



# Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 33, No. 2

March - April 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

March 2017

--- No Membership Meeting ---

### Membership Meeting

15 April 2017

**Speaker:** C. Ann Staley, CG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup>

**Topic:** *The Everyday Life of Our Ancestors*

**Brief description:** Our ancestors lived life between those dashes on their gravestone. Using our life as an example, how can we parallel it to theirs? They ate and drank, married and had families, dressed, had trades and occupations, practiced a religion, dabbled in the arts and sciences, participated in politics and economics, etc. This lecture will examine the various aspects of life and provide resources to discover the historical context and personal details of our ancestors' lives. A case study will be presented.

**Speaker Bio:** Ann is an instructor, consultant, trip leader and lecturer. She is the Education Chairman for JGS; the Secretary of the Genealogical Speakers Guild; on the faculty of The National Institute for Genealogical Studies; and a Trustee of the Florida State Genealogical Society. She is the compiler of the *Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc. Quarterly Full Name Index, Volumes 1 through 4, 1973 through 1976*, the author of several articles for the *NGS Magazine*, and the co-author of the *NGS Research in the States Series-Florida*.

## Society Bylaws

The revised society bylaws were adopted at the February meeting! **Thank you** to all of the members who attended and voted on this very important issue.

## North Florida Genealogy Conference

On March 4, 2017, JGS was pleased to be a co-sponsor of the 7<sup>th</sup> annual North Florida Genealogy Conference. Other co-sponsors included the Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society, the Amelia Island Genealogical Society, the St. Augustine Genealogical Society, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The day-long conference featured 12 speakers who offered a wonderful range of 25 different presentations from which to choose.

The main hall had tables with displays by the local societies along with several vendors who brought their wares to show and sell. Our table had a steady flow of visitors, and we were excited to share information about our group with a large number of new friends. We had 25 people who signed up asking us to notify them of future meetings. It is wonderful to have that many new people show an interest in being a part of our society!

A very substantial and tasty lunch was served, and the lunch hour allowed attendees to visit with others who share their passion for genealogy. Thanks to the hard work of our own Ann Staley, a large number of very nice door prizes were awarded. JGS contributed to the general door prizes, but we also had our own drawing for one special prize which was a free download of Family Tree Maker.

There are an untold number of genealogy conferences held in the United States each year, but for many of us, time constraints and financial resources do not allow us to attend. We are so fortunate to have this wonderful annual conference held here. It has grown each year, with 288 being in attendance this year. Were you there? If not, you missed a real treat! Make plans to be a part of this great local resource next year!

## 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.

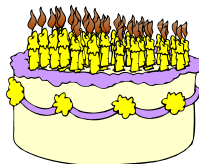
## Introduction to Genealogy Class

The four-session "Introduction to Genealogy" Class, featuring research resources in the U.S. will be held at the Bartram Trail Branch Library, 60 Davis Pond Blvd, Fruit Cove, FL 32259, on April 1, 8, 22, and 29, 2017.

This class is for the beginner researcher and the experienced researcher looking for a refresher course. Subjects include Back to Basics; Research Documentation; Sources-What are they?; Dates, Places & Relationships; Use of Vital, Court, and Church Records; and more. See the flyer on page 6 for more information, including how to register.

## Happy Birthday

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



Connie Coward	March 10
Valerie Barney	March 14
Mary McCool	March 17
Pauline Holyfield	March 24
Grace Moran	April 4
Norma LeVey	April 9
Cheryl Leilani Smith	April 20
Richard Rousseau	April 21
Kathleen Krizek	April 23
Brenda Brubeck	April 30

## US Virgin Islands Research

The Danish National Archives has established a website – Danish West Indies – Sources of History – that provides about 5 million images of original documents across the databases of the Danish National Archives. The website is free and is located at <https://www.virgin-islands-history.org/en/search-the-records/>

## British Newspaper Archive

The British Newspaper Archive, accessed by subscription, has over 18 million pages of online content – all searchable. A limited search is free and there is a free trial available. See <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

## Historic Dublin Photographs

Photographs from the 1930s to the 1990s can be seen at the Historic Dublin Photographs website; access is free. The site has about 43,000 images. See <http://digital.libraries.dublincity.ie/vital/access/manager/Index>

## “17 Years of Research Being Flushed Down the Toilet”

This title belongs to an article by The Ancestry Insider. It is a response to an email he received wherein the author was concerned about the fate of his genealogy when “I am incapable of maintaining my trees.”

The response provides much for us to ponder and many resources for help, including FamilySearch and Ancestry. However, the comments provided by the readers are even more interesting and provide many more resources including Allen County Public Library, WikiTree, Tribal Pages, Guild of One Name Studies, and more. The complete article can be found at <http://www.ancestryinsider.org/2017/03/17-years-of-research-being-flushed-down.html>

## Irish-American Heritage Month

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 3/3/2017) --- Used with permission of  
the author.

March has unofficially been considered to be Irish American Heritage Month, for quite sometime depending on the source of information. This celebration has always coincided with the

celebration of Saint Patrick's Day which for Catholics and some Protestants is a religious holiday in honor of the introduction of Christianity to Ireland in the early fifth century.

In the United States it has developed into a celebration of all the achievements and customs of the Irish. The Charitable Irish Society of Boston organized the first observance of Saint Patrick's Day in on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1737. For more information on this society please visit <http://www.charitableirishsociety.org/>. This first celebration was not Catholic in nature, since early Irish immigration to the colonies was dominated by Protestants. The society's purpose in gathering was simply to honor its Ireland. While the society continued to meet annually to coordinate charitable works for the Irish community in Boston, they did not meet on 17 March again until 1794. During the observance of the day, individuals attended a worship service followed by a dinner.

New York's first Saint Patrick's Day observance was similar to that of Boston. It was held on 17 March 1762 in the home of John Marshall, an Irish Protestant, featuring Irish soldiers serving in the British military protecting the Colonies during the French and Indian War. These informal gatherings soon became the norm and greatly increased in scope and popularity.

The first recorded parade in New York was by Irish soldiers in the British Army in 1766. The first documented St. Patrick's Day Celebration in Philadelphia was held in 1771. Philadelphia's Friendly Sons of St. Patrick <http://www.friendlysons.com/> was found to honor St. Patrick and to provide relief to Irish immigrants in the city.

Irish Americans have celebrated St. Patrick's Day in Philadelphia since their arrival in America. George Washington, a member of Philadelphia's Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, actively encouraged Irish American patriots to join the Continental Army. In 1780, while camped in Morristown, New Jersey, General Washington allowed his troops a holiday on 17 March "as an act of solidarity with the Irish in their fight for independence. This event became known as The Saint Patrick's Day Encampment of 1780.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman, of Scottish descent, attended the New York Saint Patrick's Day Parade and gave a speech to attendees. This was a proud moment for the many Irish whose ancestors had to fight stereotypes and prejudice to find acceptance in the United States. In 1960 John F. Kennedy was elected as the first Irish American Catholic President; in 1961 he was in New York to review the Saint Patrick's Day Parade. In 1991, President George H.W. Bush issued a formal proclamation honoring the date. On February 29, 2016 President Obama made it official with a Presidential Proclamation.

As of the 2010 United States census, close to 40 million U.S. residents claim some level of Irish ancestry. This number is almost nine times the population of Ireland itself (slightly more than 4 million). Irish is the nation's second most frequently reported ancestry, trailing only German.

## **“Probate – Estate Records” Publications and Websites**

- Carter, Fran. *Searching American Probate Records*. Bountiful, UT: American Genealogical Lending Library, 1993
- Hornbeck, Shirley. “Probate Records and Wills.” *This and That Genealogy Tips*  
<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~hornbeck/probate.htm>
- Ingle, Cyndi. “Wills & Probate.” *Cyndi's List*  
<http://www.cyndislist.com/wills>
- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. “Skillbuilding: Analyzing Wills for Useful Clues (May 1995).” *Board for Certification of Genealogists*  
<http://www.bcgcertification.org/skillbuilders/skbl955.htm>
- Powell, Kimberly. “Probing into Probate Records: How to Use Wills and Estate Records to Uncover Your Ancestors.” *About.com*  
<http://genealogy.about.com/cs/wills/a/probate.htm>
- Smith, Kenneth L. *Estate Inventories: How to Use Them*. Columbus, OH: Privately printed, 1984
- “Wills and Probate.” *About.com*  
<http://genealogy.about.com/od/wills>
- “Wills & Probate.” *GenealogyToday*  
[http://dir.genealogytoday.com/wills\\_n\\_probate.html](http://dir.genealogytoday.com/wills_n_probate.html)  
[Links to many resources and databases.]

## **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

**Thursday, March 15, 2017**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Charlotte County Genealogical Society, Inc. Seminar**

24 TwentyOne Event Center, 2421 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL

Speaker: Maureen Taylor – *Using Family Photos in Genealogy Research (3 lectures)*

Registration: \$35 for CCGSI members / \$40 for non-members. Includes Lunch

Ms Taylor will offer one on one photo consultations by appointment only, before and after the seminar. Attendees may schedule 15 minutes with Maureen to review 3 photos at a cost of \$40. Registration form found at [www.ccgisi.org](http://www.ccgisi.org). Advanced registration required by March 10, 2017

More information: Julia McIntyre, [julia.mcintyre@gmail.com](mailto:julia.mcintyre@gmail.com), 941 564-9808,

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flmgs/>

**Thursday, March 16, 2017**

8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar**

Online Webinar

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.

**Saturday, March 18, 2017**

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

**2017 Indian River Genealogy Conference**

3980 12th St, Vero Beach, FL

Speakers: Over 15 Genealogy "How To" Lectures by Local Experts

Exhibit Hall with displays by: IRGS Genealogy Interest Groups, Lineage Societies, and the Archive Center and Genealogy Department of the Indian River County Main Library and more!

Personal Research Help in the Family History Center

FREE! (bring your own lunch)

Look for more information on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/irgconf](http://www.facebook.com/irgconf)

**Tuesday, March 21, 2017**

Time: 7:00 pm

**Amelia Island Genealogical Society**

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

Speaker: Jim Vearil

Topic: *The Patriot War in Spanish East Florida*

The Patriot War in 1812-14 took place in Spanish East Florida which included St. Augustine, Amelia Island, and what is now Jacksonville. This program will provide a history of the Patriot War and illustrate how to find and use records from this period in family history research.

Meetings are free and open to the public.

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**

Time: 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

**Florida State Genealogical Society 2017 Spring Virtual Conference**

Online

Speakers: Lisa Louise Cooke – **Update: Google! Everything New That You Need to Know for Genealogy**

Donna Moughty – **Finding the Women in Your Family Tree**

Ginger R Smith, MLS – **How to Use Gedmatch.com to Optimize Your DNA Testing Experience**

Victor S Dunn, CG – **Deed Books: More Than Just Land Records**

Mary Kircher Roddy - **FamilyBrowse: Finding Unindexed Records on FamilySearch**

View "live" or attend via recording up to 2 weeks after the conference.

Members: \$35.00 Non-Members: \$40.00

For more information and registration see <http://flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=268>

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**

Time: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Speaker: Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D. ([www.thegeneticgenealogist.com](http://www.thegeneticgenealogist.com))

Topics: (1) Begging for Spit

(2) Using Autosomal DNA for 18th and 19th Century Mysteries

(3) Using Third-Party Tools to Analyze Your Autosomal DNA

(4) The Science Fiction Future of Genetic Genealogy

Fee: Before March 14th \$40 for BCGS members (lunch included), \$45 for non-members (lunch included); \$50 if register after March 14th 2017 (no lunch included)

More information: [BCGSSeminarInfo@gmail.com](mailto:BCGSSeminarInfo@gmail.com)<http://www.northwestfloridagenealogy.com/bcgs/index>**Bay County Genealogical Society Spring Seminar**

Forest Park United Methodist Church, 1401 West 23rd Street, Panama City, FL 32405

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**

Time: 11:00 am to 2:30 pm

Speaker: Mary Eberle with Thomas MacEntee as host

Topics: (1) Introduction to Using DNA for Genealogy Research

(2) Using Autosomal DNA for Genealogy Research

Fee: Before March 20, 2017 \$19.99; after that date \$25.99 – space is limited

More information: <http://hackgenealogy.com/getting-started-dna-genealogy-boot-camp-saturday-25-march-2017/>**Getting Started with DNA and Genealogy Boot Camp**

Online

**Saturday, April 8, 2017**

Time: 10:00 am-12:30 pm

Speaker: Michael A. Ports

Topic: *Franklin Robert Thomas (1834 - 1922) - A Case Study in Climbing Over Southern Brick Walls*

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

**Thursday, April 13, 2017**

Time: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Speaker: Jim Lannin

Topic: *Practical DNA for Genealogy*

For more information: Bernardette Zappala 386-672-3806

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flhgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flhgs)**Halifax Genealogical Society**

Ormond Beach Library 30 South Beach St Ormond Beach FL

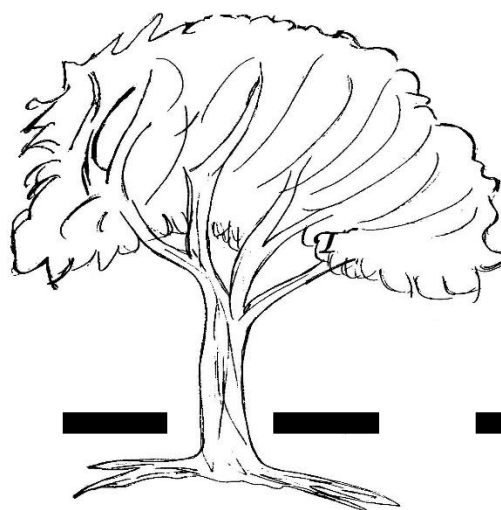
**Thursday, April 20, 2017**

Time: 2:00 pm

Speakers: Clyde and Kathy Stickney

Topic: *Establishing Genealogical Relationships Prior to 1880 Census*More information: Joel Seanson, [president@mcsocala.org](mailto:president@mcsocala.org), 352-897-0840<http://www.mcsocala.org/>**Marion County Genealogical Society**

Marion County Library, 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, FL



# ***Researching in a Straight Line - - - Backwards***

Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc. (JGS) (<http://jaxgen.org>) will be holding a Four-session *Introduction to Genealogy* Class, featuring research resources in the U.S. It will be held from 10:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Bartram Trail Branch Library, 60 Davis Pond Blvd, Fruit Cove, FL 32259, on the following Saturdays:

April 1, 8, 22, and 29, 2017

This class is for the beginner researcher and the experienced researcher looking for a refresher course. Subjects include: Back to Basics; Research Documentation; Sources-What are they?; Dates, Places & Relationships; Use of Vital, Court, and Church Records; Timelines; Handwriting; Census Evidence Analysis; and much more. Certificates of Completion will be given to those persons who attend three of the four class dates.

Free parking is available at the Library and there is no charge for the class.

## Registration Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

*Register online: send an email to  
[info@jaxgen.org](mailto:info@jaxgen.org)  
Include your name, address, and phone  
number.*

*Or mail this registration form to:  
Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.,  
P. O. Box 60756  
Jacksonville, FL 32205-0756*





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