

Past Tracks



A Publication of the Southern Arizona Genealogy Society

May 2026
Volume 32 Number 8

In This Issue

- May Monthly Meeting
- President's message
- Board Candidates
- Education Opportunities
- News from the Library
- Stories and articles from members
- And more!

Contributors



Mike Day
Becky McCreary
Bob Pitcher

Southern Arizona Genealogy Society May Monthly Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2026

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Recreation Center at La Posada
(directions on page 29)

Hybrid Meeting (Zoom and In-Person)

Speakers



DORIS SCHATZ

Doris Schatz is a member of SAGS who prefers to spend her time in the past with her ancestors. Doris is a Goodman, Schatz being her husband's name. Her Goodman family owned plantations in Colonial Virginia near Charlottesville.



PAT EDWARDS

Pat Edwards is the SAGS Director of Education and Programs. She blasts a weekly genealogy email on Friday fully of useful and interesting information.

Monthly SAGS Meeting
21 May 2026 1:00 - 3:00pm
Rec Center at La Posada
Hybrid Meeting (Zoom and In Person)

First Speaker: Doris Schatz - My ancestor William James Cooper, Revolutionary War Patriot

Rev. Cooper was born 1751 in Maryland and served under George Washington. He signed up on July 15, 1776 and served in the Maryland troops. He was recognized for his service at the Battle of Trenton (26 December 1776). He was one of 12 or 13 soldiers assigned to stay behind when Washington crossed the Delaware River to surprise the Brits who were still celebrating Christmas. Their duty was to keep all the campfires burning around the encampment and sing hearty holiday songs. They did their duty and the Brits were taken by surprise. Washington and his troops had to brave the ice, rain and snow on the river, but were rewarded with a much needed victory over the Hessian troops. Cooper received land in Kentucky as a reward for his service. He married in 1780 and moved his bride and family to Ohio County Kentucky in 1798.

Second Speaker: Pat Edwards - Starting to document your Digital Legacy

Annual Meeting: Reports from the Board and Election of Officers for 2026-2027

President's Message

May Month of Graduations



MICHAEL HARDY DAY

When I think of May, I think of my own graduations and the graduations of members of my family. When I graduated from the University of Missouri, my mother and grandmother attended and I wore the plain black robes of my grandfather, Prof. Hardy. When my son Matthew graduated from the University of Texas - Austin, we had many ceremonies to attend because he earned three Bachelor degrees (philosophy, mathematics and linguistics) and gave the valedictory address to thousands at the field house. Matt's PhD ceremony at the University of Chicago was attended by many family members. Education was very important in my family and has changed the lives of many family members.

In Green Valley, May is quiet because many winter visitors have gone north, but often has fine weather and the desert filled with flowers, birds and young animals. The season of the saguaro flowers and fruit is centered on May.

In May we have some important society business to address, particularly adding new officers and spreading the work of the society more widely among our members. Many hands will make the work lighter and hopefully the work can be a joy and grow our community. If you are approached by a Board member to fill a director's position, please consider how every volunteer organization thrives on the good will of its members and if you value the society, you should agree to serve in some capacity.

Over the summer, a few SIGS will continue to meet, the Board will meet by Zoom to plan our next year together so we may help each other discover the stories of our families and how they connect with local, national and world history.

Have a good summer, we will meet again in October on Friday, 16 October 2026.

Mike Day

Slate of Candidates for the SAGS Board

The following is the current view of candidates for the 2026-2027 SAGS Board.

President - Michael Day (continuing to serve two year commitment from last year) (traveling Jan-May 2027)

Vice President- Irene Little (tentatively)

Secretary - Mary Martin (continuing from last year) (will also be traveling Jan-May 2027)

Treasurer - John Kozma (continuing from last year)

Director of Programs - Pat Edwards (agreed to serve another term)

Director of Education -

Director of Publicity - Janis Slaughter (agreed to serve another term)

Director of Membership - Ron Agte (agreed to serve)

We also need an editor for Past Tracks to replace Michael Day who has been the interim editor this year, otherwise, Jan 1, 2027 will be the last issue of the next volume.

The need in order of priority:

Vice President

Director of Education

Past Tracks Editor

We would also entertain a replacement for Mary Martin as secretary to ease the transition in January 2027. Otherwise, Board minutes will be covered by another board member with AI assistance.

Education Opportunities



Please inform the facilitators/instructors if you will attend their session. Some classes require a Zoom link. The latest SIG information is always on the [SAGS website calendar](#). You may contact Pat Edwards at education@azsags.org for more information.

Let's Talk Genealogy (SIG)

First Weds of each month: May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7

9:30 - 11:30

In-person Meeting

Genealogy can be confusing. Sometimes, you just need to be with some friends to talk about a research problem. Maybe you want to share a breakthrough you have been working on for years. That's the purpose of "Let's Talk Genealogy"— friends talking about genealogy and family history. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month. Meeting location: La Posada, The Pavilion, Building #60, 2nd Floor, Synergy Room.

SIG Leader: Bob Pitcher; rpitcher1040@gmail.com

Storytellers: Writing Family Stories

Second Tuesday of each Fall/Winter months: May 12

10 - noon

In-person Meeting

The Storytellers class for SAGS members meets on the second Tuesday of the month October through May at Friends in Deed. This is a class for those who want to write to preserve their personal stories and those of ancestors. **This is not a drop-in SIG; you must register in advance to join the class.** For more information, please contact the instructor, Becky McCreary: rebeccamccreary764@gmail.com

Family Tree Maker SIG

Third Monday every other month: May 18

10:00am - 12:00 noon

Zoom meeting

Explore the features of FTM with a hands-on approach! An email with the Zoom meeting link will be sent out approximately 5 days prior to the meeting to those on the group email list. To have your name added to the group list, send an email to webmgr@azsags.org.

SIG Leader: Karen Feeney

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Beginning Genealogy SIG

Fourth Thurs of each month: May 28

3:00 - 4:00

* Hybrid Meeting: Green Valley Genealogy Library, and Zoom.

This meeting is open to non-members & members. It is a great way to get started with researching your family tree. This group meets the 4th Thursday of the month. For more details, contact Jon Otto, Group Leader, at jonotto48@yahoo.com and check the SAGS Events Calendar for future meeting dates.

* In-Person Meeting location: Green Valley Genealogy Library, 665 S. Park Centre Ave., Green Valley.



Candy Cullen keeper of the Freebie Table at SAGS programs, loves to receive genealogy-related materials for members and visitors to pick up at the monthly meetings. At this time she does not need office items but will let you know when she does Thank you for donating gently-used books, publications, reference materials, etc.



Green Valley - Sahuarita Genealogy Library at La Posada Becky McCreary

A new Chapter for Darillyn!



Retirement does not mean settling into a life of doing nothing. That is true for long-time Green Valley-Sahuarita Genealogy Library Director Darillyn Doss, who will retire from her nine-year tenure December 31, 2026, removing that “hat” but continuing with her many interests. She will have more time to find some of the missing relatives in her families, continue her passion with DNA research, creating a family website of decades of photographs, while supporting the library in any way she can.

In 2017 the Green Valley Genealogical Society (renamed Southern Arizona Genealogy Society in 2018) Library located at the Sahuarita LDS Church was going to close. Decreased space for the growing number of books, distance from Green Valley, and inconsistent hours for research, saw a decline in people using the Library.

She and husband Bob were determined that would not happen if they could help it. With their years of business experience, organizational skills, and strong commitment to keep books available to the public, they approached the administration at La Posada, who “adopted” the library. A large room next to Posada Java was available. The library quickly took shape and there was a good home for the 500 shelved books at the LDS church, with another 250 in storage. In 2020, when La Posada remodeled the building, creating a larger Posada Java, the library had to move to the vacated Barber Shop. A much smaller home for the library, but all 3500 books are shelved, with none in storage, and the public can use the library six days a week.

Darillyn’s tireless commitment to bring the Library to the public made her an admired team leader of nearly 20 volunteer staff members. Thank you , Darillyn, from all who benefited from your energy, organization, guidance, knowledge, and passion for genealogy.

“Being associated with the Genealogy Library has truly been an incredible chapter in myself and Bob’s life. The wonderful memories that we have shared with the volunteers and visitors will provide much joy in my coming years. There is no way I can ever express enough gratitude to everyone with whom I have worked these past years - for their responsibility and commitment as well as the love of books and research that every volunteer has displayed. A huge thank you to everyone, and, as Bob would say, “thank you for volunteering.”

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Welcome to the Team, Susan!



Susan James loves books and is no stranger to working among them. When she moves from library volunteer staff member to Library Manager January 1, 2027, she will bring years of experience. She is excited to be more involved with the 3,500 books in the library and helping visitors research their families.

Born in Illinois, she grew up in Easton, Pennsylvania, lived in London, England while her father was on sabbatical there, went on archaeological digs in Massachusetts, Mississippi, and Israel, earned degrees from Lafayette College and the University of Pennsylvania. After grad school she worked 14 years at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia.

Susan moved to Green Valley from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, retiring from an admirable career in an art museum, a public library, and an historical society, doing research of various kinds at each location. At the public library, she held various positions over 20 years, including Reference Librarian, Archivist, and Library Manager. The library and historical society shared selected archival and research collections and she was most often the person who assisted researchers working on books, dissertations, exhibits, and family histories at both locations. The Chippewa County Genealogical Society of which she was a member, was created at the public library and held its meetings there until it disbanded.

She enjoys traveling, viewing Independent films, visiting historical sites, spending time with siblings and her daughter, and continuing to serve on the board of Soo Film Festival in Sault Ste. Marie. She volunteers at the Joyner Library's Friends of Pima County Library Used Book Shop, chooses books from the Pima County Book Warehouse in Tucson for our Library, and Books for Classrooms which distributes them to area Tribal libraries and Tucson recreation centers. She also picks books for Little Free Libraries in Amado and Green Valley Food Banks, the Libraries set up by her mother Mary Lou James, and of which Susan is a steward.

Aside from surrounding herself with more books, what does she have in her plans for the Library? "I would like to continue the great, ongoing work of Darillyn Doss and her staff."

**665 S. Park Centre Ave.
Green Valley, Arizona**

**Hours:
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon
520⁹648-4016**



*For
your
Reading
Pleasure*

The stories and articles written for *Past Tracks* are the property of the author and may not be used in any form without the written permission of the author.

My Father, Arthur Alvin Day

Michael Day

Arthur Alvin Day was born during a snowstorm, January 19, 1915 on the Day family farm in Douglas Township, Adams County, Iowa about half way between Carbon and Nodaway. He was the fifth child and third son of Herman Foster Day and Fannie M Roberts Day. (Fannie's middle name was just the initial "M".) The family was poor; their 80 acre farm had a small pasture and one tillable field, the rest was woodlot. However, because Herman supplemented the farm income with coal mining, they felt better off than some of their neighbors. My father was the youngest and last child and was babied by his mother. He remembers his mother as a strong-willed woman who resented that her husband was naturally more likable than she was. She was a hard worker and liked to attend a Methodist church on Sunday even when no one else in the family wanted to go. Herman liked hunting and fishing and was the only person in the family who would eat 'possum. The children said to their father, "If the dogs won't eat 'possum, then we won't eat it!" Another note about Herman. Art said he had a beautiful singing voice and when he sang "Go tell Aunt Rhode, the Old Grey Goose is Dead", the old women at the social would weep.

My father's siblings attended a country school through the 8th grade and then went to work. Sister Mabel became a domestic servant at the Bixler farm a few miles away and eventually married Carl, the elder son in that family. Brother Bill showed mechanical aptitude and became a mechanic at a garage in Corning, Iowa eventually marrying the owner's daughter. He moved to Burbank California during the war and installed radios in war planes. Sister Ella married John Strait, a farm boy from down the road and they moved from rented farm to rented farm. Brother John stayed on the farm to work with his dad. Art was the first in his family to go to high school in Corning, Iowa. Because he had to board in town, his education was expensive for the family. He remembers his father taking him to Corning (about 10 miles away) with a team and wagon on Sunday and fetching him on Friday during the school year. Art was a good student and graduated at the top of his small class in 1933. A teacher had arranged a scholarship for him at a small college in northern Missouri and Art wanted to go, however, the farm was not doing well, there was a mortgage to pay, so Herman asked Art to work on the farm for a year until they could afford to send him. Herman died on 24 June 1933 of pneumonia following a stroke. He was 58 years old. I believe Herman worried himself to death that he would lose the farm like his parents had done 40 years before. It is also likely that he had tuberculosis. Photographs show him as pale with black hair and a mustache. Art and John stayed on the farm taking care of their mother until they were drafted in 1940 (Art) and 1941 (John).

From 1933 to 1940, Art and John ran the farm and the coal mine that Herman had sunk on their property. The Day Coal company mined a 2 foot thick seam of bituminous coal using the long wall method. From the shaft, they cut a long tunnel pulling out coal on one side of the tunnel and building up a rock wall on the other side, sweeping out an arc as they worked. No mining engineer ever set foot in the mine and they were lucky that no one ever died there, although there were a few close calls. In the 1940 census, Art listed himself as the coal mine operator and John listed himself as farmer. Art and John employed homeless men who lived in tents on the nearby middle fork of the Nodaway River. The coal mine generated enough cash to pay off the mortgage. By the late 1930's Art spent his weekends playing poker with his employees, trying to win back their wages. He made enough money to buy a motorcycle and side car and toured the west in 1937. He ran for assessor of Douglass township as a Republican and won... just before he was drafted in 1940.

Continued from previous page

One of Art's interests was classical music. This interest started on the farm with radio broadcasts. I think he listened to the Metropolitan Opera broadcasts on Saturday afternoons from their inception in 1933 until he entered the US Army. When he was stationed in Southern California, he attended live classical performances at the Hollywood Bowl and when he later traveled to and from Europe, he would attend as many live Met opera performances as he could. He took a music appreciation course at Iowa State and made classical music part of his children's bedtime rituals. One of his close friends from the Army was Bob Goldstein from Philadelphia. I think they met at the USO, listening to classical recordings. He and Bob shared a love of classical music and after the war, Bob lived in St. Louis. The Goldsteins and Days would share season tickets to the St. Louis Symphony. Art loved Mozart and Beethoven... he didn't have much respect for 20th century composers.

Art was the first person drafted in Adams county. There were no Iowa units of the Army that were activated at the time, so he was sent to a Nebraska National Guard unit that traced its history back to the Indian wars in the 1850's, the Civil War and subsequent battles with the Sioux. They were the 134th Infantry Regiment, known as Nebraska's first in the Civil War. Their motto was "All Hell Can't Stop Us." My father trained in Arkansas, near Little Rock at the newly constructed Camp Robinson. After basic training, the 134th Regiment was involved in training maneuvers in Arkansas and Louisiana. Right after Pearl Harbor they were sent to Southern California to patrol the beaches of Malibu and provide security for aerospace factories in the Los Angeles basin. My father's unit remained in southern California for a year while other units were sent to the Aleutian Islands. The next two years was more training in Alabama and the Carolinas. By the time the 134th arrived in England in 1944, they were one of the best trained units in the US Army. They even put on a parade for Eisenhower and Patton in Penzance a few weeks before D-day.

Art's brother John was drafted in 1941, leaving Mother Fannie on the farm alone. She died on 23 December 1941. The following is an excerpt from her obituary in the Adams County Free Press 25 December 1941.

The unexpected passing of Mrs. Fannie Day Tuesday took from Adams county a fine woman who has spent the entire 62 years of her life in Adams county and in the same locality, near Carbon. Mrs. Day was injured recently in a fall but the direct cause of her death was pneumonia. She was taken critically ill on Monday and was taken to the Municipal hospital in Clarinda. It is believed that worry over her son John, who is in the army was a contributing cause of her illness and death. The injuries from her fall were not serious enough to have brought on her illness.

John served with the Second Infantry Division that landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day + 1. He was immediately involved in heavy fighting and was one of 12 soldiers trapped between enemy lines in Normandy for 11 days. He fought in Brest and was part of Patton's 9th Army that swept across France and ultimately liberated Pilsen.

Art's 134th Regiment landed in Normandy on D-Day + 30 and liberated St. Lô and Nancy. He was wounded twice and was lucky to be recovering from his wounds in England when the 134th fought in the Ardennes at the Battle of the Bulge. When he returned to his unit many of his fellow soldiers were gone - dead or wounded. In March 1945, he received a battlefield commission and was soon afterward transferred to a training unit in Arkansas where he served until the war ended. Art considered staying in the Army after the war, however, he knew he would be disadvantaged as an officer without a college education. He left the Army, returned

Continued from previous page

to Iowa and worked on his sister Mabel's farm until he went to Iowa State College in Ames to study Chemical Engineering on the G.I. Bill.

Art completed his degree in 3 years and graduated in the top 3% of the engineering class. He met and married Helen Grace Hardy who was in Ames to earn a master's degree in textile chemistry. Not long after marrying in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, they moved to St. Louis, Missouri. Art worked for Mallinckrodt Chemical on the river on the north side of town, Grace had 4 children, including the author, between 1950 and 1955. The family moved from St. Louis to Florissant, MO and then in 1959 to Festus, MO 30 miles south of St. Louis. Art helped to design and build a nuclear fuels plant in Hematite, MO where he worked for the rest of his career. He was frustrated by being passed over for plant manager, possibly because he was older, but more likely because he was not politically sophisticated in his approach to management.

In retirement, he and Grace travelled to the Yukon and Alaska and to England to visit sons and a nephew. He enjoyed poker with his friends and occasional visits to Las Vegas for gambling and entertainment. He enjoyed fishing, boating, square dancing and making whiskey sours. In his 70's Alzheimer's began to rob him of his active mind... he was always proud of his IQ measured by the Army in the 140s. He died at age 83 in a nursing home in Festus, Missouri and is buried along with his wife and her parents in Crystal City, MO.

Art's children had professional careers... Michael as a scientist and engineer, Evan as career Air Force, retiring with a Captain's rank, Patty as a social worker for the state of Missouri and Donald as a petroleum engineer. Art's life spanned remarkable change in the United States. In 1915, he was born in a farmhouse without running water or electricity, the farm was entirely horse powered. The depression and the war delayed his education by more than a decade and he was in a hurry to make up for lost time in his career and family. His experience as a sergeant shaped his approach to parenting and I could argue that the depression and the war delayed his emotional maturity. He chose me as the keeper of Day family history... he was proud of his accomplishments despite significant headwinds of 20th century history. He was the last of a farming line going back to colonial New England in the mid-17th century.



Arthur Alvin Day c.1948

Dr. Samuel Day and Family in the Firelands of frontier Ohio:

AI summary from two local histories.

Michael Day

In the late 19th and early 20th century, there was a great interest in local history and family history in New England and the Midwest. Many books were written and later digitized when they passed into the public domain. I took two local histories of New London Township, Huron County, Ohio and prompted ChatGPT to read both, extract information about the Samuel Day family and then compare and contrast the two histories. I knew the Days were pioneers in Huron County and that Samuel Day was called Doctor because he practiced herbal medicine, but I missed some interesting detail in my first reading of these books. This is what resulted from the exercise:

Taken together, the two narratives present the Day family as one of the early and substantial pioneer families of New London Township in the Firelands, later Huron County, Ohio. Read side by side, they do not so much contradict one another as fill in different parts of the same story. The *History of New London, Ohio* preserves scattered local notices, while the narrative drawn from Williams's *History of the Firelands* pulls those fragments into a broader family reconstruction. Together they show Dr. Samuel Day not merely as an isolated early settler, but as the head of a large, economically active, and increasingly interconnected frontier household.

In both accounts, Samuel Day stands near the beginning of the Day family's Ohio story. The Firelands narrative places him in New London Township in 1817, at a time when settlement was still thin and survival depended on cooperation among neighbors. In that setting, Day's household appears to have been unusually large and important. The New London history does not give him a full biography, but it offers enough glimpses to suggest the same conclusion. Anna Day, who married Benjamin DeWitt of Plymouth, is identified there as one of Samuel Day's eighteen children, and Sally Day is explicitly called a daughter of Dr. Samuel Day in connection with her 1819 marriage to Upton Clark. These brief notices imply that by the late 1810s Samuel Day was already established as the patriarch of a large family whose children were becoming woven into the earliest marriage network of the settlement.

The two documents also complement one another in showing how the Day family fit into the working economy of the frontier. The New London account notes that in 1821 Josiah Day and his father were making “salts,” or potash, near Josiah’s cabin, and later refers to “Day’s store and ashery” in the eastern part of the township. The Firelands narrative broadens that picture by treating Samuel Day not only as a physician, but as a man engaged in the practical industries that sustained pioneer life. That combination is telling. In early Huron County, medicine alone rarely defined a man’s place. Samuel Day appears instead as the kind of early community figure who healed, traded, produced, and helped anchor a settlement through both family labor and local enterprise.

John Day emerges more distinctly in the New London material than Samuel does. He is presented less as a biographical subject than as a vivid pioneer actor. In the spring of 1817, Ephraim, John, and Josiah Day came west “from the East,” each carrying only twenty shillings and a filled haversack, and walked the roughly seven hundred miles to the New London area in six weeks. The local history does not explicitly say in that passage that John was Samuel’s son, and the synthesis must preserve that caution. Yet when that migration account is read alongside the notices of Samuel’s large family and the Firelands narrative’s broader reconstruction, John plainly belongs in Samuel Day’s immediate family circle and in the first generation of Day settlers in the township.

John’s marriage gives the family story some of its most memorable human detail. On 16 December 1817 he married Polly Corey, daughter of John Corey. Because there was then no road from New London to Haneytown, the couple rode the same horse through the woods to the cabin of her uncle, A. Hendryx, where Esquire Ralston performed the ceremony. Afterward they returned to the settlement and lived on Lot 20, Section 1. Polly’s death in the autumn of 1820, followed by her burial in the cemetery her father had set aside, places the Days not only among the first settlers but among the first families to experience the full cycle of pioneer family life in the township: migration, marriage, household formation, labor, and loss.

Continued from previous page

What the two narratives finally reveal is a family rooted early, broadly, and deeply in the making of New London Township. Samuel Day appears as an early patriarch of a remarkably large household, a physician whose family also participated in the rough commercial life of the frontier. John Day appears as one of the young men who physically made the migration west and quickly established himself through marriage and settlement. The New London source is cautious and fragmentary, preserving names, marriages, locations, and incidents. The Firelands narrative is more interpretive, drawing those pieces into a coherent family story. Combined, they yield a persuasive picture of the Days as one of the township's foundational families: numerous, mobile, industrious, and bound into the earliest social and economic fabric of Huron County's frontier community.

THE REVEREND JOSEPH HULL

Bob Pitcher

When I first learned something of my maternal genealogy, more or less literally at my grandma's knee, one name stuck out – that of Joseph Hull. He was the earliest of my mother's ancestors about whom we knew very much, and he led an active and interesting life. He's one of those people we know enough about to wish we knew more than we do. This is about the Reverend Mr., Hull and his immediate descendants.

Joseph Hull

My ninth-great-grandfather Joseph Hull was born in 1594 in Crewkerne in Somerset, in the West Country of England -- a beautiful area. His family must have been gentry, or nearly so, since they could afford to send both Joseph and his older brother to Oxford. In the course of things, both became Anglican ministers. For the next twenty years, Joseph served first in his brother's parish and then in a parish of his own in Devonshire.

England was troubled in these late years of James I and early years of Charles I. Charles was generally desperate for money but unwilling to put up with Parliament's demands in order to get money in the usual ways. Instead, Charles eventually resorted to means his opponents considered extortionate and unconstitutional. That squabble, and the Anglican bishops' persecution of the Puritans all over the country, led to the Great Migration to New England in the 1630s – and to the English Civil War and Charles's execution in the 1640s.

It's not clear now – and may not have been clear then, either – just what Joseph Hull's theology was. It does seem that he wasn't orthodox enough for the bishops, nor pure enough for the Puritans. That he didn't seem to get along well with either side might have been personality as much as doctrine. As he got older, it seems he got more outspoken and difficult.

It may be relevant to Joseph's religion that the minister in Hull's hometown of Crewkerne had been persecuted by the Anglican bishops early on. It might, that is, have been something of a Puritan parish even in Joseph's childhood. On the other hand, Cambridge University was the Puritan fountainhead and considered much more radical than Oxford, Joseph's school.

New England

Though the story varies on this, it seems Hull's bishop threw him out of his parish in Devon over doctrinal issues. So Joseph went home to Somerset, gathered his family and others to the number of over a hundred, and in 1635 took them to Massachusetts. The Great Migration had many more instances of popular preachers gathering a flock and all of them setting off to New England.

In America Hull put down on the south shore of Massachusetts Bay and founded the town – and church – of Weymouth. While there, he was elected to the General Court, the Bay Colony's legislature. He soon moved on to Hingham, where in his congregation was Samuel Lincoln, the

Continued on next page

first of the President's ancestors of the name in America (who arrived in 1637). But something didn't fit – it's suggested the Reverend Hull's opinions on church procedures and hierarchy were too Anglican for New England – and Hull went off in 1639 with a part of his former congregation and founded the new town of Barnstable, now the county seat for Cape Cod. Note that he's now in Plymouth Colony not the Bay Colony.

Hull was soon elected to represent Barnstable in the Plymouth General Court, but in 1641 he was off again, now to Yarmouth, farther out on the Cape, to preach there. At least occasionally in that year, he also traveled to preach up in York, Maine. That area was then a district of the Bay Colony, but home mostly to fur trappers and fishermen. Barnstable's church excommunicated Hull for abandoning his position without leave. But Hull showed remorse, and they took him back – for a little bit. But then he went off again, and moved to Maine. After some five years more, the Bay Colony sent up a more orthodox Puritan preacher to replace him there.

Joseph and his wife then went back to England, and he took up where he'd left off, making his peace with the Anglican establishment, and getting a parish in Cornwall. He managed to remain there for over a decade. But in 1662, about the time, I expect, that the new royal government of Charles II had leisure to look as far afield as Cornwall, Joseph went back to New England, this time to the coast of New Hampshire, where he set about preaching again, and quarreling with local Quakers, who had a settlement there at Oyster River. Joseph Hull died in that area, at the Isles of Shoals, in 1665, quite worn out, I'd think.

Joseph's Family & Their Connections

We know a little of Joseph Hull's forebears. His father and father's family were both of Crewkerne, as was his mother, a Joane Person or Peson – the name perhaps a corruption of Parson, or perhaps not. Her family might've come from Dorset, the next county over.

Joseph himself married twice, and one of the more frustrating things about him is we don't know the maiden names of either of his wives, though the given name of the second one, my ancestor, was Agnes. (There has been much speculation on their identity, but little evidence.) One of Anger's children was Tristram Hull, a splendid name for a ship captain, which he was. He came over with his parents and the rest of the family, and shared their movings about for a while, eventually settling on Cape Cod at Yarmouth. When still quite young, he served under Miles Standish in Plymouth's militia.

Tristram eventually owned one ship and part of another, and made ocean voyages, especially to the West Indies. He wasn't a Quaker himself, but assisted Quakers when they needed help, which was often in those years. Tristram left a large estate when he died in 1667, soon after his father. We don't know whom he married, except that her given name was Blanche, and that she had a bad reputation with the neighbors there on the Cape.

Continued on next page

Tristram's son was Joseph Hull, born in 1652 and named for his grandfather the reverend. This younger Joseph was a "planter, cooper, merchant, and shipper." A cooper makes barrels; a planter was a farmer, though the word implies a farmer of some size; and a merchant and shipper might mean no more than he occasionally arranged for transportation of goods by ship, as everybody on the shore did. Considering that his father Tristram died well off, however, as well as certain other circumstances, it's likely enough that first son Joseph was also relatively wealthy.

Joseph became a Quaker fairly young, and was harassed over his beliefs while he stayed on Cape Cod. The Cape was relatively safe for Quakers, since Plymouth Colony was fairly tolerant – but the Bay Colony, not in the least tolerant, was close by. Joseph was summoned to court at one point for beating up a sheriff's deputy who was giving him trouble, and fined 7£, although the fine was remitted. It's suggested the sheriff might have been trying to enforce the Massachusetts and Plymouth orders dissolving Quakers' indentures and apprenticeships, orders that were probably illegal, and would have been very damaging to Joseph's business.

In his forties, when Plymouth was subsumed into Massachusetts, Joseph relocated to Rhode Island, settling in Kingston. Quaker meetings were held at his house, and for several years he had a position in Rhode Island somewhat equivalent to a state senator today. Joseph's son Reuben (*not* my ancestor) was hanged for murder in 1720, the year after his father died.

Joseph Hull married Experience Harper, of a prominent – notorious might be more appropriate for the time -- Quaker family. Her father, Robert Harper, had been on hand when in 1661 the Bay Colony hanged its last Quaker, one William Leddra, who had been a friend of Robert. Robert received William's body when the executioner cut him down. Robert's wife was Deborah Perry, also a Quaker, and a preacher. The couple were banished from Massachusetts the following year, and went (or returned) to Plymouth Colony.

The child of Joseph Hull and Experience Harper from whom I'm descended was Alice Hull, who married into the Segar family of Rhode Island. That's another indication that Joseph was pretty well off, since the Segars were too. The Segars are interesting in a number of respects. Alice's grandmother, for instance, was a convicted witch. Maybe another time....

Southern Arizona Genealogy Society

2025-2026

Officers

President: Michael Day

Secretary: Mary Martin

Treasurer: John Kozma

Director of Education: Pat Edwards

Director of Publicity: Janis Slaughter

Past Tracks Editor

Michael Day (Interim)

Website Manager

Karen Feeney

Visit the SAGS Website:

<https://azsags.org>

Mailing address:

Southern Arizona Genealogy Society

PO Box 1009

Green Valley, AZ 85622-1009

Green Valley-Sahuarita Genealogy Library

665 S. Park Centre Ave

Green Valley, AZ

520-648-4016

PLEASE NOTE

The Southern Arizona Genealogical Society (SAGS) is not affiliated with Green Valley Recreation (GVR) or with any religious organization. We are a non-profit educational organization, certified under IRC sec. 501(c) (3)

SAGS Membership Application

May be completed at azsags.org

Date _____

New/Renewal Individual (\$35)_____

Student (ages 12-21) (\$20)_____

Family (2 Adults, same address) (\$45)_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

*Email _____

2nd Name (if Family) _____

2nd *Email _____

2nd Phone _____

Return with payment to:

Southern Arizona Genealogy Society

PO Box 1009

Green Valley, AZ 85622

or drop off at the Genealogy Library

* To receive the SAGS newsletter, you must include an email address

Map and Directions to La Posada Rec Center



Map of La Posada Campus with Recreation Center at Western Edge. Entrance to Campus is off Continental on the East side.

La Posada, 350 E. Morningside Road, Green Valley, AZ 85614