of food, fulness or weight in the stomach, sour eructations, sinking or fluttering in the pit of the stomach, swimming of the head, hurried and difficult breathing, flutterings at the heart, choking or suffocating sensations when in a lying posture, dots or spots before the sight, fever and dull pain in the head, dizziness of perspiration, yellowness of the skin and eyes, pain in the side, chest, limbs, and sudden flashes of heat, burning in the flesh. A few doses of Radway's Pills will free the system from all the above-named disorders. PRICE 25 CENTS PER BOX. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS.

September 2, 1884, St. Louis Globe-Democrat

ONE WORD SUGGESTION FOR ACID INDIGESTION—

"TUMS"

January 24, 1945, St. Louis Globe-Democrat

MUNYON'S DYSPEPSIA CURE

Keeps the normal stomach normal even if you abuse it by overeating or drinking. It does much to make the worst-out stomach young.

At any druggist's. Dr. Write for free medical advice. Broadway & 28th st., N.Y.

April 4, 1901, St. Louis Republic

History & Genealogy Services

The following H&G services are free and available to researchers who are unable to visit the library.

Lookup service

H&G can provide photocopies, prints, or digital scans of many library materials from indexed sources or when given a specific citation:

- Up to 30 pages from one book or one article from a journal issue. Staff can also photocopy or scan tables of contents and index pages.
- Microfilmed records
- Print outs from database records if patrons cannot access the database at home.
- Please use the [online lookup request form](#) to submit requests.

*Some items may be temporarily unavailable due to construction

Print collection

More than 27,000 books in the collection can be checked out. The entire collection is included in the library's [online catalog](#). Books with call numbers that do not begin with "R" are available to check out. Patrons can request books online or by calling 314-994-3300.

*Some items may be temporarily unavailable due to construction

Research guidance

H&G staff members can provide research assistance by phone and in person.

Book-a-Genealogist

Researchers encountering brick walls or who would like assistance in developing a plan to achieve specific research goals can schedule a consultation with an H&G staff member. Requests can be made using the online [Book a Genealogist form](#).

Database access

Many library [databases](#) can be used at home by St. Louis County Library card holders living in the metropolitan area. For more information, please contact the History & Genealogy Department at 314-994-3300 or genealogy@slcl.org.

NEW EXHIBITS

The Missouri History Museum has two new exhibits!

Eads Bridge at 150

4/06/2024–5/11/2025

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the completion of the iconic Eads Bridge, this exhibit examines the complexities of its design, its construction, and the role it has played since it opened in 1874.

The 1904 World's Fair

4/27/2024–4/30/2030

In this revamped exhibit, artifacts and images will bring to life a more complete picture of the Fair, one that shows what it was like from many different perspectives: the organizers, the visitors, the workers—both those who came to St. Louis voluntarily and those who were forced. It will re-examine the complexity of the Fair in ways that will make this story feel new again.

See mohistory.org/museum for more information.

STLAAHGS @ MO HIST

"Join the St. Louis African American History and Genealogy Society (STLAAHGS) each month for a deep dive into researching your family's history. Workshops include announcements, a presentation by an expert in the field of Black history and genealogy, and a question-and-answer session. Workshops are open to the public and STLAAHGS members. No genealogical experience is necessary."—Missouri Historical Society

Next meeting:

Saturday, May 18, 1:00–3:00pm

Missouri History Museum

Myth or Reality? Ancient Links Between Egypt and African American Genealogy

Learn more at mohistory.org/events/african-american-history-and-genealogy-05-18-2024.

Registration is now open for the National Genealogical Society's 2024 conference! The 2024 event is all virtual, and is great for both beginning and veteran researchers. Expert speakers will present 50 lectures with live questions and answers. Topics include records, methodology, AI, DNA, and more. Visit conference.ngsgenealogy.org/ for more information and to register.



2024 VIRTUAL FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE
EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES
16-18 MAY



History & Genealogy at the St. Louis County Library is home to the National Genealogical Society's book collection.

PastPorts is published by History & Genealogy at the St. Louis County Library

Subscribe at scl.org/pastports. Current and past issues can be downloaded from the web.

Contact us:

History & Genealogy
St. Louis County Library
Temporary Location: Daniel Boone Branch
300 Clarkson Rd.
Ellisville, MO 63011

314-994-3300
genealogy@scl.org
scl.org/genealogy

PARDON OUR DUST

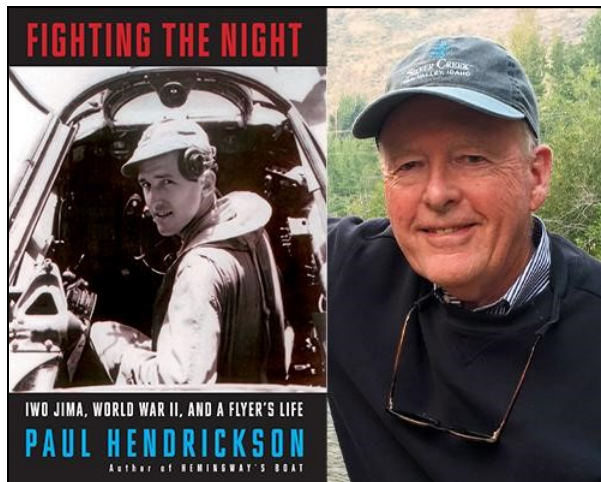
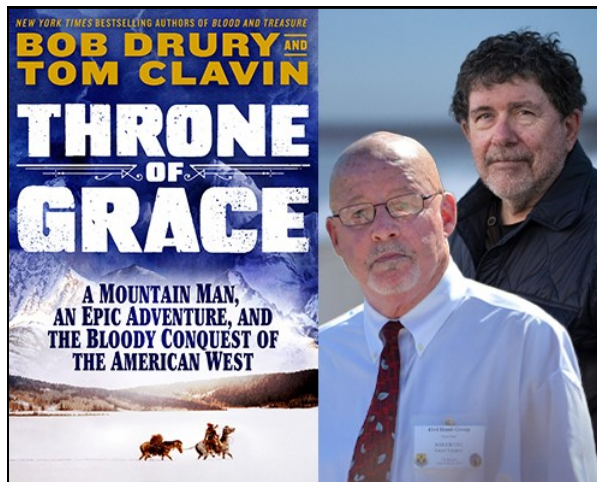
The St. Louis County Library has recently upgraded its website. The History & Genealogy page can be accessed by clicking on "Research & Learn," and then "History & Genealogy." Unfortunately, some of the H&G links have been broken during the upgrade process. Please be patient as our hardworking SLCL technology team works to get everything back on track. Please contact H&G at 314-994-3300 or genealogy@scl.org for help locating any of our online materials.



SLCL History Author Events

Bestselling historians and co-authors Bob Drury and Tom Clavin share the explosive true saga of the early exploration of the American frontier. It is the early 19th century, and the land recently purchased by President Thomas Jefferson stretches west for thousands of miles. Pathfinder Jedediah Smith and the Mountain Men’s explorations into the forested frontiers all the way to the West Coast would become the stuff of legend. Thanks to painstaking research, the story of the making of modern America is told through the eyes of both the ordinary and memorable men and women, settlers and Indigenous people, who witnessed it.

Monday, May 13, 2024
 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
 Daniel Boone Branch



National Book Award-nominated author Paul Hendrickson shares the moving story of his father’s wartime service as a night fighter pilot. In the fall of 1944, Joe Paul Hendrickson, a twenty-five-year-old first lieutenant, was sent to Iwo Jima, where, for the last five and a half months of World War II, he flew his famed B-61 Black Widow on approximately seventy-five missions, largely in pitch-black conditions. Bringing to life an iconic moment of American history, and the tragedy of all wars, “Fighting the Night” is an intense and powerful story of violence and love, forgiveness and loss.

Thursday, May 30, 2024
 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
 The J

Visit [slcl.org/events-classes/.authors](https://slcl.org/events-classes/authors) for more information and other author events.