



Jacksonville Genealogical Society

Vol. 37, No. 2

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.

March-April 2021

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

Join Us!

Due to the ongoing concerns regarding COVID-19, the JGS Board has decided that the meetings for 2021 will be held virtually until it is safe to return to in-house meetings. Members are strongly encouraged to attend and visitors are always welcome. Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Membership Meeting 20 Mar 2021

Speaker: The Membership

Topic: *Membership Show and Tell*

Did you miss it? It was a good one!

The following members discussed and provided information on their particular ancestors and stories:

- Georgeann Engel – A letter from my great-grandmother in an unusual place
- Margaret M. Nicholson – Family Secret?
- Carol Norman – Why her ancestor came to the US
- Paige Cummins aka “Cousin Paige” – A Family’s story of restoration using Ancestry DNA
- Ann Staley – Ring and bowl heirlooms
- Amy Giroux – My Grandmother’s Salt and Pepper Shakers Collection

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.

Membership Meeting

17 Apr 2021

--- Virtual Meeting ---

Speaker: Peggy Jude

Topic: *DNA Clustering – What is it and How to Do It*

Please register for the presentation at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/562749154573629964>

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



Brief Description: Grouping your DNA matches into clusters allows for brick wall breakthroughs. Learn how to develop clusters and the various tools available to help with the process.

Speaker Bio: Peggy is a speaker, educator, and researcher who has been conducting genealogical research for her family and clients for over 40 years. She has conducted extensive research on her family in the Midwest, Sweden, and Scotland. She specializes and teaches in five areas of genealogical interest: DNA, Genealogical Methods and Records, Swedish Genealogy, Genealogical Technology, and Preserving Family History and Family Heirlooms. Peggy serves as the VP, Projects and member of the board of the Manatee Genealogical Society (FL). She leads both the DNA and the Technology for Genealogy Special Interest Groups for her local society. She holds a BS in Zoology from Iowa State University and an MBA from the University of Michigan. Following a successful career as a Global Human Resources Executive, she opened her genealogical business centered on the west coast of Florida. Peggy is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a graduate of ProGen, and an alumnus of multiple advanced genealogical institutes.

Gift of Membership

Necrology

We are sorry to hear about the death of Charlene Hopton's husband. He passed away on 17 Dec 2020. We extend our sympathies to Charlene and her family.

2021 Dues

It's That Time Again!

JGS Membership Chair - Brenda Oneil

As we are now into our second year of COVID-19 – and still unable to have in-person meetings – JGS is continuing to hold Monthly Webinar Meetings on the third Saturday of each month, at our regular meeting time at 1:30 p.m.

Georgeann Engle, our Program Chair, is doing a fantastic job finding speakers and setting up these Webinars. We have had a program of speakers who tantalize our genealogy interest, as well as teach us new and old research ideas and methods. These Webinars are a treasure trove of information, and most importantly are being presented to you for free.

As we depend on membership monies to help pay our Webinar speakers, your membership fee is our primary income. We want to be able to continue to bring these to you free as long as we have the funds to do so. If you have forgotten to renew your membership, or you have seen one of our Webinars and have not yet become a member, please consider doing so. We also invite you to give a membership as a gift to your friends and family members, or a memorial gift for a loved one.

Please mail your membership fee of \$25.00 with the enclosed membership application to PO Box 440488, (full address is on the application form). We currently are unable to receive any other type of payment but will keep you posted if that changes.

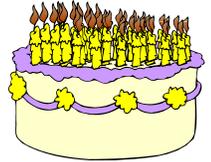
We are reaching out to you to help us to be able to continue to provide speakers for you who excite and encourage us in our quest in learning about our family.

Thank you for your immediate attention to our request.

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 checkbox for your convenience.

Happy Birthday

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



Valerie Bennett	18 March
Pauline Holyfield	24 March
Elizabeth Leighty	7 April
Diana L Mallinson Dreher	7 April
Norma LeVey	9 April
LeAnn Morse	25 April

If anyone was omitted, we apologize and wish you a wonderful day of celebration. Please let us know so we can include you in the future.

Wishes for Improved Health Issues

We are sending best wishes for a speedy recovery to Ivy Phillips, Deannie McVeigh, and Barbara Crissman. They are having some issues and we are praying for your return to good health.

RootsTech Connect 2021

Did you get the chance to see any of RootsTech events and lectures? There are over 1,000 sessions in eight different tracks to explore at your leisure. The virtual and free conference recordings will be online until the end of the year and can be found at:

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/rtc2021/home>

New Free Historical Records on FamilySearch

FamilySearch announced on 31 March 2021 the latest Free Historical Records to be placed on the

FamilySearch website. On the website, you can now search "over 8 billion names and record images" for free. To search: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

To read about the latest records – which are too numerous to list here – go to <https://media.familysearch.org/new-free-historical-records-on-familysearch-week-of-29-march-2021/>

Bi-Weekly Tip – The Undervalued Taxman

By Riverton (Utah) FamilySearch Library
3740 West Market Center Drive

Riverton, Utah 84065-8026 - Phone: 801-240-9601

Copied from "Tip of the Week" 7 Feb 2021

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Riverton_FamilySearch_Library

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

Tax records for personal property and land are among the most overlooked, least-utilized records...and yet, they can contain valuable information when looking for elusive ancestors.

Why use tax records to find missing ancestors?

Do you want to know where & when ancestors lived, who their neighbors were (because they were often related), or if their sons might have gone to work outside the home? Tax records can help & they often pre-date census records to fill in gaps.

Who paid taxes?

Poll or head taxes were assessed on males at age 21, and in some places, as early as age 13. Women were taxed if their husbands died & left them a cow or horse. If she is on a tax roll, her husband probably died within the past year and you can look for a will and/or death record. You can also estimate that she would re-marry within a year.

Where can I find tax records?

FamilySearch & Ancestry have some tax records, but if you don't find them there, go to the local county courthouse because many records have not yet been digitized.

And finally...when the courthouse burned down, and they often did, tax records were the first to be restored (of course) and that is great news for researchers.

When you add sources, pictures, and stories to your family tree, consider the people two

generations down the road. Will it make sense to them? Are the pictures you add titled and tagged to everyone in the picture so there is no question who is there? Do your stories have the name of the person in the title? Are your sources more than "because I said so"?

Remember that you are telling life stories of your ancestors...not just collecting facts. Your life couldn't be wrapped up in three or four facts and neither can your ancestors', so go after all the sources you can find and post them. Remember that genealogy without sources is mythology.

Celebrate Spring with Free Birth Records on MyHeritage

On the MyHeritage Blog, it was announced on 6 April 2021 that there will be a week-long free access to the birth records in "115 collections containing a total of 1,144,541,613 individual records from all over the world." The free week is 18-24 April 2021.

For full access to the records see the details at <https://blog.myheritage.com/2021/04/celebrate-spring-with-free-birth-records-on-myheritage/>

Family History Library Classes and Webinars

Have you visited the FamilySearch Classes and Webinars website recently? They recently posted the online classes for April, May, and June 2021. The webinars are provided via Zoom and most are recorded and can be watched at a later date. The classes cover just about every topic and country. Check it out and register at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars#Past_Webinars_.26_Handouts

National Archives YouTube Channel

Back in January 2012, the National Archives started placing "Know Your Records" videos on the National Archives YouTube Channel.

Didn't know they have a YouTube Channel? <https://www.youtube.com/c/USNationalArchives/featured> will get you to this wonderful resource.

Under the tab "Videos" you will find video shorts covering "the creation, scope, content, and use of National Archives records for genealogical research." Under the "Playlists" tab you will find the links to the past NARA Virtual Genealogy fairs.

Taking Clues and Converting Them to Usable Sources

By Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS, (bmulcahy@leegov.com),
Reference Librarian, Fort Myers Regional Library;
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Tel: (239) 533-4626,
(BLM 2/1/2021) Used with permission of the author.

Clues are an important component of genealogical research. From a genealogy perspective, clues encompass any piece of evidence that may serve as a guide to the solution of a family mystery or confirm the accuracy of information. Clues often help identify additional potential sources for further research. Once confirmed, the information can be added to the body of research being compiled on an individual or family. When examining clues, here are five points to remember:

1. Clues are crucial for successful research.
2. Clues must be analyzed for accuracy.
3. Clues have potential for good and bad.
 - a. The good news is that in most cases, even if further research shows some inaccuracies, the information was close enough to be useful for research purposes.
 - b. Researchers must be cautious because some clues may have been planted by family members or others to deceive future generations from finding the truth about an individual, family, or event.
 - c. As people age it is inevitable that dates and facts may be confused.

Clues may be discovered in a wide variety of sources. The most common examples include the following:

1. Diaries, journals, and photograph albums
2. Documents such as census, court, and land records
3. Family tradition and heirlooms
4. Indexes, citations, and footnotes located inside published genealogy reference books (print and online)
5. Online research websites like Ancestry and Family Search
6. Published genealogies (print, online, including those with informational forms such as family group sheets, pedigree charts, etc.)

Once you discover clues, the next step is to follow up and investigate the facts for accuracy. Here are some recommended techniques to follow:

1. Try to obtain original copies of sources mentioned in footnotes and citations.
2. Locate the indexed entries and read the surrounding text for accuracy and context.
3. Take the time to study any documents in their entirety to determine the context.
4. Be sure to have an older genealogy and legal terminology handbook with you to determine the proper historical meaning and context of terminology.
5. If the names of other genealogists are mentioned as having been involved in researching the family, individual, or event, try to contact them to compare findings and experiences.
6. Consult with other genealogists in your local society. They might be searching in the same area or have encountered some of the same roadblocks or challenges.

What Are You Missing Out On?

Stay for a while after our general online meetings and find out. We have been encouraging those attending to stay on and join in our "gab-fest". After the 16 Jan meeting, the question of German research came up.

Georgeann noted that she uses DeepL, a translator website. <https://www.deepl.com/en/translator>
There is a free version; to get the most out of the website there are subscriptions available.

You should also go to the FamilySearch wiki – search for "german wordlist", "german handwriting", etc.

1950 U. S. Federal Census

In the January-February Newsletter, we noted that the records of the 1950 census will be released on 1 Apr 2022. Have you seen what that census looked like? A copy of the form can be found at https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/questionnaires/1950_1.html

And the questions asked? See https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/index_of_questions/1950_population.html

The United States Census Bureau has a really good website on census history at: <https://www.census.gov/history/>

Upcoming Events
With the Covid-19 restrictions still in place,
please contact these groups regarding their schedule.

First Saturday of every month
Time: 10:00 am

DNA Study Group
Murray Hill Library, Jacksonville

Second Saturday of every month
Time: 2:00 pm

Bartram Trail Gen Club at Bartram Trail Branch Library
60 Davis Pond Blvd., Jacksonville, Florida 32259

Second Saturday of each month
Time: 10:00 am-12:30 pm
Website: <https://sgesjax.org/>

The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society
Mandarin Regional Library, 3330 Kori Rd, Jacksonville, 32257

Third Tuesday of each month
Time: 7:00 pm
Website: <https://aigensoc.org/index.php>

Amelia Island Genealogical Society
Fernandina Beach, FL

Third Saturday of each month
Time: 1:00 pm
Website: <https://sagsonline.org/>

St. Augustine Genealogical Society
Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US 1 South, St. Augustine, FL

Sunday or Wednesday each Month

Jewish Genealogy Society of Northeast Florida
Cohen Auditorium, River Garden Hebrew Home, Jacksonville, FL

Website: <https://jgsofneflorida.wordpress.com/>

9 Apr 2021

Fort Myers Regional Library

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Online Webinar

Speaker: Bryan Mulcahy, Librarian

Topic: Evidence Analysis and Genealogical Research

Registration: <https://leelibrary.librarymarket.com/events/evidence-analysis-genealogical-research>

15 Apr 2021

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar

Time: 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Online Webinar

Speaker: Cari Taplin, CG

Topic: *Using PERSI Like A Pro*

This lecture will give the audience a look into Allen County Public Library's PERSI, its history and partnership with Find My Past, tips and techniques for getting the most out of this valuable genealogical resource, and how societies can get involved. We will learn about this valuable and overlooked resource through several mini-case studies.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5734756194032569611>

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

7 May 2021

Fort Myers Regional Library

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 am

Online Webinar

Speaker: Bryan Mulcahy, Librarian

Topic: Tracing Female Ancestors

Registration: <https://leelibrary.librarymarket.com/events/tracing-female-ancestors-0>

27 May 2021

FSGS Poolside Chat Free Webinar

Time: 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Online Webinar

Speaker: Annette Burke Lyttle

Topic: *Probate Records: Wills and a Whole Lot More*

Probate records can be some of the richest genealogical resources. Yes, they can contain wills, but often the best information comes from the other records in the packets—and our ancestors didn't even have to die to make an appearance in a probate action. Learn about how to find probate records online and mine them for genealogical gems.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1261729586984250123>



<https://www.pexels.com/photo/red-purple-and-yellow-tulip-fields-69776/> CC0 License

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