



Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 29, No. 5

September October 2013

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.

Find us on the web at <http://jagxgen.org>

Join Us!

The Jacksonville Genealogical Society meets on the third (3rd) Saturday of each month (except December) at 1:30 pm at the Webb-Wesconnett Library, 6887 103rd Street, in Jacksonville, Florida. Members are strongly encouraged to attend, and visitors are always welcome. Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

September 2013 Monthly Meeting

Date: September 21, 2013

Speaker: Lori S. Miranda

Topic: "Let Me Weave You a Story: Genealogical Synchronicity and Family Patterns"

Once genealogists are past the basics of names and dates, similarities amongst generations may become noticeable. These similarities help researchers understand ancestors better and link present generations to those past. Learn about different types of repeating patterns, how to identify them, and easy ways to visualize them. A basic introduction to the genogram - a method for psychologists to graphically represent family patterns, will be included as well as a dip into those intuitive and serendipitous events that make genealogy interesting.

Lori Miranda has lived on Amelia Island for almost two decades, is a registered architect and has been a member of the Amelia Island Genealogical Society for several years. As her maiden name is "Smith", she counts herself fortunate to have inherited an extra helping of tenacity from her mother's side. Architectural preservation and genealogical research are two of her favorite subjects.

October 2013 Monthly Meeting

Date: October 19, 2013

Speaker and Topic: TBA

Happy Birthday to You!



These JGS members are celebrating birthdays during the months of September and October:

Joel W. Warner	September 4
Rudy Rudolph	September 11
Ivy Phillips	September 13
Mary Chauncey	September 13
C. Ann Staley	September 14
Richard Cardell	September 14
Barbara Doyle	September 18
Judy McCabe	September 20
Terry Ann Ray	September 28
Dorothy Cabanillas	September 30
Jeff Geiger	October 4
Shirley Nelson Sowa	October 4
Robin Berenberg	October 4
William Wolson	October 9
Geraldine Kohn	October 15
Harlan Dittman, Sr.	October 24
Martha Virginia Poarch	October 27

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2012-2013 Officers

President	Harlan Dittman
First Vice-President	Vacant
Second Vice-President	Kenneth Norwood
Recording Secretary	Grace Moran
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Chauncey
Treasurer	Harlan Dittman
Editor	Connie Coward
Historian	Richard Cardell

Committee Chairpersons and Members

Education	C. Ann Staley, Chair
Finance	Harlan Dittman, Chair
Genealogical Research	Barbara Crissman, Chair
Membership	Vacant
Telephone	Joan Peck
	Ken Norwood
Parliamentarian	Richard Cardell
Programs	Grace Moran, Chair
Publications	Vacant
Publicity	Vacant

In Memoriam

by Ann Staley

Norma LeVey's mother, Roberta Smith, passed away. Former member, Leo Myers died on 9 March 2013 in Fort Collins, Colorado. His wife, Marian (who predeceased him) was also a member of the Society. Lifetime member Irene Ritch, mother of Carole Barry, passed away peacefully at home on 7 September 2013. She had just celebrated her 101st birthday on August 18th. Our condolences to the family and friends of these dear people.

It Ain't Easy Being Green!

by Connie Coward

For those of you who have made an attempt at going green with your genealogy, I have a challenge for you – and for me! A Paperless Research Trip. Now, don't start hyperventilating, I didn't say it had to be a week-long trip to Salt Lake City! Start small. Make a list (digital of course) of three or four items you need to research at the local library. Then, you might need one or more of the following items: flash drive, portable or hand-held scanner (a cell

phone camera could work in a pinch), and a digital note-taker of some sort (OneNote, EverNote, iPhone Notes app, etc.). The only other thing you need is a plan. The goal is to leave the research site with the same items with which you entered. No paper in hand upon entry or exit. The Jacksonville Public Library has microfilm readers that make digital copies in addition to paper copies. The difference? The paper copies cost money, the digital copies are free if stored on your own flash drive. (See there is a benefit to going green!) Are you up for it? Will you join me? Ready, set, GO!!! Let's meet back here next time and report our success. If you attempt this challenge, I would like to know. E-mail me at ladycoward@att.net and let me know how successful you were.

The Most Important Death-Related Records

Reprinted with permission of Bryan Mulcahy

Death is a major event that will eventually touch all of us. Records generated vary dramatically by time period, locality, and record keeping laws mandated at the time of death. In some cases, the economic and/or social status may play some role as well. The most important factor for research is determining where and when the death took place. In the most ideal circumstances, a community has well publicized and operating city or some established church cemeteries. Names and dates will be clearly visible on the tombstones, and records were properly kept by the town clerk or health department giving the exact date, month, year of death and the name of the funeral home and church that handled final arrangements which makes the process of finding official records timely with minimal expense. These circumstances are seldom applicable forcing researchers to locate the following items:

1. Death Certificates
2. Probate Records
3. Deeds
4. Death Announcements/Obituaries
5. Published Cemetery Inscriptions
6. Sexton's Records

Death certificates generally came into existence between 1850 and the 1870's and are created at the county level. After individual states began keeping vital records, copies were sent to the state office of vital records as well as being maintained at the county level. They are generally well

indexed. Death records usually identify the place and time of death, place of burial, name of the undertaker/funeral home.

Probate records consist of wills, intestate (no will) documents, and guardianship estate settlements. These are maintained at the county level by the Clerk of the Probate Court. While they can be useful for establishing an approximate date and place of death, this would not be particularly helpful for searches prior to 1860. For earlier years, you must hope a church is named along with a minister or someone of note in the community or well known family as a testator.

Deeds seldom indicate death dates and places of burial. Deeds help document the settlement of estates, and may help establish approximately when and where a person died. They may provide clues to the purchase of burial property, or help identify a place of residence.

Obituaries and death announcements would be found in newspapers. Prior to the 1850's most announcements in newspapers contained minimal details about the decedent and do little more than identify the exact or very close to accurate date and place of death. Obituaries may contain significant details about an individual and suggest other potential avenues for research.

Many genealogical and historical societies have organized groups that go through cemeteries within their town or region and transcribe the information found on tombstones, take pictures of the gravestones, and publish the information in hard copy or via the internet. The condition of the tombstone will impact the accuracy and detail of information.

Sextons were the people in charge of cemeteries. When available, these records contain names and locations of gravesites within their cemetery, name of other family members who contributed towards the cost of burial and their contact information. Sextons were also usually in charge of maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery grounds and tombstones.

Upcoming Webinars

by Ann Staley

The Wisconsin Historical Society announced their FREE webinars for the rest of the year. They say that they are

specifically tailored for public librarians; however, they just might help you also. The first two webinars will focus on two of the most widely used genealogy websites, Ancestry.com (on 16 Sep) and FamilySearch.org (on 18 Sep). The webinars will also be recorded for later access. To sign up for the webinars, email asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org. More information can be found at <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes/>.

The Florida State Genealogical Society will have their next FREE webinar on 19 Sep 2013 at 8:00 pm EDT. Amy Crabhill Lay, will be providing a program on "Florida Pioneers: Conquistadors, Colonialists and Crackers." Is participating in a lineage program really worth it or is it just for pretentious people? YES, and no! Join us to learn more about lineage programs, what to expect during the application process, and what the FSGS requires for the Florida Pioneer Descendent program. We will review types of source documents, what's important for a successful application, and the reward of participation. You don't even have to have Florida ancestors!

You can see the whole list of upcoming genealogy related webinars at GeneaWebinars.com on the GeneaWebinars Weekly Calendar.

Ancestry.com and FamilySearch Collaboration

by Ann Staley

In a press release on 5 Sep 2013, Ancestry and FamilySearch announced "an agreement that is expected to make approximately 1 billion global historical records available online and more easily accessible to the public for the first time. With this long-term strategic agreement, the two services will work together with the archive community over the next five years to digitize, index and publish these records from the FamilySearch vault . . . Ancestry.com expects to invest more than \$60 million over the next five years in the project alongside thousands of hours of volunteer efforts facilitated by FamilySearch."

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 14, 2013

10:00am - 11:00 am

Presented by: Doug Diamond

Topic: Birth/Adoption

Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Southern Genealogists Exchange Society

Mandarin Regional Library

3330 Kori Road, Jacksonville, FL

email: publicity@sgesjax.org

Thursday, September 19, 2013

8:00pm - 9:00 pm

Presented by: Amy Crabhill Lay

Topic: Florida Pioneers: Conquistadors, Colonialists, and Crackers

Register online at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7363829946342959360>

More details will follow, along with a handout if available. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.

FSGS Poolside Chat Webinar

Online

Saturday, September 21, 2013

1:00pm - 3:00 pm

Presented by: Col. Anne McLeod

Topic: Scottish Clans

Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Bay County Genealogical Society General Meeting

Bay County Library Conference Room

898 W. 11th Street, Panama City, FL

email: mkpceach@gmail.com

Saturday, October 26, 2013

8:30am - 4:30 pm

Presented by: J. Mark Lowe

Topic: "Putting Method to Your Genealogical Madness"

\$35 for society members, \$40 for non-members. There is a box lunch option for an additional \$7.50. If you need more info, contact info@fgstampa.org. Parking is free for the first 100 cars!

<http://www.kytnresearch.com/main.html?src=%2Findex2.html>

Florida Genealogical Society of Tampa Annual Conference

USF Campus, Marshall Center

4022 E. Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL

website: <http://fgstampa.org/cpage.php?pt=63>

Friday, November 1, 2013

5:30pm - 8:30 pm

Presented by: Donna Moughty

Topic: Getting the Most Out of Ancestry.com

\$15 includes light refreshments. Tickets may be purchased in advance. Make checks out to Friends of the Leesburg Library, 100 E. Main Street, Leesburg, FL 34748. Attention Carol Anderson. Please include a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope.

Friends of the Leesburg Library: Genealogy After Hours!

Leesburg Public Library

100 E. Main Street, Leesburg, FL 34748

email: Carol.Anderson@leesburgflorida.gov

Saturday, November 9, 2013

8:00am

Presented by: Megan Smolenyak

Topics: Right Annie, Wrong Annie

Trace Your Roots with DNA

Find that Obituary! Online Newspaper Research

Honoring Our Ancestors

email: gonzalez3168@bellsouth.net

\$40 includes continental breakfast (bagels, doughnuts, etc.). Contact person: David Gonzalez, 850-994-3344 or by email.

West Florida Genealogical Society Fall Conference

Washington High School

6000 College Parkway, Pensacola, FL

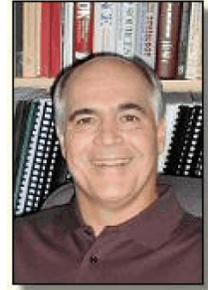


2014 Spring Genealogical Seminar

Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.
PO Box 60756
Jacksonville, FL 32236
<http://www.jaxgen.org>
Email: info@jaxgen.org

J. Mitchell Brown

Genealogy lecturer, author, and researcher



Mitchell has been researching for more than twenty years at many major archives and repositories from Virginia to Alabama and specializes in nineteenth and twentieth century records of Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. He brings the experience of teaching history at the college level, experience as a land title abstractor in north central Florida, and the knowledge of record resources gained from doing client research to his lectures.

Date: 15 February 2014

Time: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Place:

St. Paul's Church Hall
2609 Park Street
Jacksonville, FL 32204

-free parking

-handicap accessible

Directions: The Church is located one block north of the intersection of Park and King Streets. The Hall is located in the back with the entrance on Forbes St. "Genealogy" signs will be posted.

Cost:

JGS Member \$30.00

Non-member: \$35.00

Price includes lunch if registration is postmarked by 7 Feb 2014

After 8 Feb 2014, refunds will not be given; however, a syllabus will be provided.

Topics:

"Flaming Records and Extinguished Researchers-Getting Past the Burned Courthouse"

The most disconcerting and discouraging aspect of genealogical research is the phenomenon of the burned courthouse and the loss of historical records. Despite the advent of the Internet and the plethora of online resources that have become available, researchers continue to struggle with issues related to the loss of records. This lecture addresses the frustrations and problems usually encountered with record loss and offers refreshing strategies to overcoming the daunting challenge confronting family historians.

"Our Ancestors and Their Taxing Problems-Using Tax Records as Genealogical Resources" Tax rolls represent some of the most unique resources available for genealogical study. But they also tend to be some of the most underused. This program introduces the audience to the subject of tax rolls and discusses their nature and value in solving genealogical problems.

"Pinchin' Pennies with the Pension Board-A State-by-State Comparison of Confederate Widow Pension Applications" Widows' pension applications are some of the most popular records in the realm of genealogical research. But each of the states which issued Confederate pensions for widows differed in their respective laws and the specific criteria they required to approve widows' claims. This program discusses the sundry pension laws of each state, the questionnaires that were used, and the limitations of pension research.

"Reading the News for Clues-Pains, Pitfalls, and Pleasures of Newspaper Research" Albeit newspaper research can often be very difficult, it can also be rewarding to those who persevere. This program identifies the problematic aspects of studying antiquarian newspapers and offers helpful tips which can lead to successful newspaper research. Numerous examples are included.

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Registration must be postmarked by 7 Feb 2014 to have lunch included. Lunch cannot be guaranteed after that date.

Make check payable to JGS, Inc.

*Mail registration form and check to:
Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.
Attn: Seminar Registration
P. O. Box 60756
Jacksonville, FL 32236-0756*

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