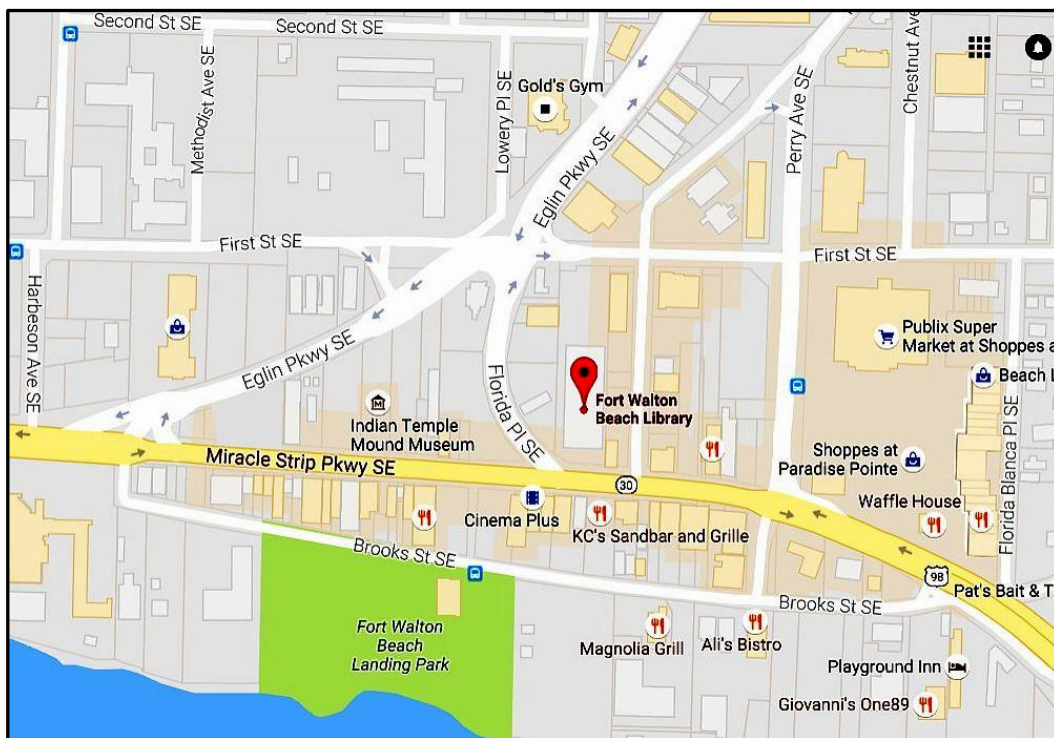


THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA
JANUARY 20, 2017

A Time for Change

January 2017 brings changes to the GSOC, including a new regular meeting location and a new day and time to meet each month



NEW LOCATION

Beginning at our first meeting in 2017 on January 28, we will meet at the Fort Walton Beach Library in downtown Fort Walton Beach as shown on the map at the left.

Directions: Drive south on Eglin Parkway. Turn left on First Street SE which is a block before you get to US 98 and then take an immediate right into the library parking lot. If the lot is full, continue east on First Street SE and take the next right into a larger parking lot.



The small photo shows the entrance to the covered walkway which leads to the main library entrance. Once inside the main doors, look to the immediate left for the room that we will be using.

NEW DAY OF THE MONTH: We will now meet on the fourth Saturday of each month at this new location (unless otherwise notified.) **NEW TIME:** Our meetings will now begin at 10:30 am.

Membership Renewal for 2017

GSOC membership should be renewed now for the 2017 calendar year. There is a revised membership form, on page 9 of this newsletter (and also on our web site.)

The volunteer section has been updated and the GSOC Board encourages everyone to select one or more areas to help the society next year. If there are no changes to the ancestor research section at the bottom of the form please put "no changes". Otherwise add additional ancestors.

Membership dues are \$24.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for families. You can send the membership form and check to the GSOC mailing address on the form or you can bring the form and money/check to the next meeting.

Dues must be paid by the end of March 2017 or you will be dropped.

Also in this issue:

A Note From the GSOC President	2
GSOC Program for January 28 at FWB Library	2
Gilley Mayfield Walked From Texas to Mississippi	3
Preserving North Okaloosa History – Baker Block	4
FamilyTreeNow website exposes your personal data	4
GSOC Events and Information	5
Photo of New GSOC Officers	5
Common Misperceptions About DNA Testing	6
Minutes of the December 10 th GSOC Meeting	8
Twelve Days of Christmas – Genealogy Version	9
Klein/Mennillo Presentations for 2017	9
Every Member Involvement	10
Membership Application Form	11

The GSOC Program for January 28, 2017

The Civil War In Walton County
(parts of which became Okaloosa county)
Presenter: Mr. Hank Klein

Destin historian Hank Klein tells the story of the Walton Militia (the Walton Guards) and their commander, Captain William McPherson, during the early days of the Civil War.

Learn about their assignment and the vital positions they guarded in Walton County and how they actually set up their camp (Camp Walton) in what is today downtown Fort Walton Beach, in what is Okaloosa County today.



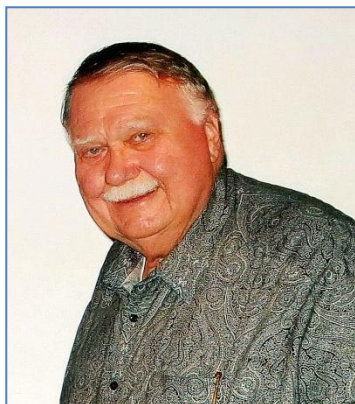
Learn also about their young commander, William McPherson, what qualified him to lead his county's troops, and what his life was all about both before and after the Civil War.

Mr Klein has long been interested in the history of Destin, Florida, and the genealogy of his father-in-law's and mother-in-law's families (Marler and Shirah) who both came from pioneer Destin Families. Klein's books document that family research.

He also contributed historical research for Tony Mennillo's book *Salty Memories along the Coastal Highway - Historic Stories of Destin and the Emerald Coast* which included many stories about Leonard Destin and the early settlers of Destin.

He has spoken to the GSOC on several occasions concerning his historical and genealogical research.

Mr. Klein lived for many years in both Okaloosa and Bay Counties. He is now retired from his Credit Union management career, and he and his wife (the former Muriel Marler of Destin, Florida) live in Arkansas. He can be contacted at klein@aristotle.net or at 501 256-7474.



A Note from the GSOC President

Hello GSOC Members,

As we start 2017, I look forward to a rewarding and prosperous year for our society. I am excited about our new meeting location at the Fort Walton Beach library. With a large modern meeting room, library amenities, and prime location in the downtown area, we will be able to offer great programs and better services for not just for our members but the local community as well.

One of the goals I have is to reach more people who have an interest in genealogy. Meetings at our new location will help, but we will be looking at adding genealogy workshops and seminars throughout the community. This in turn will hopefully result in more members.

Of course the success of the society this year is going to depend on the support of our members. We have a lot of opportunities to help. Two critical ones are the Journal and Newsletter editors. We have no Journal editor and Jim Young has agreed to remain as the Newsletter editor until June. So we need two people to step up for these important duties. There are also many other ways to contribute, some of which are as simple as writing an article for the Newsletter or Journal. The volunteer opportunities are on the membership form on the GSOC website and in this newsletter, and we will have separate volunteer forms available at meetings (one is also included in this newsletter). So please help out.

Margaret Harris has some great speakers for our meetings this year. We will not only learn more about our local history and people but also about ways to help us with searching for our ancestors.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the new Board for 2017. Margaret Harris, Jerry Rush, Phil Hoge, Kathie Sheperd, Val Moreland, Sue Basch, and Jim Young are already hard at work to get this year off to a great start. A special thanks to them.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting on January 28th!

Jon Sheperd
President

When Aunt Gilley Mayfield Walked from Texas to Mississippi with Three Little Children

by Monette Morgan Young

After my great grandfather John Morgan ran away from home in North Carolina in 1824 at the age of fourteen, he lived for some years in Pickens County, Alabama. In 1838 he married Adaline Todd there and, after a few years, moved with his wife and the two children they then had to the Rocky Ford area (now the Etta community) in Lafayette County, Mississippi.

A few years later, Adaline Todd Morgan's sister Gilley and two of her brothers, William Bennett Todd and Steven Bennett Todd, came to the Rocky Ford area to live near John and Adaline Todd Morgan.

Gilley Caroline Todd soon married a man named Robert Mayfield and they settled in the community where Thorn church is now. This was a period when many of the people in this part of Mississippi were moving on further west and Robert and Gilley Mayfield decided to go. They packed what household goods they could in an ox wagon and sold what they couldn't carry. I don't know where in Texas they were headed for.

They eventually reached their Texas destination and began to homestead. Robert Mayfield set about building a house for them. His homestead had little timber growth and he had to use almost all of the money that they had to buy lumber and other building material. As he was finishing the roof, he fell from it and broke his back. He was gravely injured and died a short time later.

We are told that Aunt Gilley had almost no money left after she got the funeral and other business attended to. She had three children, three little boys. Archie, the oldest, was about six years old, John was about five, and the third was just over a year old. Her

compelling urge was to get back to Lafayette County, Mississippi, to her brothers. She had no close neighbors and had not had time to make any close friends. Communication by mail was a long delayed thing, even if the letters ever arrived.

She had to sell their wagon and oxen to pay the bills, but she set out walking with the three little boys. She would have had to carry the youngest as well as some of their supplies. Archie helped carry supplies, and John probably helped to carry the food they had to beg for along the way.

She later told that she planned to walk to Vicksburg and cross the Mississippi River there, since that was the way that they had come on their way to Texas. However, someone as she started out, told her that there was an organization in New Orleans that helped destitute people get steamboat tickets. She knew that her brothers sold their cotton crop in Memphis and she thought that maybe she could get tickets for herself and the children from New Orleans to Memphis. So she veered off on the longer route to New Orleans.

She and the children slept in "cotton houses" [shacks where picked cotton was stored until it could be taken to the cotton gin] along the way. She was also given shelter in the homes of freed slaves who also gave them a little food. One wonders that they were not killed by Indians. If they had shoes when they started, they were surely worn out before they got halfway through the trip. The summer heat, the drenching rains, the walking, and their hunger must have made them miserable. But Aunt Gilley was determined to get back to her family.

Aunt Gilley and the children finally reached New Orleans. She never found the benevolent organization she had been told about, but in asking about that organization and begging food for the children, kind-hearted merchants gave her money and she got enough to buy the cheapest steamboat ticket to Memphis.

It was the early fall when she got to Memphis, and people were hauling baled cotton which had been ginned

in the small towns and communities around Memphis to sell there. After selling their cotton, the farmers would head back home and Aunt Gilley and the children got rides most of the way with this or that farmer going home into the counties of Mississippi adjoining Shelby County, Tennessee, and on down and into the counties bordering Lafayette and into Lafayette County.

William Todd was horrified when his sister and the three little boys appeared, half-starved, worn, and exhausted. He told her that he would gladly have sent her money, but she said that by the time that she could have gotten the message to him and he could have gotten the money back to her, that she knew she could be home by then.

The youngest child died about a year later, but not of any condition caused by the long journey.

Aunt Gilley never remarried. She died in late May, 1885, and is buried in the Philadelphia Baptist Church Cemetery about twelve miles northeast of Oxford, Mississippi.

Archie's family were well-educated people and one of his sons was a physician. Archie's monument is next to his mother's.

**By Monette Morgan Young
Great-great niece of
Gilley Todd Mayfield**

**Tombstone Inscriptions in the
Philadelphia Baptist Church Cemetery,
Lafayette County, MS**

**Gilley Mayfield
February 18, 1826 May 22, 1885
Mother of A.J. and J.T.**

**A. J. Mayfield
December 18, 1850 June 10, 1930**

**Lydia Gray Mayfield
May 5 1858 August 31, 1930**

Archie J. Mayfield, son of Robert Mayfield and Gilley Caroline Todd Mayfield married Lydia A. Gray on 27 January 1878 and they had 11 children.

Archie and Lydia's second son, James Isaac Mayfield, born 27 December 1880, was a physician who practiced at Blue Mountain, MS.

Preserving North Okaloosa History – one photo at a time

by Renee Bell
Crestview News Bulletin, December 13, 2016

The North Okaloosa Historical Association Inc. is a nonprofit organization focused on preserving Northwest Florida's residents' history and accomplishments.

One of its most visible accomplishments is the creation of the Baker Block Museum located at 1307 Georgia Ave., Baker.



Founded by Jeanette Henderson and her husband, the late Charles Henderson, the museum includes newspaper archives and a mercantile where visitors can

purchase foods and merchandise. The association also sells books and calendars based on North Okaloosa history and photos.

The museum also houses several documents useful to genealogy enthusiasts. They include several cemetery books, obituaries and Native American and family name files.

While proceeds support the museum, people can help others ways, too.

"They can help obviously through monetary donations and volunteering their time," association member Tracy Curenton said.

She said area residents who have articles such as "old photographs and stuff they'd like to donate to the museum and have preserved for other people to see, we'd be interested in talking to them about that."

Contact the museum, 537-5714, Tuesday through Friday to learn more about the association or become a member.

File photos/Crestview News Bulletin



The Jeanette and Charles Henderson Heritage Park next to the Baker Block Museum is where most of the activities of the Baker Heritage Day event take place.

Family Tree Website Reveals Personal Addresses and Family Information

Dick Eastman • January 11, 2017

FamilyTreeNow.com claims to be a family history and genealogy web site but seems to be primarily a site that publishes public information about individuals. In fact, there are a number of other web sites that do the same (Spokeo, Intellius, BeenVerified.com and perhaps a dozen or so others) for a fee but FamilyTreeNow.com provides basic information free of charge.

The website allows anyone to enter a person's name and then displays whatever personal information the web site knows about people of that name. In many cases, results show personal information along with the names, ages and addresses of people they are related to.

I searched for my own name and found that I wasn't listed. (Hooray!) Several other men with the same name as mine were listed, however. I then searched for the names of several of my friends and family members. Every one of them was listed, usually with their full names, age, the names of their nearest relatives along with current and past home addresses.

The FamilyTreeNow.com site claims to have "...billions of historical records including census (1790-1940) records, birth records, death records, marriage & divorce records, living people records, and military records." However, when I searched for several rather common names, all I ever saw displayed was twentieth and twenty-first century records with the majority of the displayed records showing names, addresses, and relatives of living people.

While this is causing a buzz on many social media sites, nobody should be surprised at the information being displayed. All of it appears to be public domain information, whether the folks listed like it or not.

Persons whose information appears on the web site can supposedly "opt out" of having their information displayed, but the site says it may take up to 48 hours to remove the information. I would consider opting out to be a waste of time simply because other web sites also have the same information and future web sites will probably do the same. After all, it is public domain information, anyone can legally create a web site and display the same information. I doubt if you can opt out of all of the current and future web sites in this "business."

If you do want to opt-out of FamilyTreeNow.com's listings, here's how:

You need to visit familytreenow.com/optout. Select each profile or variation of your name and click the red opt out box for that record on the website. According to the website, removal can take up to 48 hours to remove.

Events and Information of GSOC Interest

GSOC INFORMATION

Officers for 2017

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

Immediate Past President, Sue Basch
Journal Editor, TBD
Genealogist, Margaret Harris
Publicity Chairperson, Val Moreland
Newsletter Editor, Jim Young
Webmaster, Jim Young

Addresses

P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175
Email: gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor: youngjmy@cox.net

Membership

Annual membership dues are \$24 for an individual and \$35 for an individual and spouse at the same address.

Please see the notice on the first page of this newsletter for additional information. You can obtain a revised membership form from the web site or use the copy on page 10 of this newsletter.

The Newsletter

Beginning in January 2017, the GSOC Newsletter will be published on or before the third Friday of each month.

Suggestions for articles are welcome. The editor, Jim Young, can be contacted by phone at (850) 862-8642 or by email at youngjmy@cox.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 2016 issue, was published and distributed in October 2016 and has been mailed to all GSOC members.** The theme of the 2016 issue is the Vietnam War. 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 2017 Officers [L-R]: Jon Sheperd (President); Val Moreland (Corresponding Secretary); Kathie Sheperd (Recording Secretary); Phil Hoge (Treasurer); Margaret Harris (1st Vice President, Programs); and Jerry Rush (2nd Vice President, Membership)

Common misperceptions about DNA testing

by Dennis J. Yancey
YanceyFamilyGenealogy.Org

#1 DNA Tests are expensive.

Answer: It depends

"Expensive" is a relative term. DNA tests can start at about \$70 and go up to about \$400. BUT two tests that have a significant price difference - are normally two different test types - with valid reasons for price difference. Things that control price usually include test type, and numbers of markers tested. I do not recommend people simply start with the cheapest test and see how it goes. Nor do I recommend people take a DNA test simply because "everyone is doing it". I recommend that people take a test after analyzing the different types of tests that are available and see which one best meets their goal - which may not be the cheapest. And if they don't have a specific goal in mind - then I question if they should really be taking the test. Selecting the cheapest test for no other reason than price - may simply be a waste of money.

#2 Genealogical DNA tests are the same things that you see CSI Investigators use.

Answer: False.

Genealogical DNA tests are not the same as the type of tests used by CSI investigators. Genealogical DNA tests use a mouth swab to gather the DNA sample - and DO not use things like blood, hair or tissue samples. Genealogical DNA tests are for the living (not the dead) and are used to help indicate common ancestral lineage between two testers. Since certain types of DNA are passed down from parent to child with near perfect replication - we can indirectly know the DNA type of some of our deceased ancestors. CSI type DNA tests are usually much more expensive. Paternity testing is also not the exact same thing as genealogical testing - though similar.

#3 DNA testing will open me up to identity theft or "Big Brother"

Answer: Far exaggerated.

My general impression of people that have this line of thought is that they are far exaggerating possible negative implications of DNA testing. Identity thieves and related malefactors often use things like SSN's, birthdates, credit card numbers and similar items to steal identities. Such information is either not gathered at all by DNA tests, or in the case of credit cards is not normally kept on file. In my humble opinion people are thousands of times more likely to experience identity theft by simply using a credit card in a restaurant, than they are by doing a DNA test. The results of a genealogical DNA test - would be of no significance to an identity theft. Also the government and big brother do not own these DNA companies. And one should realize that even if we submit a sample for DNA testing - in most cases we are still in control of our sample - and can have it destroyed upon request. Just like money in the bank is still in our control - our DNA sample is still in our control.

However one possible negative impact that can take someone totally by surprise and that many people don't consider - are DNA test findings that may indicate something that was totally unexpected. For example - the discovery that a given person was not the biological child of the parents assumed as biological parents. It can be a total shock to a tester.

#4 DNA testing will allow me to more fully fill out my family tree chart.

Answer: FALSE and TRUE

Directly speaking - NO, a DNA test, by itself, will not provide the names for your ancestors. BUT because of the things that are revealed - and information about people you match with, coupled with information gathered through genealogical research- a DNA test can indirectly provide clues that do help you find the identity of your ancestors. BUT genealogical DNA testing is NOT a silver bullet that magically fills out your pedigree chart all by itself.

#5 DNA testing will tell me what country or region my immigrant ancestor came from.

Answer: FALSE

Though autosomal testing may give you some general ideas at a very high level what region of the world your ancestors (as a whole) may have come from (using probability statistics). They cannot tell you what country **one specific** American immigrant came from or even one ancestral line. Many Americans actually have hundreds or even thousands of immigrant ancestors -- each one with only a minute portion of their DNA being found in the currently living descendant (if any at all).

DNA doesn't respect political borders. People born in a given country - don't magically get endowed with a certain set of DNA. Though it may be true that certain DNA types are found with prominence within a given country or region. But as a person or family migrates from one country or region to another - it's not like there DNA changes to match the region. There is no way that DNA can prove or control - where a specific given ancestor lived. Though it might be true that we can use probability and statistics to come up with a probability that our ancestors came from a certain region - the rules used in such analysis are very imperfect and are inconsistent from one company to another.

Most DNA ethnicity reports don't take into consideration human migration and changes in political borders over time. Actually what many people don't realize is that these ethnicity reports are normally based on comparisons to DNA tests of LIVING people around the world - whose DNA results have been stored in a large database and this database used to generate DNA ethnic groupings. But where these people live today - may be totally different than where their ancestors lived 500 years ago. There have been over time - many major migrations - not all of which are well documented. A given single family line - might trace from the area of the Middle East, to France, later Britain, then America and maybe even later Canada. How does this get reflected in the ethnicity reports?? (It doesn't)

Note that even among siblings - who have the same mother and father - there can be significant differences as to Autosomal DNA Ethnicity reports. Some people have claimed as much as a 10% difference in percents among siblings tested. Thus any percent less than like 10% could simply be due to sibling variance - and may not reflect the true percentage of a family pedigree. This is mainly because though siblings inherit DNA from the same parents at 50% each - it is not the same 50%, but a randomly selected different 50% for each child - thus each sibling will inherit differing portions of DNA from the four grandparents. And there will be some DNA in each ancestor - that just never makes it from grandparent to a given grandchild.

Because only certain DNA is passed from one generation to the next -- the DNA that a descendant inherits is not an equal proportion of all their ancestors. There may be ancestors whose DNA footprint in a given descendant is so small it is effectively non-existent. Autosomal DNA testing will only show proportions of Ethnicity based on DNA that was actually inherited. This is why even if a person had 1 Grandparent with 100% British DNA, and another with 100% Scandinavian DNA, and another with 100% Russian, and the last with 100% Asian --- if autosomal testing was done -- chances are low that they (the grandchildren) would report exactly 25% of all of these ethnicities. And if there were siblings - each sibling would report a unique set of percent ethnicities.

Note that there is no time frame given the autosomal DNA reports as to what time period ones ancestors came from a specific region or ethnicity. Was it 50, 100, or 1000 years ago that my ancestors lived in these regions? - DNA tests would not normally have any time factor - and without the time factor -- their use for genealogical purposes becomes very limited.

Note that even if a DNA Testing company reads your DNA markers with 100% accuracy - which probably isn't that far off from reality. Even so - that doesn't mean that the inferred results of those markers will be interpreted the same by differing companies. Such is especially true of autosomal ethnicity reports. There is nothing on your DNA that yells out "Hey - I am Irish DNA, or I am African DNA" - there is no golden standard of rules that companies must follow to derive the ethnic percentages from the known DNA marker values. For this simple reason - differing companies can give differing results on the ethnicity of your DNA - even if they both read your DNA markers with perfect accuracy. Interestingly even with the same company you can get different results on subsequent testing and is probably mainly due to the fact that simply their subjective and imperfect rules have changed for how to interpret results. As the databases of DNA companies get bigger - and the rules they apply become more complex -- the results they report - even on the same DNA sample can change.

Not all companies use the same granularity as to DNA ethnic origin. For example some companies may simply divide the African continent into various regions - while other companies might try to use the granularity of current political boundaries of African nations (which

didn't even exist politically speaking 200 years ago). Don't just assume that because one company reports a more specific location means that the report is more accurate -- it actually may be the contrary.

Be extremely cautious when geographic statistics of origin are used on YDNA or mtDNA results or haplogroups (versus autosomal) - since such results only apply to one ancestral line among thousands or millions. People are the product of all their ancestors - not just the paternal or maternal line.

Realize that many news stories are more hype than fact -- such as news stories about test-takers such as Oprah Winfrey learning she is Zulu or a Floridian accountant being told he descended from the Mongolian warlord Genghis Khan.

All so often people think "oh that's cool that I have these percentages of ancestral origin" -- but in the end -- virtually nothing comes of it in the long run (or even the short run) as to making any genealogical progress. And oft times its nothing they didn't really already know for the most part.

I do believe there are some very legitimate cases for taking autosomal DNA testing - but my faith in any real significance as to ethnic origins is extremely small. Unless maybe you were adopted and had no clue at all as to origins.

Autosomal Testing can provide some cousin matching results that can be very helpful in specific cases. But all so often I feel people take the ancestry.com autosomal report - only later to wish they had taken a YDNA paternal line test (due to their hope of proving common paternal ancestry with other people with their surnames). It just depends what your goals are and what your limitations are (not all tests can be taken by everyone).

Be cautious of the phrase "DNA DOESN'T LIE". Though I do agree that genetic markers can be read with an extremely high degree of accuracy. That doesn't mean that DNA companies don't make the results seem like it means one thing when it really doesn't, especially in the area of ethnicity and origin. Give a single DNA report to 10 different people - and you'll probably get 10 different mis-assumptions or misperceptions.

And who is out there to rate the accuracy of DNA company test results ?? Not enough people . . .

A PUZZLE (Answer on page 9)

Sarah bought a valuable 5-ft by 5-ft family tree chart while shopping. To prevent damage, it was rolled into a cylinder for her to take home. The bus driver refused to let her reboard the bus saying that nothing longer than 4 feet could be brought aboard. She noticed a UPS store nearby, bought something, and successfully reboarded the bus with the 5-ft cylinder. What did she buy?

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10th, 2016 GSOC MEETING

Boathouse Landing Restaurant, Valparaiso, FL

President Sue Basch welcomed members and guests to the December 2016 Christmas party and the December GSOC meeting held at the Boathouse Landing in Niceville, FL.

As a reminder, **beginning January 28, 2017, the GSOC will hold its meetings at the Fort Walton Beach Public Library at 10:30 am every 4th Saturday.**

(Note: the library address is 185 Miracle Strip Parkway (Highway 98) SE in the historical section of downtown Fort Walton Beach. See also the GSOC website for directions and map.)

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes: There were no changes to the November meeting minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Door Prizes: Winners were Margaret Harris, Pat Pruitt, and Kathie Sheperd.

Raffle: Hilma Jenus donated a large, soft afghan, generously made by her friend Cissy for the GSOC to raffle as a way to make income. We will pursue this in January as we determine raffle ticket price and how to raffle off the afghan. The afghan is currently stored at Jon and Kathie Sheperd's house.

REPORTS:

1st VP Charlene Grafton: Hank Klein will give his presentation at the January meeting. For more information about the subject, please see the announcement on the GSOC website. Charlene said it was a pleasure doing business with the group and she had a lot of fun arranging the various programs. The audience clapped and expressed their appreciation for the wonderful programs Charlene presented.

Sue thanked Charlene for her time and efforts to arrange such interesting programs and presented her with a date and address book.

2nd VP Jon Sheperd/Membership: Jon reported that GSOC has 66 members and 16 of those were new memberships in 2016. He reminded the group that they may renew their membership today. Membership costs are \$24 per individual member or \$35 per individual and spouse. Membership forms may also be found on the GSOC website and down-loaded.

Sue thanked Jon for his excellent service in organizing the membership records, creating the GSOC lineage list, editing and updating the By-laws, and for creating the PowerPoint briefing for the new meeting location and presented him with a set of document protectors since he took great care of our membership records.

Treasurer Phil Hoge: Phil reported that there is \$1579.16 in the GSOC treasury. Sue Basch and Jon Sheperd commented that some of those funds will be used

towards a new projector and storage cabinet at the new meeting location.

Sue thanked Phil for his efforts in keeping the GSOC budget and funds straight and presented him with a set of black pens and a check book holder.

Recording Secretary and 2016 Journal Editor Kathie Sheperd: Kathie made a plea for the members to consider volunteering for the 2017 Journal editor.

Sue thanked Kathie for taking detailed minutes and for an excellent Journal product and presented her with a set of three large note pads to take the meeting minutes in the future.

Corresponding Secretary and Publicity: Val Moreland reported that former member Robin Stiles is in Arkansas and doing well.

Sue thanked Val for her efforts as Corresponding Secretary, Publicity chairperson and thanked her for her many donations of homemade jam which were given as door prizes. She then presented Val with a case of new jam jars and a box of Ritz crackers.

Genealogist, Margaret Harris: The course schedule for the Center for Life Long Learning is available and on line. Among the many classes offered, three are on genealogy research. Registration is January 6th at 9:00 am at the University of West Florida, Fort Walton Beach campus. More information about registration and the course listings may be found at www.cll-fwb.org.

Sue thanked Margaret for her support and service and presented her with a set of mechanical pencils because they are "always sharp" like she is.

Past President and Newsletter Editor: Sue thanked Jim Young for his faithful service and dedication as our past president and excellent newsletter editor. She presented him with a box of Ritz crackers.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Party: Sue expressed her appreciation for Party Chairperson, Donna Elliot and to Kathie Sheperd for organizing the party entertainment. She also expressed her appreciation to all the members for their faithful attendance and contributions to the GSOC.

Entertainment: The group had three activities this day:

An ice breaker guessing game for each contestant
Name that Christmas Carol
The Twelve Days of Christmas, Genealogy Version

Appreciation to Sue: Jon Sheperd thanked Sue for presiding over the 2016 Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County. He reminded the group that we accomplished several things this year: great programs of interest each month, a revised and approved set of GSOC By-laws, and the selection of a new meeting location effective in January 2017. He then presented Sue with a signed thank you card from the membership and a gift card for \$50 to the Tradewinds restaurant in Niceville.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS:

Jim Young, GSOC Immediate Past President, called for all the present GSOC officers to stand for a photo opportunity. Following that, Jim asked for the pending

2017 GSOC officers to stand for a photo opportunity and remain in front of the group.

Following these photo ops, Jim addressed each new officer by name and read them their duties:

Jon Sheperd as President
Margaret Harris as 1st Vice President (Programs)
Jerry Rush as 2nd Vice President (Membership)
Phil Hoge as Treasurer
Kathie Sheperd as Recording Secretary
Val Moreland as Corresponding Secretary
Sue Basch as Immediate Past President

The new officers each promised to faithfully execute their duties on behalf of the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County and were inducted as the 2017 GSOC Board of Officers

CLOSING:

New President Jon Sheperd thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy holidays. We will see you at the new FWB library location on January 28th, at 10:30 a.m.

Kathie Sheperd
Recording Secretary

The Twelve Days of Christmas – Genealogy Version Composed by Kathie Sheperd

HINT: sing "5 marriage records" like "5 golden rings"

On the FIRST day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the SECOND day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the THIRD day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the FOURTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the FIFTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the SIXTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the SEVENTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 7 rumored stories, 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the EIGHTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 8 photographs, 7 rumored stories, 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the NINTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 9 family letters, 8 photographs, 7 rumored stories, 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the TENTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 10 heirloom treasures, 9 family letters, 8 photographs, 7 rumored stories, 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the ELEVENTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: 11 newspaper clippings, 10 heirloom treasures, 9 family letters, 8 photographs, 7 rumored stories, 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

On the TWELTH day of Christmas, my GRANDPA gave to me: his adoption secret, 11 newspaper clippings, 10 heirloom treasures, 9 family letters, 8 photographs, 7 rumored stories, 6 brand new names, 5 marriage records! 4 lineage sheets, 3 census lists, 2 family bibles, and a quest for my ge-ne-ala-gee!

Puzzle Answer:

She bought a 3-ft by 4-ft box and put the 5-ft cylinder in it diagonally.

2017 Historical Presentations **Hank Klein and Tony Mennillo**

If you enjoy historical presentations by our January speaker, you might also like to attend one or more of the following:

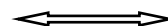
Friday, January 20, 2017 at 6:00 pm
Heritage Park and Cultural Center of Fort Walton Beach
at the Indian Temple Mound, 139 Miracle Strip Parkway,
SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Destin Founding Father: Leonard Destin
Call for Reservations – 833-9595

Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 10:30 am
Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County
(Monthly Meeting)
at the Fort Walton Beach Library
185 Miracle Strip Parkway SE,
Fort Walton Beach, Florida
The Civil War in Walton County
(Okaloosa County Today)

Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at 5:30 and 7:30 pm
The Destin Library, 150 Siebert Avenue, Destin, Florida
History of the East Pass & East Pass and the Destin
Lighthouse Keepers
Call for Reservations – 837-8572

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 6:00 pm
Destin History and Fishing Museum – Annual Meeting
108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, Florida 32541
Destin's Founding Father...The Untold Story of Leonard
Destin



There will also be a Book Signing at the Destin History & Fishing Museum. (This date might change by a week or two depending on the receipt of Mr. Klein's new book – **Destin's Founding Father...The Untold Story of Leonard Destin** -- from the printers.)

This will be **ONLY** a book signing

Destin Pioneer Settlers & Destin's Founding Father

Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Destin History and Fishing Museum
108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, Florida 32541

EVERY MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County Florida

P. O. Box 1175

Fort Walton Beach Florida 32549-1175

Please put an "X" next to any area below in GSOC in which you are interested, have expertise in, and/or are willing to serve this organization. Bring form to next meeting or forward your input to Phil Hoge at prhogg@aol.com.

Name _____ **Telephone** _____

email _____

Journal Editor _____

Webmaster _____

Journal Staff Member _____

Nomination committee _____

Write articles for Journal _____

Workshop leader _____

Newsletter Editor _____

Workshop volunteer _____

Write articles for Newsletter _____

Special event organizer _____

Give Genealogy Presentation _____

Special event volunteer _____

Librarian _____

Serve on Short-term committee _____

Publicity _____

Christmas Party Organizer _____

CD Sales _____

Organize Field Trip _____

Many Thanks...We Need You!

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

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 your information be shared with other members?

Name: Yes ___ No ___ **Address:** Yes ___ No ___ **Phone:** Yes ___ No ___ **Email:** Yes ___ No ___

Please circle your level of experience: Beginner Intermediate Advanced Family Genealogist Professional

Please indicate areas of GSOC in which you can 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 THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK TO THE GSOC POST OFFICE ADDRESS ABOVE
(OR BRING THE FORM AND YOUR CHECK TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY)