



New Directors for the Library

We are pleased to announce that Elder Floyd Stevens and his wife Sister Connie Stevens have been called, in the capacity of full time missionaries, as Directors of the Las Vegas FamilySearch Library for the next three years. We look forward to working with them as they lead the library to continued growth and development. Welcome aboard!

Director's Message *by Floyd Stevens*

Allow me to introduce my wife and myself to you. I am Floyd Stevens, my wife is Connie. We received our call last Thursday to serve as the directors of the Family Search Library. We are excited—but at the same time overwhelmed by this calling.



In the early days of our marriage, Connie was a fanatic about Family History. We would drive most Friday nights from Provo to Salt Lake to go to the Family History Center there. These were the days of TIB slips, which my wife filled out with regularity and which she stapled to the long form Family Group Sheets which she filed in a cabinet. With some money we got for our wedding, we bought a wide carriage typewriter, knowing it would be of great value to us the rest of our lives.

Over the years, a lot of things have changed. Our kids came along in succession, and Connie ended up spending more time on family, and less time on Family History. I must admit to being one who is overwhelmed by the changes in the work. We have a daughter who has taken the baton from her mother, and she sends us family names for the temple. Lately she has started writing some information about the people involved, and that has opened our eyes to the people behind the names.

In spite of the learning curve we face, we can honestly say that we love FAMILY. We love those we know now on earth, including the little grandchildren—maybe especially them!! We love our siblings and parents and so forth. We love those we knew in this life, and we love those we have yet to meet. And we love those whose names have yet to be discovered. So we have something in common with you experts. And we will learn how to do what you do so well—the mechanics of the program.

The way we do Family History has changed, but the Spirit of Elijah is the same, and the LOVE of FAMILY is the key. We love the work of Family History and Temple work. It is all so TRUE!! We love and honor Brother and Sister Stoker. We know them from our associations in the Lakes Stake. They are wonderful people. We have big shoes—and colorful socks—to fill. We look forward to meeting you.

Floyd and Connie Stevens

Mark Your Calendars

- **African Am Research Group** **Sat 18 Oct 2014**
Discussion/Computer LVFSL LAB 10:30 a.m.
- **High Priest Group Leader Training** **Wed 22 Oct 2014**
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 7:00 p.m.
- **Family History Consultant Training** **Thurs 23 Oct 2014**
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 6:30 p.m.
- **2014 Family History Conferences**
http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Upcoming_Conferences
- **Rootstech** **Salt Lake City UT Feb 12-14 2015**
<https://rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

LVFSL Training

Las Vegas FamilySearch Library October Classes

<http://www.lvfamilysearchlibrary.org>

Helpful Websites *from Sandy Jackson*

Chronicling America Newspapers

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> Chronicling America is a project of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a partnership between the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). It is a long-term effort to develop an Internet-based, searchable database of public-domain U.S. newspapers with select digitization of historic pages, as well as information about newspapers from 1690 to the present. The site now provides access to more than 500,000 digitized newspaper pages, dating primarily from 1900 to 1910, and representing 61 newspapers from California, the District of Columbia, Florida, Kentucky, New York, Utah and Virginia.

Received Your Free Partner Accounts Yet?

In July, all Las Vegas valley LDS Church members should have received an invitation by e-mail to open their free accounts to Ancestry.com, findmypast.com and MyHeritage.com. If you have lost your invitation, or did not receive one, you can access the invitation by visiting the following website: <http://bit.ly/ldsmemberaccess>.

Getting to Know You *by Theresa Timony*



Ricardo Ascencion and Lorena Ascencion are both from Mexico. Lorena first started serving in the Family History calling 15 years ago as a consultant. She took a break for a few years, but came back as a volunteer two and a half years ago. She now serves as a Church Service missionary, and Ricardo as a volunteer. They work with the LDS Spanish wards in the valley, as well as

with Spanish-speaking non-members in the "Somos Primos" genealogical group. They love to work one-on-one, and can arrange to offer a class in Spanish if 3 or more people come at the same time. They have a passion for researching Mexico and Latin America, and have even assisted people from the Philippines. When they first started doing genealogy for this group of people it went very slowly because there were very few resources; but the many technological advances in this field and the commitment of the church for this work inspires them to do their part. Most of the work they have done in their lines is new research that nobody else has done. They are glad to be part of this important work, and want everyone to know how important it is. Ricardo states, "If we were not interested in this work, all these people would be forgotten."

Genealogy Insights *by Gail Gibbs*



Mary Barlow Riley was written about in the Royal Oak (Michigan) Daily Tribune in 1935.

See photo of her reading the newspaper without glasses at age 86. I learned from the article that she "received no education except Sunday School until she was 45 years old, when she attended adult night school classes to learn to read and write. As one of a family of eleven children, she was put to work at the age of four sewing fingers in gloves knitted by her

father, a framework knitter. At age seven she was given the task of winding bobbins." "I've wished oh, so many times, that I'd had an education while I was young," the aged woman declared with a sigh. "It would have been such a help later in life. I've lost so many things I once had, but, I can still see."

What the article didn't tell me I learned from my mother. Mary was her grandmother. She was born in

Normanton-on-the-Wolds in Nottinghamshire, England in 1849. She married Arthur Wellesley Wellington Riley at St. Ann's Church when she was 20 and they moved to Leicester, Leicestershire where they had nine children, two of them died in infancy. Her husband worked as a cordwainer (shoe trade) because he didn't like the trade of watchmaker he was apprenticed to. Mary took in work to help make ends meet and in later life had a little candy shop in Leicester. She was a widow at age 65 and thought her life was over. But her children were emigrating to America and at age 70 she decided to join them on the voyage, being the only one of her siblings to leave England. It was a big change for her and a great sacrifice for she never had her own home again. At time of the newspaper article she was living with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Price (Ada) in Clawson, Michigan. She spent the last 20 years of her life living with sons, daughters, or grandchildren. She died in 1940 at age 91, the same year as her son Frank Riley, my grandfather.

What can you learn from newspapers? If you have any people from Utah you might try this free site: www.digitalnewspapers.org or check out <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles/> for free historic American newspapers.

Indexing Info *from Tom Jackson*

Why index? Why spend all the time necessary to learn how to index only to find out the new batches have changed the instructions and you will have to start over. What is so critical about indexing? Can't we all just read the paper, call the courthouse or go to a library and do our research there? In short, why index?

When one considers that of the more than one billion records put online in the past seven years over 90% of them were indexed first the answer is very easy. They were put into a standardized format that makes it easy to use them in research. I personally have seen records that were unavailable only five years ago now coming to the fore. I am able, not only to find them; but I am able to attach them, the records, to my people thereby creating an acceptable record which will one day be placed before the Savior. Without indexers and arbitrators none of this would have been probable or even possible. Now with a few keystrokes I find myself in the midst of data that links us all together. So when someone asks me why I index I can tell them honestly: Because, for me, it the the surest and fastest way I can find my ancestors. I am profoundly grateful for each and every person who took the time to sit down and enter the data that has helped me find several hundred of my ancestors and to take over a thousand of them to the temple.

I salute you all. I honor you and I call you blessed. You are truly Saviors on Mount Zion. That is why we index.