



The County Line

Bay County Genealogical Society Newsletter
Bay County, Florida

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APRIL 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Berniece Loper



Well, dear friends, Sondra has begged me for this notation "from the president," and I have just ignored her. (Not really, just forgetful in my old age, and so busy I can hardly stand it--aren't we all!) Cliff and I have been asked to show our garden in a fund raising occasion for the Gulf Coast Childrens Advocacy Center. (It is an organization that cares for abused and neglected children at no cost.) So, we have been busy getting ready for the May 8th showing (to the neglect of everything else I do). You are all welcome to come, the cost is \$10, and it is certainly for a good cause. Call me at 872-9882 to get directions to our home. 'Nuff said, no more excuses!

We are so happy that this has been a lovely spring. It helps us with our project, and makes me feel good. Also, I am happy that several members of our Society went over to Tallahassee to hear Dr. John Colletta. I wanted, desperately, to go, but just couldn't. I am excited about the fact that he will be our seminar speaker February 19, 2005. The topics have not been chosen, yet. That is up to the board, (and we will let you know later). I hope you will put the date on your calendar, and plan to attend.

Many have asked me when we are going to have another Beginners Seminar. Margaret Harris has graciously accepted our request, and the day will be October 23rd, so please let everyone know about that. I have attended her lectures, and she is very knowledgeable and active in genealogy. The cost will probably be only \$10 or \$15.

Well, that is about it for this copy. The attendance at

our meetings is beginning to pick up, and I am very happy about that. It seems such a shame that the people prepare to speak at our meeting, and so few show up. I know you are all very busy, but you need to come to the meetings to gather new information. As Nancy Roberts said, "You simply can't do all your genealogy on the computer!" Yes, there are many Web sites to explore, but you would be surprised how much attendees glean from our speakers--even the ones that have been members for a long time.

Hope to see you soon!

Berniece

2004 BCGS JANUARY SEMINAR WITH ANN MOHR OSISEK

Our guest speaker will be Ann Mohr Osisek, a native of West Virginia and a resident of central Florida for twenty-eight years. She has an extensive background in genealogy education and presentations.

She enlightened and educated us on Immigration and Naturalization, Effective Use of the Census, Family Fiction Versus Facts, and Effective Use of the LDS Library.

Our attendees included representatives of genealogical societies of Northern Florida and Alabama, our Snowbirds from the northern United States and Canada, and our faithful genealogists from the local area. We were also glad to have participants of the recent Introduction to Genealogy Education Encore program at Gulf Coast Community College, as well as the instructor of that course, Bill Zehner.

**NEW BOOKS IN THE
GENEALOGICAL COLLECTION
OF THE
BAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Linda Pazics Kleback
Genealogy Specialist
Bay County Public Library**



Data as of: March 17, 2004

GENERAL:

Gen. R016.973 Weh -- A Guide to Pre-Federal Records in the National Archives

Gen. R317.3 Hin -- Your Guide to the Federal Census for Genealogists, Researchers, and Family Historians

Gen. R929.3 Dob -- Scots in the American West 1783-1883

Gen. R973.3 Low -- The Hessians and Other Auxiliaries of Great Britain in the Revolutionary War

Gen. R929.1 Uni -- The Final Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes and the Index to The Final Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes (2 volumes)

Gen. R973 Smi -- Encyclopedia of German-American Genealogical Research

Gen R929.42 Boy -- The Boynton Family

Gen. R929.42 Dic -- The Terrell Family

Gen. R929.42 Flo -- Biographical Genealogies of the Virginia-Kentucky Floyd Families

ALABAMA:

AL Gen. R976.1 Her -- The Heritage of Covington County, Alabama

AL Gen. R976.1 Her -- The Heritage of Houston County, Alabama

AL Gen. R929.3761 Dek -- DeKalb County, Alabama, Marriage Index, 1836-1916

AL Gen. R976.1 Her -- The Heritage of Clay County, Alabama

AL Gen. R976.1 Her -- The Heritage of Autauga County, Alabama

FLORIDA:

FL Gen. R976.1 Her -- The Heritage of Jackson County, Florida

FL Gen. R9929.42 Joh -- Jeremiah Johns Descendants

GEORGIA:

Gen. R929.3758 Arn -- Georgia Revolutionary Soldiers (2 volumes)

Gen. R929.42 Gil -- Gillis and Other Pioneer Families of Georgia

KENTUCKY:

KY Gen. R929.3769 Edd -- Kentucky Genealogical Records & Abstracts (2 volumes).

KY Gen. R929.3769 Bra -- Union County, Kentucky, Deaths 1852-1878

MASSACHUSETTS:

Ma Gen. R929.3744 San -- Ages from Court Records, 1636-1700, Vol. 1, Essex, Middlesex, and Suffolk Counties, Massachusetts

MISSOURI:

MO Gen. R929.3778 Spr -- Kentuckians in Missouri

NORTH CAROLINA:

NC Gen. R929.3756 Nor -- North Carolina Higher Court Records 1670-1696

PENNSYLVANIA:

PA Gen. R929.3748 Hoe -- Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research in Pennsylvania

PA Gen. R929.3748 Ilo -- Transcription of the Clarion County Death Register (1893-1906)

PA Gen. R355.7 Hun -- Forts on the Pennsylvania Frontier, 1753-1758

SOUTH CAROLINA:

SC Gen. R929.3756 Hag -- On the Eve of the Civil War: The Charleston City Directories for the Years of 1859 and 1860

SC Gen. R929.1 Mac -- Index to The South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research, Volumes XXI - XXX. 1993-2002

SC Gen. R929 Mot -- Free Blacks and Mulattos in South Carolina 1850 Census

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
BCGS MEETINGS

BCGS monthly meetings are now held the second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Bay County Main Library, Panama City Marina.



08 May 2004: *Judy Bennett* - "Putting Flesh on 'Dem Bones.'" - A presentation that will reveal different sources and broader vision, where those nuggets of gold may be found, and show you ways that your ancestors may seem more alive.

10 June 2004: *Sally Rinehart* - TBD

MRS. PATRICIA HENDERSON PASSES

The society is very sad to report the passing of one of its influential members. Patricia Henderson, director of the Panama City Stake Family History Center, died this past February 20th. She had been the director for the past 18 years. Although the last dozen or so years of her life were preoccupied with around-the-clock care of first her mother, then her father, and finally, her brother, she nevertheless found time to organize, equip, staff, and operate the local FHC. She quietly avoided the spotlight herself, but tirelessly motivated others to serve the genealogical community. In 1993, she organized the first Family History Seminar at the FHC in Panama City, an annual event that has provided beginning and intermediate-level genealogy education to hundreds of local and visiting family historians. Directly or indirectly, she has helped numerous individuals find their roots. She will be greatly missed by all those she served and by those who served with her.

LDS FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR 2004

The 11th annual Family History Seminar was presented on 21 February by the Panama City Stake LDS Church. It is a significant annual genealogical event in Bay County, its purpose is to educate the public about genealogical techniques and resources, particularly emphasizing the resources of the world's largest genealogical repository—the Family History Library—through its affiliate Family History Centers worldwide.

Attendance this year was up nearly 40 percent from last year. Over 153 attendees heard presentations from eleven speakers covering twenty-one topics in six classrooms. This seminar has become a truly regional event, hosting attendees from nine counties in Northwest Florida: Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Franklin, Liberty, Jackson, Washington, Okaloosa, and Escambia. Although the majority came from Panama City, Lynn Haven, Southport, Panama City Beach, and Mexico Beach, people also drove here all the way from Wewahitcha, Kinard, St. Joe, Appalachicola, Bristol, Chipley, Cottondale, Youngstown, Fountain, Ft. Walton, Destin, Niceville, Pensacola, and Tallahassee—as well as an unknown number of other states.

Our society provided most of the speakers: Judy Bennett, Greg Morrison, Billy Nale, Nancy Roberts, Rob Stone, Sandy Williams, and Bill Zehner. They were graciously assisted by Margaret Harris and Thelma Phillips of the Okaloosa County Genealogical Society.

The event was a success by any measure, and many positive comments were heard from all who participated. Our society is proud to have participated in this program again this year and we look forward to an even bigger event next year. The seminar coordinator wishes to thank all of those who helped make this event a success.



GENEALOGY AND COMPUTERS

by Sondra Taylor

BE AWARE OF LIMITATIONS OF INDEXES

There have been indexes available to genealogy researchers for quite a while. There are more available every day on the Internet. They can be extremely valuable, but relying on them to the exclusion of other methods of research can be a big mistake.

First of all, the majority of indexes are created by humans. Humans have a tendency to make mistakes. And sometimes humans who create these indexes do so by reading handwriting or printing created by other humans who may have made mistakes. Even when the indexing is proofread by other humans, mistakes are either not caught or more mistakes are made.

Well, you get the idea. Use as many possible versions of the surname (with "wildcards" if available). Keep the limitations of the index in mind (some only list the head of household and not all members). And, if all attempts lead to failure, try to search the original records yourself, record by record.

NEW AND IMPROVED PERSI AVAILABLE

ProQuest has released an updated index, the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) to libraries that subscribe to HeritageQuest Online Genealogy Databases.

If you want to search PERSI, you must visit a library that subscribes to HeritageQuest Online. You may be able to access it from home through your library's Web site. Libraries who subscribe to the Web site may choose to purchase remote access for their members.

USER NAMES AND PASSWORD TIPS

I have quite a bit of trouble remembering my user names and passwords for the myriad of web sites that I use. So, I bought a lined journal where I keep track of the user name and password for each site. I keep it next to my computer. It could also come in handy if your computer crashes to help rebuild your

"Favorites."

MAJOR EPIDEMICS

(continued from January Newsletter)

by Barbara Winge

1761 - North America & West Indies - Influenza.

An acute, infectious disease that attacks one of three systems; respiratory, gastrointestinal, or nervous. Fever, swelling of mucous membranes discharge, muscle pain and exhaustion.

1772 - North American Measles

1775 - Unknown Epidemic

1775-6 - Influenza

1783 - Dover, DE - Bilious Disorder

1788 - Philadelphia & New York - Influenza

1793 - Vermont - Influenza

1793 - Virginia - Influenza

1793 - Philadelphia - Yellow Fever

1793 - Harrisburg, PA - Unknown

1793 - Middletown, PA - Unknown

1794, 96-98 - Philadelphia - Yellow Fever

1803 - New York - Yellow Fever

1820-23 - Nationwide - Asiatic Cholera

An acute infectious disease characterized by severe diarrhea, vomiting, and inflammation of the colon. The first epidemic occurred throughout Asia and Africa in 1817 and reached North America in 1832.

(To be continued)

Ref: Jerger, Dr. Jeanette L., A MEDICAL MISCELLANY FOR GENEALOGISTS, 1995, Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie MD, 20716.

Johnson, C. L. H, GAMORGAN-L@rootsweb.com, 01 Jul 1999.

WEB LINKS

World War II Memorabilia and Info
<http://folklife.si.edu>

National World War II Memorial Dedication
<http://www.wwiimemorial.com>

American Celebrates the Greatest Generation
<http://www.americasgreatestgeneration.com>

Searches for Cemeteries and Obituaries
<http://www.petuniapress.com>

Cemetery Preservation
<http://www.savinggraves.com>

National Society of Genetic Counselors
<http://www.nsge.org>

American Society for Human Genetics
<http://www.ashg.org>

Genetic Alliance
<http://www.geneticalliance.org>

NGS Family Papers Collection
<http://www.NGSgenealogy.org/familypapers.htm>

Orphan Train
<http://www.orphantrainriders.com>

Family History Products
<http://www.giftofheritage.com>

For All Things Military
<http://www.military.com>

US Horse Cavalry
<http://www.uscavalry.org>

Medal of Honor Citations
<http://www.army.mil/cmh/Moh1.htm>

Victorian Social History
<http://www.victorianweb.org/history/sochistov.html>

Battle of Hastings
<http://www.battle1066.com>

The Historic American Cookbook Project
<http://digital.lib.msu.edu/cookbooks>

**BCGS 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 following five publications of the *Bay County, Florida Marriages* are now for sale: *1900-1920*, *1921-1925*, *1926-1930*, *1946-1950*, and *1951-1955*. The cost is \$12 each, which includes postage. Please address requests to the BCGS address shown on the last page of this newsletter.

**BCGS Historian -
Items Needed**

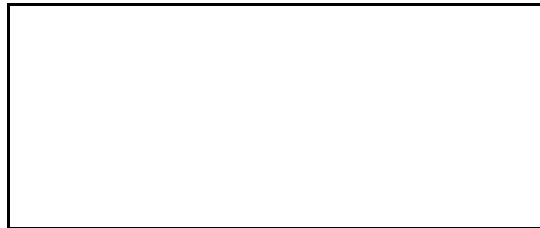
Board member Russie Johnson is the Historian for the BCGS. If you have any newspaper articles, photos, or other items pertaining to BCGS, past or present, please mail them to the BCGS address or bring them to our next meeting.

**ADDRESS CHANGE/
CORRECTION REQUESTED**

Addressees: Please review your mailing address for correctness. If it is incorrect or needs changing in any way, please notify us via one of the means listed on our back page.



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 second 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 second 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> Email: sondrat@comcast.net

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