



# Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 37, No. 1

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.

January-February 2021

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

## Join Us!

Due to the ongoing concerns regarding COVID-19, the JGS Board has decided that the meetings for 2021 will be held virtually until it is safe to return to in-house meetings. Members are strongly encouraged to attend and visitors are always welcome. Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

### Membership Meeting

16 Jan 2021

--- Virtual Meeting ---

**Speaker:** Valerie Bonaro

**Topic:** *Researching at Family History Centers*

**Please register for the presentation at**

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4690064017080858123>

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

**Brief Description:** Both of Valerie's husband's grandparents came from Italy and she has worked extensively on the Italian family. She has worked with microfilm in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City as well as ordering it to be loaned locally and was thrilled when the Church started digitizing the microfilm and indexing the material for the area in Italy where she was researching; however, the digitized microfilm for Pedace, Italy can only be viewed at a Family History Library and is not yet indexed. So, what to do? Valerie will discuss in detail how to access these and other digitized records that are only available at a Family History Library or affiliate library. Specifically, she will address:

1. Records that are only available at an FHC.
2. Books that are only available at an FHC.
3. Genealogy Websites only available at an FHC.

4. Any other questions you might have about FamilySearch.org or Family History Libraries.

**Speaker Bio:** Valerie moved to Florida 25 years ago and never wanted to leave. She is married with 4 children and 6 and ½ grandchildren. She has been a missionary for Family Search Support for 7 years with the specialty of Historical Records for the last 2 years or so.

### Membership Meeting

20 Feb 2021

--- Virtual Meeting ---

**Speaker:** Joel Warner

**Topic:** *Case Study – JGS Research Request.*

**Watch for an invite. GoToMeeting will be used for this presentation.**

**Brief Description:** JGS recently received an interesting research request to look into the life and relationships of a young woman born in Jacksonville in 1899. The person requesting the research is a descendant of the son of the young woman in question. The son was born in Jacksonville, but after the death of his mother was adopted in California. The research takes us on a journey from Jacksonville to Atlanta, Alaska, and California. It is an interesting story because there are many sources of information AND many voids in the document trail. Along the way we find dead ends, supposition, and family stories -- but also many important events for which we find solid evidence of steps in the life of this young woman and her son. Ultimately, we are left with as many questions as answers, but also with a sense of the lives of the people involved and the many interesting twists and turns they experience. After the presentation Society members are invited to suggest other steps we might take to find answers to our questions.

**Speaker Bio:** Joel Warner has been interested in genealogy from a young age. He still has a pedigree chart which he copied from his grandmother's research at the age of 8, written in his third-grade penmanship. He spends much of his research time helping others get started in family history. He also likes to collect stories of those "coincidences" many genealogists experience when information comes together in the most unlikely circumstances. Joel and his wife Alzina are members of the Jacksonville Genealogy Society, The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society, and the planning committee of the North Florida Genealogy Conference. Alzina is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Colonists.

**Membership Meeting**  
**20 Mar 2021**  
**--- Virtual Meeting ---**

**Topic:** Program Chair, Georgeann, is working on something special. Stay tuned for details

**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](mailto:info@jaxgen.org) can help save JGS funds.

**2021 Dues**  
**It's That Time Again!**

JGS Membership Chair - Brenda Oneil

It's time to renew – or get – your membership for 2021.

Even though we are not able to meet in person, JGS has continued to provide you with informative

presentations in the form of webinars each month. They are excellent and, of course, free. You are also able to print out the speaker's handouts and ask questions at the end of each one. Information on the upcoming webinar is sent out several weeks in advance each month and you register online.

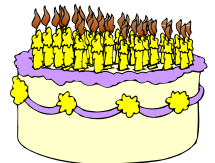
Until we can safely meet again in person, we plan to continue to provide this service to you each month at our regular meeting time of the third Saturday of each month at 1:30 PM. More information is available on the Society Website and through the Newsletter.

We would like to encourage you to renew – or get – your Membership for the upcoming year using the enclosed form and mail it to our Post Office Box 440488.

We are reaching out to our members to thank you for helping us to serve you in the upcoming year. Our Program Chairman has and will continue to work diligently to provide speakers each month so you will have great research materials. Thank you for renewing for 2021!

**Happy Birthday**

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



Paul Howes	3 January
Heidi Bash	6 January
Raymond Williams	13 January
Walter Adams	4 February
Kathy Balistreri	7 February

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.

**Wishes for Improved Health Issues**

We are sending best wishes for a speedy recovery to Ivy Phillips, Deannie McVeigh, and Barbara Crissman. They are having some issues and we are praying for your return to good health.

## North Florida Genealogy Conference

In the last newsletter, we noted that we would not be holding a conference in Spring 2021. With the coming of the vaccine, we are talking about moving the conference to Fall 2021 – with plans to hold it virtually, if necessary. We have just started to discuss this possibility – so stay tuned. There just may be a conference held in 2021.

## RootsTech Connect 2021

This year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RootsTech. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they decided to provide the whole conference virtually and free – as RootsTech Connect. This is great news, as this has become one of the premier conferences. We can now attend without the cost of registration, travel, or lodging!

The conference started as a way of bringing genealogists together with those involved in the technology world. Over the past 10 years, they have added more classes on both sides of the spectrum.

**Mark the dates – 25-27 February 2021.**

To register and to watch for the schedule, go to <https://www.rootstech.org/>. Many recorded video sessions are also available from 2015 through 2020 at <https://www.rootstech.org/video-archive>



## The Merry Cemetery

Ancestry® Society News for November 2020  
Permission to copy to Society Newsletter granted.

The blue crosses that adorn the graves in [Cimitrul Vesel](#) are there because of one man's vision, [Stan Ioan Patras](#). Cimitrul Vesel, which translates as Merry Cemetery, lies behind the Church of the Assumption and has put Sapanta, Romania on the map, it being one of the most popular tourist attractions in Romania. To learn more: [https://news.findagrave.com/2020/11/13/the-merry-cemetery/?mc\\_cid=7a8e741663&mc\\_eid=b7a9e538b7](https://news.findagrave.com/2020/11/13/the-merry-cemetery/?mc_cid=7a8e741663&mc_eid=b7a9e538b7)

## Using Find A Grave

By: Joel Warner

This free site — [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com) — is well known in genealogical circles. It is a tremendous repository of ancestral information. Most genealogists use it on a regular basis. Here are some tips and some cautions when using this valuable tool.

### Cautions

The memorial for any one person gives some very solid information. It tells where they are buried and usually includes some birth date and death date information. Caution: Those dates are often supplied by volunteers or family members. They are fairly reliable but should be verified with other documents.

Family information is one of the great gifts of Find a Grave. Parents, spouses, and children are all supplied in abundance. However, the person supplying it is a fallible individual like you and I. Oftentimes they have less than the full picture of the family. One memorial I used recently listed seven children in a family. I was very pleased and felt like I had made great strides with this family. When, through one of those genealogy coincidences, my daughter bought a random family bible at an estate sale in Virginia and brought it home to me (drum roll) it was for this very family. It listed not seven children, but thirteen!! Complete with dates and spouses! So, what I found on Find a Grave was helpful, but not final.

One other area where information may be incomplete on Find a Grave is with spouses. The person creating the memorial may be descended from a couple, one or both of whom may have had other marriages and other children. So, if I were researching my grandparents and found their marriage and their children, I may not know about a previous marriage and other children. This would give me a very incomplete record of the family. My maternal grandmother was a prolific genealogist. She had compiled thousands of names recorded on Pedigree Charts and Family Group Sheets. One day we were talking about the family records and she made a comment about how her brother Clifford has provided some of this information. It took me a minute to compute this before I said, "Wait, you don't have a brother named Clifford! You don't have a brother at all. There was just you and Aunt Helen in your family." She smiled her mischievous smile and told me that her mother was married once before and had some children, which

she happily introduced me to through family records. So again, I had correct information, just not all of it.

Another caution, which is really a restatement, is there are many ways to get wrong information into this type of “community” record. So, there is an aspect of Find a Grave that is like family trees — they are subject to errors. But they also can be a huge help in focusing on parts of your family that are incomplete and even some you may not know even existed.

## Tips

While this is not a “how-to” article on Find a Grave, there are some handy parts to the website which are worth pointing out.

First, for any individual’s page, there may be spouses, parents, and children listed. They may look like this:



**Clarence D McCauley**  
1872–1956 (m. 1923)

This is a live link to that relative in Find a Grave. So, if you find your relative on Find a Grave and there are links to their kin, you can go right to those Find A Grave memorial pages. You may find full names, birth and death information, the names of their parents or children, other spouses, and so on. Feel free to hopscotch through the links in Find a Grave to expand your family knowledge. Keep notes and don’t get lost!

Another thing you might find is documents. It is not unusual to find an obituary or newspaper death notice included in a memorial. Other things might be there as well, so go through all the links, photos, and documents you can find.

A final tip is to note the cemetery links on the page. In the right-hand column, there will be information you can use in your research. It usually goes like this:

- The name of the cemetery where your person is buried
- Other cemeteries in that city or town
- Cemeteries in that county
- Cemeteries in that state
- Cemeteries in that country
- All cemeteries in Find A Grave.

These are hot links. Use them. If I am looking at a memorial for one of my ancestors with the surname Warner, I can click on the first link and see all the Warners in this cemetery. This usually includes females with a maiden name of Warner as well. If I don’t see who I thought should be there, maybe they are in another cemetery in that town. I can move up a level and search for Warners in all the cemeteries in the town, or in the county, and so on up the ladder.

I think you will find this interesting and useful for your research.

## Final Word

Find a Grave is not the only cemetery website, but it is the most used so far. There are about 190 million gravesites tabulated. Billion Graves is much newer and is moving quickly. They have the advantage of built-in GPS coordinates, so you won’t have to wander around in a cemetery to find the grave you want.

ANC Explorer is a good site for Arlington National Cemetery. If you are working on Canadian lines, iCemetery may help. Currently, they only cover six Canadian locations. But check it out and stay tuned.

The CWGC War Graves site has nearly 2 million British casualties of the WWI and WWII cataloged. This includes 23,000 cemeteries in 150 countries, so it could be a good timesaver!

So, like most resources, there is a lot to be found. But we must use our critical thinking and always try for multiple sources. Ultimately though, we weave our family stories from threads gathered far and wide. Find a Grave can be a big help in the process.

## Bi-Weekly Tip – Online Classes

By Riverton (Utah) FamilySearch Library

3740 West Market Center Drive

Riverton, Utah 84065-8026 - Phone: 801-240-9601

Copied from “Tip of the Week” 2 Nov 2020

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton\\_FamilySearch\\_Library](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton_FamilySearch_Library)

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

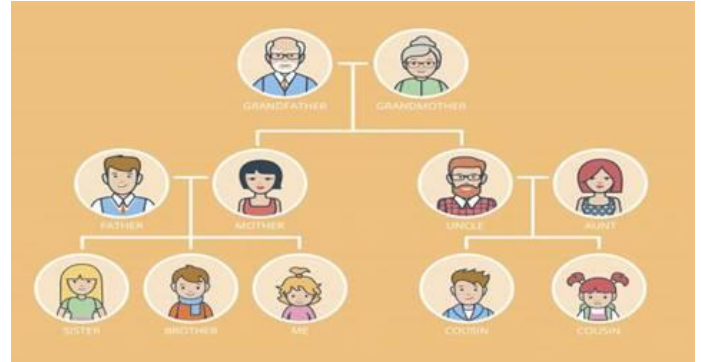
As some of you already know, the Riverton FamilySearch Library offers classes on-line using Pro Zoom accounts.



- These classes go from one hour to one and a half hours long.
- We host a variety of Classes.
- Some classes are a single class where others are a series of classes up to 6 weeks.
- For those who speak Spanish, we have a FamilySearch Family Tree in Spanish.
- We have had people joining our classes from California to New York. All are invited.
- Please check out our website for days and times of these classes, and let your neighbors know. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton\\_FamilySearch\\_Library](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton_FamilySearch_Library)
  - On the website you can
    - Read the description of each class
    - Register for the classes
    - Download class handouts
- Below you will find links to our current class offerings plus a new one called Roots Magic.

## Cousins, Cousins, and More Cousins

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 12/31/2020) Used with permission of the author.



**List of Available Classes** - Click title to view and schedule class offerings

- [Beginning Genealogy](#)
- [Ward Consultants](#)
- [British Family History Research \(2 series\)](#)
- [FamilySearch Family Tree also in Spanish](#)
- [Ancestry.com \(2 series\)](#)
- [Danish Research](#)
- [FamilySearch Miscellaneous Topics](#)
- [Newspapers, Graphics, and Microsoft Word](#)
- [Roots Magic \(to Start in February\)](#)
- [Finding Cousins Workshop](#)
- [United States Census Records](#)

Watch for new classes to come

## The Family History Show in England Virtual Event – 20 February 2021

If you have English research, you should check this virtual conference. For £6.00 (about \$8), you will be able to participate in the pre-recorded presentations, ask the experts questions, and visit exhibitors in the virtual exhibition hall. Ann Staley noted that she attended one they held last summer and was thoroughly pleased.

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

From a genealogical research perspective, cousins are anyone with whom you share a proven common ancestor. Technically, this would mean everyone in an extended family, including siblings, would qualify. From the genealogy perspective, they are called brothers and sisters.

Cousin relationships are broken down by generations. You count the number of generations back to the common ancestor then subtract one. Here is a simple example. It is two generations from you to your grandparents. Therefore, you are the first (two minus one) cousin with anyone that shares the same couple as grandparents. Terms like **cousin once removed** and **twice removed** becomes applicable when the cousins are an unequal number of generations from the common ancestor. For example, your children would be one generation further removed from your common ancestor, so they would be first cousins once removed from your common ancestor. Your grandchildren would be first cousins twice removed to your own first cousins.

Another factor that comes into play involves the concept of blended families. The legal definition of this concept is a family consisting of a couple and their children from this and all previous relationships. While some people view this as a product of the 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century, nothing can be further from the truth. The scenarios listed below are the result of blended families and their impact on genealogy.

**Half Cousins:** Half siblings share only one parent. This means that if one of Gene's parents and one of Betty's parents are half siblings, then Gene and

Betty are half first cousins. The half sibling of each of their respective parents would be their half aunt or uncle. While this is the technical and accurate terminology, in most cases they will be described as the other's cousin or aunt unless the discussion goes deeper into the genealogy research realm. Additionally, children of half first cousins are half second cousins to each other and so on because they would only share one common great-grandparent.

**One-and-a Half-Cousins:** This scenario occurs when two full siblings have children with two half siblings. In another twist, if a set of half siblings has children with another set of half siblings, the resulting children would be double half first cousins and would have the same descent as full first cousins. Furthermore, if a person's half sibling marries the person's half sibling from the other parent, then the child of that couple and the child of the half sibling who is related to the married couple will be double half cousins.

**Step cousins:** This scenario means they are either the stepchildren of an individual's aunt/uncle or children of a step aunt/uncle. No blood relationship exists between step cousins. In the case of an adoption, there does not need to be a blood relationship between cousins. The adoptees would still be considered first cousins. First step cousins once removed would be step children of your first cousins. The second step cousin is the stepchild of your first cousin once removed.

**Cousin-In-Law:** This is the spouse of an individual's cousin.

Figuring out these cousin relationships can be very confusing, even for experienced genealogists. One of the easiest ways to overcome these challenges is to invest in one of the many genealogy software products on the market that makes the process of inputting collected data easy. The features in most enable the researcher to select two individuals in the compiled research in your database, and identify whether they are related by blood and what the nature of the relationship is if applicable. Here is an example of a link for 2020 that contains reviews.

<https://www.smarterhobby.com/genealogy/best-genealogy-software/>

For more information on the topic of cousins, I recommend the following links:

Ancestry Support – Understanding Kinship Terms  
<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Understanding-Kinship-Terms>

FamilySearch Wiki – Cousin  
<https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cousin>

Dowell, David – DNA and Cousins – Multiple Links  
<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/2014/02/15/dna-testing-used-to-dig-up-family-roots/5499539/>  
<http://blog.ddowell.com/>

NOTE: David Dowell has also written an excellent book entitled **Crash Course in Genealogy**. Chapter Two, Pages 27-29 contains an excellent detailed article on the topic of Cousins.

Grimaud, Jessica – Family Search Blog – **Cousin Chart: Family Relationships Explained** – July 23, 2019  
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/cousin-chart/>

Feel free to contact me with any questions or feedback.

## **New Free Historical Records on FamilySearch**

FamilySearch added 8M new **parish and civil registrations** for **Iserre, France (1540–1900)**, 2M **Catholic Church** records for **North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany (1580-1975)**, 350K **Borough (1519–1905)** and **Tax and Valuation records (1897–1949)** for **Devon, Plymouth, England**; plus additions to collections for **Brazil, Peru, S. Africa**, and the **United States (California, Maryland, Mississippi, Washington) US Bureau of Land Management Tract Books (1800–c.1955)**.

These records can be searched at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org). You can also check out the new records and images by going to their blog article at <https://media.familysearch.org/new-free-historical-records-on-familysearch-week-of-4-january-2021/>

## **1950 U. S. Federal Census**

Records of the 1950 census will be released on 1 Apr 2022. FamilySearch has a very nice blog article at <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/1950-us-census-release-date/>

**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

Website: <https://sgesjax.org/>

**The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society**

Mandarin Regional Library, 3330 Kori Rd, Jacksonville, 32257

**Third Tuesday of each month**

Time: 7:00 pm

Website: <https://aigensoc.org/index.php>

**Amelia Island Genealogical Society**

Fernandina Beach, FL

**Third Saturday of each month**

Time: 1:00 pm

Website: <https://sagsonline.org/>

**St. Augustine Genealogical Society**

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

**Sunday or Wednesday each Month**

**Jewish Genealogy Society of Northeast Florida**

Cohen Auditorium, River Garden Hebrew Home, Jacksonville, FL

Website: <https://jgsofneflorida.wordpress.com/>

**16 Jan 2021**

Time: 10:00 – 11:15 am

Speaker: Donna Moughty – Irish Roots Inc.

Topic: Seeking Your Ancestors Before and After the Famine

Registration: <https://leelibrary.librarymarket.com/events/month/2021/01>. Select the month and then locate the program on the calendar. Click on the Register for the Live Event icon and enter your name and email address.

Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the appropriate link and instructions for entering the webinar on the day of the event.

**Fort Myers Regional Library**

Online Webinar

**20 Feb 2021**

Time: 10:00 – 11:15 am

Speaker: Donna Moughty – Irish Roots Inc.

Topic: Map It Out

Registration: <https://leelibrary.librarymarket.com/events/month/2021/01>. Select the month and then locate the program on the calendar. Click on the Register for the Live Event icon and enter your name and email address.

Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the appropriate link and instructions for entering the webinar on the day of the event.

**Fort Myers Regional Library**

Online Webinar

**21 Jan 2021**

Time: 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Speaker: J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA

Topic: *Land Barons or Dirt Farmers: Finding Land Transactions*

In most cases, the purchase of a home and land is the largest expenditure of a lifetime. Following the land will often identify the Ancestor and family. Learn how to trace an individual through property records and how to trace a specific property. Although it is possible to locate an individual's land from historic records, we will focus on working backwards from a current deed.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2375630523411790862>

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

**FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar**

Online 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: \_\_\_\_\_





**HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE NEW YEAR**

Photo by [DreamSky](#) from [Pexels](#)

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