MYSTERIES AND MAPS

We will have two speakers at the 10 February 2005 HGS meeting. Marian Strong Tomblin will speak on the topic “Turning Your Roots into Tales” and Harlan H. Hutchins will address “Maps for the Genealogist.”

Marian Tomblin, daughter of HGS President Elizabeth Strong, grew up in Ormond Beach, attended Brenau College, saw the world as a Coast Guard wife, and now she and her family have made Ormond Beach their home. Her first historical novel, The Mystery at Hotel Ormond written for her 8-year old daughter, has been very well received locally. Mayor Costello selected the book to feature in our “One Book, One Community ~ Ormond Beach” literacy campaign.

Harlan Hutchins is semi-retired from a construction career, the last 25 years of which included specializing in historic building restoration, and he now consults in that area. He keeps busy in his church serving as a deacon, in the antique business specializing in antique maps, and in helping to rebuild and reestablish the New Smyrna Historical Museum.

FUTURE HGS PROGRAMS
March 10, 2005 Ann Mohr Osisek, “Not Just a Clockmaker - Exploring Your Ancestor’s Occupations”

HGS MEETINGS
The Halifax Genealogical Society (HGS) holds its meetings from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month (excluding July and August) in the auditorium of the Ormond Beach Library, 30 South Beach Street, Ormond Beach, FL. The HGS Board normally meets at noon in Meeting Room 3 of the Library preceding each Society meeting.

January Attendance: 47 members and guests

NEW MEMBER
HGS welcomes new member:
KALAPACA, Sophia Joran 676-1343 844 Marvin Road Ormond Beach, FL 32176

Sophia came to Ormond Beach two years ago after a career in nursing and teaching in Prince Georges County, Maryland. She is researching CHEWNING and DIGGES, both in Virginia.
FOURTH CALL FOR 2005 HGS MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership dues for the new HGS year were due in January as paid by mail or at a regular HGS meeting. Dues will be considered delinquent if not paid by the March HGS meeting! The yearly HGS dues to cover GenNews publication, HGS program activities, and genealogical resource acquisitions remain the same as for 2004. These dues are:

INDIVIDUAL DUES = $15.00  FAMILY DUES = $20.00

Checks should be made payable to HGS and if mailed, sent to Halifax Genealogical Society, PO Box 5081, Ormond Beach, FL 32175-5081.

SEMINAR 2005

On Saturday, January 8, some 145 eager genealogists registered for the annual Volusia-Flagler Council of Genealogical Societies seminar held at the Harborside Inn in Palm Coast to hear Helen F. M. Leary deliver three lectures. The thrust of the lectures was: how to get the most out of available records. Novices to genealogical research found a wealth of ideas for searching birth, death and marriage records in the material presented. The humor which Mrs. Leary sprinkled liberally throughout the lectures kept the attention of even the most experienced genealogists.

Seminar 2006 will be hosted by Roots & Branches. Details to be announced.

SEMINAR IN ST. AUGUSTINE

The St Augustine Genealogical Society presents their annual seminar featuring Robert Scott Davis, Jr. on March 12, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 500 Deltona Blvd, St Augustine, FL 32208. Cost: $30 (includes lunch)

Robert "Bob" Scott Davis, Jr., is Director of the Family & Regional History Program, Wallace State Community College, Hanceville, AL. His program pioneers genealogy and family history in a college environment. His more than 600 publications on records and research have included twenty-four books and also articles in several periodicals.

Seminar Lectures:

* Following a Nineteenth Century Paper Trail: Understanding Federal Records in the Old Bureaucracy
* Great American Genealogical Libraries
* Strange Lands: Unusual Places to Travel To on the Information Highway (Internet)
* The Really Important and the Self important: Finding Biographical Information

Please, send your checks made to SAGS to: Jackie Chambers, 185 Maya Ct, St Augustine, FL 32086. Telephone #: 904-794-0681. For additional information call Gail DeVries at 904-471-5549 or Edie Mixon at 904-810-5187.

SISTER SOCIETY MEETINGS

Genealogical Society of Southeast Volusia County, second Monday at the NSB Regional Library at 5:00 p.m.

14 Feb 2005, Speaker: Anne Register, “Women of the Revolutionary War"

Volusia County Genealogical Society, third Thursday at the City Island Library in the auditorium at 6:00 p.m.

17 Feb 2005, Speaker: June Byrne, “All You Ever Wanted to Know about Newspapers”

Genealogical Society of Flagler County, fourth Thursday at the Flagler County Library in Palm Coast at 5:45 p.m.

24 Feb 2005, Speaker: Helen Bucholtz, author of “American Hamburger - An American Girl in Nazi Germany” and “Another Dance of Life - The Aftermath of War”

Volusia Computer Genealogy Group, first Wednesday at the City Island Library in the auditorium at 1:30 p.m.

2 Mar 2005, Speaker: Del Leonard, “Maintaining Your Computer"

Roots and Branches Genealogical Society, first Thursday at the DeLand Regional Library at 6:00 p.m.


Only a genealogist regards a step backwards as progress
The following trips are sponsored by the St. Augustine Genealogy Society and are OPEN TO ANYONE! Please contact Edie Mixon at ediem@bellsouth.net for travel itinerary and cost.

April 11 – 15, 2005 Wallace State College and the Birmingham Public Library
May 7 – 15, 2005 Trip to Salt Lake City
July 25 –30, 2005 North Caroline Archives
Sept 10 – 18, 2005 Salt Lake City
Oct 16 – 23, 2005 Allen County Library – Fort Wayne, IN

GenNews TEN YEARS AGO (February 1995)

CIVIL WAR STATISTICS
It is known that most wars are fought by young men and boys. This was quite true for the Civil War. Enlistment ages of the Northern soldiers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ten years old</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleven years old</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twelve years old</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirteen years old</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourteen years old</td>
<td>1,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteen years old</td>
<td>104,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixteen years old</td>
<td>231,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventeen years old</td>
<td>844,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighteen years old</td>
<td>1,158,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 18 &amp; under 22</td>
<td>617,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 22 &amp; under 44</td>
<td>52,696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The army that fought the battle at Gettysburg was composed of boys not old enough to vote, while Grant’s bloody campaign against Richmond was fought by men who reached the voting age of 21 after they entered the service. The drummer boys were of the age of 10, 11, and 12 years old. The figures were taken from government records. (The Illuminator, Volume 10, No. 3, 1994.

GenNews FIVE YEARS AGO (February 2000)

GENERAL INFO - BEYOND MEGASTORAGE

With PC storage now commonly in the realm of the “gigabit,” what comes next in orders of magnitude? Brace yourself for the era of the truly massive:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREFIX</th>
<th>POWER of 10</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kilo-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>thousands</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mega-</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>millions</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>giga-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>billions</td>
<td>1,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tera-</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>trillions</td>
<td>1,000,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peta-</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>quadrillions</td>
<td>1,000,000,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exa-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>quintillions</td>
<td>1,000,000,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zetta-</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>sextillions</td>
<td>1,000,000,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yotta-</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>septillions</td>
<td>1,000,000,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For perspective, the entire Library of Congress contains a mere 10 terabytes. And downloading a one-yottabyte file over today’s standard 58.6 kilobyte modems would require about 140 billion years. But have no fear: Using the fiber-optic lines of the future, lab scientists can now transmit a terabyte of data - roughly equivalent to every word ever published by the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and the Washington Post - in one second.

Now, this Editor knows what “YOTTA, YOTTA, YOTTA” means!!!
CENSUS SENSE
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When 2010 rolls around, you won’t have to worry about spending hours filling in tiny ovals on the census long form. But you may have to supply that information in another year. The Census Bureau (http://www.census.gov) still will officially count us every 10 years using the familiar short form, but it has adopted a new method of collecting in-depth data such as home ownership, income, literacy, ancestry and more.

The bureau just mailed out the first installment of its American Community Survey (ACS), a mandatory survey sent to a rolling, random sample of about 3 million households. Roughly 2.5 percent of the nation’s 140 million households-about one in 40--will participate in the survey each year. The Census Bureau has been testing and developing ACS since 1996; it currently produces data for areas with populations more than 250,000.

ACS will let the Census Bureau release community data sooner after it’s collected, so the information is more up-to-date than facts from the long form. The first numbers from this month's ACS mailing will reach you in 2006.

You already know that answers to the census short form are released (with great genealogical fanfare) after 72 years. But your descendants won’t be able to use the ACS to find out about you--as with the census long form, ACS answers are forever confidential.

CIVIL WAR MAPMAKING
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A new Library of Congress online collection could let you trace your Civil War ancestor's footsteps into battle or see whether soldiers dug trenches on his farm. The Library of Congress (http://www.loc.gov), Virginia Historical Society (http://www.vahistorical.org) and Library of Virginia (http://www.lva.lib.va.us) have teamed up to post nearly 3,000 Civil War maps, charts, atlases and sketchbooks at http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil_war_maps.

Union forces or northern commercial firms prepared most of the maps in the Library of Congress collection. They depict battles and engagements, troop positions and movements, and fortifications.

The Virginia Historical Society's online collection includes Army Engineer Corps maps of Virginia that not only detail roads, bridges, waterways and major buildings, but also identify farms and plantations by the owners' names. In addition, you'll find images from the diary and scrapbook of Robert K. Sneden, an Army of the Potomac private who served as a mapmaker, consist primarily of battle plans and fortification details.

The Library of Virginia contributed 200 maps to the new site. Some accompanied reports to the governor of Virginia; others include Confederate imprints, printed and manuscript maps of areas in Virginia, and field maps of southwestern Virginia.

You can search the collection or browse by title, subject, place or creator. To view an image, zoom in and click to navigate, or, if you have the MrSid plug-in, download the whole thing.

GENNEWS BY E-MAIL
If you have not already signed up for, and wish to receive your GenNews by E-mail, send your E-address to the Editor at jbpark@bellsouth.net. At this point we have 33 on our E-mail list - a saving of almost $30 if those issues are mailed.

VOLUSIA-FLAGLER GENEALOGY ON-LINE
If you are on the Internet and haven’t already found it, Neil Armstrong issues a monthly newsletter, Volusia-Flagler Genealogy ON-LINE at <neilarm@bellsouth.net>. There you will find news of the activities of state and local area genealogical societies and the Family History Center as well as items related to genealogical research on the net. Write to Neil at the address above and become a subscriber. It’s free!

ELLIS ISLAND SITE - BETTER THAN EVER
The Ellis Island Web site (http://www.ellisisland.org), home to a free database of 22 million Ellis Island passenger records, has relaunched with a more efficient ancestor search.

When the database debuted in April 2001, researchers logged on to the tune of 10 million hits per day. The site's remained popular, though genealogists have noted problems catching variations of their ancestors' names. And some researchers have felt hamstrung by the site's first name/last name/gender search: They could narrow results by characteristics such as ship name and port of origin, but couldn't search on those terms.

Ellis Island's new refined search--still in test phase--lets you frame your query around what you actually know about your relative, and effectively narrow or broaden your results. The search offers 11 data fields:

* first name (you can enter parts of a name)
* last name ("sounds like" and "alternate spellings" options help catch variations)
* gender
* marital status
* approximate year of birth
* year range (expands range for year of birth)
* approximate year of arrival
* year range (expands range for year of arrival)
* town or village of origin
* name of passenger ship
* ethnicity

Spelling variations are easier to find, but they won't disappear. Transcribers copied passenger names as they appeared on ships' lists. To preserve the integrity of those historical records, site administrators don't alter correctly transcribed names in the database. But if you believe you've found a transcription error, you can notify Ellis Island staff via an e-mail link on the Passenger Record page.

The relaunched Ellis Island Web site also features other improvements, including streamlined navigation; the Genealogy Learning Center; the Ellis Island Society Links Network to connect site visitors with societies specializing in their research areas; and new Ellis Island histories, old photos, famous passenger information and visitor information.

DO NOT USE A SURNAME WHEN SEARCHING ON THE CENSUS RECORDS
Indian River Genealogical Society, Inc., December 2004

Does this sound crazy to you? If so, then you need to look at a whole new way of researching on the Internet database. When you are unable to find the record, try using the first name. Other alternatives would be searching all names within a county or city. Are you unsure about the spelling of the surname? Search by the first three letters. How about searching with no names and look for all those born in a certain birth place if it is different than the state they are currently living in? How about by the birth year? But be careful, the year could fall within a ten year period. On some census records, you can search for other people in the same household. Try using their first names within the county. Wild card searches are available in many databases. It will be up to you to think of the variety of ways to search because after all, would you be able to interpret the handwriting of the census takers accurately if you were a transcriber?

“Light tomorrow with today!”
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning

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INPUTS TO THE HGS NEWSLETTER

HGS GenNews Editor: John B. Parkerson; Assistant Editor: Marianne Pitts. Appropriate genealogical news and information is always desired for inclusion in future issues of the HGS newsletter. HGS members having possible inputs or corrections to the newsletter should provide them to the HGS officers listed above or to John B. Parkerson, 110 N. Beach St., Ormond Beach, FL 32174-5604, Tel: (386) 672-3528, E-mail: <jbpark@bellsouth.net>.