



Jacksonville Genealogical Society

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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.

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

Join Us!

The Jacksonville Genealogical Society meets on the third (3rd) Saturday of each month 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.

May 2013 Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Ann Staley, CG, CGL

Topic: "Immigration Ports and Their Records"

This is one of the topics requested by JGS members and we are glad to be able to bring it to you. There are 5 ports that are considered "major" US immigration ports and many other smaller ports around the US. And don't forget Canada! Ann will provide information, record resources and tips for locating ports your ancestor(s) may have come into.

June 2013 Monthly Meeting

Speaker & Topic: TBA

Genealogy Returning to Television

by Connie Coward

It has been rumored for months now that "Who Do You Think You Are?" is returning to television on the TLC Network. Unfortunately it is not yet official, although several celebrities have been spotted at various libraries and genealogical repositories along with television crews and lights. So you may draw your own conclusions. What is official is that PBS will be airing "Genealogy Roadshow" starting in the fall. If you have ever watched their "Antiques Roadshow", it won't come as any surprise that this show

will contain its own surprises in genealogical detective work. From what I hear, there may be another one or two genealogy television shows on the horizon, but not much information on those just yet. Keep your eyes and ears tuned!

It Ain't Easy Being Green!

by Connie Coward

Have you done your Spring Cleaning this year? Or, like me, have you not even begun yet? If so, you probably noticed (or will notice) and unusually large amount of paper that you have that you don't really need. According to Shoeboxed.com,

The average person creates 4.5 pounds of trash every day, most of which is paper! That's 13.5 million pounds of trash created each day in the U.S. alone.

By reducing your use of paper, you'll be decreasing the amount of fossil fuels used in processing, saving space in landfills, and conserving precious trees which reduce ozone and nitrogen dioxide levels in our atmosphere.

If you haven't already decided to go paperless, isn't this a pretty good reason? Other ways to save paper include electronic bill-paying, using fabric shopping bags instead of paper or plastic (plus you don't have to endure that annoying

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question, “paper or plastic?”), and even getting your magazine subscriptions on your e-reader. There are lots of ways that you can help save the planet for future generations – and it may mean a lot less spring cleaning.

Locating Ancestors on the Internet

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The Internet is an excellent tool for genealogical research when used in conjunction with consulting original records, print sources, and employing proper research techniques. The benefits to genealogists are:

1. The ability to search the genealogical holdings of major repositories or libraries in areas where the ancestors resided.
2. The ability to search a repository’s holdings online may facilitate planning for onsite research in anticipation of a visit to that repository.
3. The Internet usually contains significant information on local, state, national and/or ethnic historical/genealogical societies, and family associations throughout the U.S. and abroad.
4. Websites such as Ancestry, Heritage Quest, Cyndi’s List, Family Search, Rootsweb, etc., offer access to message

boards and other information-sharing sites where genealogists can network with other genealogists, share findings and photographs, and submit queries.

The dramatic increase in online resources has attracted many beginners to the field of genealogical research. Experienced genealogists have benefitted because of new and improved research tools and faster communication. Sites such as Ancestry.com and Ancestry Library Edition, Fold3, Heritage Quest, and Family Search, just to name a few, have enabled researchers to locate records in a timely manner. Researchers are also benefitting from an increased number of digitized images, thus making the information-gathering process more accurate and timely.

Many websites offer tutorials in the form of a Frequently Asked Questions section (FAQ). These pages usually provide research tips and information on formulating search strategies.

While the Internet offers many opportunities for research, there are limitations and caveats. The Internet should not be considered the main option for genealogical research. Researchers will never locate every fact about their ancestors online. There is no one website or database containing all types of genealogical records. Many record types have never appeared on any online databases, and never will. Information found online carries no guarantee whatsoever that it is accurate, thoroughly researched or properly documented.

The Internet is not a new reason that researchers sometimes collect questionable or undocumented information. False pedigrees, family myths and research errors were a part of genealogy long before the Internet. The difference is that the undocumented information is easily located and duplicated online.

From NGS Conference in Las Vegas

by Ann Staley

At the National Genealogical Society Conference going on in Las Vegas, I had the opportunity to go to a breakfast sponsored by FamilySearch. They provided us with some statistics about their website:

3.2 billion searchable names

429 million indexed records published in 2012

222 cameras are working around the world to capture images

Of the estimated 3.1 billion images they expect to put online, they are 37% complete. They are working to complete it in about 7 years.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 16, 2013

8:00 - 9:00 pm

Webinar

<http://www.flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=220>

Registration Limited to 100 attendees!!!

Speaker: Amy Larner Giroux, CG, CGL

Topic: Cemetery Research: A City of Stones

Amy is a member of our Society and has presented this fantastic presentation to us before. Here is another chance to see it.

Saturday, May 18, 2013

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Bay County Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting

Bay County Public Library

Speaker: Mike Cross

898 W. 11th Street, Panama City, Florida 32401

Topic: *What is Find-A-Grave?*

Find A Grave is becoming one of the most valuable online resources available to genealogists. Most of us have used cemetery surveys to help us find our ancestors, but in the past we found these surveys in books which we had to purchase or find in genealogical libraries. In Mike's power point presentation he will show us how today we have the potential to access these surveys about any cemetery - anywhere - anytime through the internet. He will also show us how we can contribute by volunteering, offering corrections, and adding memorials and pictures of our ancestors. His interest in local Bay County Florida cemeteries will also be discussed, and we can find many of our local cemeteries already on Find A Grave.

Free to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Saturday, June 16, 2013

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Bay County Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting

Bay County Public Library

Speaker: Janice Moore Cronan

898 W. 11th Street, Panama City, Florida 32401

Topic: *Honoring My Civil War Ancestor*

If your ancestors were living in the United States between 1820 and 1850 there is an excellent chance that you have more than one American Civil War soldier in your genealogy. It has been estimated of the men who were between the ages of 20 and 40 in 1860, around 50 percent served in the Union Army and 80 percent were Confederate. . All four of my Great-Grandfathers were in the Civil War, and the records that were created because of their service have provided me with information and documentation which I could not have gotten anywhere else. Since this is the 150 year anniversary of the American Civil War, I want to honor my Paternal Great Grandfather by sharing my Civil War research into his life, and the unique way we found his final resting place. There are many websites which are commemorating this time in our American history.

Free to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.

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