

# THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

## THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 15, 2017

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

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### OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF GSOC OFFICERS FOR 2018

PRESIDENT: Jon Sheperd

1st VICE PRESIDENT (PROGRAMS): Cindy Barber

2nd VICE PRESIDENT (MEMBERSHIP): Jerry Rush

TREASURER: Phil Hoge

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kathie Sheperd

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Val Moreland



Submitted by:

Jim Young, Chair, GSOC Nominating Committee for the Election of Officers for 2018

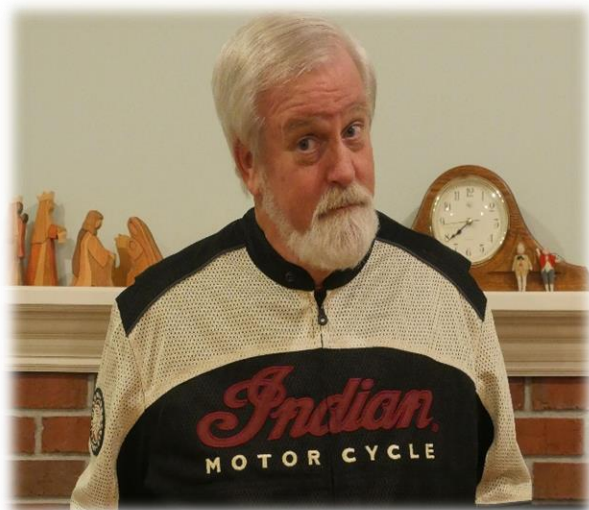
**January 27, 2018, 10:30 AM**

Fort Walton Beach Library

185 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL

## Photography for Genealogists

Presented by Mr. Fred Borg



Fred Borg grew up in Connecticut. After moving around the world during a 20-year Army career, he retired and settled down in Panama City. Retiring again after working 21 years as a civilian drug abuse counselor, a 2002 Boxster caught his eye. Fred's first Porsche! In addition to Porsche activities, Fred is an avid genealogist and wildlife photographer.

Fred's interest in genealogy began at age 15 when his mother showed him some old family documents. Multiple branches of his family have been traced back almost 1000 years. His current project is translating several books of his family history from Swedish into English -- no small effort since he speaks no Swedish at all! Photography has also been a lifelong interest. Putting the two together brings us to the topic of this class. Genealogists take photographs of things "normal" people do not, and there are tricks and techniques to getting good, clear pictures of things that document or enhance our family histories.



## ANNOUNCEMENT

We are going to start the New Year off with a new group called:

### **“The Genealogy Special Interest Group (GSIG)”**

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) have been used for years to explore technical subjects and narrow interests. Some common genealogy related SIGs are: Rootsmagic, FTM, African-American research, Irish research, and the like.

**We heard a need for a general Genealogy SIG, so we are going to start with that.**

The beauty of SIGs is their simplicity. Ours will run like this:

- The group will gather.
- After a brief introduction from the leader, each person will introduce themselves and tell us where they are in their research or what they would like help with.

***So, bring your genealogy and other documents!***

Once everyone has introduced themselves, one of two things may happen:

- the leader will see a recurring topic and ask the group to address that or
- the leader will start down the attendee's requests and ask the group for suggestions

*That's it. Simple.*

If subject needs more time (this is where the leader must control the meeting), a person in the group may volunteer to help the person outside of the meeting or the group may decide to tackle the subject at a later meeting or over several sessions.

Members of the GSOC will:

- Lead this group dedicated to helping new and experienced Genealogists advance their research
- Try to break through brick walls
- Explore genealogy related subjects

Leaders need to be able to control the meeting, not be experts in Genealogy.

***The knowledge of the group is its strength.***

Our first meeting is January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 1030-1200 at the Fort Walton Beach Public Library. This will be an organizational meeting followed by open forum. The February meeting will be the 17<sup>th</sup>, due to scheduling conflicts. The March and subsequent meetings are on the first Saturday of each month. The days and time are subject to change according to the needs of the group.

If you would like to help lead one of the GSIG meetings, please let Cindy Barber ([GSOCGSIG@gmail.com](mailto:GSOCGSIG@gmail.com)) know or come to the meeting in January.

Submitted by: Cindy Barber

# SPECIAL NOTICE

## GENEALOGY CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FWB CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

### Registration Schedule - January Semester 2018

- Date:** Friday, January 5, 2018
- Times:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for all students, regardless of whether you have attended a previous CLL class or not.
- Location:** Auditorium, joint campus of University of West Florida and Northwest Florida State College in Fort Walton Beach
- Fees:** A \$50 registration fee entitles students to take as many as 4 classes; additional classes over 4, cost \$10 each.
- Late Registration:** 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, January 8, 9, and 10th, 2018, in the UWF administrative office building
- Start dates and number of sessions:** Most classes will begin during the week of January 16th and will meet for eight weeks. (No classes on Jan. 15th, the MLK holiday.) Course descriptions in the catalog will list specific information about any classes that begin at a later date, or meet for fewer than eight sessions.

Beginning Genealogy – Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

- Instructors: Hilma Jenus and Thomas Sajwaj

How to get started researching one's family history. How, where, and why to begin compiling your family history. Class participation, plus sharing questions, ideas, and products is encouraged.

Family History on the Internet – Fridays 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

- Instructors: Margaret Harris and Jon Shepard

Like the FBI, class will help you "get your man" (or ancestor) most every time! Involves extracting data from the internet. Prerequisite: Access to internet and computer literacy. Teachers will e-mail participants from time to time with supplemental information.

Genealogy - In Depth – Tuesdays 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

- Instructor: Cindy Barber

Looking at Genealogy sources in depth. Learn how to use as much information as possible from records. Go beyond the facts and learn methods to organize and analyze data. Students should have some experience in genealogy research.

Genealogy Forum – Fridays 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

- Instructors: Thomas Sajwaj and Hilma Jenus

Forum for discussion of genealogical topics and especially development of practical solutions for "brick walls". Will cover the range of genealogical interests and research. Course open to those experienced as well as those new to genealogy. Students may present material to class, if they wish. Formal curriculum is not followed, but discussion and "brick wall" topics may be proposed by students and teachers.

For more information go to: <http://cll-fwb.org/Index.html>

## ODDS AND ENDS



### Genealogy Genie

This is a new feature added to the GSOC Newsletter. It is called [Genealogy Genie](#). It will include answers to submitted questions, as well as, information about learning Genealogy. Sent your questions about Genealogy to: [editorGSOCFLnews@gmail.com](mailto:editorGSOCFLnews@gmail.com).

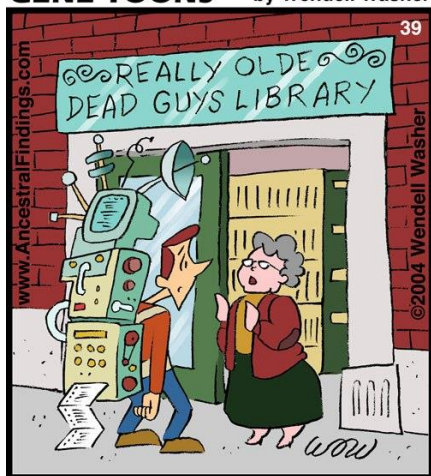
#### This month: "What are some of the most asked questions about genealogy?"

Since the editor has not received any questions this month, 12 commonly asked questions are listed and will be answered, one at a time, over the next 12 months.

1. How do I start my family research?
2. What is the meaning of my last name?
3. Is there a book about my family?
4. What software should I use?
5. How is a Family Tree made?
6. What are all the relationships within a family called?
7. Is there a famous person in my family tree?
8. Where are records of births, deaths, marriages and military service found?
9. Are Coat of Arms for real?
10. Where did my relatives live?
11. What questions should I ask my family members for my research?
12. How can the U.S. Census help in my research?

***"REMEMBER, THE ONLY DUMB QUESTION IS THE ONE YOU DON'T ASK"***

#### GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



I'm sorry, sir. We only allow pencil and paper in the library.



#### GENEALOGY RELATED THINGS TO DO IN DECEMBER

- Add genealogy theme to your holiday decorations.
- Make "old-fashion" candy and food recipes. May need to find "grandma's" old recipe book.
- Decorate using old style or handmade decorations.
- Watch old holiday movies.
- Tell family stories from the past. Record or video the stories.
- Visit ancestor grave sites and place Poinsettias or holiday plants.
- Write the current past year family history, for future info.
- Backup your genealogy research data.

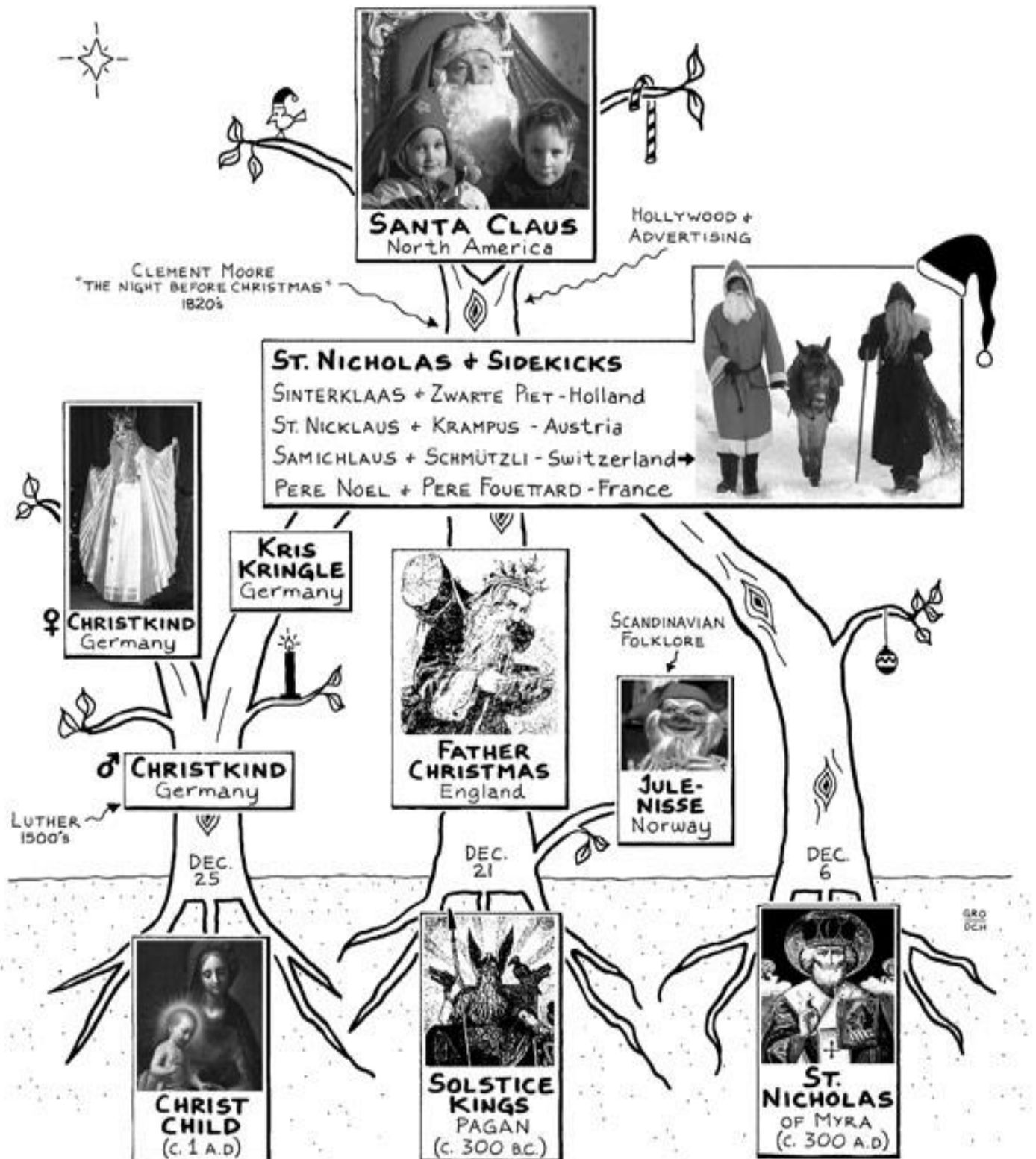




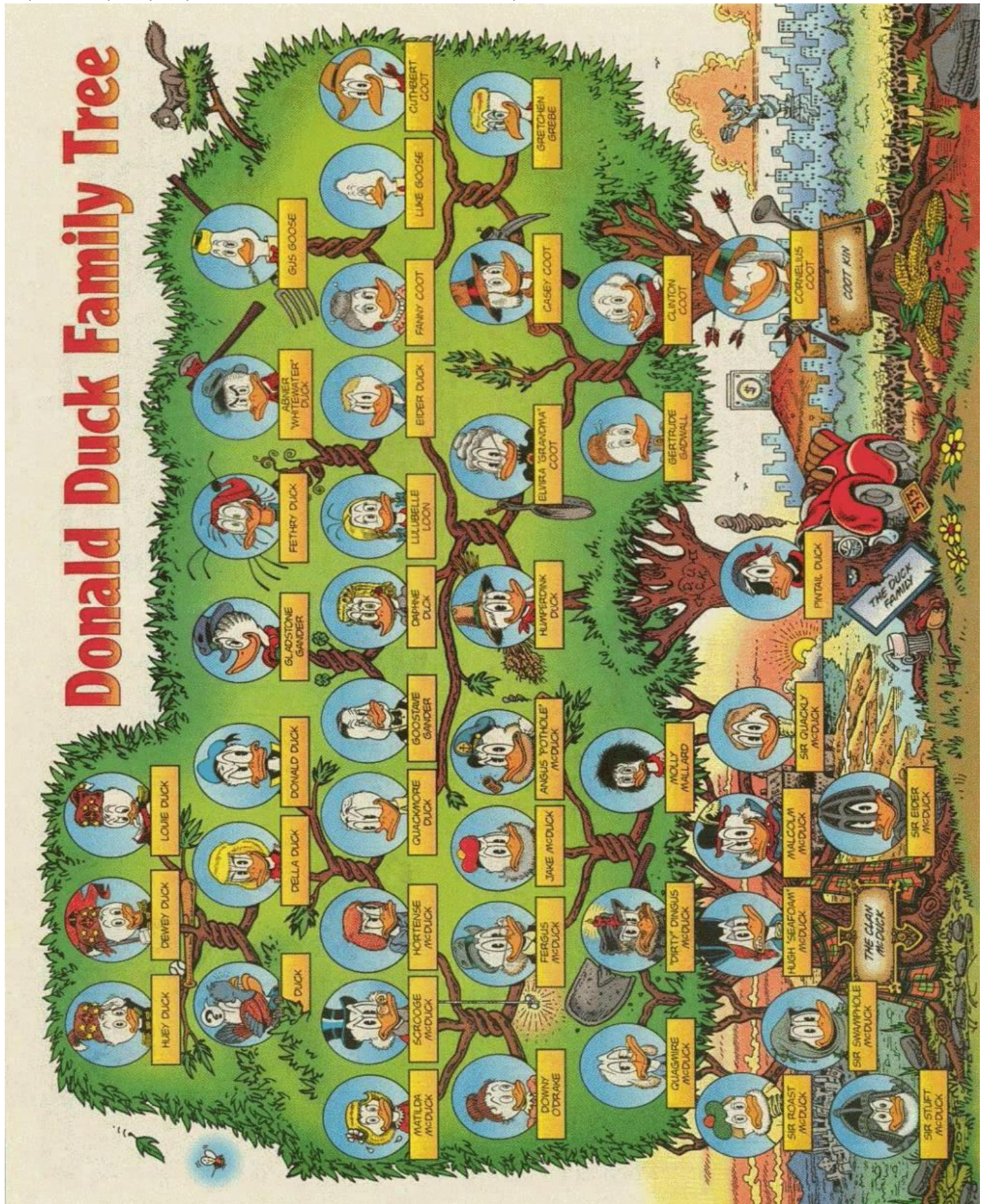
# GSOC CHRISTMAS SPECIAL – CHILDRENS' SECTION

## SANTA CLAUS'S FAMILY TREE

<https://blog.ricksteves.com/blog/santa-claus-the-many-faces-behind-the-beard/>









## Events and Information of GSOC Interest

### Officers for 2018

President, Jon Sheperd  
1st Vice President (Programs), Cindy Barber  
2nd Vice President (Membership), Jerry Rush  
Treasurer, Phil Hoge  
Recording Secretary, Kathie Sheperd  
Corresponding Secretary, Val Moreland

### Appointees:

Immediate Past President, Sue Basch  
Journal Editor, Cindy Barber  
Genealogist, Margaret Harris  
Publicity Chairperson, Val Moreland  
Newsletter Editor, Edward Crosby  
Webmaster, Jim Young

### Addresses

P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175

Email: [gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com](mailto:gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com)

Newsletter Editor: [edcrosby@valp.net](mailto:edcrosby@valp.net)

GENIE Section: [EditorGSOCFLnews@gmail.com](mailto:EditorGSOCFLnews@gmail.com)

Genealogy Special interest Group: [GSOCSGISIG@gmail.com](mailto:GSOCSGISIG@gmail.com)

### Membership

Annual membership dues are \$24 for individual and \$35 for individual and spouse at same address. You can obtain a membership form from our web site or use the copy included in this newsletter.

### The Newsletter

The GSOC Newsletter is now published on or before the third weekend of each month. Suggestions for articles are welcome. The editor, Edward Crosby, can be contacted by phone at (850) 678-5423 or by email at [edcrosby@valp.net](mailto:edcrosby@valp.net). Letters to the editor are welcome and may be published.

### The Journal

The GSOC Journal, *A Journal of Northwest Florida*, is published once each year. The 2017 issue, was published and distributed in September 2017 and has been mailed to all GSOC members. The theme of the 2017 issue is the Education. If you are a member and didn't receive your copy, please contact us.

### The Web Site

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flocgs>

The site is updated frequently and contains information about future GSOC meetings, minutes of past meetings, copies of the newsletters, articles and items of genealogical and historical interest, and much more.

### GSOC on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/okaloosagsoc>

The address to the official page of the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County is shown above; or you can go to your Facebook account and search for **Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County**. This page provides the latest information about our future meetings and other news that is important to members or prospective members. There is also a Facebook group. It is useful for exchanging information about your research and getting help with questions you may have about the Society or resources available to you. You can find it by going to your Facebook account and searching for **Friends of the GSOC**.

### The GSOC Books

The five GSOC cemetery, marriage, and funeral books are all out of print, but are now available on the GSOC web site for reading on line and for downloading as searchable PDF files, at no charge. **Please note that all these GSOC books are copyrighted by The Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County and may be only used for personal use. Reproduction is prohibited without the permission of the GSOC.** Go to the web site, scroll down and click on the **GSOC Books** link, click on the name of the book to access, and read it on line. Save it to your computer to download it. Because of the size of these books, it may take them a few minutes to display (depending on the speed of your internet connection.)

## GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OKALOOSA COUNTY

P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flocgs>

E-mail: [gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com](mailto:gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com)

I hereby apply for membership or the renewal of my membership in the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County

### ANNUAL DUES (Membership Year 1 Jan-31 Dec)

Individual \$24.00 Family \$35.00 (For Individual & spouse at the same address)

Please PRINT or TYPE all information:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone (Home/Cell): \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Can information be shared with other members? Name: Yes/No, Address: Yes/No, Phone: Yes/No, Email: Yes/No

Your level of experience: Beginner \_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_ Family Genealogist \_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_

### Please indicate areas of GSOC in which you would like to serve or contribute:

Newsletter Editor \_\_\_ Write Newsletter Articles \_\_\_ Webmaster \_\_\_ Journal Editor \_\_\_ Journal Staff Member \_\_\_ Write Articles for Journal \_\_\_ Serve on Short-term Committee \_\_\_ Nomination Committee \_\_\_ Organize Field Trips \_\_\_ Christmas Party Organizer \_\_\_ Give Genealogy Presentation \_\_\_ Workshop Leader \_\_\_ Workshop Volunteer \_\_\_ Special Event Organizer \_\_\_ Special Event Volunteer \_\_\_ Librarian \_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_ CD Sales \_\_\_

### Research: Name of families and states you are researching

Surname	State or Area

Surname	State or Area

PLEASE MAIL FORM (ALONG WITH CHECK) TO THE GSOC P.O. ADDRESS ABOVE (OR BRING FORM AND CHECK TO NEXT SOCIETY MEETING)



Our January meeting will on Saturday,  
January 27<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 am.

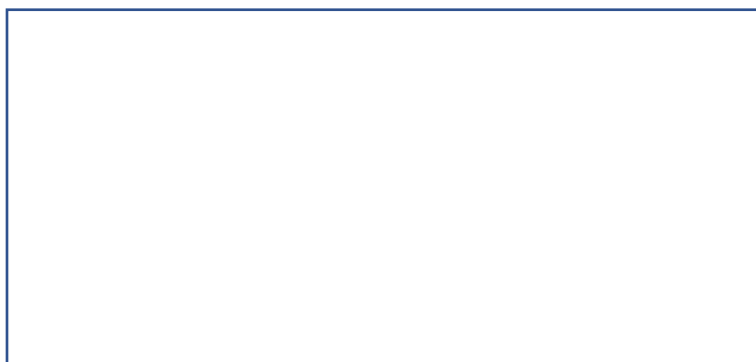
Featuring:

## **“Photography for Genealogists”**

**Presented by Mr. Fred Borg**

Fort Walton Beach Library  
185 Miracle Strip Parkway SE,  
Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32548

*“Whatever you know, whatever you learn – Pass it On!”*



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