



## JACKSONVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

# NEWSLETTER

VOL. 28, NO.5

September-October 2012

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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.

It looks like we have some very exciting speakers and plans for the next several meetings! Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

#### --- 15 September 2012 ---

**Topic TBA, Panel Discussion**  
Panel Discussion

#### --- 20 October 2012 ---

**Topic TBA, Speaker George Bass**  
George has presented several programs in the past for us to rave reviews. We look forward to finding out what his next topic will be.

#### --- 17 November 2012 ---

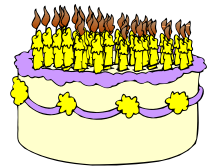
**Jeopardy: Genealogy and Social Gathering**  
It is time to bring back our social meeting for the year; our last one was in 2008! Finger foods can be brought and are encouraged. We will also be playing a game of Jeopardy: Genealogy - so put your thinking caps on and join in the fun; there will be full participation by the audience. More information will be forthcoming.

### GOOD NEWS

We haven't heard that anyone has been sick! If you have, you need to let us know. We care about you.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We send a "Happy Birthday" to our members who are celebrating in September and October:



September 11	Rudy Rudolph
September 13	Ivy Phillips
September 13	Mary Chauncey
September 14	C. Ann Staley
September 14	Richard Cardell
September 18	Barbara Doyle
September 20	Judy McCabe
September 30	Dorothy Cabanillas
October 4	Jeff Geiger
October 9	William Wolson
October 15	Geraldine Kohn
October 24	Harlan Dittman, Sr.
October 27	Martha Virginia Poarch

### JACKSONVILLE CITY DIRECTORIES ABSTRACTION PROJECT

If you are interested in working on this project, please contact AnnS (jaxgen@comcast.net) and she will put you to work! There may still be some data entry to do, and proofreaders are always needed.

The resulting product will be placed on our website member's only page. This is your reward for helping the society and the genealogy community - you get the first use. After about 6 months, we will make the data available to all website visitors. Thank you!

## **IT AIN'T EASY BEING GREEN!**

By *Connie Coward*

I must confess, I am a doodler. I can't help myself. Give me a scrap piece of paper and some time on my hands, and watch the doodles materialize. Can you imagine what I can do to a full pad of nice clean paper? But as part of my effort to Go Green, I have decided that I must curtail my addiction to doodling and scribbling. What I am inevitably left with is a pile of paper scraps or a completely full pad of wasted paper. I look at that paper and amongst the drawings are names, phone numbers, random facts, etc. – all of which have been recorded elsewhere, acted upon and no longer needed, or otherwise deemed unimportant. Then I feel guilty that I wasted that piece of paper unnecessarily. If only there was a better way.

Well, there is. I learned to boogie! No, it's not the dance step. It's a wonderful little device, sold by Brookstone, that satisfies my craving for doodling yet assuages my guilt over killing trees. The Boogie Board is an LED tablet that allows you to take notes, draw diagrams, even doodle – and

erase it all with the push of a button. Those of us with a few years under our belts will recall the silver doodle pads from years ago. You know the ones – you drew a picture on the silver-colored sheet of plastic, lifted the sheet, and poof! Whatever you wrote on the sheet was gone! Same idea, just newer technology. The smallest Boogie Board, with a screen about 5x8, costs about \$40. The built-in battery is good for 50,000 erases. There is one with a little bit larger screen, and one that will fit in a ring binder. They even have a version that will save whatever you write to a file that you can copy to your computer – for a bit more money of course. My Boogie Board comes in very handy in my genealogical research as well. When I am poring over a reference book or city directory or transcribing a microfilm image at the library, or I have found a resource in the card catalog and go in search into the stacks, there is no need to waste paper jotting down information. I just write it on the Boogie Board, transfer it to its rightful place in my research file, and then hit the erase button. Or I can just doodle the afternoon away ....

## **IMPORTANCE OF DELAYED BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

By Bryan L. Mulcahy ([bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com)), Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library; 2050 Central Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33901-3917, Tel: (239) 533-4626, Fax: (239) 485-1160 (BLM 3/6/2012) --- Used with permission of the author.

One of the most common research problems encountered by patrons is the lack birth certificates for ancestors. This problem is especially significant for those researching ancestors born prior to 1900 even though most states had enacted specific laws mandating that births had to be registered. However, implementation was far from consistent, especially in many rural and remote areas of the country. This was particularly true in the south and west. In many of these areas, if officials saw the baby present, that was proof enough for them!

The election of Franklin Roosevelt and his implementation of the Social Security and Railroad Retirement Acts exposed numerous problems throughout the county with lax enforcement and the problems that it created. It marked the first time that the United States required citizens to prove their legal date and place of birth.

To obtain benefits or be issued a social security card, the most common types of documents or methods used as proof included:

1. Baptismal/Christening certificates
2. Family Bible record entries
3. School attendance records
4. Military service records and discharge papers
5. Naturalization papers
6. Any miscellaneous legal or church generated documents that showed birth related information
7. Information on the 1880, 1900-1930 censuses if the person could be located (this situation led to the development of Soundex and Miracode Indexes).
8. Affidavit from a relative who had personal knowledge of the birth
9. Affidavit from a midwife or medical person who assisted with the actual birth
10. Affidavit from a neighbor or family member who had personal knowledge of birth

It is important to note that the county where the delayed birth certificate was issued was often different than the county where the actual birth took place. In most cases, delayed birth certificates were issued in the place of residence at the time of application. This was perfectly legal at the time.

During World War II, many defense related industries required certain classifications of workers with delayed birth certificates to obtain additional decrees from a court of record. They had to provide the same type of documented proof as the classifications listed above. While this was not a common occurrence it should be noted as a possibility when all else fails.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS/SEMINARS FROM AROUND THE STATE**

**Source: Florida State Genealogical Society Website (<http://www.flsgs.org/events.php>)**

Looking for something "different" to do one weekend, check the Florida State Genealogical Society website calendar <<http://www.flsgs.org/events.php>> to see if there is another genealogy meeting or seminar in the area that you might like to attend. Most Genealogical Societies have meetings that are open to the public. If in doubt, just check with the contact person listed in the announcement.

### **Saturday, September 8**

#### **Southern Genealogy Exchange Society Monthly Meeting: 1940 Census (September)**

10:00 am to 11:45 am – Mandarin Public Library, 3330 Kori Rd, Jacksonville, Florida

Presented by Ann Staley – Email: [publicity@sgesjax.com](mailto:publicity@sgesjax.com)

*Free and open to the public. Light refreshments served. 904-778-1000*

### **Sunday, September 9**

#### **Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando Monthly Meeting (September)**

11200 South Apopka Vineland Road, Orlando

Presented by Laurence "Larry" Morrell - Web: [www.jsgso.blogspot.com](http://www.jsgso.blogspot.com)

*New Jewish Genealogy Sites*

*Free to members; \$5.00 for guests; no meal. Jerry Kurland, President 407-682-7799*

### **Thursday, September 13**

#### **Halifax Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting (September)**

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm - Ormond Beach Library, 30 So. Beach Street, Ormond Beach

Presented by Pamela Cooper - Web: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flhgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flhgs)

*Pathfinders, Guides, Finding Aids & Catalogues ~Strategies for Genealogy Success*

*No charge. Light refreshments will be served. Bernardette Zappala 386-672-3806*

### **Wednesday, September 19**

#### **Technology Roundup Webinar (September)**

FSGS Webinar, *FSGS Countdown to Conference Technology Roundup*

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT

Presented by Marlis Humphrey - Email: [webmaster@flsgs.org](mailto:webmaster@flsgs.org)

#### **Space is limited.**

Reserve your Webinar Seat Now at: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/944868126>

Please join Marlis Humphrey and others as we discuss some of the current technology available to assist you in your genealogical endeavor. There should be time for a question and answer session.

#### **System Requirements**

PC-based attendees: Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees: Required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer

**Saturday, October 20**

**Bay County Genealogical Society (October)**

9:00 am to 3:30 pm - Bay County Public Library, 898 W. 11th Street, Panama City, FL

Presented by Various Experienced Genealogists - Web:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flbcgs/seminar/index.html>

*Beginner's Seminar: Genealogy Teams Up With Technology*

*The 4 Seminar Topics are: Census Research, Tips & Tricks on Finding Your Ancestors, Photo Restoration, Genealogical Software Programs (Personal Ancestry File "PAF", Family Tree Maker "FTM"; & the Master Genealogist "TMG").*

*\$15 BCGS Members or \$20 Non-Members. Cost includes lunch and handouts.*

*Jmcronan@aol.com or 850-899-1490. For additional seminar details and registration form, visit our website.*

**Wednesday, October 24**

**FSGS 2012 Conference Essentials (October)**

FSGS Webinar, *FSGS Countdown to Conference Essentials*, 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EDT

Presented by FSGS Board Members - Email: [webmaster@flsgs.org](mailto:webmaster@flsgs.org)

**Space is limited.**

Reserve your Webinar Seat Now at: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/144096950>

Please join President Pam Cooper, Ann Staley, Cindy Hineman (and maybe others) to plan how you can get the most out of the FSGS 36th Annual Conference: The Best of Times: Genealogy + Technology!

**System Requirements**

PC-based attendees Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees Required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer

**Thursday, November 8 through Saturday, November 10**

**FSGS 36th Annual Conference: The Best of Times: Genealogy + Technology! (November)**

Hilton Deerfield/Boca Raton, Deerfield Beach, Florida

Email: [conference@flsgs.org](mailto:conference@flsgs.org). Please check the FSGS website for registration and schedule details.

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