



Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 32, No. 5-6

September – December 2016

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://jaxgen.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.

Membership Meeting 5 November 2016

--- Note Date and Location Change ---

We will be meeting the first Saturday of the month at 1 PM at the Edgewater @ Sunbeam Clubhouse, 4366 Edgewater Crossing Drive, Jacksonville. Clubhouse is on the left immediately after entry.

The Jacksonville Genealogical Society and The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society are pleased to be co-hosting this event.

Speaker: Robert Scott Davis

Topic: *Using Federal Records: The Secrets to Finding and Understanding What You Need From a National Archives*

Speaker Bio: Robert Scott Davis is the director of the Genealogy Program of Wallace State Community College, Hanceville, Alabama. His duties include helping to build one of the South's most extensive genealogical collections; operating a microfilming facility; teaching genealogy in one of the first colleges to offer genealogy as a college level course; and organizing field trips for his classes to libraries throughout the country. In 2006, this program that he built received the Award for Outstanding Leadership in History from the American Association for State and Local History. Professor Davis also teaches survey courses in geography and history. He has more than 1,000 publications of all sorts and from research he has conducted in archives and libraries throughout the United States, England, and Scotland. Aside from writing history, genealogy, and records, he has also compiled books and articles on methods and materials in research.

Membership Meeting December 2016

--- No Membership Meeting ---

Membership Meeting 21 January 2017

Speaker: Paul Howes

Topic: *Researching British ancestors before 1837*

Brief description: Paul will cover this huge topic in just over an hour. He will give a little historical and geographic context. There will be a key emphasis on internet resources and cover such topics as parish registers and transcripts, newspapers, census records (there were some!) and substitutes, and other resources available to most people from their arm-chair. The talk will be accompanied by a two-page checklist so that members can follow up at home.

Speaker Bio: Paul has been a member of JGS for nearly two years and lives in Ponte Vedra. An actuary by profession he was a partner of one of the world's largest consulting firms and sat on its executive committee. He is currently Chairman of the Guild of One-Name Studies, a global organization of 2,900 genealogists who study surnames. In his own One-Name Study into the name Howes and others which sound like it (about which he spoke to JGS in 2015) he has so far amassed a database of 110,000 people in reconstructed families.

2017 Dues

If you have not remitted your payment of dues for 2017, we urge you to do so, promptly. Our calendar year is January through December; therefore, dues for 2017 are due.

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

IN MEMORY

It is with much sadness that we report the death of a dear friend to genealogy – Jon Ferguson. He passed away on 1 Nov 2016.

Jon was a member of our sister society, The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society, and a frequent visitor to JGS meetings. He was an advocate for local cemeteries, serving on several committees. Through his cemetery research and publishing, he helped many genealogists.

We extend condolences to his family, relatives, and many friends and colleagues.

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 check box 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.

Society Bylaws

The society bylaws were adopted in April 1994 and have served us well – without any revisions; a testament to those who worked on them at that time.

With the technology available today, however, we found it necessary to revisit the bylaws. A committee was formed and went through them line by line. The resulting suggested changes were presented to the Board who approved them with some suggestions.

The result is a proposed revision that will be brought before the general membership meeting in January 2017 for a vote. Watch your postal mail and your email box for a letter and the revised bylaws. They will be sent out at least 30 days in advance of the 21 January 2017 meeting so that you will have time to review them and come prepared to discuss and vote.

The Holidays, Family, and Genealogy

This is a great time of the year to “get the genealogy”! Families will be gathering for the many festivities that will be occurring.

In conjunction with Thanksgiving Day being National Family History Day, the Surgeon General has gotten together a Family Health History Initiative at <http://www.hhs.gov/familyhistory/>. This is a national public health campaign to help families learn more about the family health. On the website they provide more information about the initiative, an online tool for gathering and saving family health history, and forms that can be downloaded.

Other websites to look at are:

Illinois Department of Public Health
Celebrate this Thanksgiving by Discussing your Family's Health History
http://www.idph.state.il.us/HealthWellness/family_history.htm

Senior Living Blog
A Thanksgiving Portrait: Gathering Family Health History
<http://www.aplaceformom.com/blog/2013-11-19-national-family-history-day/>

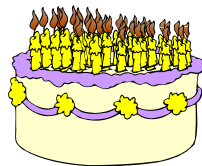
Southern Medical Blog
National Family History Day
<http://sma.org/national-family-history-day/>

You might also want to check out this Christmas present idea – How to create a family tree bookmark. The directions are for the charting options in the Legacy Family Tree software; however, you might be able to adapt the instructions to your own family tree software or use your creativity to create it in a number of other ways. The instructions are at: http://news.legacyfamilytree.com/legacy_news/2008/11/how-to-create-a-family-tree-bookmark.html

Cemetery Records: An Alternative to Death Records

Lisa Louise Cooke provided a very good article in her Genealogy Gems on Cemetery Records: An Alternative to Death Records. She discussed a case study in which a reader asked about finding out where an ancestor is actually buried after they had located two tombstones in two different places. The article can be found at <http://lialouisecooke.com/2016/07/cemetery-records/>

Happy Birthday



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

Stephen Torda	September 7
Jennie Migliarese	September 8
Ivy Phillips	September 13
Mary Chauncey	September 13
Ann Staley	September 14
Dick Cardell	September 14
Brenda O'Neil	September 16
Terry Ann Ray	September 28
Dean McVeigh	September 28
Robin Barenberg	October 4
Rose Boyd	October 12
Thomas Crawford	October 15
Harlan Dittman	October 24
Martha Poarch	October 27
Tracey Arpen	October 29

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

Patricia Tanner	November 7
Charlene Hopton	November 8
Nedra Soles	November 12
Sharon Ferreira	November 22
Mildred Dittman	December 3
Jeanne Carter	December 7
Martha Smith	December 16

Local County and Town Histories

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, (bmulcahy@leegov.com),
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(239) 485-1160 (BLM 10/6/2016) --- Used with permission of
the author.

Local history books are excellent but underutilized sources for genealogical research. These sources often provide detailed accounts of early settlement, migration patterns in and out of the area, original settlers, and profile the economic, political, and religious realities in a community. The issues discussed usually impacted life decisions made by our ancestors.

County and town histories are beneficial regardless of whether the family lived in the city or in a rural area. They are often underutilized in the sense that many beginners either ignore them or they only check the index for surnames of interest. From a genealogical or historical research perspective, these are the most important types of information usually found using these sources:

1. Epidemics and related major health oriented events.
2. Political and legislative mandates, laws, etc. that impacted daily life
3. Ethnic, social, religious, and political celebrations
4. Mobilization of troops for various conflicts, wars, etc.
5. Specific details about business, education, economic and/or farming trends, crops, etc.
6. Biographical sketches of prominent citizens and early settlers. Many of these histories were published regularly from the last half of the nineteenth century until the early part of the twentieth century. In addition to casual mention of thousands of individuals, many contain detailed biographical sketches of hundreds of others that can provide essential clues for research.
7. Because groups from the "old country" emigrated in groups, if the population of an area was highly ethnic in nature, many clues will appear in these sources.
8. Portraits, Maps, Engravings of Places Ancestors Lived: Many county histories include portraits of prominent individuals and etchings of courthouses, religious institutions, schools, and other institutions. Maps included in most of these volumes are also important for understanding the place(s) where our ancestors resided.
9. Institutional Histories: These histories usually contain detailed information about the various institutions in a particular area. These would include churches/synagogues, orphanages, charitable institutions, schools, hospitals and dispensaries, cultural institutions, cemeteries, businesses, and methods of available transportation are frequently discussed in great detail. The information found concerning churches or synagogues can be especially helpful given some of the challenges found in finding pre-1900 civil records. Church records often fill gaps where civil records don't exist or can't be found. Even where civil records are available, these church records may contain information not included in civil registrations.
10. Newspapers: Many researchers and experts regard the historical newspapers as the most accurate and comprehensive source for local information. Local histories can contain important information including dates of publication, area of coverage, and political affiliation. Religious and ethnic newspapers and periodicals are also often mentioned.

Insurance Papers and Applications

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, (bmulcahy@leegov.com),
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(239) 485-1160 (BLM 8/16/2016) --- Used with permission of
the author.

One interesting and overlooked source for potential genealogical information is insurance applications and policies. These policies were taken out by many of our

ancestors on themselves or family members. Insurance policies will enable the researcher to pinpoint an individual or family in a specific time and place at the time the policy was applied for or issued.

Because of how important these policies were for the security of the family, most of our parents, grandparents, etc. made significant efforts to ensure the policies were kept up to date and usually saved all applicable paperwork and related documents. Remember that before computers, the burden of proof in type of claim was squarely on the policy holder to prove all information. Because of the importance of these papers, finding the old files is another proven way to track your ancestors as they moved. Some people had multiple insurance policies for various situations. In the past, people could collect on multiple policies for medical, life, and other special issues. Today, laws have changed to try and stop or restrict practices like these.

The annual policy statements can provide clues on the economic status of the family and clues to other family members and/or relatives that were listed as beneficiaries. In some cases, depending on a variety of circumstances, beneficiaries may or may not have been direct family members.

One of the most important documents from a genealogy research perspective can be the applications. The types of questions that all applicants had to answer can be extremely beneficial for research purposes. By modern standards, many of these questions asked on pre-1970 applications were struck down or had to be significantly reworded due to litigation involving an invasion of personal privacy. Examples may include:

1. Religious Affiliation and Name/Contact Information of Pastor or Rabbi
2. Name and contact information for 3 personal references (not relatives) that could attest to your character and verify your employment and financial status.
3. Name and contact information of 3 relatives that can verify family related information
4. Banking and financial information.
5. Name and contact information for all employers including supervisors to verify all data related to employment.
6. For most medical policies, applicants had to provide name and contact information of physician, and a personal and family medical profile which they would verify with the physician.

Even if all you find are the carbon paper copies of the original documents, study them under clear light to see if they contain potential information. Most people made it a practice to purchase carbon paper when compiling important documents.

In some cases, policies, applications, and important civil documents were sent to people and had to be filled out in triplicate. When these documents were mailed or distributed, they would have carbon paper attached in the packet. The person filling out the paperwork was supposed to return the completed document. In most circumstances, the instruction stipulated that they would keep one of the multi-colored copies. Some people did so while others cut off the carbon paper and kept it to prevent anyone from writing over their information.

Have you tried these websites?

Illuminating Time-Lapse Animation Shows Immigration to the United States Since 1820.

(<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2016/05/10/illuminating-time-lapse-animation-shows-immigration-to-the-united-states-since-1820/> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

Extreme Genes Family History Radio – blog and radio show (www.ExtremeGenes.com : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

Save Your Stuff - Information and blog on protecting and saving your treasured family memorabilia.

(<http://www.saveyourstuff.com/index.html> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

LifeStory Productions, Inc. *Heritage Collector System*.

(<http://www.myheritagecollector.com/> : accessed 2 Nov 2016) [The Standard Version is free.]

Lulu Enterprises, Inc. (<https://www.lulu.com/> : accessed 2 Nov 2016) [An online book publishing (print on-demand) service.]

Shutterfly. Online Photo Album. (<https://www.shutterfly.com/> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

TechSmith Camtasia.

(<https://www.techsmith.com/camtasia.html> : accessed 2 Nov 2016) [Computer screen recorder to create videos.]

TopTenReviews. "2016 Best Digital Scrapbooking Software Comparisons". (<http://scrapbooking-software-review.toptenreviews.com> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

Yahoo.com. "flickr" (<https://www.flickr.com> : accessed 2 Nov 2016) [Online storage and sharing for photographs. Upload and organize. Some capability to crop, fix, and edit photographs.]

Ancestry.com. *Charts and Forms*.

(<http://www.ancestry.com/download/charts#ancchart> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

Family Tree Magazine. *Forms for download*.

(<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/freeforms> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

Genealogy.com. *Developing Your Research Skills*.

(<http://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

McMartin, Doug. *McMartin's GedReporter*. Free Genealogy Report and Website Generator.

(<http://www.gedreporter.dmcmartin.com> : accessed 2 Nov 2016)

You Have to Pay Attention

[And Read Carefully]

Guest post by Joel Warner, former JGS President

We all agree the genealogical records available to us online represent a wonderful opportunity for us. Desktop Genealogy has spawned many new workers in the field and has broadened our reach beyond the vital records. The sharing of pictures, stories, life events and localities of our ancestors — as well as our own families — has greatly enriched us all.

The careful user of computerized data, however, is miles ahead of those more blithe spirits who run off in all directions chasing online genealogies, indexed documents and third person assertions. Even records which should be very reliable must be carefully read. And just as each thread or string of yarn has to be carefully knit to get a proper outcome, so also do our searches need to be carefully knit with other data to yield proper and accurate outcomes.

Our case in point today turns out to be rather simple — but only after we are done with the research. While in the midst of it, confusion runs along beside us a good portion of the race. So if you get confused part way through this narrative, it only means I am telling it like it was. It comes out pretty well in the end (otherwise, why write it up?).

The information we are given as a start to our search is some hazy notes about the marriage of Samuel Wade and Martha Newhall in colonial times in Massachusetts. This is encouraging, because the records in Massachusetts are pretty well kept and extensively researched. So we don't anticipate much trouble. So we start looking, knowing we should find these folks in the middle of the first half of the 18th century.

With the help of good search engines from Ancestry and Family Search, we find the marriage of Samuel Newhall and Martha Upham on 18 March 1737. So now we have Sam and Martha Newall. But wait. Didn't we want Samuel WADE and Martha NEWHALL? So we have to keep looking, because what we have is a marriage of a Martha to a Samuel, and that can't be all that rare, even in lightly populated New England in the 1700's. Or did the person asking for my help get things turned around? Let's keep looking and see what we can find.

What we find next is the birth record of Edward Wade, who popped up because he is the son of Samuel and Martha Wade. So there was a Samuel Wade about this time and he did have a wife named Martha and they had a son Edward in 1744. Another thread for the tapestry we are weaving, maybe. After kicking a few more records around, we find a death record for Samuel Newhall, age 25, who died in Massachusetts in 1740. So here is Samuel Newhall and Martha, married in 1737 and he dies in 1740. Edward Wade is born in 1744, so maybe we have a bit of direction going here. Let's see what else we can find.

Now it is getting fun, because we just found a marriage record which tells us that Samuel Wade of Medford, Massachusetts married Martha Newhall of Malden, Massachusetts on November 25, 1741. This is plenty of time for Edward's entrance into the world and we begin to see our way clear in this puzzle. However, if you think you have the problem solved and can write this on your charts in ink, then you are still listening to your blithe spirit and need to slow down. We still need to explain all the Samuels, marriages and deaths and make sure we have this straight.

This brings us to a really useful source — Find A Grave. Find A Grave is the source of 132 million grave records and is searchable by state, county, cemetery or name. It's really quite useful. Sometimes the grave records just give what is written on the stone, which may be name and the "dash dates" — the dates of birth and death, separated by a dash. But sometimes people add much more, including pictures of the headstone, obituaries, lists of parents, spouses, children and so forth. There is no telling what you might find on this site. Also, each cemetery is searchable. Click on the cemetery name right there on the persons page and you can then search by name (or just surname) to see what other relatives may be buried in that cemetery. This is an outstanding feature and can yield much information.

So let's see what we can find on Find A Grave. And here we find a real goldmine. We find a person named Martha Newhall Upham Wade. Looks like everything we want to know is rolled up in one record! Here we are told that Mary Upham married Samuel Newhall and then married Samuel Wade, just as we had come to suspect. But why did they hide her under this convoluted name? Who knows? But we have what we need to feel quite comfortable that we have really begun to unravel this small mystery. The Find A Grave page for Martha can be viewed at

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=mr&GSln=wade&GSfn=martha&GSby=1714&GSbyrel=in&GSdy=1785&GSdyrel=in&GSst=21&GScty=1181&GSctry=4&GSob=n&GRid=109473953&MRid=46806669&df=all&>

There are also pages for Samuel Newhall and Samuel Wade, both buried in the same cemetery. I always include the Find A Grave Memorial number in the source documentation, because that is an easy way to look up a person. So now people can see her page and learn more about her. She is also in a public tree on Family Search Family Tree, ID number LDXW-HXN. She will be found there with her husbands, children and parents. But this is NOT the end of the story. While we feel like we have untangled the knot, there is a lot more research to be done to solidify this story. Desktop Genealogists have so much data at their fingertips and it is important to do reasonably exhaustive research to finish the story properly. Among other things, I need to document this finding in the source material for others to discover, verify and improve our records. At the end of the day, this is what Martha's source records look like (records provided and researched by several different people).

Sources:

Find A Grave. Memorial entry for Martha Upham Newhall Wade
FamilySearch. Martha Newhall Upham Wade, "Find A Grave Index"
FamilySearch. Martha Newhall in entry for Lucretia Newhall, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha Upham, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha in entry for James Wade, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha in entry for Elizabeth Wade, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha Upham, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha in entry for Edward Wade, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha in entry for Lydia Wade, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
Marriage record of Samuel Wade and Martha Newhall
FamilySearch. Martha Wade in entry for Edward Wade, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
FamilySearch. Martha Upham, "Massachusetts, Births and Christenings, 1639-1915"
Legacy NFS Source: Martha Upham
FamilySearch. Martha Newhall, "Massachusetts, Marriages, 1695-1910"
FamilySearch. Martha Newhall in entry for Samuel Newhall, "Massachusetts, Deaths and Burials, 1795-1910"

So keep those computers working, but read carefully and pay attention. We don't want to blaze trails to the wrong destination. It's often very difficult to find your way back!

Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 5, 2016

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar – Society Management Day

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Four (4) Online Webinars

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. You must register for each webinar individually.

Registration: FREE online at <http://www.fsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=253>

10:00 am – 11:00 am: D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS - *Tradition and Technology: Finding Your Society's Balance*

Explore a variety of techniques to assist your society in finding stable ground within the fast-paced world of technology.

11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Deena Coutant – *Communicating on a Shoestring Budget: Cost Effective Solutions for Societies*

This presentation will introduce an arsenal of free or low-cost communication tools that can be employed by genealogical societies to boost communication effectiveness and polish the professional image of the organization. Where multiple communication options exist, the pros and cons of using a particular toolset will be weighed.

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm: Rorey Cathcart – *WordPress for Your Society: No Blogging Required*

WordPress is an amazingly powerful and flexible tool for bringing your society website into the 21st century. Learn the basics and see examples of how other societies are using the platform. Consider advanced options for integrated society management. Easy to use and incredibly dynamic, take a look at the possibilities to see if WordPress is right for you!

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm: C. Ann Staley, CG, CGL – *Organizing and Carrying Out a Society Project*

Whether big or small, a society project can be a daunting task. This presentation is designed to help the society officers and volunteers manage a society-wide project from start to completion. We will explore selecting a project, budgeting the finances, committee and individual responsibilities, timelines and due dates, and record keeping. A case study will be discussed.

Thursday, November 10

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Halifax Genealogical Society - Monthly Meeting

Ormond Beach Library 30 South Beach St Ormond Beach FL

Speaker: Linda Vivian – *Gleaning Information from Wills and Estate Papers*

For more information contact: Bernardette Zappala 386-672-3806; halifaxgensoc@aol.com

Thursday, November 17, 2016

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar

Online Webinar

Speaker: Diana Crisman Smith – *Using Civil War Pension Records: Case Studies*Registration: FREE online at <http://www.flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=253>

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

The U.S. Civil War involved most of the families in the country at that time. It was a traumatic era in our history, but the records created from the pension files can provide a wealth of information. Case studies of actual pension files will show examples of the data in the files and how to analyze the information to develop a plan to further research.

Thursday, December 15, 2016

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar

Online Webinar

Speaker: Melissa Barker – *Organize Your Research: Paper and Computer Files*Registration: FREE online at <http://www.flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=253>

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

Are you knee deep in piles of papers? Do you have a hard time finding digitized records on your computer? Let's Get Organized! This presentation will give tried and true methods of organization for your paper records and computer records. Following these simple methods will help you be more organized and let you spend more time on actual genealogy research.

Saturday, January 28, 2017

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County Winter Program 2017

Embassy Suites, 1601 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach

Speaker: George G. Morgan aha@ahaseminars.comTopics: *Dissecting Obituaries for New Clues**Clues in the News**Your Ancestor in Community Context**Timelining Your Ancestors**Maximizing Your Research on the New Family Search.org*

Registration: prior to Dec. 2nd. Members \$40.00, Non Members \$50.00. After Dec. 2nd Members \$50.00, Non Members \$70.00

Contact: ancestry@gensocofpbc.org, 561-616-3455

Seating is limited

Saturday, February 18, 2017

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Florida Chapter, Ohio Genealogical Society - Annual Conference

Ocoee Church of God, 1105 N Lakewood Ave., Ocoee, FL

Speaker: Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG

Topics: *America's Forgotten War - The War of 1812**German Migration Into the Ohio**Up in Smoke! What To Do When the Courthouse Burns*

Registration: \$50, includes lunch.

Registration form: <http://tinyurl.com/2017-Conference-Registration>For more information, contact: Debbie Baker, idigroot@gmail.com.**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Pinellas Genealogy Society Annual Seminar (February)

Largo Public Library, 120 Central Park Drive, Largo, FL 33771

Speaker: Lisa Louise Cooke www.GenealogyGems.comTopics: *Google tools and procedures for solving family history mysteries**Getting the scoop on your ancestors with newspapers**Nine strategies for finding living relatives**Future technology and genealogy--five strategies you need*

\$40 for PGS members (lunch included), \$45 for non-members (lunch included); \$50 if register after 18 Feb 2017 (no lunch included)

More information: pgsfla@yahoo.com; <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flpgs/index.htm>

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