



# *The County Line*

Bay County Genealogical Society Newsletter  
Bay County, Florida

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 1

MARCH 2001

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Berniece Loper

I would like to introduce the society's new *County Line* Editor, Mr. Billy Nale, with Sondra Taylor (a former newsletter editor), Judy Bennett, Mary Ann Buswell, and Diane Stults assisting. Mr. Wallie Waltonen has done a wonderful job for us for quite some time, but had to resign. We are sorry to lose him, and we owe him a great deal of appreciation. Billy is a fairly new member of the society, but a most enthusiastic one. He has "jumped" right in and inspired all of us with his friendliness and new ideas. You will note that there are some new columns in this issue, as Billy has asked other members to please give us their expertise, and help him into his new job. We, as you will note, also have several new board members. It has always been my philosophy that new ideas are generated by the participation of many. That is why our board meetings are open, and anyone is welcome to attend. This is your society, and I simply chair the meetings.

We had a fine Beyond Beginners Workshop last January 20<sup>th</sup> with Dean DeBolt conducting it. He is in charge of Special Collections of the West Florida Archives at the University of West Florida. He is an outstanding speaker, and we had an excellent attendance. Even people new to genealogical research asked if they could come, and felt that they learned a great deal. Again, thanks to our members the word was spread far and wide.

Finally, I would like to mention two upcoming events. The Tallahassee Genealogical Society is presenting their annual seminar the 24<sup>th</sup> of March. The other event is the annual conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Please see the Calendar of Events for more information regarding these events.

*Berniece*

## BEYOND BEGINNERS WORKSHOP

By Diane Stults



**BCGS President Berniece Loper Introduces Dean DeBolt, UWF Librarian for Special Collections and West Florida Archives, as the speaker for the Beyond Beginners Workshop.**

The Bay County Genealogical Society hosted a Beyond Beginners Workshop at Gulf Coast Community College 20 January 2001. Dean DeBolt, Special Collections Librarian at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, was the featured speaker. As archivist and historian, Dean oversees the Special Collections and West Florida Archives, the largest collection of research materials on West Florida and the Gulf Coast in existence. Dean has taught university courses on genealogy and the history of West Florida. Prior to coming to UWF, Dean was University Archivist at the University of Illinois in Springfield.

See **BEYOND BEGINNERS**, Page 2

## BEYOND BEGINNERS

From Page 1

During the two morning sessions Dean discussed Finding Family Papers and Unpublished Sources, as well as Advanced Library Tools and Newspapers. After a break for lunch on the premises, Dean spoke about Genograms and Preserving Family Papers.

Most universities, including UWF, will have a guide to their holdings. By writing a simple letter or e-mail, you can request a copy of the inventory of their collection, and find out whether microfilm or copies are available. Information on the Special Collections Department at UWF is available at: <http://uwf.edu>. UWF also has a number of card catalogs for other libraries.

The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC), an index started by the Library of Congress in 1959, tells whether and where the papers of a certain person or subject are available anywhere in America. Beginning in 1986 the data was entered in an online catalog, RLIN, at: [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov).

Advanced library tools include the American Periodical Series (APS), microfilmed magazines published from 1639 to 1900; various printed indexes to periodicals; Biography and Genealogy Master Index (BMGI), annual biographical offerings; Greenlaw Index (NEHGS), index of citations of family surnames; and the Genealogical Index of the Newberry Library in Chicago, history of American settlements prior to 1900. The BMGI is online at: <http://www.ancestry.com>. If you do not subscribe, you can access [ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) through the computers at our library. Some issues of the NEHGS are available in our genealogy department.

Various newspaper indexes include History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820 by Clarence S. Brigham; American Newspapers, 1821-1936 by H.W. Wilson; Library of Congress, Catalog Division, Newspapers in Microfilm: United States, 1948-1972; and U.S. Newspaper Program: national union list microfilm.

Genograms, similar to pedigree charts, are pictorial representations of three or more generations using squares for males and circles for females. By listing names, birth and death dates, diseases, occupations,

and education of each person, a genogram visually shows family patterns. Medical genograms can be used as counseling tools.

Dean discussed many ways to preserve family artifacts and documents. The basics include removing all metal (staples, paper clips, pins), storing in acid free folders and boxes, putting acid free paper between old, original documents, making copies on acid free paper using a laser printer, making negatives and duplicates of old photos, and storing negatives at low temperature and humidity.

After Dean's presentation, a drawing was held for door prizes of books, CDs, maps, and genealogical charts. Everyone agreed the workshop was a great success, and we all went away with new genealogical research tools.

Detailed articles on sources mentioned in this article will appear in future issues of the County Line.

## Bay County Genealogical Society Board of Directors For 2001

Following are your Board of Directors for 2001. Please give them your moral, mental, and physical support during the year. They are working for you.

President.....	Berniece Loper
First Vice President.....	Judy Bennett
Second Vice President.....	Bill Kuyper
Recording Secretary.....	Alice Locke
Corresponding Secretary.....	Sondra Taylor
Treasurer.....	Walter Sherman
Program Chairman.....	Judy Bennett
Program Committee.....	Mary Ann Buswell, Bill Kuyper, Wallie Waltonen, Greg Morrison
Membership.....	Diane Stults
Hospitality.....	Richard Smith
Publicity.....	Wally Crawford, Mary Ann Buswell
Librarian.....	Linda Kleback
Advisor.....	Nancy Roberts
Newsletter Editor.....	Billy Nale
Board members.....	Russie Johnson, Eunice Kuyper

## New Look

By Billy Nale, Editor



Beginning with this issue, *The County Line* will take on a new look and emphasis. A Newsletter Committee has been appointed to carry out this new look and emphasis, as well as develop, compile, and publish each issue of *The County Line*. The Committee consists of Billy Nale, Editor; and Judy Bennett, Mary Ann Buswell, Diane Stults, and Sondra Taylor as committee members.

For starters, we have dropped the stand-alone front page and now identify the BCGS newsletter by a header. This will free up needed space for news and articles. The back page will become standard and include the necessary postal elements on the upper half of the page. The bottom half will provide information on the BCGS and *The County Line*. The BCGS Board of Directors will be introduced and identified only once via the March issue. The BCGS web site has been added to the back page, as well as the email address of the Corresponding Secretary, Sondra Taylor, to provide a point of contact.

Emphasis on content has also changed. *The County Line*, as the newsletter of the BCGS, will become just that, a NEWS Letter.

As a priority we will provide news on the programs, activities, and projects of the BCGS. This will include news of BCGS members' accomplishments and participation in genealogy events and activities. Second, we will provide information on regional, state, and national genealogical programs and events.

Genealogical education will take on a renewed emphasis. We will include a column on *Back To Basics*, and include news on new and forecasted genealogical concepts and technology.

Computer and Internet will become a regular column. Sondra Taylor, who is exceptionally qualified in this area, will write these articles which will include news, basics and tips. She has provided computer/Internet columns for the Newsletter in the past, provided programs for our monthly meetings, and provided instruction during our periodic educational seminars.

We have not forgotten about history, that vital element of genealogy. Wally Waltonen will provide a historical column covering: Bay County, Northwest Florida, State(s), Territorial, American, Country, World, and Migration history. Wally is exceptionally qualified in this area. His history columns during the past years have enlightened us, educated us, and helped us tremendously in our research. In addition, Wally is an exceptional speaker, and has served as one of the BCGS speakers for our monthly programs and beginners and advanced workshops.

As an adjunct to the History Column, Mary Ann Buswell will be "Looking Back" (the title of her article) in old Bay County newspapers to bring us interesting tidbits of the local past.

We will also include other columns as needed to include: List of publications (free, for rent, and for sale), queries, and surnames searched by members.

We hope that you will enjoy the new look and content. We also hope that you will support the newsletter committee and provide input to help produce a news worthy and helpful newsletter.

---

## BCGS Banner

By Billy Nale & Wallie Waltonen



For this issue of the newsletter we are displaying the BCGS Banner in color on page 1 and above. We have done this so that we may better provide you with the meaning of the banner design. Wallie Waltonen designed the Banner. Diane Fonzi, assisted by Mary Fradette, selected the material and put it together. The Banner was created in approximately 1997 to accompany BCGS representatives at local, state, and regional genealogical conferences.

The BCGS Banner reflects the major resources of Bay County. The green represents the large pine forests of the county. The blue represents the four bays of the county, East Bay, West Bay, North Bay, and St. Andrews Bay which have provided nourishment, employment, and recreation to the inhabitants of the county and it's visitors for centuries. The ship represents the Spanish adventurers, explorers, and traders who first came to the bays in 1516 and the English Settlers who followed them.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## BCGS Meetings

Following is a list of the scheduled BCGS meetings to include major programs, speakers, and activities.

### **Apr 7: Tell It Like It Was**

**Jan Colcord**, retired Bay County High School English teacher and prior part-time instructor at Gulf Coast Community College, will present guidance and helps to write vignettes of your life to share with your descendants.

### **May 5: What To Do With That Information**

#### **You Find On The Internet**

**Natalie Thompson**, past BCGS President and long time LDS Family History Library Volunteer, will emphasize and explain the importance of analyzing what you find on the Internet, determine if it is primary or secondary, and whether you need to take a look at the original record, if possible. **Natalie** has not only been the featured speaker at many of our programs and workshops, but was on the genealogy speaker's circuit in the Chicago, IL, area for many years.

### **Jun 2: Back To Basics**

Experienced BCGS genealogists will review some basic research principles and share personal examples.

1. **Sondra Taylor:** How to write queries and request information from court houses, etc.
2. **Pat Henderson:** How to search the LDS Catalog to find specific material.
3. **Nancy Roberts:** What to believe and not to believe in records.

### **Jul 7: Genetics And Genealogy**

**Berniece Loper**, BCGS President. Introduction will be provided in the June issue of *The County Line*.

**Aug 4:** To be determined.

### **Sep 1: Migration Patterns From England, Scotland, and Ireland**

**Billy Nale**, Newsletter Editor, will describe how we got our British roots.

### **Oct 6: Book Fair**

Details to follow. **You will not want to miss this one.**

**Nov 3:** To be determined.

### **Dec 8: (Second Saturday) Christmas Party**

#### **Note: Come Prepared**

We are now allowing time after the program in each meeting to assist and provide guidance in your research. So bring your *brick walls* and other questions, and have another cup of coffee while we discuss them. BCGS genealogists with years of experience will be there to help.

## BCGS Events

### **Apr 21: Field Trip to University of West Florida Library**

After our Beyond Beginner's Seminar with Dean DeBolt as our speaker, there was much interest in going to the University of West Florida Library. Originally, we planned to go Saturday, March 17, but March was full of other activities that our members wanted to attend. Therefore, the date has been changed to **Saturday, April 21**. If you would like to go with others from the society, please attend our April meeting, and we will discuss car-pooling. The UWF Library is open on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. We hope that Dean DeBolt will be able to meet us there and show us the ins and outs of the special collections.

### **Oct 20: Beginner's Workshop**

Details are being developed.

See **OTHER EVENTS**, Page 5

## Other Events

From Page 4

### **Mar 24: Tallahassee Genealogical Society Seminar**

**Rhonda McClure**, a professional genealogist with over ten years in research experience and thirteen years involvement in online genealogy, will be the featured speaker. *Ms McClure* is the author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Genealogy*. Be there on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to take advantage of personal research in the Florida Archives, and meet *Ms McClure* at an informal Pre-Seminar Dinner. For more information, contact: *Sheila Martin* (850) 656-5455, email [SMartin583@aol.com](mailto:SMartin583@aol.com).

### **Sep 12: Federation of Genealogical Societies**

The Annual Conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies will be held in Davenport, Iowa, during the period 12-15 September 2001. There are four days packed full of wonderful information and nationally known speakers. The cost is only \$121 if you register before July 16<sup>th</sup>. More information can be obtained at Tel: 1-888-FGS-1500, or at the FGS website: <http://www.fgs.org>.

### **Nov 8: Florida State Genealogical Conference**

will be held 8-10 November 2001 at the Four Points Sheraton in downtown Orlando, FL. Additional information about the conference is being prepared and should be distributed soon.

### **Bay County Historical Society (BCHS):**

Meetings are at Oakland Terrace School, 1906 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Panama City, at 7 p.m.

**Mar 20: Ann Robbins** of the Bay County Library will discuss southern folklore and the roll of women during the War Between the States.

**Apr 17:** Two members of **The Civil War Reenactors** will speak on **Civil War Clothing**. **Hiram Boyette** will do the men's clothing, and **Terry Vickmark** will do the women's.

**May 15:** To be determined.

**Jun 2:** The BCHS will sponsor the **Pioneer Picnic** at Oakland Terrace School from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a covered dish event and will be held in the school cafeteria. The BCHS will furnish the meat and drinks and participants are to bring a covered dish. Anyone is welcome to attend. Entertainment will begin at 10 a.m. and the meal will be served at 12 p.m.

Note: The BCHS does not have regular scheduled meetings during the period June through August.

### **Civil War Roundtable:**

The Civil War Roundtable meets the second Thursday of each month with the exception of this March which will be Mar 15<sup>th</sup>. Meetings are held at Grace Presbyterian Church, 1415 Airport Road, and begin at 7 p.m. For more information contact **Jay Lacey**, 850-271-5466.

### **Salt Works Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy:**

Meetings are at 2 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church Life Management building on Grace Avenue. For more information contact **Mrs. Ann Zierden** at 850-763-4281.

### **Saint Andrew Bay Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution:**

Meetings are held every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 11 p.m. at the St. Andrew Seafood House, 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Panama City, FL. Those interested in becoming a member please contact **Mrs. Marilyn Mansfield** at 850-233-7405.

### **Civil War Reenactors:**

For more information contact **Ms. Terry Vickmark** at 850-769-7289.

### **Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #1319:**

For more information contact **Jack Cutchins** at 850-265-5171.

### **Sons of American Revolution:**

For more information contact **Walter Sherman** at 850-763-2288.

**Welcome  
New And Renewing  
Members**



**New Members**

**Melissa Whitted**, Panama City Beach

Researching:

Case	New York, Suffolk	1670 - Present
Wells	New York, Suffolk	1800 - Present
Whitted	Arkansas, &	1860 - Present
Whitted, Levi C.	North Carolina	1840 - 1865
Rives	Tennessee	1800 - Present
Bonner	Virginia, Albermarle Parish	1700 - 1800

**Joyce Dewey Soares**, Panama City

Researching:

Dewey	Wisconsin	1810 - Present
Vanne/VenneViene	Wisconsin	1865 - Present
Lesperance	Wisconsin	1865 - Present

Special emphasis: Edmond Vanne/Venne/Viene,  
WI area, b. 1855-1865, m. Anna (Hattie) Sauve.  
Had several children in Coleman, WI

**Bill Zehner**, Lynn Haven

Researching:

Zehner	Germany, PA, OH, IN, IL, WI, IA, NY, MD, KS, CA
McNee	Scotland (Perthshire), WI, KS, CA, MN
Kleckner	PA
Hauser/Houser	PA
Barrington	AL, FL
Weatherford	GA, AL, FL

**Renewing Members**

**Joan Perullo**, Panama City

Researching:

Moriarty	New York	1870 - Present
Rigsby	NY & England	1860 - Present
Perocheau	NY & NJ	1815 - Present
Perullo	NY & Florida	1900 - Present
Marino	New York	1900 - Present

**Alton Walker**, Panama City

Researching:

Walker	Alabama	1830s
	Lowndes Co. & Crenshaw Co.	
Parham	Alabama	1840s
Melton	Randolph Co.	
Jones	“	
Knighton	“	

**Mary K. McGraw**, Panama City Beach

Researching:

Sain	Tennessee	1818
	Alabama	1840 - 1860
	Mississippi	1860s
	Arkansas	1870 onward
Lawrence	Alabama	1820
Cook	Alabama	1836
	Arkansas	1861 onward
McGraw	South Carolina	1884
	Texas	1900
Jenkins	Georgia	1888
	Texas	1900
Christopher	Virginia	1804
	Alabama	1838
	Arkansas	1861

**ADDRESS  
CHANGE/CORRECTION  
REQUESTED**

**Addressees: Please review your mailing address for correctness. If it is incorrect or needs changing in any way, please notify me via one of the following means:**

**Editor email address: [bnale@knology.net](mailto:bnale@knology.net)**

**BCGS email address: [sondraJHT@aol.com](mailto:sondraJHT@aol.com)**

**BCGS mailing address: P.O. Box 662, Panama City, FL 32402**

**Or you may call me at (850) 265-5169**

***Billy Nale, Editor***



## Computer/Internet

By Sondra Taylor

Genealogists today have literally millions of pieces of information at their fingertips through the Internet. The availability of information can be overwhelming, especially when a genealogist has limited time for research. You can spend hours searching through web pages for interesting and useful bits of information.

There are several free genealogy newsletters available through e-mail to help genealogists in the quest for those elusive facts about their ancestors. Newsletters, or "e-zines," offer help including instruction on various genealogical methods of research, articles detailing new resources available online and offline, news of upcoming genealogical events, news and instruction for popular genealogical software, and inspiring testimonials from subscribers detailing their "success stories." In other words, newsletters can serve as maps for your journey through the jumble of the Internet.

These are some of the best of the newsletters along with links to the web pages and a synopsis of the scope of each:

1. **Ancestry Daily News** – Contains general genealogy news and links to new databases available at [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) that may be searched free for 10 days. It also includes a weekly column "Along Those Lines," by George G. Morgan as well as articles by other well-known genealogists. Subscribe to either the daily newsletter or a weekly digest on the main screen at <http://www.ancestry.com>.
2. **Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter** – The weekly newsletter contains the latest news in genealogy, news of new CD-ROM disks released, new software, books and websites. Subscribe at <http://rootscomputing.listbot.com>.
3. **DearMYRTLE's Genealogy Column** – This daily genealogy column contains genealogy news, shares some of the best genealogy web sites and offers answers to questions from its readers. <http://www.DearMYRTLE.com/subscribe.htm>.

4. **RootsWeb Review and Missing Links** – RootsWeb Review provides news about RootsWeb, its new mailing lists, home pages, and web sites, as well as tutorials on using its resources. Missing Links shares success stories to inspire and encourage other genealogists. You can subscribe to both on the main page of <http://rootsweb.com>.

5. **Family Tree Finders** – A daily genealogy column by Rhonda McClure, the genealogy specialist at MSN, that provides interesting and useful information about tracing your family tree. Subscribe at <http://www.sodamail.com/site/ftf.shtml>.

There are other newsletters listed on Cyndi's List Web Page <http://www.cyndislist.com> under Magazines, Journals, Columns & Newsletters.



## Publications For Sale

By Judy Bennett

The Bay County Genealogical Society has undertaken a project of publishing the marriages in Bay County since its conception in 1913. The first two to be printed for sale are *Bay County, Florida Marriages 1921-1925* and *Bay County, Florida Marriages, 1946-1950*. The cost is \$12 each, which includes postage. Others will follow.

## Videos And Cassette Tapes

### On Loan

By Judy Bennett



*Cliff Loper* has available videos on genealogy that he will lend out to members. The collection includes each of the **PBS Ancestry series** and *Dr. George K. Schweitzer's videos*.

A collection of audio cassette tapes, given by the library, are also available for loan to members. Most of these are from **National Genealogical Society Conferences**, whose speakers are some of the best. Some are about 15 years old, but still speak to us today.

Both will be available for check-out at our meetings.



## Back To Basics

By Billy Nale

This is a new column and will become one of the regular articles. Writers of this column will vary depending on content. Judy Bennett has volunteered to head up this endeavor, except for this issue. Judy has a full plate, so I volunteered to get us started. We hope to provide a good review for all of us, and at the same time interject some examples of real life experiences. Of course, we also want to provide new research concepts and techniques.

What better way to start out than with a starter kit?

### Your Genealogy Starter Kit

By Juliana Smith

Before embarking on any project, it is wise to make sure you have all of the parts and tools you will need ahead of time. This is true whether you are cooking, making crafts, or assembling something you have bought, and it applies to family history as well. By having the proper tools available at the start, it is easy to stay organized and maintain good research habits. Below is a list of some items that could be part of a good genealogy starter kit.

#### Research Notebook

With the vast amount of information we accumulate during the course of our search, it is important to maintain good organization so that we can find the information we seek when we need it. But it is impractical to think that we can lug all of our folders or binders full of research with us when we need it most--on research trips outside the house. But if we have the basics with us in the form of pedigree charts and family group sheets, we can at least take with us the essentials. These charts can be computer-generated or handwritten, so it is possible for anyone to generate a notebook.

My research notebooks are divided into sections by four pedigree charts, each beginning with one of my grandparents. The pedigree chart is numbered, and corresponding numbered family group sheets are filed after them in each section. I have included notes

from original documentation in these files, and they provide me with a helpful summary of my research that can be brought along easily on research trips.

#### Research Log/Calendar

Keeping a research log is an important practice. I keep my most recent logs and some blank pages in my research notebook so that I can fill them in easily as I search each source. When they get too cumbersome, they are transferred to larger notebooks that I keep handy at home.

The logs are very helpful in planning research trips. As I plan for an excursion using online catalogs, I reference these logs to make sure I don't plan to duplicate previous efforts. I also use them to outline my game plan on these trips. As I find items in the library's catalog, I use the forms to keep track of the sources I wish to search. Then when I get to the library, I have my "wish list" handy, complete with call/microfilm numbers. As I go down the list in my log, I just enter the date and results of my search.

#### Genealogical Computing Supplies

We live in a great time for family history researchers. We have some wonderful software programs designed to make our work much easier. While some of these programs can be a bit pricey, there are some great options for those on even the tightest budget. There are even some, like "Personal Ancestral File" (PAF), that are available free of charge (see the list of sources below).

There are several online options available as well that are also free of charge. The "Online Family Tree" software at Ancestry.com and MyFamily.com allows users to post their family data online with no software necessary. These provide a great alternative to those with limited space on their computers. The information can be entered manually or downloaded from a GEDCOM file. Its multi-user functionality allows users to collaborate with others interested in the same lines. An additional benefit is that the information can be viewed from any computer with Internet access, and since many libraries now offer this service, it is another great way to bring your research with you.

See **FILING SYSTEM**, Page 9

### **FILING SYSTEM**, from Page 8

It is important to set up a good filing system before the masses of paper begin taking over your house. You will need file folders, notebooks, archival-quality sleeves to preserve important documents and photographs, file cabinets and/or file boxes, and a number of other office supplies to get started. These can usually be found easily at your local office supply store.

### **Supplies "To Go"**

When you go out to research, there are other supplies you should keep ready so that things aren't forgotten. Your "to-go" supplies should include change for copies, pencils, and paper for taking notes. Research extract forms are also handy to have for items that cannot be photocopied (see link below). Loose supplies should be in a pencil case or something similar that can be included in your research binder in the event that you need to leave your bag or briefcase in a locker. It is best to check the Web site of the facility or call to find out what restrictions there are on items that can or can't be brought in.

### **Wrapping It Up**

The key in having a genealogy tool kit is to make your research easier and therefore more effective. You will save research time by reviewing what you have already found, and you'll be able to set goals and determine what your next step should be. When it comes right down to it, using the right tools will really make your research begin to come together!

...Ancestry.com/ Dailynews, 7/10/2000

---

## **Genealogy & History**



### **Union Prison at Camp Chemung, Chemung County, New York**

By Wally Waltonen

John L. Anderson, Private, Company C, 1st Florida Reserves, was wounded and captured on 6 March 1864 at the Battle of Natural Bridge near

Tallahassee, Florida. He was taken to Point Washington, Washington County, Florida, then to Fort Pickens, Escambia County, Florida, next to New Orleans, Louisiana, then by ship to Ship Island, Mississippi, finally to the Union prison at Camp Chemung near Elmira, New York, arriving there on 20 November 1864.

Camp Chemung was located on 30 acres, later 40 acres, along the banks of the Chemung River about one mile above the city of Elmira, New York. A one acre lagoon called Foster's Pond stood within the walls of the stockade. The pond, a backwash of the Chemung River, served as a latrine and garbage dump.

A stockade was built around an unused Union Army training camp near Elmira in June 1864. The prison contained 35 two story barracks, each 100 by 20 feet, and was intended to house as many as 5,000 prisoners. On 6 July 1864, the first 400 arrived, and by the end of July there were more than 4,400 prisoners. The first group of prisoners to arrive quickly crowded the barracks. Later arrivals lived in "A" tents scattered around the prison area. By the end of August 1864, almost 10,000 men were confined there.

Most prisoners were unaware that, for at least four months of the year, the weather was bitterly cold. One Virginia prisoner wrote that Elmira was, "an excellent summer prison for southern soldiers, but an excellent place for them to find their graves in the winter."

Almost 25 % of the 12,123 Confederate soldiers who entered Camp Chemung died. This death rate was more than double the average death rate in other Northern prison camps, and only 2 % less than the death rate at the infamous Southern prison camp at Andersonville, Georgia.

Private Anderson, still suffering from his wounds and in ill health due to the severe climate, ill treatment, poor food, and crowded living conditions, was exchanged in March 1865, returning to DeFuniak Springs, Walton County, Florida.

Much more information on Camp Chemung, where many Confederate soldiers spent up to a year, can be found at:

<http://civilwarhistory.com/ElmiraPrison/Elmira.htm>  
<http://mars.spaceports.com/~court52/elmira1.htm>

## New Materials

At The Bay County Public Library  
Linda Pazics Kleback, Genealogy Specialist  
Bay County Public Library



### GENERAL:

Gen. R929.3 Kem -- International Vital Records Handbook, 4th Edition  
Gen. R929 Seg -- In Search of Confederate Ancestors: The Guide  
Gen. R929.374 And -- The Great Migration Begins: Immigration to New England 1620-1633 3 Vols  
Gen. R929.1 Luc -- Pontiac's Conspiracy & Other Indian Affairs: Notices Abstracted from Colonial Newspapers, 1763-1765  
Gen. R929.3 Gen v. 36 -- Genealogical Periodical Annual Index 1997  
Gen. R920 Bio -- Biographical Souvenir of the States of Georgia and Florida

### ALABAMA:

AL Gen. R929.3761 Vin -- Genealogical Abstracts from The Autauga Citizen, 1854, in Prattville, Autauga County, Alabama  
AL Gen. R929.3761 Mar -- The Gadsden Times 1876-1880

### FLORIDA:

FL Gen. R929.3759 Nob -- The Early Settlers of Jackson County  
FL Gen. R929.3759 Nob -- Pioneers of Jackson Co.  
FL Gen. R975.99 Win -- Graceville, Florida: A Personal History

### GEORGIA:

GA Gen. R929.3758 Ogl -- Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Marriage Records 1853-1963  
GA Gen. R929.3758 But -- Butts County, Georgia, Marriages 1826-1926: The First Hundred Years  
GA Gen. R929.3758 But -- Butts County, Georgia, Cemeteries  
GA Gen. R929.3758 Bak -- History of Hart County

### NORTH CAROLINA:

NC Gen. R929.3756 Nea -- Abstracts of Vital Records from Raleigh, North Carolina, Newspapers 1799-1839

## The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Annual Family History Seminar

By Billy Nale

The Annual Family History Seminar of the Panama City Stake was held on Saturday, 10 February, 2001, at the Family History Center on State Avenue. The keynote speaker was *Que Alldredge*, High Council, former Bishop, and currently an instructor at Bay High School and Gulf Coast Community College. *Mr Alldredge* spoke on the history, purpose, and current status of the Millennium Temples.

There was a full range of family search topics for the attendees to select from. Following are just some of the interesting and educational topics presented:

- Resources and Use of the Family History Center - *Billie Rosser*, Stake FHC Assistant and Ward Family History Consultant.
- Using LDS Familysearch.org, and Tools of the Internet - *Natalia Thompson*, Stake FHC Training Coordinator and Internet Specialist.
- Scanners and Gadgets, and Digital Cameras and Other Multimedia - *Greg Morrison*, BCGS.
- Seeking Lost Ancestors - *Barbara Winge*, BCGS.
- Use of E-Mail for Genealogy - *Sondra Taylor*, BCGS.
- Beginners Class - *Nancy Roberts*, BCGS.
- Designing a Web Site - *Robert Stone*, BYU, Computer Specialist, and Former Bishop.
- Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors - *William Zehner*, BS, Retired Navy Designer.

*Mrs. Pat Henderson*, Director of the Stake Family History Center, was the Organizer and Coordinator of the seminar which was a resounding success and well attended.

---

## BCGS Members: Surname Chart

BCGS Members, on the following page is a Surname Chart Form. We ask that you use this form to record the principle surnames and related data you are searching. Please provide to *Billy Nale* at the next meeting, April 7, or mail to him at the BCGS mail address (back page). Your data will be published in *The County Line* as space allows. Additional forms will be available at each meeting.





**Bay County Genealogical Society**  
**P.O. Box 662**  
**Panama City, FL 32402-0662**



---

***THE BAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY***  
***P.O. BOX 662 PANAMA CITY, FL 32402-0662***

**The Bay County Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization within the definition of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, dedicated to the advancement, education and promotion of personal and general genealogical research and the preservation of historical records relative thereto, for the cultural enrichment of the people of Bay County, Florida and surrounding areas.**

**Membership in this organization, with voting rights and the right to hold office, is open to anyone, without restriction of race, color, creed, or sex, who has a continuing interest in Genealogy and whose membership dues are current.**

**Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Panama City Library. The Board of Directors meet at the library at 10:00 a.m. also on the first Saturday of the month. Dues are \$15.00 per year for single or family membership payable in December.**  
**Web Address: [Http://www.rootsweb.com/~flbcgs/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~flbcgs/index.htm) Email: [SondraT375@aol.com](mailto:SondraT375@aol.com)**

**The County Line, Newsletter of the Bay County Genealogical Society(BCGS)**

The County Line is published quarterly (January, April, July, October) by the BCGS. Subscription to The County Line is included in the dues of the members of the BCGS. Subscription for nonmembers is \$10.00 annually. Editor: Billy Nale, [bnale@knology.net](mailto:bnale@knology.net), (850) 265-5169  
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Bay County Genealogical Society at address shown above.