



## JACKSONVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

# NEWSLETTER

VOL. 24, NO. 6

November - December 2008

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### MISSION STATEMENT:

To promote the sharing of genealogical knowledge;  
to provide assistance to members and the public;  
to foster preservation of historical records;  
and to champion and sustain ethical genealogical standards.

### Membership Meetings

The Society meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Webb-Wesconnett Library, 6887 103rd Street, Jacksonville, Florida.

### Membership Meeting – November 15, 2008

Our November meeting is our Heirloom and social meeting for the year. Finger foods can be brought and are encouraged. Tina Frady is in charge of refreshments. Please contact her for additional information. We certainly hope you will bring a family heirloom to the meeting with a willingness to share its meaning to your family history.

### Spring Seminar 2009 - 28 Feb 2009

**NOTE: We will not be having our membership meeting in Feb. We will be having our all-day Seminar on 28 Feb 2009.** We have invited Genealogist, Amy Lerner Giroux, CG,CGL, from Orlando as our guest speaker. Mark your calendars now for a day of wonderful knowledge building. You will find the flyer with the registration form in this newsletter, and also available on line at our website. Cost is \$35.00 for non-members and \$30.00 for members of the Jacksonville Genealogical Society. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. at the Crown Point Baptist Church in Mandarin, 10153 Old St. Augustine Road, Jacksonville, Florida. Lunch is included with early registration. Amy will present four lectures: (1) Cemetery Research—A City of Stones. (2) Listen to the Land—Understanding Your Ancestor's Property Records. (3) Pre-1850 Census Research—Determining Parentage. (4) Genealogy and the World Wide Web—Looking at various online websites (free and fee based.) Lectures will begin at 9 a.m.

We are also planning on having a "Trading Post" at the Seminar. If you have any "slightly used" genealogy materials, such as books, CDs, magazines, etc. that you are no longer using (or that you bought 2 of <g>), please consider donating them to the Society for the "Trading Post". We will add the raised monies to our general fund. Please bring what you have to donate to the January meeting.

There is a printable seminar form at: <http://home.comcast.net/~jaxgen/09semflyer.pdf>

Or you can go to our website... Thanks Ann.

### 2009 Dues Are Now Due

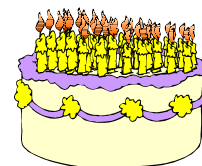
If you have not remitted your payment of dues for 2009, we urge you to do so, promptly. Our calendar year is January through December; therefore, dues for 2009 are due now.

Please complete the enclosed Membership Application so that we will have your current information in our membership database. Thank you for your continued support. Applications are also available at our website.

### Happy Birthday!

We send a "Happy Birthday" to our members who are celebrating in November and December:

Nov...2	John Frady
Nov...7	Charles Felder
Nov..16	Geraldine Cowart
Nov..28	Skip Brown
Dec...3	Mildred Dittman



Dec...6	Evelyn Sue Weiland
Dec...9	Gail Haas
Dec..14	Paulette Leavins
Dec..15	Gayle Davis
Dec...21	Jack Davenport

**Spring Genealogy Class "Researching in a Straight Line --- Backwards"**

**Dates for classes haven't been considered yet as Ann has been away and she now has to set her schedule with library under new guidelines. When it becomes available I will let you know.**

**Notes from our Members**

**Mr. Felder informs us that by going to <http://www.bfa9.com/liberty> you can find a story about his 4<sup>th</sup> Great-Grandfather.**

**Marge Gray has extensive hip surgery on November 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Eddie Ansley should be back to vote from North Carolina after having eye surgery.**

**Haven't heard any other news about the Binnacle List or any other news at all when you come right down too it!!**

**However, if anyone wishes to contribute to their newsletter, then by golly let's do it!!**

Coffee Marriages in KY pre 1900 at <http://www.coldrelatives.com/coffeemarriagesky.html>

Site for those with a historical interest in the villages of Rudham, Norfolk. Historical information on East, West Rudham and Pockthrope in the county of Norfolk giving many family trees and good historical data. <http://www.rudham.co.uk>.

**Membership and Telephone Committee Request**

If your Email address, phone number, or postal address changes, please be sure to let Tina Frady, Membership Chair, and/or Norma LeVey, Telephone Sub-committee Chair, know as soon as possible. Their contact information is below in the list of Board Members for 2008.

**A Special Thank You!**

How about that Ann Staley! Previously, she has held numerous board and committee positions; at one time, far too many at once, which only proves how good she is at most everything. Presently she is our Education Chairman. She also is our website administrator. Latest assignment is with the Seminar committee. Think Energizer Bunny!!

**Personal Journals, Diaries and Old Letter in Genealogical Research**

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Prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the ability to read and write was not considered a top priority by our ancestors. Paper was also a very scarce and expensive commodity. If you are fortunate enough to uncover a surviving journal or diary, this could great enhance your prospects for research success.

Journals, diaries, and old letters can serve many purposes for the genealogist The may shed light on a number of genealogical research issues including:

1. Family Relationships.
2. Former places of residence.
3. Places of visitation.
4. Major events in the life of an ancestor or family.
5. Reasons for migration from one area to another.
6. Religious affiliation.
7. Educational and economic status of the writer.
8. Offer personal (the writer) observations which may be useful in helping the researcher understand the time period.

Journals, diaries, and old letters may be the closet option available if older family members are deceased. Writers may have jotted down facts and personal feelings that would have never been made public to the family or anyone else. When examining these types of materials it is wise to have a genealogical dictionary handy. The terminology used in wording will reflect the meanings relevant to that time period. Some professionals have also suggested having a handwriting style book handy as well. Reading penmanship from the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries can be a challenge. When the text refers to an individual or members of a family, it is also wise to determine what the relationship was between the writer and those names in the source. This may help you determine the relevance and accuracy of the information.

Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian  
 Fort Myers-Lee County Library  
 2050 Central Avenue  
 Fort Myers, FL 33901-3917

### Epidemics

Throughout human history, peoples all across the world have been ravaged by epidemics. While most of these occurred prior to our modern advances in medicine, there are many parts of the third world today that still endure these tragedies on a regular basis. Historically, when these

unfortunate events occur, entire towns and families are wiped out. In many cases, due to the fear of spreading disease, the remains are burned quickly. Little if any effort was made to document the names of the deceased. The United States has faced its share of epidemics throughout our history. Two of the most severe were the yellow fever outbreak that swept through the South in 1841 and the infamous 1918 Spanish flu outbreak which quickly throughout the world eventually hitting the United States. This latter epidemic claimed the lives of an estimated 25 to 40 million people. Our ancestors had a much shorter life span than modern medicine has allowed our current generations to enjoy. Two of the most common causes of death were wars and epidemics. If you encounter a situation where a large number of your ancestors or residents of a given locality disappeared during a certain period of time in history, and there is no evidence of any war related explanation, an event of this magnitude could be mentioned in any published county histories for the locality or region. The local health department of the community in question would be another source of information. Epidemics have played a major role throughout human history. Many cases of people disappearing from records traced to dying during an epidemic or moving away from the affected region. Bryan Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library, 2050 Central Avenue, Fort Myers, FL. (Printed with permission.)

#### OFFICERS, STANDING AND APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (terms expiring at end of 2009):

President	Mary S. Chauncey	904-781-9300
First Vice President/Membership Chairman	Tina M. Frady	904-695-9139
Telephone Sub-Committee Chairman	Norma J. LeVey	904-264-5614
Second Vice President/Publicity Chairman	Jim Laird	904-264-0743
Recording Secretary	Anne Morabito	904-695-9139
Corresponding Secretary	Kathy Balistreri	904-721-7630
Treasurer	Harlan A. Dittman	904-778-0213
Editor/Publications Chairman	Jim Laird	
Historian	Richard Cardell	904-730-2128
Program Chairman	Grace B. Moran	904-384-3847
Education Chairman	C. Ann Staley	904-771-1865
Genealogical Research Chairman	Barbara Crissman	904-768-8166
Lineage Charts Sub-Committee Chairman	Barbara Crissman	904-768-8166
Finance Chairman	Harlan Dittman	
Parliamentarian	Richard Cardell	904-730-2128

### Meetings and Websites of Possible Interest

Saturday, November 15, 2008, Lakes Regional Library, 14290 Bass Road, Fort Myers, FL: Irish Genealogical Print & Internet Resources; 10:00 to 12:15-Irish Genealogical Resources in the United States and 1:30 to 3:45-Irish Genealogical

Resources in Ireland.

Saturday, December 13, 2008; Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library, 2050 Central Ave., Fort Myers, Fl. How Can I Achieve Greater Results with Genealogical Internet Searches. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.—Overview of search engines and search strategies including Boolean and wildcards.; 12:45 to 2:45—Users will have the opportunity to apply the techniques and strategies used in the morning session.

Epidemics in US 1628-1918; <http://www.bjhughes.org/epidemic.html>

The Influenza Epidemic of 1918; <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/influenza-epidemic/>

Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project and Centre; [http://www.welshheritage.org/latest\\_news.htm](http://www.welshheritage.org/latest_news.htm)

Baldwin County, Alabama Genealogy; <http://genealogytrails.com/ala/baldwin/>

19<sup>th</sup> Century Patents; <http://www.19thcenturypatents.com>

North Carolina Maps; <http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/maps/>

1850 Marion County, Ohio, Census; <http://www.coldrelatvies.com/1850mariancomarionoh.html>

Death Records; <http://www.deathrecordsobituarysearch.com>

Greenville News Obituary Index, 1917-1993, S.C.; <http://www.greenvillelibrary.org/index.php/South-Carolina/Obituary-Index.html>

Canada's Best Search Engine; <http://genealogy.canuckster.com/>

## Have a Happy, Safe New Year.

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