



JACKSONVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWSLETTER

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July-August 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 3rd 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.

--- 21 July 2012 ---

Social Media and Genealogy, Speaker Geraldine Kohn

Gerri will explain how, as genealogists, we can use Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter for help in our genealogy searches -- with examples and their benefits. Facebook has many genealogy organizations with their pages and learning experiences. LinkedIn was used just for business connections, but is now used for genealogy connections also. Twitter has many different types of genealogy connections also.

Geraldine Kohn is president of the Jacksonville Genealogical Society. She is a full time cataloger/librarian for the historical black college, Bethune Cookman University, in Daytona Beach Florida. Gerri has a genealogy business and has been doing her own family research for 10 years and loves to help other people with their searches. She resides in the Mandarin area of Jacksonville with her husband, Cliff, and her mother, Sybil.

--- 18 August 2012 ---

Using Blogs, Podcasts, Twitter, and Google+ for Genealogy, Speaker Karen Rhodes

What are blogs, podcasts, and Twitter? Introduction to the genealogy "blogosphere," the best podcasts, using Twitter to network with other genealogists (also covers Google+). Karen Rhodes graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Spanish from the University of North Florida in April of 2012. She will begin studies this fall as a graduate student in the interdisciplinary Florida Studies program at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg. She completed the 40-course program in Genealogy devised by the National Institute of Genealogical Studies of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, "with distinction," specializing in American Records. Karen is the author of *Non-Federal Censuses of Florida, 1784-1945: A Guide to Sources*.

--- 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.

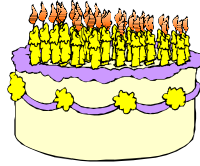
--- 17 November 2012 ---

Social Gathering and Jeopardy: Genealogy

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We send a "Happy Birthday" to our members who are celebrating in July and August:



July 1	Carole Anne Barry
July 8	Constance Bradshaw
July 10	Kenneth Norwood
July 10	Clyde Stokes
July 12	Sandra R. Dunnavant
July 17	Barbara Crissman
July 21	Richard Bash
July 24	Perry Russell
August 7	Laura Jane Swilley
August 17	Mary Lane Hartshorn
August 18	Irene Ritch
August 19	Kay Rouseau
August 26	William Hoey

GOOD NEWS

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

**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 is 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!

SPRING 2012 GENEALOGY CLASS

The Spring Genealogy Class, traditionally our Beginner Class, Researching in a Straight Line - - - Backwards, was successfully completed! We had 4 sessions this year with topics that included Back to Basics; Research Documentation; Sources-What are they?; Dates, Places & Relationships; Use of Vital, Court, Church and Military Records; Record Keeping; and much more.

We will be publishing a list of the graduates in the next newsletter.

IT AIN'T EASY BEING GREEN!

But it is very rewarding! Due to a lack of space in my very small house – that I have to share with 3 other people – I am making a conscious effort to go green (also known as paperless) with my genealogy. I know there is that element of society that feels totally lost if they can't actually hold and touch a document or photograph. If you are solidly in that group, you may want to skip to the next article. If not, stay tuned to this spot for tips on going green, and for products that make going green just a little bit easier. Last year at a scrapbooking convention, I purchased a cute little gadget called a Flip-Pal. They were marketing it for scrapbooking, but I immediately saw the benefit it would have for my genealogy. At first glance, it looks like a small 4x6 scanner. Lo and behold, that's what it is. But it is, oh, so much more! The document cover is removable, allowing you to turn the scanner over and scan pictures without removing them from scrapbooks, photo albums, etc. Using it this way also enables you to scan objects much larger than 4x6, because it also comes with "stitching software". For the non-techies out there, this is a computer program that takes several scans of parts of an object and assembles them into one large scan of the entire object. Check it out for yourself at www.flip-pal.com. I will bring mine to the July meeting so you can see how it works first-hand.

NICKNAMES

By Bryan L. Mulcahy (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.

How often have you encountered an individual or family in a census which looks like yours, but the names aren't quite right? Have you found what appears to be your great-grandfather's marriage license, except that it says he's married to someone named who went by a different name instead of what you always heard?

Our ancestors' seemingly changing names often leave us puzzled and frustrated, when in fact such apparent name changes are often just a result of the recording of an individual's nickname or middle name in the official records. While some think this is a historical trait, in reality, many people today are known by different names to our family, friends, and business associates. My father's name was Lawrence, yet his family always referred to him as Bob. His middle name was Robert.

Nicknames stand for the name of a person or thing other than its proper name. The nickname may either substitute or be added to the proper name. It may be a familiar or truncated form of the proper name, such as *Bob*, *Bobby*, *Rob*, *Robbie*, *Robin*, and *Bert* for *Robert*. It is common in many genealogical records, especially more informal records such as census records and obituaries, to find your ancestors listed under names you might not expect. In many cases these names may have been the nicknames as they were known to their family and friends. Nicknames have always been popular, but until the modern era, people generally used whatever variation of their legal given name they felt like using at various times during their life. Legal requirements that govern the processing of legal papers in modern times were non-existent. Once an ancestor was out on their own, they often adopted a nickname or a variation of their given name.

Nicknames can sometimes be difficult to catch, however. "Kim" as a nickname for "Kimberly" is fairly straightforward, but "Polly" as a nickname for "Mary" and "Peggy" as a nickname for "Margaret" have tripped up many genealogists. Sometimes nicknames were formed by adding a "y" or "ey" to the end of a name or part of a name - i.e. "Johnny" for "John" or "Penny" for "Penelope." Other times the name was shortened in some manner - i.e. "Kate" for "Katherine." But sometimes it is just a matter of knowing which nicknames were commonly used in a particular time and place. That's why it is important, as a genealogist, to familiarize yourself with commonly used nicknames and their corresponding given names. Do not forget, however, that what appears to be a nickname isn't always - many nicknames became so popular that they later were bestowed as given names.

Editor's Note: I can certainly relate to that last part. While Connie is a common nickname for Constance or Consuela, in my case, it is not. I'm just plain Connie – according to my birth certificate.

OVERCOMING RESEARCH CHALLENGES AND BRICK WALLS

By Bryan L. Mulcahy (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.

Brick walls and research dead-ends are an inevitable part of genealogical research. Success may involve creativity, knowledge of historical events within a community, church, or ethnic group, or circumstances unique to a family and/or individual, and confidence in your gut feelings. Depending on the amount of information available, and reliability of witnesses or surviving documentation, researchers may be forced to make an educated guess which is perfectly legitimate depending on the situation.

Regardless of the level of your research, you should always be asking the question, "Does the information fit the circumstances?" Overcoming these problems is what makes genealogy interesting. Attending genealogical seminars and workshops and joining local genealogical societies often play a significant role in helping researchers overcome these challenges. Taking the time to attend such workshops may offer the following benefits:

1. Provide the opportunity to talk to fellow researchers.
2. Sometimes just to talk to someone who will listen and shares the same passion for genealogy.
3. Share research problems and, with any degree of luck, gain some new perspectives on how to solve them.

If your research has hit a continuous snag, here are some examples of possible sources that may help overcome your research challenge:

AGE: Census, Cemetery Records, Family Bibles, Military Records, Obituaries, Pension Applications, Tax Records, and Vital Records

BIRTH DATES/PLACE: Cemetery Records, Census, Church Records, Family Bibles, Military Records, Newspaper Birth Announcements, Obituaries, and Vital Records.

CITY OR PARISH (FOREIGN BIRTH): Census, Church Records, Family Bibles, Family Histories, Immigration Records, Naturalization/ Citizenship Papers, Obituaries, and Vital Records

COUNTY ORIGINS, BOUNDARIES, & PLACE-FINDING AIDS: Atlases, City Directories, Criss-Cross Directories, County or Family Histories, Gazetteers, Land/Property Records, Taxation Maps and Records

DEATH: Cemeteries, Church Records, Court Records, Family Bibles, Land/Property Records, Military Records, Newspapers, Obituaries, Probate Records, and Vital Records

DIVORCE: Court Records, Divorce Records, Newspapers, and Vital Records

ETHNICITY: Census, Church Records, Family Bibles, Immigration Records, Membership in Minority Associations or Societies, Naturalization and Citizenship Papers

IMMIGRATION OR EMIGRATION DATE: Census, Church History or Records, Family Bibles, Family History Book or Periodical, Immigration Record, Naturalization and Citizenship Papers, Newspapers, and Obituaries

MARRIAGE/MAIDEN NAMES: Biography, Census, Cemeteries, Church Records, Family Bibles, Family Histories, Land/Property Records, Military Records, Newspapers, Nobility Listing, Personal Correspondence, Probate Records, School Records, and Vital Records

OCCUPATIONS: Business Directory Listing Company Officials & Employees, Census, City Directory or Criss-Cross, Civil Registration, Court Records, Immigration Records, Military Records, Newspapers, Obituaries, and Probate Records

PARENTS, CHILDREN, & OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS: Biographies, Census, Church Records, Family Bibles, Family History, Immigration Records, Land/Property Records, Naturalization & Citizenship Papers, Obituaries, Probate Records, School Census, and Vital Records

PLACE (TOWN) OF RESIDENCE WHEN YOU KNOW ONLY THE STATE” Census, City Directories or Criss-Cross Directories, Family Bibles, Family History, Land/Property Records, Military Records, Probate Records, School Census, Tax Records, and Vital Records

PLACES OF RESIDENCE: Census, Church Records, City Directories, Family Bibles, Land /Property Records, Military Records, Obituaries, and Taxation Records

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Biographies, Cemeteries, Church Records, Civil Registration, Family Bibles, Family Histories, and Obituaries

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING ...

There has been a changing of the guard, so to speak. Ann has graciously allowed me to take over the publishing of the JGS newsletter. Hopefully, this will free her up to devote more of her time to her speaking and teaching engagements. Ann has done a great job with this newsletter in the past, and I hope you will join me in thanking her for her time and dedication. Thanks Ann! I only hope that I can do as good a job as she has done.

I have published newsletters before, so this task is not new to me. I firmly believe that this is YOUR newsletter, not mine. So, if there is something you would like to see, an article you would like to write, by all means – let me know! I will be happy to include any and all contributions from the membership. One thing I would like to include is a “Meet A Member” feature. Each newsletter would feature a short biography, or getting-to-know-me type of article from one (or two) JGS members. If this sounds interesting, please provide feedback – or better yet, send me your “meet-a-member” article. Feedback and newsletter contributions can be emailed to ladycoward@att.net or snail-mailed to the JGS address below. -- Connie Coward

GENEALOGY SUMMER BOOT CAMP

Is your enthusiasm for genealogy a little limp in the summer heat? We have found the solution, recruited the speakers and designed a class schedule to revitalize your passion and expose you to new avenues of research. There is something for everyone - whether you're a novice or an advanced genealogist. Hurry and reserve your spot today for this exciting adventure - the Genealogy Boot Camp being co-sponsored by The Jacksonville Genealogical Society and the Jacksonville Public Library.

It is going to be held 23-26 July 2012 at the Jacksonville Public Library, 303 N. Laura Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202 in Multipurpose Rooms 2 & 3 on the Conference Level (Main Street entrance). The time is 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. each morning. The cost? **FREE!** What types of classes? Just take a look at this schedule!

23 Jul 2012 - Monday

10:00-11:30

Karen Rhodes -Bare Bones: Getting Started in Your Genealogy

Margo Brewer - Land Records: Just Scratching the Surface

1:00-2:30

Ann Staley - Hatched, Matched and Dispatched: Vital Record Research

Karen Rhodes -Paleography: Interpreting Old Handwriting (covers Spanish and English colonial documents)

24 Jul 2012 - Tuesday

10:00-11:30

Karen Rhodes -Using Blogs, Podcasts, and Twitter for Genealogy

Margo Brewer - Getting Down and Dirty with Land Records: Looking Beyond the County Courthouse

1:00-2:30

Ann Staley - Analyzing, Organizing and Sharing: Using Software to Your Advantage

David Fuller - Native American Research - An Introduction

25 Jul 2012 - Wednesday

10:00-11:30

Margo Brewer - The Basic Military Records

Amy L. Giroux - Pre-1850 Census Research - Determining Parentage

1:00-2:30

Margo Brewer - Military Records: Now That You Have Them, What Do They Mean?

Amy L. Giroux - Cemetery Research - A City of Stones

26 Jul 2012 - Thursday

10:00-11:30

Arnold Weeks - Genetic Genealogy

Ann Staley - Genealogical Research: Online Resources - for Free!

1:00-2:30

Arnold Weeks - Health and Heredity

Amy L. Giroux - Listen to the Land - Understanding Your Ancestor's Property Records

There is something there for everyone. Space is limited and Pre-registration is encouraged. The Jacksonville Public Library will soon have an online registration form on their website (<http://jpl.coj.net>) where you will be able to register for the classes of your choice! As soon as we hear that it is online we will be letting the membership know.

P.O. Box 60756 * Jacksonville, Florida 32236-0756

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.

Thursday, July 12

Southern Genealogy Exchange Society: Tour of St. Margaret's Original Chapel, Fleming Island (July)

10:00 am - St. Margaret Episcopal Church on Fleming Island

Presented by Janet Robinson - Web: www.sgesjax.com

904-778-1000

Saturday, July 14

Southern Genealogist Exchange Society (July)

10:00 am - 6865 Pine Avenue, Fleming Island, Florida

Presented by Janet Robinson - Web: www.sgesjax.com

Tour of the original chapel of the Episcopal Church

Free and open to the public

Light Refreshments will be served

Wednesday, July 25

Meet the Speakers--Ask the Experts (July)

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm - FSGS Webinar

Email: webmaster@flsgs.org

Invitations will be sent out so you can join us for the first FSGS Webinar for our members and the public. Stay tuned.

Several of the FSGS 2012 Annual Conference speakers will be available to answer questions from the attendees.

You can also email the webmaster so they can send you the invitation link.

Saturday, August 11

Southern Genealogy Exchange Society Monthly Meeting: Native American Research (August)

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

Presented by Janet Robinson - Email: publicity@sgesjax.com

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

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

Free and open to the public. Light refreshments served.

904-778-1000

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

Please check the FSGS website for registration and schedule details.

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P.O. BOX 60756
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32236-0756
Website: <http://jaxgen.home.comcast.net/~jaxgen/>
Email: jaxgen@comcast.net