



Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 36, No. 5

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.

September/October 2020

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

Join Us!

Due to the ongoing concerns regarding COVID-19, the Jacksonville Genealogical Society Board has decided that the remaining meetings for 2020 will be held virtually as webinars. Members are strongly encouraged to attend, and visitors are always welcome. Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Membership Meeting 17 Oct 2020 --- Virtual Meeting ---

Speaker: Michael John Neill

Topic: *What it Does Not Say*

Please register for the presentation at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4883188834523159054>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Brief Description: Many times, a record only scratches the surface of what was going on when that record was created. This lecture looks at why a record was created and how state statute, common practice, economic situations, family issues, and other factors may be the “real story” behind any document. Also discusses how to determine (when possible) what those “unwritten” issues were.

Speaker Bio: Michael John Neill has been researching his genealogy since the early 1980s. His roots lie in most US states east of the Mississippi, as well as the Midwest, and includes Mayflower immigrants and more recent arrivals. He has written on genealogical topics since the late 1980s and has lectured nationally at a wide variety of local,



regional, and national conferences and workshops. He maintains five blogs including *Genealogy Tip of the Day*, *Genealogy Search Tip*, and *Casefile Clues*. Michael leads annual research trips to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He is a community college mathematics instructor with a master's degree in mathematics.

Membership Meeting 21 Nov 2020 --- Virtual Meeting ---

Speaker: C. Ann Staley, CG, CGL

Topic: *Slave Narratives: Telling the Story of Slavery and Families*

Please register for the presentation at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4926071987029810958>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Brief Description: The WPA Federal Writers' Project (FWP) of the late 1930s provides us with more than 2,300 first-person accounts of former slaves. This collection provides autobiographical experiences of the slavery institution. But how can we use this rich resource? Can they be relied upon? The slave narratives, with their autobiographical accounts, can provide insight into the institution, and rich context and clues for family research.

Speaker Bio: Ann is an educator and consultant. Her specialties are Methodology, Research Sources, Computer Resources, Vital Records and their Sources, and Conference Planning. She is the author of several articles for the *NGS Magazine* and the co-author of the *NGS Research in the States Series-Florida*.



2021 Dues

If you have not remitted your payment of dues for 2020, we urge you to do so, promptly. Our calendar year is January through December; therefore, dues for 2021 will be coming due.

Please complete the enclosed Membership Application so that we will have your current information in our membership database.

Gift of Membership

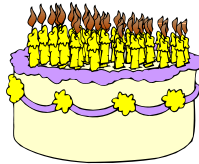
We invite you to give the gift of Society memberships to your friends. We also have a way for you to remember a loved one - a Memorial Gift. A year's membership could not be spent wiser. The enclosed Membership Application has a checkbox for your convenience.

Mail and E-Mail Address Changes

Please notify us of any address change that you might have. Bounced e-mail is a bummer and the Post Office charges us a hefty fee for returned postal mail. A simple note to us at info@jaxgen.org can help save JGS funds.

Happy Birthday

We send a belated "Happy Birthday" greeting to our members who celebrated birthdays in September and October:



Joel Warner	4 September
Lolita (Ivy) Phillips	13 September
Mary Chauncey	13 September
Ann Staley	14 September
Richard (Dick) Cardell	14 September
Brenda O'Neil	16 September
Mary Jane McKnight	23 September
Sandra Robinson-Adkins	24 September
Ann Leyden	28 September
Deannie McVeigh	28 September
Terry Ray	28 September
Roberta (Robin) Berenberg	4 October
Jane Argo Romeo	5 October
Martha Poarch	27 October
Katheryn Lofton	29 October

If anyone was omitted, we apologize and wish you a wonderful day of celebration. Please let us know so we can include you in the future.

Widow's Dower Interest

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, (bmulcahy@leegov.com),
Reference Librarian, Fort Myers Regional Library;
2450 First St, Fort Myers, FL 33901,
Tel: (239) 533-4626,
(BLM 8/21/2020) Used with permission of the author.

Dower rights were a protection to a wife so she would not be left out of her husband's wealth after his death. Upon the death of a husband, a widow was entitled to one-third of her husband's estate, thus her *dower rights* (as a wife) became her *dower share* (as a widow), often referred to as the *widow's third*.

Dower was a widow's right to a lifetime interest in one-third of all land owned by her husband, unless she chose, in place of dower, to accept other property left to her under her husband's will. Generally, dower applied to each parcel of land in which the husband held an inheritable interest at any time during the marriage. In the United States, dower is found in the eastern and Midwestern states where law was derived from the common law of England.

Researchers must determine the legal implications in effect at the time of the dower to form a hypothesis or a conclusion from the presence or absence of a wife or mother's mention in a deed, will, or intestate land distribution. If you locate a deed from a married man which his wife had not joined in making, does it mean that she had already died? In most American colonies and their successor states, a surviving wife who had not joined in the deed could sue the purchaser after her husband's death to recover her dower interest.

To avoid such issues, some cautious purchasers insisted that the wife join in the deed, so the absence of her signature strongly suggests her earlier death. However, you'll find many differences from one state to another. In some states such as Connecticut, until 1723, even the wife's own land that she brought to the marriage became her husband's absolutely, to sell or mortgage as he saw fit; therefore, the absence of her signature on a deed would have no genealogical significance.

Similarly, a deed from a son selling land he inherited from his father, which mentions that the land is subject to his mother's dower right, is proof that she was living at the time of the deed. But if she is not mentioned again, the genealogical significance depends on the time and place. The omission may mean only that what was left her by

will was worth more and that she relinquished her dower rights. But if her husband died without a will and there is no record that she surrendered her dower rights to the son, then it's more likely she had died by the time the deed was created.

Until the enactment of married woman emancipation acts in the middle to late nineteenth century, married women were subject to the legal concept of *coverture*. This doctrine placed a woman under the legal umbrella of her husband. Only the husband could act for her in any legal proceeding, including selling her own land. For most married couples, only the wife's dower rights mitigated the harshness of coverture. For a more detailed discussion of this subject, please see the following links:

American Ancestors – Rhoda McClure – Dower vs Dower Rights
<https://vitabrevis.americanancestors.org/2015/03/dowry-versus-dower-right/>

Family Search Wiki – US – Official State Codes (Includes discussion of dower rights)
[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States,_Official_State_Court_Codes_\(National_Institute_of_Genealogy\)](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States,_Official_State_Court_Codes_(National_Institute_of_Genealogy))

Legal Genealogist – Judy B. Russell – Saying No
<https://www.legalgenealogist.com/2015/12/08/saying-no/>

Library of Congress Launches New Tool to Search Historical Newspaper Images

In a 15 Sep 2020 press release, the Library of Congress (loc.gov) provided information on how the "public can now explore more than 1.5 million historical newspaper images online and free of charge." Using *Newspaper Navigator* you can now search images (i.e. photographs) in American newspapers dating 1789-1963.

More information about the project can be found on their website: <https://www.loc.gov/item/prn-20-060/library-of-congress-launches-new-tool-to-search-historical-newspaper-images/2020-09-15/>

Genealogy – What do you mean my grandparents didn't have any kids!?!

Coroner or Medical Examiner Records

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, (bmulcahy@leegov.com),
Reference Librarian, Fort Myers Regional Library;
2450 First St, Fort Myers, FL 33901,
Tel: (239) 533-4626,
(BLM 8/21/2020) Used with permission of the author.

If you discover that the subject of your genealogical search passed away as a result of an accident, suicide, or other questionable means, you should always turn to the records maintained by the Coroner or Medical Examiner. However, deaths that fall into any type of questionable category will involve some form of investigation by law enforcement authorities. These circumstances often are noted in most records maintained by funeral homes, cemeteries, and the death certificate generated by the County Health Department.

The Coroner or Medical Examiner will always be called on by law enforcement to determine a cause of death when suspicious circumstances arise during the investigation. These circumstances generate a paper trail. The information from the Coroner or Medical Examiner must be completed before the local law enforcement agency can complete its police report.

Information in a typical entry may include some or all of the following: name of the deceased, age, date of birth, cause of death, occupation, next of kin, witnesses to the event (if any), and other family members or acquaintances who knew the person. Though the document may contain brief details, it often provides significant information regarding family members that were interviewed or who provided information about the deceased.

Coroner or Medical Examiner records are often housed in the municipal archives of the city or in the county or state archives. You must determine whether the Coroner or Medical Examiner was in a local, county, or state position at the time of the death you are researching. The next step is to determine whether the records are in an archive or still in the city or county of original jurisdiction. Your final step involves determining what the latest guidelines are for access to the data. Some jurisdictions may limit access based on your ability to prove a direct ancestral connection to the deceased. This most likely applies to any death that has occurred within the past 50-75 years. The

following links will provide additional information on this topic.

Family Tree Magazine – Genealogy Q & A – Genealogy Clues in Coroners Records
<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/premium/genealogy-coroners-records>

Rootsweb – Wiki – Coroner or Medical Examiner Records
[https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Coroner or Medical Examiner Records](https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Coroner_or_Medical_Examiner_Records)

Maryland Death Records Before 1910 Now Online for Free

Dick Eastman · 21 Sep 2020

<http://www.eogn.com> --- Used with permission of the author

The Maryland Archives has been working on major projects to digitize and make available to the public the death records for free online. Owen Lourie, Historian at the Maryland State Archives and Project Director of Finding the Maryland 400 Project, has reported that the death certificates through 1910 are now available online. These are created from the cleaner original microfilm.

The 1848-1898 death certificates were already online and now the 1898-1910 are too. Original Marriage Licenses 1777-1851 have also been made available.

This should help if you are doing Maryland research to download original records to help on applications or your own family research.

To search the online 1898 through 1910 records, start at
<http://guide.msa.maryland.gov/pages/series.aspx?ID=se42>

New Free Historical Records on FamilySearch: Week of 21 September 2020

Dick Eastman · 21 Sep 2020

<http://www.eogn.com> --- Used with permission of the author

The following announcement was written by FamilySearch: This week FamilySearch added nearly 1M new Connecticut vital records from the Charles R. Hale Collection, 1640–1955, plus 350K Catholic Church Records for Ecuador, 1565–2011. Collections were also expanded for Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Peru, S. Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United

States (Arizona, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Washington).

For the full list check his website:
<https://blog.eogn.com/2020/09/21/new-free-historical-records-on-familysearch-week-of-21-september-2020/>

New Collections Expected This Month

Ancestry® Society News for August 2020

Permission to copy to Society Newsletter granted.

Just a few of the new collections expected to appear on Ancestry include those listed below. To see the full list of the most recent collections, see https://www.ancestry.com/cs/recent-collections?mc_cid=511b16a13c&mc_eid=b7a9e538b7

- Arkansas, Birth & Death Certificates, 1914-1917
- Canada, Selected School Yearbooks, 1901-2010
- Dresden, Germany, Deaths, 1876-1957
- Georgia, Catholic Diocese of Savannah Cemetery Records, 1853-1975
- Maryland State Archives, Index to Deaths and Burials, 1697-1800
- Montana, State Deaths, 1907-2018
- New York, Auburn Prison Records, 1816-1942
- New York, Sing Sing Prison Admission Registers, 1865-1946
- Norfolk, England, Church of England Baptism, Marriages, and Burials, 1535-1812
- Pennsylvania, Births & Deaths, 1852-1854
- U.S., Chinese Immigration Case Files, 13-1923
- U.S., Freedman's. Bank Records, 1865-1874
- U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-1999

Join Ancestry® Online at AAHGS This Year

Ancestry® Society News for September 2020

Permission to copy to Society Newsletter granted.

“For the first time ever, AAHGS, Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society will host our National Conference, October 14–17, in a virtual environment during this unprecedented time,” said Baba Gene Stephenson, AAHGS National President. AAHGS 2020 Annual Conference & Exhibition is scheduled for October 14, 2020—October 17, 2020

For more information about the 2020 AAHGS Annual Conference & Exhibition and to register, visit <https://web.cvent.com/event/375a05f9-62b5-4829-80c7-5560766e1286/summary>

Expanded Online Database Access Due to Covid-19

Anne Leyden has provided information on the following two items:

1. Home access to the Library version of Ancestry.com through the Public Libraries.

- Alachua County Library System has the library edition of Ancestry available online
- Clay County Public Library - Not available online
- Jacksonville Public Library - Available. Have to sign in with a password (your card number) and a pin
- St Johns County Public Library - Available. Have to enter your "library borrower barcode number"

It has been noted that Ancestry provided this access around the March-April timeframe; however, not all libraries were open at the time to implement it. Ann Staley noted that for the Jacksonville Public Library, she had to log in and go to "My Account." On the lower right side of the page, there is a link to "Access Ancestry Library Edition."

2. Expanded Access to JSTOR – Excellent source for historical articles. You don't need to be affiliated with an institution but you do have to create a free account. They are providing access to a large portion of their site and expanding the "number of monthly reads available for free accounts from 6 to 100." More information is available at <https://support.jstor.org/hc/en-us/articles/115004760028>

Hurricane Season

We, here in Florida, are vulnerable to hurricanes. How safe are your valuables? Do you have an evacuation plan? What would you take with you? Have you backed up your computer? Do you have copies of your photographs? Make your plans now so that you will be ready if disaster should hit here.

A downloadable 16-page "Weather the Storm – Hurricane Preparedness Guide" is available from the Florida Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division at their website [http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/TDGT-BPUP9W/\\$file/2020+Hurricane+Preparedness+Guide+v3.pdf](http://myfloridalegal.com/webfiles.nsf/WF/TDGT-BPUP9W/$file/2020+Hurricane+Preparedness+Guide+v3.pdf)

The Florida Division of Emergency Management has a Disaster Supply Kit Checklist in PDF version that can be downloaded at their website <https://www.floridadisaster.org/globalassets/plan--prepare/disaster-supply-checklist.pdf>

Virtual Conferences and Things Going on in the Genealogy World

Conference Keeper is a Calendar and Collection of Genealogy Events on the Internet.

They have a great mission statement explaining their website. Basically, they are trying to curate details about genealogy events and share the information on a single website and across various social media platforms.

Their site contains a calendar of events by locations and dates, a page for just Conferences, Genealogy events, a Virtual page for conference and online learning opportunities, travel, grants, and scholarships. Much of the information is listed in multiple ways. They will accept information to put on their site if you contact them. If you are traveling or just want to attend a conference on genealogy check this site out - <https://conferencekeeper.org/> - and it is **completely free of charge**.

Tell Us A Story

These past months of the COVID-19 pandemic have provided us with opportunities to share stories with our families. Do you have a story that you heard that you would love to tell to anyone who will listen? Is it about that war hero? Or the scandalous black sheep? The hardships endured by your immigrant ancestor? How Grandpa and Grandma managed through the depression? A family member who was there during Jacksonville's great fire? Or Chicago's? Well, guess what? We want to hear it! We want YOUR story for future editions of our newsletter.

If you have a story but feel like you don't know how to put it on paper, we will be glad to do a little editing for you. Just put it down as you would tell it if you were speaking to someone.

We would love to talk with you about your idea for the newsletter. We appreciate your interaction and look forward to new ideas. Send it to info@jaxgen.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

Naming Hattie and Hannah

By: Joel Warner

After several years of marriage and visiting many physicians, my daughter Laura finally was expecting! The whole family was very excited because she has all the attributes of a fine mother and she and her husband had hoped for this for a long time. Having read the title to this note, you have, no doubt, surmised that this turned out to be a double blessing!

One of the major family topics was naming these two little girls. Both parents liked the name Hattie and it had family significance. Laura's 2nd great-grandmother was Hattie Jane Taylor (1856-1945). Hattie, as a little girl, walked across the plains as her English family came to America and settled in Utah. Hattie was about 10 or 12 years old at the time. So, this provided a positive link for the name they liked.

They were unsure what to name the second girl. They had discussed the name Hannah, which seemed to be a nice "twin" name and they did like it. They were hesitant, though, because one daughter would have a family significant name, and the other would not.

So now we have to take a detour before we can finish the story. Laura and her husband Andrew had come to visit us while we were in England about two years before the naming crisis arose. While there, I asked him about his middle name, which is Hayward. "Oh, it's a family name and very important and has been passed on to me." I mentioned that I did not know of the connection to anyone else in his family, granting that I did not know them all that well. So, we did a little genealogical lookup and found captain William Hayward, born in North Bradley, Wiltshire, England in 1817 and died in Richfield, Utah in 1891. So, we now knew where the Hayward name came into the family.



Being born in Wiltshire rang a bell. Wiltshire is the home of Stonehenge and not all that far from Bath. Since those places were on our excursion list for their visit, we decided to add North Bradley to the itinerary. This was a lovely addition, as North Bradley is a picturesque English village and we were given a tour of the church where William was born and baptized. Andrew felt a great connection to him and this part of the trip is well remembered. After Laura and Andrew left, I did some more research on the family and added some more information.

my mind and I told her I would call her right back. What clicked was a death certificate I had used in one of my classes to show why you should always look at the document, not just the transcription. Also, to show how "original" documents can still have mistakes. This death certificate was for Hannah Hayward Baker, born in England and buried in Richfield, Utah. I was pretty sure I knew who her father was.

Indeed, it was true. Hannah Hayward was born in 1839 and immigrated with her family in 1853 to Utah. This made her a pioneer girl who walked across the plains at the age of 14! So now we have Hattie and Hannah, named for ancestors who walked across the plains of their adopted land, America, as young girls — and they cover both sides of the family!



Hattie and Hannah with Aunt Sherry

Upcoming Events
With the Covid-19 restrictions still in place,
please contact these groups regarding their schedule.

First Saturday of every month
Time: 10:00 am

DNA Study Group
Murray Hill Library, Jacksonville

Second Saturday of every month
Time: 2:00 pm

Bartram Trail Gen Club at Bartram Trail Branch Library
60 Davis Pond Blvd., Jacksonville, Florida 32259

Second Saturday of each month
Time: 10:00 am-12:30 pm

The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society
Mandarin Regional Library, 3330 Kori Rd, Jacksonville, 32257

Third Saturday of each month
Time: 1:00 pm

St. Augustine Genealogical Society
Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US 1 South, St. Augustine, FL

26 Sep 2020

Family History Show in England
Online Virtual Event

Speakers: Various

Ask An Expert and Exhibit Hall available.

Registration and see more information, see their website - <https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/online/>

15 Oct 2020

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar
Online Webinar

Time: 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Speaker: Michael L. Strauss, AG

Topic: *The Great War: Researching Your World War 1 Ancestors*

Fought between 1914-1918 with the United States at the start of the war having officially declaring neutrality. Back home citizens got caught up with events unfolding on the world stage, with thousands of Americans crossed the border to fight for Canada, along with uneasy tensions with Mexico war became inevitable. On April 6, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany and to mobilize the resources of the United States. Many genealogical sources share the feeling, attitudes along with the reactions of our Government by searching for our ancestor's connection to this war.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7402787893812092428>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

19 Nov 2020

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar
Online Webinar

Time: 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Speaker: Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL

Topic: *Traveling the US Marine Highway*

All states have navigable waterways. These include rivers like the Mississippi, bays like Chesapeake, canals like the Miami, or lakes that link an area to other states or even the ocean. Across the United States, there are 250,000 rivers and canals that create the inland waterway system. For our ancestors, marine travel was an integral part of their lives. While many researchers have river ancestors, they have no idea where to start to look for records. Discover the various avenue of research for our ancestors who lived by or used the waterways for their livelihood and transportation.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5290725012900946188>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Application for Membership

Dues are paid on a Calendar year basis. Dues received after 31 October are credited with dues paid for the following year. Please check one of the following categories:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Principal membership: \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dual membership: \$ 5.00 * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life (Principal) membership: \$260.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life (Dual): \$65.00 * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student: \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial: \$25.00 ** - In memory of _____ |

* A Dual Member is a person residing at the same address as the Principal Member.

** (Memorial Membership does not include issuance of Newsletters or Quarterly issues.)

New Member **Renewing Member** **Previous Member** **Memorial** Date: _____

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr): _____

Name: _____
 First Middle Nickname Maiden Surname

Dual Member (First, Middle, Last Name): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code (9 digit): _____ — _____

Email: _____ Your Website: _____

Telephone (Home): (____)____-____ (Work): (____)____-____

Birthday (Principal): _____ Birthday (Dual): _____ Wedding Anniversary: _____

Providing your name and contact information **AUTHORIZES** the Society to add the same information to our records and the MailChimp Email List – how you receive information and notifications regarding meetings, elections, publications, etc. You can opt-out of the MailChimp Email List at any time. We do not sell or share our mailing list.

Circle ALL areas below that interest you:

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|
| Abstracting | Audit | Education | Historian | Newsletter | Cemetery Research |
| Programs | Publications | Publicity | Proofing | Refreshments | Secretary |
| Research | Telephone | Treasurer | Typing | Website | Other _____ |

Surnames you are researching (up to 5):

SURNAME	CITY	COUNTY	STATE	COUNTRY	DATES
Example: Smith	Timbuctu	Smithers	FL	USA	1880-1900
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

You are encouraged to submit a 5-generation pedigree chart with your application for our JGS Pedigree Charts Project

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please mail this application, along with your payment, to:
 Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc., PO Box 440488, Jacksonville, FL 32222-0005**

For Office Use only:

Date Paid: ___/___/20___ Amount Paid: \$_____ Type: _____ ID: _____ Year 1st Joined: _____



Creative Commons Zero (CC0) license - <https://www.pexels.com/photo/pumpkin-and-skull-on-table-2679968/>

Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 440488
Jacksonville, FL 32222-0005