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Bumper Stickers seen recently:

**Genealogists
Collect Dead
Relatives**

**Genealogists
Never Die,
They just Lose
Their Census**

**Adam and Eve
probably found
genealogy boring**

**I only work on
Genealogy on days
that end in "Y"**

President's Comments

Reba E. Shepard, MCGS President

Happy Holidays! Season's Greetings!

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

It's that time of year again when we wish all our friends and neighbors Season's Greetings. And it signals the end of another year. It has been a good year for Martin County Genealogical Society. We reduced the outgo and increased the income, and who could ask for anything more. We also increased membership, and for that we are very proud. Thank you.

Our Vice President spearheaded programs to keep you informed. There were speakers at meetings, workshops, one on one sessions on the first Saturday of the month, and new this year, the first Thursday evening of the month. Our treasurer kept close tabs on expenditures, and our Library Consultant spearheaded a year of success in the Gen Room. As of now, all time slots are filled with trained volunteers.

The board has planned a Seminar with a National speaker to be held March 15th featuring Dick Eastman, famous author of Eastman Newsletter. We surveyed the membership to determine which subjects we would schedule. He will cover 4 subjects in one day, and we hope that each and every one of you attends. Thanks to the Fazekas family who directed memorials for Janet Fazekas to be given to our society, our bank balance is up, and the price of the seminar is down. Members can attend the all-day affair, including lunch, for just \$25.00. Do not miss this opportunity. Non-members will be charged \$35.00.

We have a full board of directors, and I predict that 2014, too, will be a successful year. We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas gathering. Don't forget to bring cookies and a gift for the silent auction.

It has truly been a pleasure to serve you as President for the year 2012. I thank all of you for your participation and your contributions to the success of Martin County Genealogical Society.

Reba E Shepard

Calendar of Events for the Next Three Months

MEETINGS:

Regular 3rd Friday of every month meetings are scheduled for Jan. 17th, Feb. 21st and Mar. 21st. Please go to MCGS' website, mcgensociety.org, and click on EVENTS, to find the latest info about the program for a particular meeting.

All of the meetings will be at the John F. Armstrong Wing of the Blake Library, 2351 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL. Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free, and light refreshments will be available between the business meeting and the program.

The January 17th meeting's program will be "Genealogical Research into the 1700's: a case study", presented by MCGS member Walt Bruetsch. The intent of the program is to show the methods used, which may be helpful to others doing research.

WORKSHOPS:

Open to the public are educational workshops scheduled for the 3rd and 4th Saturday mornings of January and February at the Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart, FL (off Salerno Road, west of US 1). The doors open at 10 AM and class will start at 10:15 AM and go to 12 Noon.

Interested attendees are encouraged to send a sign-up Email to mcgsfl@gmail.com. But walk-ins are most welcome as the room is the large size community room. But if the attendance is small, then we may move into the smaller conference room inside the library section of the building.

A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

Please go to the mcgensociety.org website, click on EVENTS, to find the latest information.

At these workshops, we typically have a computer and projector set up, used by the presenters in giving the workshop, and also so that we can visit websites of interest to those in attendance.

The January 18th workshop will be "Beginning Genealogy", taught by MCGS member Deborah Halacy. Attendees should bring paper and pencil / pen to take notes.

The January 25th workshop will be "Land Records, Emigration within the USA, Homesteading, etc." given by MCGS member Walt Bruetsch. He will be showing the results of his research into his immigrant ancestors as he covers the topics of the workshop and answers questions.

The February workshops programs have yet to be determined.

The March 15th workshop will be pre-empted by the Dick Eastman all day seminar at the Stuart Yacht and Country Club.

The March 22nd workshop will not be held, because of the previous and following weekend activities. The activities are the Eastman Seminar and the Florida State Genealogical Society Annual Conference on March 28th, 29th and 30th.

As previously mentioned, please go to the mcgensociety.org website, and click on EVENTS to find the latest program information.

Board of Director Meetings:

Bd. of Dir. meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month, Jan. 9th, Feb. 13th, and Mar. 13th at 10:15 am at the Cummings Library in Palm City. MCGS members are welcomed to attend.

Genealogy Room - Blake Library**Monday - Friday - 10 AM to 4 PM**

MCGS volunteers are available for free assistance.

DNA SIG* and **Germanic SIG*** - Persons with a question can contact Walt Bruetsch, **772-220-1638** or **waltbruetsch@usa.net**. Help is on a one-on-one basis.**New England SIG*** - Questions? Contact Lee Vought at **eleevought@aol.com** or Shirley Pizziferri - **gypsygal2009@gmail.com**.**Irish help** - Persons with a question can contact Bob Scully in the Gen. Room on Fridays (2-4 PM) or **772-486-0549** or **scillysr@yahoo.com**All of these events are always **FREE** and **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. Everyone is welcome! Visit the MCGS Web site **<http://mcgensociety.org>** for more information.* **SIG** - Special Interest Group made up of MCGS members and guests who meet to discuss ways of improving their personal genealogical search methods, and to find new helpful tools and resources. They also provide help to **NON-MEMBERS** who have an interest in learning how to research their genealogy.**This 'n That**

If you care to be on a MCGS published list of "Researchers for Hire", Contact Shirley Pizziferri.

Members, we invite You !

We need members to share their experiences in genealogy to come forward. We always are looking for speakers for meetings, and workshop leaders. If you need preparation help, it will be provided.

Our organization is only as good as we make it. **WE WANT YOU!**

Bob Bishop, Director of Education

Dick Eastman's Seminar, March 15th!**MCGS's Big Event!**

Dick Eastman, the internationally-known genealogist and blogger of Eastman's Online Genealogical Newsletter, will be the speaker on March 15th at the Stuart Yacht and Country Club, presenting four one-hour talks on genealogical items of interest.

So far, the most popular talks are:

1. My Heritage Searching at 9:00 AM
 2. Mocavo Website at 10:30 AM
 3. Conservation of Your Genealogical Records at 1:15 PM
 4. Genealogy Searches on Google at 2:30 PM
- We'll let you know if these subjects and times change.

The program will include a delicious lunch of soup, sandwiches, salad and dessert. Drinks (coffee, tea, water, juice) will be available all day.

Pre-registration will be required by March 5th, and a flyer will be distributed soon to all members that will contain a registration form. MCGS has to conform to the security requirements of the Yacht and Country Club, thus the pre-registration requirement.

Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members, so mark your calendar and watch for the complete flyer to come to you electronically. Print copies will also be available in all Martin County libraries and other public locations.

BLOGS YOU SHOULD TRY

By Shirley Pizziferri

If you haven't yet subscribed to Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter (it's free), do so now. Among new sites that may interest you, Pender County, North Carolina's new genealogy resource: <http://blog.eogn.com>.

FSGS Annual Conference

By Walt Bruetsch, Shirley Pizziferri

Reserve the weekend of March 28, 29 & 30, 2014 for your attendance at the Florida State Genealogical Society's annual conference. It will be held at the Holton University of Florida Conference Center in Gainesville, Florida. Every Gen. Society in Florida is automatically a member of this Society and you are cordially invited and urged to attend this annual conference.

A conference such as this is a great way to learn a lot about a variety of subjects on genealogy in a very short amount of time.

Many of the details will be available soon on their website: <http://flsgs.org>

Here is what Shirley has to say about last year's conference: Three members of the MCGS (Reba Shepard, Deb Halacy and Shirley Pizziferri) attended the last FSGS conference in March. The emphasis was on technology and the speakers were top-notch. We all learned something new and it was well worth attending. Try going to the next one in Gainesville. You won't regret it. If you don't want to spend the night, you can go just for the day.

Library News

We have a new book in the Genealogy Room. The book is titled "New York State Censuses & Substitutes". The book uncovers surviving state census manuscripts and microfilmed copies for each of New York's 62 counties. In addition, this book identifies published extracts or indexes, census substitutes, and selected name lists; plus, many county originals of federal censuses are uncovered as well.

Because county boundaries have changed over the centuries, this book includes a series of maps showing these changes between 1683 and 1915. Also included are sample copies from the different lists on facing pages with blank reproductions readers can copy as a research tool.

New Members' Interests

Eleven people became new members to MCGS between September and December, 2013. We were able to contact a few of them and ask them about their genealogical interests.

New member Tom Rearick is a retired electrician from Florida who recently retired. He says his #1 priority on his "bucket list" is researching his family tree. Originally from Pennsylvania, his ancestors are mainly German and Irish. His brother in Pennsylvania is helping him.

Cindy and John Sheppard are avid genealogists and a valuable addition to our membership. During the summer they travel throughout the country in their RV, researching their ancestors.

MCGS members extend a warm welcome to these eleven new members. And thank you in advance for becoming active in the Society's events and projects.

Tidbit

Consider establishing a **forever** E-mail address for your genealogy work. Then when an old message board posting is responded to, you will be notified of the new posting. And if you upload a GED file to World Connect Project on RootsWeb.com, people will also be able to contact you. A gmail.com address is appealing, because currently they don't have any ads, and you can use the new Hang Out feature, which is like Skype.

Thank You Volunteers!

By Walt Bruetsch

In the September Journal, Jerry Bloom Stephenson wrote a very nice article titled "Reflections on Volunteering". Here are some of the ways that MCGS members are participating.

Jerry has been a volunteer of MCGS in the following activities: being on the MCGS Board of Directors, did the indexing of the All Saints Cemetery burials, was Journal editor and current contributor, maintains the Family Surname Index project, handles membership roster responsibility, coordinates E-mails to members and is the Sunshine Chairperson. And there are probably other activities she is doing.

We wish to acknowledge that Cindy Sheppard has volunteered to take on the Hospitality Table task, including making coffee, for our regular 3rd Friday of the month meetings. Husband John will most likely be helping with this task. Cindy and John are also volunteering in the Genealogy Room during the week. In addition, they are working on the Obituary Project, currently the indexing of persons listed in the Clipped Obits books in the Genealogy Room.

The Genealogy Room volunteers are at full strength, thanks to our seasonal members. The shifts are from 10am to 12pm, 12pm to 2pm, and 2pm to 4pm.

On Mondays we have Jerry Bloom Stephenson, Cindy Sheppard and Diane Dorgan.

On Tuesdays are Colleen Kimball, Bonni Cohen and Walt Bruetsch.

On Wednesdays are Pat Harder, Shirley Pizziferri and Lee Voight.

On Thursdays are Bob Bishop, Donna Dubois and Karen Peterson.

On Fridays are John Sheppard, Jean Gray and Bob Scully (Irish specialist).

Substitutes are Reba Shepard, Ruth Fox and Jessie Urcheck. Many thanks to all of these people.

Our Obituary Indexing Project now has four volunteers actively working to finish up what was started back in the mid 2000's decade. John and Cindy Sheppard and Ruth Faust are working with the Clipped Obits volumes and Walt Bruetsch is working with the 2001 microfilm to create that year's obituary index. We need to complete up to 2003, which is when Legacy.com takes over in the new digital age, now 10 years old.

The MCGS Journal is published four times a year. We have one person as the main editor, currently Walt, who is getting help from Jerry Bloom Stephenson and Shirley Pizziferri. We are always in need of additional people to provide interesting articles, ideas, facts, etc. to the editor. Let your light shine.

MCGS Projects

By Walt Bruetsch

One of our goals as a society is to provide databases for the researching genealogist. Going to our website, mcgensociety.org and clicking on PROJECTS, we find projects on:

1. Bible Records - transcribe copies.
2. Cemeteries – add GPS coordinates.
3. Family History Books - transcribe surnames
4. Genealogy Room - two (2) hours once a weekday.
5. Obituary Project - We are still creating databases to upload to the Internet. Volunteers are needed to enter obituary info from Clipped Obituaries onto a spreadsheet.

DNA and Genealogy

By Walt Bruetsch

The newest trend in DNA technology is the use of what was called autosome in the "old days" (early 2000's), where all 23 chromosomes are used in determining those persons to whom you are related. Evidently the technology has improved so much that companies can offer this greater genetic matching at reasonable costs.

The net result is that a person taking this test is now being presented with the names of people that he doesn't even know. The companies do all of the analysis, which is understandable with so much data to be analyzed. Going back to a Y chromosome only test, a person could handle the 40 or so data results and it was simple to find others who were a match.

So what is a person to do? My suggestion is to acknowledge the match with a nice reply. Mention that your family tree research to date does not show a match with a person of that surname. And that you will be in contact if future research does result in a document match to that surname. A no response just doesn't seem reasonable, otherwise, why take the test in the first place.

MCGS has a DNA SIG, and we'll meet whenever there is an interest. Check our EVENTS webpage for future DNA workshops on a Saturday morning.

The Ireland Genographic Project

The National Geographic Society has been conducting DNA projects for many years now. With the advancements in technology, they have been doing genographic projects, where they go to a particular area and take DNA cheek swabs from like a 100 people and determine the ancestral background, of those tested, back thousands of years.

A large scale test has been completed in County Mayo, Ireland and the results are available. In your Internet browser URL box, enter **genographic.nationalgeographic.com** and click on the NEWS tab on the top navigation bar. Then comes up a selection of recent articles. Click on The Genographic Project Returns to Ireland to Reveal DNA Results.

Enjoy reading the news article and looking at the pictures. In particular, look at the maps showing the migration path of the thousands of year old people as they found their way from continental Europe to Ireland, based on both maternal DNA testing and paternal DNA testing.

But be sure to click on "View the details on some of their specific results", sort of the story behind the story.

Also, be sure to scroll on down to the lower half of the webpage, so you can read the comments of readers of this article. There are some interesting observations

For a researcher, there is a place for broad base testing of DNA, such as the genographic projects. But there is also a place for more traditional testing of the Y-DNA and MITO-DNA to solve a particular genealogical problem.

There is an Irish Families Group Project at website:

www.familytreedna.com/public/IrishRoots/

Here you will find the traditional Y-DNA results for many families. Just click on the tabs at the top and view the results.

The long established on-line databases for an individual's DNA results are www.ysearch.org for Y-DNA and www.mitosearch.org for MITO-DNA.

Genealogy Room Gems

By Jerry Bloom Stephenson

Why do we come to the Library for our researching? Can't we "get it all" from home via the Internet? Good questions. But, long and short of it, the Blake Library Gen. Room is a treasure trove of unique items, some of which cannot easily be found elsewhere. Come and check it out!

When you make your next visit, look at the table in the middle of the room. You will find several binders there, holding good information of you to use while there. One contains an index of CDs that MCGS holds in the vertical file drawers. It also gives instructions for each of the various CDs on how to view, using our Gen. Room computers. These CDs come from various sources, so sometime the method to "open" or "use" varies. See the MCGS volunteer on duty to access these records.

Another "Gem" found there is a binder titled "Family Histories Surname Index". Even though the Surname Index project has not yet been completed, this can be a very valuable tool for your researching needs. Stack 1 in this room holds our collection of Family Histories. Your family is not there? Maybe or maybe not. There can be extended branches that could just be the link you are looking for.

In the "Family Histories Surname Index" is a printout of a spreadsheet of names found in the books we hold. In addition to the Surnames, you will find the location and approximate dates for these families, when known. Finally, the book title, author and Dewey Decimal Number associated with that book is shown so you can easily find the book on the shelf.

Your MCGS Gen. Room volunteers have been working on reviewing each of our family history books to add more names to this index. We're almost done. Be sure to check out the printout periodically to see if a family name you are researching appears.

Ancestry.com or Heritage Quest?

Last month we sent you an electronic survey request. The Martin County Library System is reviewing what it offers in the library computers. They have asked us for our opinions.

Janette Noe, our library liaison recently said to us: "We are investigating Heritage Quest as an alternate to Ancestry for our online genealogy resource. Years ago we subscribed to both but as our collection budget reduced, we consulted usage and our avid genealogy patrons for their input."

So, we asked your opinion to help the MCGS Board provide our response. Thanks to all who took the time to reply. Only about 15% of you gave us your opinions. But, the results were overwhelmingly in favor of keeping access to Ancestry.com - Library Edition in lieu of changing to Heritage Quest.

Naturalization Research

By Walt Bruetsch

Before there were Internet databases, researchers into naturalization records had to look at the court records books.

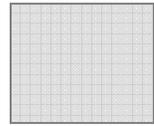
A modern researcher now goes to Ancestry.com (library's edition is paid by your tax \$) and inputs the person's surname. Maybe a naturalization database comes up.

Also, FamilySearch.org is adding naturalization card images for many states. So, another possibility of an on-line source.

If all else fails, come into the Genealogy Room of the Blake Library and look into the book titled: Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States by Christina K. Schaefer. The book's Dewey Decimal # is 929.373 SCH.

The government website is: www.uscis.gov for records after 27 September 1906.

Martin County Genealogical Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 275
 Stuart, FL 34995

**WEB ADDRESS:**

<http://mcgensociety.org>

MCGS Board of Directors - 2013

President	Reba Shepard
Vice-President/Programs	Robert Bishop
Treasurer	Walter Bruetsch
Membership	Jeraldene Stephenson
Secretary	Shirley Pizziferri
Library Acquisitions	Shirley Pizziferri
Members-at-Large	Colleen Kimball and Debra Halacy

Committees:

Sunshine Chair	Jeraldene Stephenson
Education	Robert Bishop
Public Relations	Walter Bruetsch
Volunteer Coordinators	Shirley Pizziferri
Library Liaison	Shirley Pizziferri
Calling Tree	Pearl Dougherty
Hospitality	Cindy Sheppard
Journal Editor	Walter Bruetsch
Website Administrator	Walter Bruetsch

Martin County Genealogical Society membership meetings are held the third Friday of each month at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome. There is a short business meeting preceding a program.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://mcgensociety.org>

Welcome New MCGS Members:

We hope you take the time to seek out our newest MCGS members the next time you are at a monthly meeting or see them in the Genealogy Room.

Warm welcomes to:

**Cindy and John Sheppard,
 Tina Quarnstroem-Lovelace,
 Joyce and Dennis Scruggs II,
 Sallie and John Ventresco,
 Jean Gray, Deborah Schmidt,
 Thomas Roy Rearick and
 a welcome back to Elizabeth Cobb**

Annual Membership Dues are \$20 for individuals and \$25 for a family or organization.

The Genealogy Journal is usually printed four times a year and distributed at the March, June, September and December MCGS meetings. Suggestions and contributions are always welcomed.