



The County Line

Bay County Genealogical Society Newsletter Bay County, Florida

Volume 24, Number 1

April 2005

BCGS 2005 SEMINAR

WOW!... What an Educational Experience.

Story and photos by Billy Nale

If you did not attend the Bay County Genealogical Society 2005 Annual Seminar, then you certainly missed a special event. The seminar was held at Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Florida, on Saturday, February 19, 2005, and featured John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. as our speaker.

The theme of the seminar was "Writing Your Family History—From Dry Facts to Real Life Stories" with the following topics:

- **Assembling and Writing Your Family History: A Reliable Document and Readable Story**
- **Evaluating Evidence and Citing Sources**
- **Turning Biographical Facts into Real-Life Events: How To Build Historical Context**
- **Using Family Artifacts in Genealogical Research and Writing**

Dr. Colletta, one of America's most popular genealogical lecturers, educators and speakers, tailored the topics specifically for this special seminar. Dr. Colletta is also an accomplished writer. His publications include the following books:

- *They Came in Ships: A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record*
- *Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans*
- *Only A Few Bones: A True Account of the Rolling Fork Tragedy and Its Aftermath*

Further information about Dr. Colletta and his publications can be obtained at his web site:

<http://genealogyjohn.com>

The seminar was conducted in the spacious and fully equipped Conference Center of Gulf Coast Community College's Student Union East Building.

Refreshments, including coffee, tea, soft drinks, bottled water, pastries, cookies, and more, were available for the seminar attendees throughout the day. Delicious boxed lunches were also served from Schlotzsky's Deli.

Attendees to this special seminar came from all over the Southeast including North Florida, Alabama, and Georgia. It was also a pleasure to have some of our northern visitors who were in Panama City for the winter. Of course, we are indeed proud to have representatives from our neighboring societies, the Okaloosa County Genealogical Society and the Tallahassee Genealogical Society.



Dr. Colletta signs one of his books for Greg Morrison.

Each attendee received a folder consisting of handouts with valuable guides and bibliographies to each of the seminar topics.

Thanks to Linda Kleback, fifteen door prizes were awarded consisting of valuable family research books and periodicals. Linda also provided a variety of free handouts and catalogs from genealogical publishing companies.



Linda Kleback displays the free handouts and catalogs from genealogical publishing companies.

We are extremely grateful to the following people who gave of their time and expertise to make the 2005 Seminar a pleasant and educational success:

- Seminar Project Coordinator:
Billy Nale
- Registration:
Judy Bennett
Berniece Loper
- Treasurer:
Walter Sherman
- Publicity:
Mary K. McGraw
Linda Kleback
- Door Prizes and Free Material:
Linda Kleback
- Food and Refreshments:
Barbara Anderson
Bonnie Shipp
Pat & Richard Beach
Greg Morrison ❁

In This Issue:

BCGS Seminar 2005 Report	1
Eunice's Story	3
President's Message.....	4
New Members	4
Surnames.....	4
Family History Seminar Report.....	5
Net Surfer.....	6
FSGS Conference Coming to PC	7
Who Were They?.....	7
New Books in the Genealogical Collection.....	8
January, March, and April Programs	9

Notice:

Board Meeting Site Changed

Beginning in March, the meeting site for the BCGS board was changed to the Quality Analytical Laboratories at 2355 St. Andrews Boulevard, courtesy of owner Mike Dummell. Board meeting time is 10:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month except July and August.

Regular society meetings remain at the Bay County Public Library on Government Street at 1:00 p.m., also on the third Saturday of each month.



Dr. Colletta and BCGS members, L-R, Mary K. McGraw, Marlene Womack, Bill Zehner, Barbara Anderson, Dr. John Colletta, Walter Sherman, Bonnie Shipp, & Linda Kleback. Not shown: Billy Nale, behind the camera.

The Joy of Helping Others With Research: Eunice's Story

By Bonnie Shipp

My friend Eunice is an only child and after her mother died in 1963, she lost touch with her Vermont cousins. She had loving memories of her maternal grandparents and wanted to find out more about them. One day in 2003 while I was at the Family History Center, Eunice and her daughter, Elaine, came in to research their family tree. At first, we didn't find any information so I asked for some names and dates that I could research later. Eunice invited me to visit and go through old papers and pictures.

Eunice's first cousin, Evelyn, and also the family genealogist.

Chris sent his grandmother's address and that began a flurry of calls and letters between Eunice and her Vermont cousins. I was able to scan photos provided by Eunice and send them to Chris. Eunice gathered family group sheets from her children and we sent that information to Vermont. Copies of various Census pages naming the family were made and given to Eunice.

In August of 2004 Eunice, who by then had turned 90 years old, and Elaine flew to Vermont to visit their cousins.



Descendants of Victoria Seymour and William LaPlant gathered at Evelyn's for dinner and a visit. Chris brought his family history book to share and had prepared a booklet containing charts and reports of their ancestors for Eunice. What a wonderful time they had catching up and meeting children and grandchildren of their cousins.

My reward for helping with the research has been a great deal of gratitude, lots of hugs and a bottle of delicious maple syrup. My friends and I are closer than ever. ❀



Logging in Vermont
Photo courtesy of Eunice Webb

Searching possible online sites for a family tree of the William LaPlant and Victoria Seymour family proved fruitless. However, when searching through Seymour queries there was one. On the entire Internet, I found only one mention of a Victoria Seymour who appeared to be Eunice's grandmother. I immediately sent an e-mail to Chris, who had posted the query, asking for further information. As it turned out, Chris is the grandson of

Have a story you'd like to tell?
We'd really like to hear from
you.

See page 10 for contact information

President's Message

By Barbara Anderson



The first two months of my presidency have certainly been busy. Your board has made a commitment to energize our society. Bill Zehner has been heading an ad hoc committee on membership. We have printed new flyers listing the benefits of membership and have established a new dues table, giving price breaks to members for BCGS events. We have been updating our membership list and contacting former members to invite them back. Bill also is the guest editor of the newsletter for this quarter. If you would like to help with either project, let us know.

This is going to sound like an Academy Award speech but I need to thank so many who helped with the John Phillip Colletta seminar. Billy Nale did an outstanding job of organization. He handled the details of securing and setting up at Gulf Coast College, served as the liaison with Dr. Colletta, concerning publicity—which was so ably handled by Mary Kay McGraw, and hundreds of other details. Dick and Pat Beach brought coffeepots and made the morning coffee. Greg Morrison provided the cold drinks and ice. Bonnie Shipp and Berniece Loper shopped for supplies and helped with setup. Judy Bennett and Walter Sherman reorganized the registration process. It couldn't have been smoother. Mary Kay also handled the book sales. Linda Kleback was our official hostess for Dr. Colletta. She picked him up at the airport, arranged his transportation to and from the college, and set up dinner for him both nights. The members of the society who attended acted as hosts, helping people find their way around and answering questions. All the comments I heard were positive.

Berniece has volunteered to be program chairman for this year. She has several interesting programs already lined up. I'm sure she would like to hear your suggestions.

Billy Nale is keeping our Web site up to date. Be sure to check it often for program updates. ☘

Welcome New Members for 2005

By Judy Bennett
Judybennett@knology.net

We are very happy to report several new members of our Society already this year. Please give them a warm reception at our next meeting.

Carol Spurlin, P.O. Box 1399, Hinesville, GA

31310, cs1166@clds.net

Holly Wellman, 1008 Paddock Club Drive, PCB,
32407, 249-8806,

holly1000000000@knology.net,

Dorothy Allen, 906 Alabama Ave., Lynn Haven, FL
32444, 265-2032, DAllen5025@aol.com

Members and Their Surnames

Starting this year, the Society wants to publish the surnames—up to five—that each member is working on. Look and see if you are also researching that surname; then contact the member.

Allen (KS)

Dodd (MA)

Pike (NH)

Ridge (MI)

By member Dorothy Allen, 906 Alabama Ave., LH, FL
32444, 265-2032; Dallen5025@aol.com

Annable (MA)

Chapman (OH, CT, MA)

Church (MA)

Crocker (MA)

Northam (MA)

By member Judy Bennett, 814 Balboa Av., Panama City, FL
32401-2156; 215-1579, judybennett@knology.net

Brodhagen

LaFrance

Lobsinger

Querengesser

Scherbarth,

By member Bill Querengesser, 130 Malaga Pl,
PCB, FL 32413-1638; 234-
1593, billq@knology.net

Balkom

Gordon

Jackson

Pryor

Shaw

By member Joan Potter,
4536 Misty Ln, LH, FL
32444; 271-9040,
pottejb@knology.net



Nancy Roberts leads the Beginners' Workshop.

Family History Seminar Draws Record Crowd 13 Counties West of Tallahassee Represented

By Bill Zehner
Photos by Ron Young

This year's Family History Seminar, presented on January 29 at the LDS Church on State Avenue, drew a record number of attendees. One of the two most significant annual genealogical events in Bay and surrounding counties, it seeks to educate the public about genealogical methodology and resources, particularly emphasizing the resources of Family History Centers worldwide that serve as portals to the Family History Library in Salt Lake.

A record 164 people pre-registered for 21 topics in six tracks—Beginners, Intermediate, Native American, Technology, Internet, and Software. Family historians from thirteen Northwest Florida counties, as well as many other states and even Canada, were treated to 26 class-hours taught by 13 of Bay and Okaloosa Counties' most experienced genealogists. Every county west of Tallahassee was represented except Gadsden.



Billy Nale about to present his popular "British Isle Immigrants into the American Colonies 1629-1775."

Again this year, our Society provided a majority of the speakers, lead by keynote speaker Marlene Womack, including Judy Bennett, Greg Morrison, Billy Nale, Nancy Roberts, Robert Stone, and Bill Zehner. They were graciously assisted by Margaret Harris and Thelma Phillips of the Okaloosa County Genealogical Society, and by LDS members Kim Baxley, Noel Gomillion, Judy Railey, and Bama Young.

New for this year was an exhibit area that included a display by our Society, manned by Mary K. McGraw. Also the long lines experienced at the registration area last year were eliminated by ten missionaries who volunteered to meet attendees at the door and initiate the process for walk-ins. Additionally, six FHC staff members volunteered to assist with the process.



FHC staff member Dana Costa and Director Bama Young flank Mary K. McGraw. She distributed brochures and answered questions about the BCGS seminar.

The event was a success by every measure, and positive comments were heard from many participants. Our Society is proud to have assisted the program again this year and we look forward to an even bigger event next year. Planners are already busily working on next year's program that will include an expanded schedule. Given the regional influence of this event and the fact that so many speakers are involved, the name of the event will be upgraded to *Family History Conference* in 2006.

The seminar coordinator wishes to thank all of those who helped make this event a success—speakers, FHC staff, missionaries, and most especially Bonnie Shipp, who served as both registration chair and publicity chair. Those who missed the event are invited to review the highlights in photographs on our Web site at <http://www.northwestfloridagenealogy.com/fhcseminar/photopage/photo.html> ❀

Surfing The Net Unexpected Surprises

By Natalie Thompson
Orem, UT
BCGS Life Member



Fort Langley

Sometimes you just find some interesting sites on the Internet by accident. That is exactly what happened to me one day. If any of you are like me, you just have to pass them on to someone! Consider www.fortlangley.ca/ This site is titled "The Children of Fort Langley" and a brief description follows:

Fort Langley is a thrice-built Hudson's Bay Company fur fort located in the Columbia District on Fraser's River and between 1827 and 1895, approximately 108 men lived and worked at the three fort sites, in what is now British Columbia, Canada.

Listed here are original settlers along with many Native wives and the name of the band or tribe they came from. Some of the surnames are:

Allard, Annance, Arquoitte, Atariachta, Atkinson, Ayotte, Bailey, Baker, Barnston, Bell, Boisvert, Borabora, Bouchard, Brosseau (dit Lafleur), Brown, Brulez, Cakao, Charles, Como, Cornoyer, Cro-marty, Danneau, Dease, Delonie, Dionne, Dubois, Ettue, Fallardeau, Faron, Finley, Gravelle, Hamilton, Harkness, Hereea, Heron, Holland, Issetayerie, Kailimai, Kainoalau, Kalemaka, Kauai, Kea, Keahanele, Kee, Kekoa, Kennedy, Lahowbalow, Lambert, Laowalla, Latreille, Logan, Mcdonald, Mcfadden, Mcmillan, Mcphail, Maayo, Manson, Minie, Mitchell, Mokowhehe, Naharrou, Haukana, Newton, Ohia, Ohule, Onianze, Otchin, Peaennau, Peeohpech, Peers, Peltier, Pepin, Perrault, Piette (dit Faniant), Plomondon, Rendall, Robertson, Satakakata, Sauve (dit Laplante), Simpson, Taeaepou, Taheenou, Ta-L, Tarihonga, Taylor, Teaherery, Tereaepoa, Thervien, Urno, Vautrin, Vincint, Wai-kanaloo, Willing, Work, Yale, Yates.

Many of these names are easily recognizable as English, Scottish, and French. Some of the unusual names listed are from the Sandwich Isles and Oahu. Most of the names can be clicked on for additional information and history regarding that particular person. One that I clicked on and found very interesting was the name of Robert **Robertson**. This will generate a wonderful history of him and his family along with pictures. There is also a descendant tree from him and his native wife, Tseletsetenate.

It is a very comprehensive site with history and ancestry of these early employees and settlers of the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Langley. There are also many interesting links from this site that you can visit. Really interesting and colorful reading for those JUST interested in history alone, but if you by chance have an ancestor here, it could prove to be a gold mine for you. ❀

Mea Culpa

By Bill Zehner

An article in the last issue of *The County Line* reported incorrectly that William Zehner had become the first Certified GenealogistSM in Northwest Florida. The error reiterates the well known genealogical imperative to check *all* sources before reaching conclusions.

The honor actually belongs to Sidney Phoenix Thomes of Escambia County, who became certified on September 9, 1982—more than 22 years ago. In addition, three individuals in the region have been certified as CGRSs (Certified Genealogical Records SpecialistSM): Mrs. Dicy V. Bowman of Escambia County (1982), Mrs. Genevieve E. Narramore of Walton County (1984), and our own Mrs. Barbara Winge of Bay County (1987). CGRS certification requirements differ from CG requirements in some respects, but both demand a thorough familiarity with genealogical records and methodology.

Zehner is the only Northwest Florida resident currently certified in any category. ❀

FSGS Annual Conference Coming to Panama City Beach



Announcement From FSGS

The Florida State Genealogical Society, Inc.
Presents Their

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Come join the fun as the Florida State Genealogical Society (FSGS) hosts their 29th Annual Conference. This exciting learning experience will be held on **November 11 and 12, 2005** at the **Bay Point Marriott Resort**, 4200 Marriott Drive in **Panama City Beach, Florida**.

In addition to our featured speaker, there will be over 15 other lectures given by qualified speakers. Topics being considered include Computers/Technology & Genealogy, Methodology, Problem Solving, Publishing, Military Records, Land Records, Southeast Migration Patterns, Beginning Genealogy, Society Management, and Florida Research.

Registration will be on Thursday evening and Friday and Saturday mornings with the conference starting on Friday morning and continuing through Saturday afternoon.

The annual banquet on Friday night will honor individuals who have documented their Florida pioneers through the Florida Pioneer Descendant Program. Certificates will be presented to qualifying descendants of pioneers who settled in Florida prior to statehood on 3 March 1845. In addition, awards will be given to individuals who have exemplified their dedication to genealogy.

Mark your calendars now! Further information about the conference and the genealogy vendors who will be in attendance, the attractions of the area, and the research facilities awaiting your research expertise will be forthcoming. As they become available we will post them on the FSGS Web site <http://www.rootsworld.com/~flsgs> so be sure to check it often.

To request a conference registration flyer, contact A. Staley, P. O. Box 441364, Jacksonville, FL 32222; Email: astaley@comcast.net. ❀

Who Were They? Huguenots

By Barbara Winge

People researching their family history should learn about the people with whom they are trying to connect. Many times these historians will state that they have a Huguenot ancestor—but do they know who he really was?

John Calvin (1509-1564) was an attorney who practiced law with his father in Paris, France. When the elder Calvin died in 1531, John studied theology and began a protest against the Catholic Church. In 1532 he published his plea for church reform, which angered the French, so he was forced to flee to Basel, Switzerland. There he established a Protestant Church for the French-speaking congregation. These protesters—Protestants—called themselves Reformers. The Catholics preferred to call them Huguenots (pronounced Hu-ghe-nahts, or Hu-ghe-nos) a derogatory term which could have originated from the German word Elignossen meaning “confederates.”

Life for the Huguenots left in France was extremely difficult. In 1545 annihilations began and migration was prohibited. The Saint Bartholomew's Massacre took place on August 24, 1572 when King Henry IV's army along with Catholic clergy massacred 100,000 French Protestants. By 1585 Catherine d'Medici, mother of the French king and the controlling regent, ordered the removal of all Huguenots from France. Those who could left for other parts of Europe and the New World. Some settled in Angouleme (New York) and others attempted to settle in Florida but were killed or enslaved by the Spaniards. In 1669 South Carolina had settlements as did Virginia by 1700.

Huguenot Naming Patterns. The Huguenots preferred to use the Old Testament names for their children. By 1600 the most common names for boys were, Abraham, Isaac, Daniel, David, Jacob, Solomon, and Samuel. The most frequent female names were Ester and Judith. ❀

New Books

In the Genealogical Collection Of The Bay County Public Library

22-Feb-05

By Linda Pazics Kleback
Genealogy Specialist
Bay County Public Library

**GENERAL:**

- A Reminiscent History of the Ozark Region – Gen. R976.71 Rem
 American Military Casualties and Burials – Gen. R940.53 Dew
 Andrew Elton Williams: Ancestors, Contemporaries, Descendants and Allied Families – Gen. R929.42 And
 Black Family Research: Records of Post-Civil War Federal Agencies at the National Archives – Gen. R 929 Uni
 Black Genealogy – Gen. R929.1 Blo
 Denizations and Naturalizations in the British Colonies in America, 1607-1775 – Gen. R929.1 Boc
 Emigrants from France (Haut-Rhin Departement) to America – Gen. R929 Smi
 History of the Cherokee Indians – Gen. R975.004 Sta
 List of Black Servicemen Compiled from the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records – Gen. R973.3 Lis
 Plantagenet Ancestry – Gen. R929 Ric
 Preliminary Inventories, Number 116, Records of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York – Gen. R929.373 Uni
 Preliminary Inventories, Number 124, Records of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania – Gen. R929.373 Uni
 Preliminary Inventories, Number 14, Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Direct Tax Commission for the District of South Carolina – Gen. R929.373 Uni
 Preliminary Inventories, Number 163, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Volume I – Gen. R929.373 Uni
 Preliminary Inventories, Number 163, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Volume II – Gen. R929.373 Uni

- Preliminary Inventories, Number 58, Records of the United States Court of Claims – Gen. R929.373 Uni
 Red Book: American, State, County, and Town Sources – Gen. R929 Red
 The Lenape and Their Legends – Gen. R974.004 Bri
 The Pumphrey Pedigree – Gen. R929.42 Pum
 Weights, Money and Other Measures Used By Our Ancestors – Gen. R389 Cha
 World War II Military Records – Gen. R940.54 Kno

ALABAMA:

- Alabama 1850 Agricultural and Manufacturing Census. 2 Volumes. – AL Gen. R929.3761 Gre
 The Heritage of Hale County, Alabama – AL Gen. R976.1 Her

ARKANSAS:

- Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas – AR Gen. R976.7 Bio

FLORIDA:

- Joan's Pictorial Treasures of Washington County, Florida – FL Gen. R975.5996 Cha
 Panhandle Warriors: West Florida's Volunteer Soldiers in the Second Seminole War – FL Gen. R929.1 Jam
 Sun, Sand, and Water: A History of the Jacksonville District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1821-1975 – FL Gen. R358.22 Buk
 The Last Days of British Saint Augustine, 1784-1785: A Spanish Census of the English Colony of East Florida – FL Gen. R929.375918 Fel

GEORGIA:

- Families of Southeastern Georgia – GA Gen. R929.3758 Ave

KENTUCKY:

- Forks of Elkhorn Church KY Gen. R286 Dar

NEW YORK:

- Free Black Heads of Households in the New York State Federal Census, 1790-1830 – NY Gen. R929.3 Ric
 New York Colonial Muster Rolls 1664-1775; two volumes – NY Gen. R929.3747 New

NORTH CAROLINA:

Caswell County, North Carolina, Marriage Bonds,
1778-1868 – NC Gen. R929.3756 Ken

Currituck County, North Carolina Eighteenth Cen-
tury Tax & Militia Records – NC

Gen.R929.3756 Ben

Families of Cabarrus County, North Carolina 1792-
1815 – NC Gen. R929.3756 Mar

Reminiscences and Memoirs of North Carolina –
NC Gen. R975.6 Whe

PENNSYLVANIA:

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania in the War for the
Suppression of the Rebellion – PA Gen. R973.7
Eva

Indian Paths of Pennsylvania – PA Gen. R917.4804
Wal

William Penn and the Dutch Quaker Migration to
Pennsylvania – PA Gen. R974.8 Hul

SOUTH CAROLINA:

Charleston, South Carolina City Directories For the
Years 1803, 1806, 1807, 1809, and 1813 – SC
Gen. R917.57 Hag

Charleston, South Carolina City Directories For the
Years 1816, 1819, 1822, 1825, and 1829 – SC
Gen. R917.57 Hag ❀

Spring Programs

By Berniece Loper
Photo by Barbara Winge

Panhandle History

Our January meeting was very well attended and those present experienced a real treat. Ann Robbins, local historian and member of the Bay County Public Library, put on a riveting show (photo below). Her story featured Bone Mizell, a real "Florida Cracker." His life and bigger-than-life exploits coupled with his down-to-earth personality fascinated everyone. Ann also displayed and explained her extensive Florida Panhandle antique collection.



Family Tree Maker 2005

Our 19 March meeting, although in a completely different vein, was also a big hit. Deanna D. Ramsey, a corporate trainer from Tallahassee with a degree in computer programming, gave an interesting live demonstration of the key new features of a completely overhauled edition of the most popular genealogical software in the U. S. Not just another cosmetic upgrade, this is the first really major change since version 5. Some long-time users are a bit overwhelmed with the new look—and it will take some getting used to. That's where Ms. Ramsey's presentation came in very handy.

Among her many other duties, Deanna is currently editor of the Tallahassee Genealogical Society *TGS Bulletin* and manager of their Web site, as well as public relations committee chair for the Florida State Genealogical Society. ❀

April 16 Program

A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words:

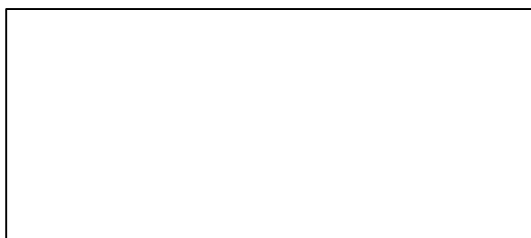
What to do With Grandpa's Photo

Speaker: Judy Bennett

Just saving our family photographs is not the same as *preserving* them for the future. Ways to take care of your pictures will be discussed, including memory books/scrapbooking.

Judy has been a member of BCGS since she became "hooked" with the passion of discovering her ancestors 14 years ago. After opening a can of home movies and finding the film disintegrating, she's also dedicated to preserving her family pictures, documents and memorabilia. ❀

Bay County Genealogy 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 third Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Panama City Library. The Board of Directors meet at Quality Analytical Laboratories, 2355 St. Andrews Blvd. at 10:00 a.m. also on the third Saturday of the month. Membership dues are \$15.00 per year for individuals, \$20.00 for single-address families, and \$10.00 for full-time students, payable in December.

Our web address is <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flbcgs> E-mail: bander6477@knology.net

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

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Postmaster: Send address changes to the Bay County Genealogical Society at the address shown above.