



# JACKSONVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

## NEWSLETTER

VOL. 25, NO. 6

November-December, 2009

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Webb-Wesconnett Library, 6887 103rd Street, Jacksonville, Florida.

### Membership Meeting – November 21, 2009

Our November meeting will begin early; at Noon and end at 2. This is due to the library celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. This meeting will be for elections of officers, and the program consists of "Reminiscing." We are asking members to discuss for two to four minutes, a memorable event in their life, which may be of interest to other members.

### Membership Meeting—December.

We hold no meeting for December and hope all have a safe and joyful holiday season.

### Membership Meeting—January 23, 2010.

First please note date change; this is due to the library having other business scheduled for our normal slot of 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. Our speaker will be Mr. Dick Cardell, our Historian. Mr. Cardell will discuss his latest European travels. Mr. Cardell always pleases us with a good program so please plan to attend.

**Our Seminar is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The speaker has**

**not been selected yet. More details soon.**

### 2010 Dues Are Now Due

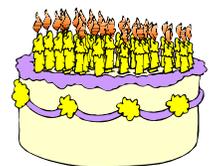
If you have not remitted your payment of dues for 2010, we urge you to do so, promptly. Our calendar year is January through December; therefore, dues for 2010 are due now.

Please complete the enclosed Membership Application so that we will have your current information in our membership database. Thank you for your continued support. Applications are also available at our website.

### Happy Birthday!

We send a "Happy Birthday" to our members who are celebrating in November and December 2009:

Nov. 7	Charles Felder
Nov. 16	Geraldine Cowart
Dec. 3	Mildred Dittman
Dec. 9	Gail Haas
Dec. 10	Pamela Burr
Dec. 15	Gayle Willis
Dec. 23	Barbara Strength.



I hope I didn't miss anyone.

**I have no word yet on the Spring genealogy classes held by Ann Staley.**

**Cookbooks: I don't have any concrete information regarding the cookbooks. I know from several e-mails and phone calls some of you were thinking 'stocking stuffers.' As soon as I have reliable information regarding the cookbooks I will let everyone know via e-mails and phone calls.**

**Poor Journalist Reporting: I apologize for not taking down all the names of those who received certificates of longevity as members of the society during our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration. I wanted to recognize there steadfastness to the society. All members, to be sure, are very much appreciated for all your support.**

**I must also take a minute here to apologize to all JGS members. It is my responsibility to have completed the next surname project, hopefully by Jan. 1, 2010. There is one more piece to the 'proverbial puzzle' to complete and then I have to figure out how to put it all together correctly on a CD. As a cost saving measure members with computers will receive the material on a CD. We will also print a small number of issues. Having said all that I hope to have it completed by the end of Jan. 2010.**

### **Membership and Telephone Committee Request**

If your Email address, phone number, or postal address changes, please be sure to let Tina Frady, Membership Chair know as soon as possible.

Norma LeVey, who has done a lot of good work on this committee has decided to step down. We do THANK YOU Norma for a job well done. We know it can be difficult at times.

As a result of Norma leaving this position, Tina will be re-vamping, if you will, this committee. She will need our support in this endeavor.

Grace Moran, who is now, our program chairman, and who has done it all for the society, was honored at our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for her 40 Years of service for the Society. Grace has held every position possible for the society, and some of them more than once. A simple Thank you hardly seems appropriate for all the time and work Grace has done to keep the Jacksonville Genealogical Society working. Yet, Thank You Very Much Grace For Everything!

### **Jacksonville Genealogical Society Life Members**

**Tina has thankfully reminded me about our Life Members who are:**

**Kathy Balistreri  
Martha Virginia Poarch  
Ann Staley  
Grace Moran  
Mary Chauncey  
Gerard Casale  
William Hoey  
Gloria Southerd  
Glenn Chandler  
Kay Swilley Poplin  
Laura Jane Swilley**

**Again, thank your for your support!**

### **Genealogical Research at Home**

Genealogical research is much like charity. It should begin at home. The first step involves recording everything you know about your family. The following points are of particular importance:

1. Inquire about the existence of official documents or memorabilia that may have been saved.
2. Talk to parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, even neighbors.
3. When you interview older members of the family, consider recording their answers and memories on tape or video to preserve the information for future generations.
4. These interviews, also known as **Oral Histories**, may help you in future research. When a discrepancy arises; the tape may help you clarify what was actually said.

5. Family documents, photos and other sources can provide you with many valuable clues to get you started on your genealogy adventure.
6. They may include the names of ancestors, dates and places for births, marriages and deaths and insight into what life was like for your ancestors.
7. In almost every family, one or two members, perhaps more, become the "unofficial" family record holders. Perhaps we should call them the "family archivists." For some reason, key family documents end up in their hands.

Beginning the research process at home may lead to several time and money saving benefits:

1. Provide links and clues to previously unknown or additional records and sources.
2. Identify additional family members in the old country or other places of residence.
3. Provide specific dates and places for birth, death, marriage, and other important family events.
4. Provide clues and insights about major events that impacted life decisions within the family or an individual member.
5. Provide clues on migrations both in the United States, Canada, and the old country.
6. May provide the researcher with original documents, photographs, certificates, etc.
7. May provide information and insights to help formulate questions and strategies for oral histories.
8. May help identify candidates to approach for oral history interviews.

One barrier to the efficient use of home sources is the inevitable difficult family member. While there are some families where one member hoards the family records, and does not share, this is relatively uncommon. In such situations, be as kind and persuasive as possible in asking the individual for permission to examine such records. When dealing with a difficult family member, avoid any mention of taking the records with you and returning them at a later date. Your chances of success in this type of situation are slim and none.

In other families where this is a problem, the record holder is usually worried about preserving the records, and concerned that if he or she loans them to a family member, they may get accidentally lost or destroyed. The best strategy is to gradually gain their confidence by first requesting permission to examine the records in their presence. Make careful notes. At a later date, as you get closer to your family member, he or she will come to trust you more, and may volunteer to let you take the records to make photocopies. When it comes to historical documents and/or family heirlooms, overcoming barriers within a family, even in the best of circumstances, is usually a gradual process. This is particularly true if the

documents or heirlooms are in the possession of an elderly family member.

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2050 Central Avenue  
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**Effective Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the new library hours for Fort Myers-Lee County Library have been revised as follows:**

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 9am-8pm  
Thursday 9am-6pm  
Friday and Saturday 9am-5pm

These reduced hours have been necessitated by budget and staff cutbacks. We appreciate your continued support.

Thanks.

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**Genealogical Research in the New York City Area**

Date: Saturday, November 21, 2009

Location: Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Speakers:

Dr. John LaCoste, New York Genealogical & Biographical Record  
Bryan Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Time: Session One: 9:30am-11:30am; Session Two: 12:30pm-2:30pm

This seminar will touch on research topics relevant to research in the region of New York City. While the main focus will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> century, information will also be provided on the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when the number of immigrants entering through Ellis Island increased dramatically. Our

discussion will also touch on repositories in the New York metropolitan area including adjacent counties in New Jersey

### **DNA & Genealogical Research**

Date: Saturday, December 12, 2009

Location: Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Speakers:

Dr. John LaCoste, New York Genealogical & Biographical Record  
Bryan Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Time:

Session One: 9:30am-11:00am DNA Testing and the Research Process  
Session Two: 11:15am-12:30pm Testing Process & guidelines  
Session Three: 1:30pm-2:45pm Consulting, Questions, Answers

### **Tracing Your English Ancestors: Research Techniques & Strategies**

Date: January 23, 2010

Location: Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Speaker: Shirley O'Donnell-Lee County Genealogical Society-English Roots Study Group

Time: 10:00am-12:30pm

This seminar will focus on print and Internet sources, major repositories, and jurisdictions such as the English National Archives, Family History Library, Civil Registration Districts, and Church Parishes/Dioceses. Internet sources will include GENUKI, Family Search, and Ancestry.

### **February Beginners Series**

Dates: Saturday, February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2010

Location: Fort Myers-Lee County Library

Speakers:

Gina Hamister, Western Reserve Library, Cleveland, Ohio  
Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County L

Time: 10:00am-12:30pm

Session One: Using Home Sources & Organizing Your Research  
Session Two: Finding Your Family in the United States Census  
Session Three: Using Court House Resources & Vital Records  
Session Four: Using Alternative or Hidden Resources for Locating Ancestors

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**Everyone take a deep breath, in fact take several deep breaths.**

**The HOLIDAYS are COMING!!!**

**The Society wishes everyone happy holidays!!!**

**May you all be safe.**

## OFFICERS, STANDING AND APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (terms expiring at end of 2009):

President	Mary S. Chauncey	904-781-9300
First Vice President/Membership Chairman	Tina M. Frady	904-695-9139
Telephone Sub-Committee Chairman	Norma J. LeVey	904-264-5614
Second Vice President/Publicity Chairman	Jim Laird	904-264-0743
Recording Secretary	Anne Morabito	904-695-9139
Corresponding Secretary	Joan Peck	
Treasurer	Harlan A. Dittman	904-778-0213
Editor/Publications Chairman	Jim Laird	
Historian	Richard Cardell	904-730-2128
Program Chairman	Grace B. Moran	904-384-3847
Education Chairman	C. Ann Staley	904-771-1865
Genealogical Research Chairman	Barbara Crissman	904-768-8166
Lineage Charts Sub-Committee Chairman	Barbara Crissman	904-768-8166
Finance Chairman	Harlan Dittman	
Parliamentarian	Richard Cardell	904-730-2128

**Websites of Possible Interest**

<http://www.yourgenealogy.org/african-american-genealogy.php>

African American Genealogy

[http://www.histopolis.com/place/us/ne/gage\\_county/](http://www.histopolis.com/place/us/ne/gage_county/)

Gage County Nebraska. With links to townships, cities and cemeteries.

[http://www.histopolis.com/Place/US/NE/Holt\\_County/](http://www.histopolis.com/Place/US/NE/Holt_County/)

Holt County, Nebraska. With links to townships, cities and cemeteries.

[http://www.betweenlakes.com/helpful/Abbreviations\\_for\\_organizations.htm](http://www.betweenlakes.com/helpful/Abbreviations_for_organizations.htm)

A list of abbreviations for organizations of all types, primarily American, mostly historical, that may be encountered in genealogical research.

<http://9thohioinfantry.yolasite.com/>

9<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment; History, Rosters, Grave Locations, Photos and more.

<http://newspapers.bl.uk/blcs/>

British newspapers 1800-1900.

<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/birthdeath/>

Missouri State Archives. Birth and death records. Free Searchable database 1910-1958.

<http://www.heroletters.com>

Has actual WWI Letters from various Camps, Forts and France.

<http://xooxleanswers.com/newspapersarchives4.aspx>

National and State and Local Newspaper Archives.

<http://hamiltongreatwar.org/ohio/172ovi.html>

172<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

<http://genealogytrails.com/ncar/vance/>  
Genealogy Trails, Vance County, NC.

<http://genealogytrails.com/mon/lewisandclark/>  
Genealogy Trails, Lewis & Clark County.

<http://genealogytrails.com/ind/floyd/index.html>  
Genealogy Trails Floyd County Indiana

<http://kalamazoogenealogy.org>  
Kalamazoo County Genealogical Records

***We Hope For All In 2009, Only The Best!!!***

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