



# Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 33, No. 1

January - February 2017

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 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.

## Membership Meeting 18 February 2017

**Speaker:** Chris Bass

**Topic:** *Passing Pictures and Memories on to the Next Generation.*

**Brief Description:** Getting your family photographs ready to pass to the next generation is an enormous task. I will share my experiences on how to start, and give suggestions on how to sort, name, and scan pictures. I will briefly discuss photo restoration using Adobe Photoshop Elements, and give tips on managing your digital media. So, come learn the steps involved in organizing your family photographs and documents so that you can enjoy them now, and have them ready to pass on to the next generation.

**Speaker Bio:** Chris was born in Freeport Illinois. She attended the University of Iowa in Iowa City. She raised her family in Warsaw, Indiana. She moved to Jacksonville, Florida in 2004. Chris was in charge of the Genealogy and Local History Department for the Clay County Public Library for eleven years. She set up the Clay County History Vertical File. She also teaches introductory and intermediate computer classes for the library. She is an avid amateur photographer. She has five grown children, two step-children, fifteen grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. She has numerous pictures of all of them. She is in the process of organizing her family photos.

## Membership Meeting March 2017

--- No Membership Meeting ---

## North Florida Genealogy Conference

[NOTE: this conference replaces the regular March meeting of JGS]

JGS is proud to be one of the sponsoring organizations of the North Florida Genealogy Conference. Teaming up with the Southern Genealogists Exchange Society and the Family History Centers in the area, we have put together a series of conferences which have received very positive feedback and attendance through the years of 200-300 participants. The 2017 Conference promises to be as good as the predecessors. Here are a few highlights of the conference.

Date: Saturday, March 4, 2017. Doors open at 8:00 am for check-in and the opening session is at 8:45 am.

Location: The LDS church located at 461 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park, 32073. This is South of the Orange Park Mall and immediately adjacent to Orange Park High School.

Registration: Online registration and payment is now available online. Cost is still \$25 and includes lunch for those who pre-register.

The website (<https://nfgenealogyconference.org/>) contains registration and much more information about the conference and the schedule of the lectures and presenters. This year there are lectures on Colonial Records, Adoption, Search Strategies, Courthouse Research, and much more. Also, they will be offering one-on-one help in the Family History Center and help with your Brick Wall problems.

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

### **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.

### **New Video Released on Researching Newspapers**

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island (JGSLI), winner of the IAJGS 2015 Outstanding Publication Award for its You Tube Channel, is pleased to announce its latest video, "6 Reasons Newspapers Should be Part of Your Family History Research Plan".

You can access all 25 of their short instructional videos directly from their You Tube Channel at [https://www.youtube.com/chann.../UCUV8xttlN93AwJX2\\_I0AI\\_Aq/feed](https://www.youtube.com/chann.../UCUV8xttlN93AwJX2_I0AI_Aq/feed) or from their website <http://jgsli.org/> If you have any comments or recommendations for other topics, please let them know at [past\\_pres@jgsli.org](mailto:past_pres@jgsli.org)

## **- - SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT DUES and the UPCOMING BYLAWS VOTING - -**

In order to ensure that all members have the opportunity to renew their dues before the vote on the revised bylaws, we have postponed the vote until the February meeting. You must be a member of the society in order to participate in the vote, so please complete the enclosed Membership Application and bring it with you to the January or February meeting with your payment.

### **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 February 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 18 February 2017 meeting so that you will have time to review them and come prepared to discuss and vote.

### **Great Canadian Genealogy Summit**

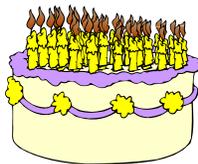
Do you have Canadian Ancestors? You might be interested in The Great Canadian Genealogy Summit to be held 13-15 October 2016, at the Lord Nelson Hotel in Halifax, NS. The press release states that it is "a genealogy conference dedicated to promoting Canadian genealogist and topics relevant to those whose ancestors spent time in Canada."

The topics for 2017 will include:

- Acadian Research
- German-Canadian Research
- Irish Research
- Loyalist Research
- African Nova Scotian Research
- Scottish Research
- Canadian Research

More details, as they become available, can be found at: [www.cangensummit.ca](http://www.cangensummit.ca)

## Happy Birthday



We send a "Happy Birthday" greeting to our members who will be celebrating birthdays in January and February:

Paul Howes	January 3
Sandra Arpen	January 5
Ray Williams	January 13
Eileen Isenhower	January 18
Kathy Balistreri	February 7
Mary Torda	February 23
Joan Peck	February 27

## Preserving Old Documents & Records

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, ([bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com)),  
Reference Librarian, Fort Myers Regional Library; 2450  
First St, Fort Myers, FL 33901, Tel: (239) 533-4626,  
Fax: (239) 485-1160 (BLM 8/15/2016) --- Used with  
permission of the author.

Many patrons come into the library asking what to do with old papers and records that they inherited after the death of a parent or grandparent. Many of these materials were passed down through several previous generations. If the original documents were printed within the last 100 years, they are probably on highly acidic paper. Oils from your hands can also contribute to the decay of papers and documents.

The process of encapsulating each document will normally prevent the acid or oil from spreading to other papers that come into contact with them. Original photographs and documents should never be framed and placed where sunlight can fade and destroy them. Make a color photograph or photocopy of the document or picture to frame. Store the original in a protective sleeve away from light, humidity, and any possible water damage. Documents and photographs should never be stored where the temperature and humidity fluctuate widely.

Lamination was once the method of choice for preservation. Today, encapsulation of items within acid-free sheet protectors has made the preservation process more efficient. Most experts recommend preserving your precious and valuable documents or photographs in this manner versus the old method of lamination. Encapsulation allows the historical item to float freely and can easily be removed when necessary. Lamination, on the other hand, will damage photographs and documents, because the process involves heating and melting a plastic coating over the item. This process is irreversible.

Encapsulation supplies can be obtained through most archival supply companies. Two of the most popular with genealogists, historians, and librarians are Gaylord and Light Impressions.

You may locate these types of companies on the Internet using the keyword search "archival supplies" or consult with the library staff at a local library or repository near your residence.

Many photographers are now active in the restoration and duplication of family photographs, artifacts, and memorabilia. They create negatives of the original so additional copies may be made and shared with others. Distribution of copies of these items can maximize the possibility that some copies of the original photographs will last for future generations. It is also important to purchase a pen or marker that is safe for photographs and label every picture. Note the names of people in the photograph, the date or approximate date, and the occasion.

More than a few genealogists have talked about inheriting boxes of old photographs with no identifiable information. Many people without any genealogical interest end up tossing these items in the garbage or giving them to flea markets and garage sales only to realize their mistake years later when they become interested in genealogy. Our companion handout called Preserving Family Archives will provide more details on this subject.

## Locating Ancestors in United States Serial Set Records

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, ([bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com)),  
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First St, Fort Myers, FL 33901, Tel: (239) 533-4626, Fax:  
(239) 485-1160 (BLM 8/16/2016) --- Used with permission of  
the author.

Genealogists who discover ancestors involved in activities that coincided with interests of the United States government should consult the United States Serial Set. Publication of the Serial Set began with the 15th Congress, 1st Session (1817). The Serial Set contains House and Senate Documents and House and Senate Reports dating from 1789 through 1969.

The reports are usually from congressional committees dealing with proposed legislation and issues under investigation. The documents also include other papers ordered printed by the House or Senate. Documents cover a wide variety of topics and may include reports of executive departments and independent organizations, reports of special investigations made for Congress, and annual reports of non-governmental organizations. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, executive-branch materials were also included.

Women, African Americans, Native Americans, students, soldiers and sailors, pensioners, landowners, and inventors are all represented in the various records. The key factor that determines the likelihood of finding your ancestor in these records is their interactions with federal departments, the

military, or life events that involved some contact with a federal jurisdiction.

In the post-Revolutionary War (1789-1820), printing of congressional documents had been haphazard, and the Serial Set was an effort designed to rectify that situation. In 1831, the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House ordered the publication of many early congressional and related federal documents. A total of 6,278 documents were published in 38 volumes between 1832 and 1861. In print format, the Serial Set is also known as the American State Papers. Because it was a retrospective effort, these 38 volumes were arranged chronologically within 10 subject areas: Foreign Relations, Indian Affairs, Finance, Commerce & Navigation, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, Post Office, Public Lands, Claims, and Miscellaneous.

Important genealogical information may include: 1) Information concerning land claims, especially those related to bounty grants for service to the government as well as to contested lands once under the jurisdiction of another nation; 2) Lists of names and addresses for individuals who applied for patents and documentation related to the inventions; 3) Lists of army and navy pensioners including their rank, place of residence; and amount of pension; 4) individual claims for damages after military conflicts (such as the Civil War) or other incidents involving federal personnel; 5) Personnel information for non-governmental agencies and other private entities that provided outside services.

The Heritage Quest database, available through many public libraries, offers free access to this information. The best comprehensive print index is the Congressional Information Service's (CIS) *U.S. Serial Set Index*, produced in conjunction with their microfilming of the volumes through 1969 beginning in the mid-1970s. In this index, a two-volume subject index covers groups of Congresses, with a third volume providing an index to individual names for relief actions, as well as a complete numerical list in each report/document category.

## Other Bits of Information

Please keep all of our members and their families who are ill in your prayers. We hope they continue to improve to good health. Please let us know of any members or family members you know of who are ill.

We here in Florida are vulnerable to hurricanes. How safe are your "valuables". Do you have an evacuation plan? What would you take with you? Have you backed up your computer? Do you have copies of your photographs? Make your plans now so that you will be ready if disaster should hit here.

## "Using Your Research" Publications and Websites

- Beach, Mark. *Editing Your Newsletter: A Guide to Writing, Design and Production*. Portland, OR: Coast to Coast Books, 1982.
- Braun, Bev Kirschner. *Crafting Your Own Heritage Album*. Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2000.
- Brown, Vandella. *Celebrating the Family: Steps to Planning a Family Reunion*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Inc., 1991.
- LifeStory Productions, Inc. "Heritage Collector System." (<http://www.myheritagecollector.com> : accessed 7 Jan 2017) [The Standard Version is free.]
- Morgan, George G. *Your Family Reunion: How to Plan it, Organize it, and Enjoy it*. Orem, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 2001.
- Slan, Joanna Campbell. *Scrapbook Storytelling: Save family stories and memories with photos, journaling and your own creativity*. No place: EFG, Inc. - The Elaine Floyd Group, 1999.
- Smith, Drew. *Social Networking for Genealogists*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2009.
- The Jefferson Project. "Passage Express Multimedia Presentation Software." (<http://www.passageexpress.com/index.php> : accessed 7 Jan 2017) [Software to organize, present and share your work with others.]
- Yahoo.com. "flickr" (<https://www.flickr.com> : accessed 7 Jan 2017) [Online storage and sharing for photographs. Upload and organize. Some capability to crop, fix, and edit photographs.]

## Newsletter Information Needed

Have you found the most wonderful genealogy website? Did you go on an exciting genealogy research trip? Did you discover a "cousin" you didn't know you had? Have you been "under the weather"? Did you discover a new resource (a library, archive, national park, etc.)? Have you read a good "how to" book that you would recommend? If you answered "Yes" to any (or all) of the above, we would like to hear from you! The Society Editor needs your submission to the newsletter to make it truly your Newsletter.

We are looking for articles (can be as short as a paragraph) concerning genealogy news. Suggestions on how the newsletter could be improved are also welcomed. Articles can be submitted via email to [info@jaxgen.org](mailto:info@jaxgen.org) or via postal mail to Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc., PO Box 60756, Jacksonville, FL 32236-0756.

## Upcoming Events

### Saturday, January 14, 2017

Time: 10:00 am-12:30 pm

Speaker: Michael A. Ports

Topic: Georgia County Court Records.

He will discuss the information you can find in various court records and how to interpret them. Mr. Ports enjoys transcribing court records and is the author of a number of books.

Meetings are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served after the meeting.

### The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society

Mandarin Regional Library, 3330 Kori Rd, Jacksonville, 32257

### Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

Speaker: Dickie Anderson

Topic: Dickie Anderson - *Great Houses of Fernandina – Architectural Masterpieces from Amelia Island's Golden Age*

Features several residences in the Fernandina Beach historic district and the histories of the families who built and lived in them.

Meetings are free and open to the public.

### Amelia Island Genealogical Society

Fernandina Beach Branch Library, Community Room, 25 N 4<sup>th</sup> St., Fernandina Beach

### Thursday, January 19, 2017

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Speaker: George G. Morgan – *Dissecting Obituaries for New Clues*

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.

Obituaries are miniature biographies for the deceased. The writers were compelled to compress as much information into a small amount of text. Your job is to carefully analyze the content of the death notice, obituary, and/or funeral notice and look for clues.

This webinar presents a methodology for dissecting an obituary, determining what information is provided or inferred, identifying record types that may be available, where those records are located, and how to access them.

### FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar

Online Webinar

### Thursday, January 26, 2017

9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Fritz Juengling

Topic: Building Your German Research Skills

*German Name Origins, Meanings and Distribution*

*Historical Events That Affect German Genealogical Research*

*Beyond the Obvious Reasons: Practical and Social Decisions for Emigration to America*

*Open Q&A" for questions submitted in writing before or during the program*

Registration: Members: \$35; Non-Members \$40. Lunch included.

For more Information: Joanne Ryder - [ryder.joanne@gmail.com](mailto:ryder.joanne@gmail.com) or 941-625-6443

[www.SWFLGG.org](http://www.SWFLGG.org)

### Southwest Florida Germanic Genealogy Society

24 Twenty-One Event Center - 2421 Tamiami Trail - Port Charlotte, FL

### Saturday, January 28, 2017

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Speaker: George G. Morgan [aha@ahaseminars.com](mailto:aha@ahaseminars.com)

Topics: *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](mailto:ancestry@gensocofpbc.org), 561-616-3455

Seating is limited

### Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County Winter Program 2017

Embassy Suites, 1601 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach

**Saturday, February 11, 2017**

Time: 10:00 am-12:30 pm

Speaker: Marie Santry

Topic: Who's the Daddy?

As Genealogists, we often come across misinformation that we have to sort out. That misinformation may even come in the form of a birth certificate, which genealogists accept as primary evidence of the child's parentage. In 25-years of genealogical research, I have been misled by this primary evidence more than once. This program is a case-study of one such instance and demonstrates how the speaker came to determine the truth and answered the question "Who's the Daddy."

Meetings are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served after the meeting.

**The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society**

Mandarin Branch Library, 3330 Kori Rd, Jacksonville, 32257

**Saturday, February 18, 2017**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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.

**Florida Chapter, Ohio Genealogical Society - Annual Conference**

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

**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Speaker: Lisa Louise Cooke [www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com)Topics: *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](mailto:pgsfla@yahoo.com); <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flpgs/index.htm>**Pinellas Genealogy Society Annual Seminar**

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

**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Speaker: Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL

Topics: *Finding the Law**Where There Is – or Isn't – a Will**NARA Mythbusters: Your Family IS in the Archives**How Old Did He Have To Be...?*

This conference is presented by the Indian River Genealogical Society, Brevard Genealogical Society, Genealogical Society of South Brevard and Treasure Coast Genealogical Society

More information and registration form: <http://irgs.org/cpage.php?pt=191>

**2017 Valentine Genealogy Seminar**

First Presbyterian Church, 520 Royal Palm Boulevard, Vero Beach, Florida

**Saturday, March 4, 2017**

8:45 am - 4:00 pm

See flyer in this newsletter

\$25 and includes lunch for those who pre-register.

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual North Florida Genealogy Conference**

LDS Church, 461 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park, 32073

7<sup>th</sup> Annual North Florida Genealogy Conference – 4 March 2017 – Orange Park, FL – 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

NF Genealogy Conference                      Select 1 Class per Hour                      March 4, 2017

Time	Hour	Class Topic	Instructor
08:45	Keynote	What's Happening NOW in Family History Research	James Tanner
09:45	A1	What's in that Pile? Organization for the Disorganized Genealogist	James Tanner
	B1	Finding your Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestor	Debbie Duay
	C1	Tour of Online European Archives	Miles Meyer
	D1	19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Century US Employment Records	Marlene Thomas
	E1	The Written Word for Genealogists: books, periodicals, ...	Lori Miranda
	F1	Ancestry/Family Search 1:1 Tutorials (limit 6 per hour)	
	G1	*Pre-scheduled 20* Help Desk Appointments	
11:00	A2	Critically Examining Wills for Genealogy	James Tanner
	B2	Documenting Lineages before the 1850 Census	Debbie Duay
	C2	Social Media as a Genealogy Research Tool	Miles Meyer
	D2	A Chronological Model for US American Research	Julia L Schacht
	E2	Let me Weave you a Story about Family Patterns and Synchronicity	Lori Miranda
	F2	Ancestry/Family Search 1:1 Tutorials (limit 6 per hour)	
	G2	*Pre-scheduled 20* Help Desk Appointments	
01:15	A3	The Future of Memories: Impact of the Digital Age on Family History	Denise Olsen
	B3	Debbie's "Secret" Search Strategies	Debbie Duay
	C3	Mapping your Roots	Miles Meyer
	D3	Cracking Adoption Cases	Julia L Schacht
	E3	Hatched, Matched, & Dispatched: Vital Record Research	Ann Staley
	F3	Ancestry/Family Search 1:1 Tutorials (limit 6 per hour)	
	G3	*Pre-scheduled 20* Help Desk Appointments	
02:30	A4	Digital Storytelling: The Living Book of the Dead	Denise Olsen
	B4	Researching Colonial Ancestors: America & Back to the British Isles	Denise Mortorff
	C4	The Ancestry Card Catalog: A Treasure Hidden in Plain Sight	Melody Porter
	D4	The Joy of Surnames: Can One-Name Studies Help you?	Paul Howes
	E4	Land, Licenses, Love Gone Wrong, and other Courthouse Records	Ann Staley
	F4	Ancestry/Family Search 1:1 Tutorials (limit 6 per hour)	
	G4	Q&A Session with Debbie Duay for DAR Registrars	Debbie Duay
03:45	A5	The Anatomy of a Court Case for Genealogists	James Tanner
	B5	Apprenticeship – Becoming Craftsmen, Tradesmen, Freemen	Denise Mortorff
	C5	Census First	Melody Porter
	D5	Irish Genealogy from your Armchair: Online Resources	Paul Howes
	E5	The Minorcans: East Florid's Constant Citizens for 250 Years	Linda Ellwood
	F5	Ancestry/Family Search 1:1 Tutorials (limit 6 per hour)	
	G5	*Pre-scheduled 20* Help Desk Appointments	

\*To register for the Brick Wall Help Desk, click the link below, and submit your problem by Feb 20<sup>th</sup> :  
[nfgenealogyconference.org](http://nfgenealogyconference.org)

Advance registration costs \$25 and closes March 2. Same day registration costs \$30 at the door.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Register on Eventbrite or by mailing this form and a \$25 Check or money order to:

North Florida Genealogy Conference 125 Paso Fino Trail Palatka, FL 32177-8738



**HAVE A HAPPY  
AND SAFE  
NEW YEAR**

Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.

P. O. Box 60756

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