

THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

JANUARY 15, 2018



Happy New Year



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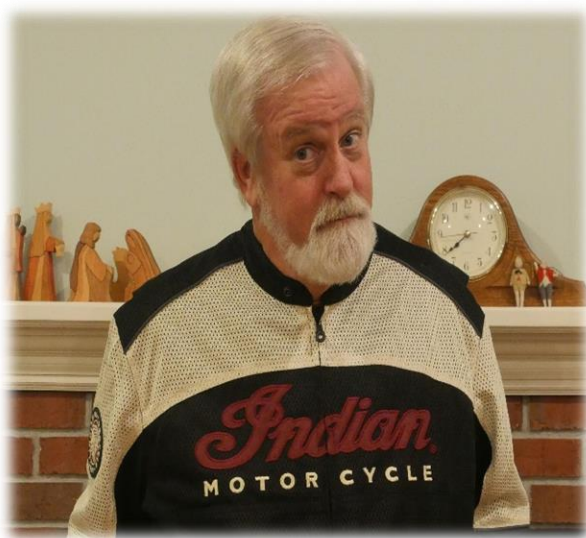
January 27, 2018, 10:30 AM

Fort Walton Beach Library

185 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL

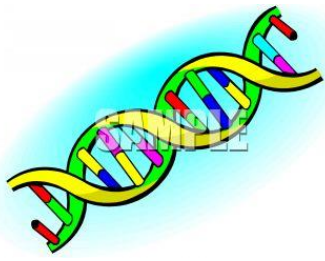
Photography for Genealogists

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.



A DNA Journey by Cindy Barber

DNA and Genetic Genealogy have been buzzwords of genealogy research for a few years now.

Still, I've been hesitant to test. I already know my ethnicity, and I have most of my lines proven to my satisfaction several generations back.

I started fleshing out my recent lines with aunts, uncles, and cousins only because those pesky green leaves in Ancestry make it so easy. Look! There's the death certificate for my cousin who NEVER spent a night at our grandparents' because she bawled, no howled, like a baby when it was time to go to bed! In

desperation, I fleshed out my brick walls, knowing deep down that the chances of their sibling children or grandchildren providing a hint of the identity of their grandparents was slim. But in one case, the siblings DID help.... Hmm... I wonder if DNA will help.

I have a basic understanding of genetics. I grew up breeding a certain type of Appaloosa horse. I learned about pedigrees, genes, and most importantly recessive genes when I was very young. We used this science to increase the probability of our mares producing the 'right' coloration of foal. Genetics can be used to 'reverse engineer' our breeding. It can tell me where my curly hair comes from (thanks Dad!).

For genealogists, genetics means finding our biological family. We might be adopted with no birth family information, we may not know who our birth father was, we may not know who our mother was, we may have a brick wall we are hoping to solve. Then there are those NPE's (genetic genealogists seem to love Non-Paternal vents). All those years of tracing 'daddy' only to find out he was not really 'daddy'!

Our quest is our breeding, our biological tree. When an NPE occurs we suddenly have 2 trees – the 'family' tree and the 'genetic' tree. Sometimes they may intertwine.

A few weeks before Christmas, my oldest sister called. She does not call often, as we are an 'electronic' family. But she had a story and a request.

Long story short, I have two sisters, both older than me. I look like my 'younger' sister. We both have traits of our father. My oldest sister looks nothing like us. She looks like my maternal grandmother.

My sister has told a story for years that we have mostly discounted. I can prove on paper it is probably not true. But she asked her baby sister for a favor. The favor? "Grandpa Procter told me that Daddy was not my father, can we test our DNA to see if he was?" Our parents died years ago. Our line has "daughters" out. My grandfather was an only child.

This is not going to be easy. She knows that. She understands the science, but my big sister asked a favor, and so this journey into Genetic Genealogy begins. I hope you will follow along.

GSOC PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Hello GSOC Members,

As we start a new year I think it is appropriate to take a look at what we accomplished as a society in 2017. The move of monthly meetings to the Ft Walton Beach library has been a success. Our visitor count was way up, and we gained many new members. The meeting room has also been more conducive to presentations. We had 10 excellent speakers/programs during the year. Members of GSOC conducted five genealogy workshops or seminars in the local area. We published (thanks Cindy) a great Journal about education in Okaloosa County. Thanks to Jim Young and Ed Crosby, we enjoyed 12 newsletters with great content. Jim also established a Facebook page. Several members participated in a very educational field trip to the University of West Florida Archives Department. And one of my personal favorites, we enjoyed Dutch treat lunches at numerous restaurants in Ft. Walton Beach.

As we start 2018, I want GSOC to continue to help both members and the community to explore and document their ancestral past. The start-up of Genealogy Special Interest and Genie Groups will certainly be helpful. Continuing with workshops and seminars will enable the local community to better understand genealogy. And of course, our monthly meeting presentations will help with both our genealogical research and understanding history in the local area. So, I am quite excited about what our society will accomplish in 2018.

I encourage all our members to help in supporting the society. Besides coming to meetings, I encourage you to volunteer for workshops, seminars, and writing articles for the Journal and/or Newsletter. There are also other opportunities which are at the bottom of the membership forms. Cindy Barber is our new Vice President for Programs and already has some great speakers lined up for our meetings this year. We could use a couple more so let her know if you have a good speaker and topic in mind.

I am fortunate to have almost the whole GSOC Board back for 2018 – they did a great job in 2017. The only change as I mentioned in the last paragraph was Cindy replacing Margaret Harris. I look forward to working with 2018 Board members, Cindy Barber, Jerry Rush, Phil Hoge, Kathie Shepherd, Val Moreland, and Sue Basch.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting on January 27th!

Jon Shepherd, GSOC President

ONLINE SECURITY ALERT

[Ancestry.com suffers big data leak - 300,000 user credentials exposed](https://www.komando.com/happening-now/435921/ancestry-com-suffers-big-data-leak-300000-user-credentials-exposed)

Another massive data breach is hitting users on one of the most popular genealogical and family tree tracking companies around. How did it happen, and what data was leaked? There are critical steps you should take to protect yourself. Go to the following web site for information:

<https://www.komando.com/happening-now/435921/ancestry-com-suffers-big-data-leak-300000-user-credentials-exposed>.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR AREA

West Florida Genealogical Society's February Meeting: "Having the Last Word"

Writer and genealogist Dot Brown presents an engaging review of using obituaries for family history research along with a humorous lesson on having the last word with your own write-up. Saturday, February 3rd, 10 AM – 12 PM, at the Florida Genealogy Branch Library, 5740 N 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32504. Presentation is free and open to the public.

"Preserving Documents & Genealogy Collections"

Presented by Mr. Dean DeBolt

February 24, 2018, 10:30 AM, Fort Walton Beach Library, 185 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL

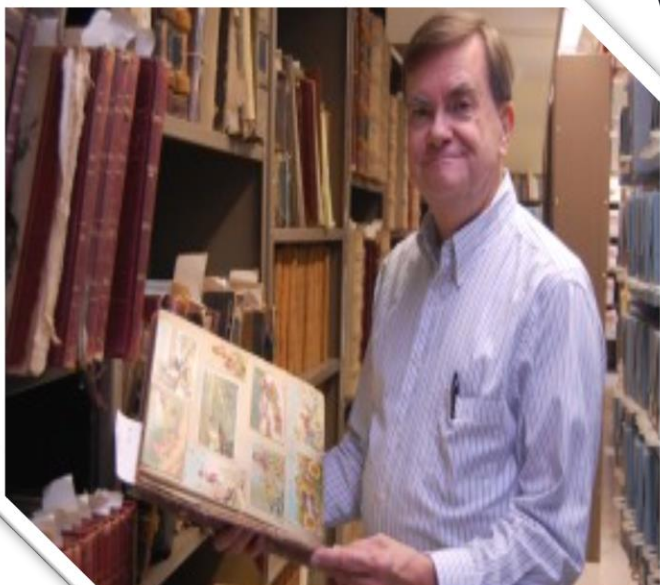
Dean DeBolt is the University Archivist and Librarian at the University Archives and West Florida History Center, University of West Florida. Dean is responsible for one of the largest research collections in existence on West Florida. The Collection includes rare books, maps, manuscripts, photographs, and paintings. Dean is also Adjunct Professor in the History Department where he teaches Archives Administration and Management.

He holds a MA in Library Science from University of Illinois, and a MA in History from Sangamon State University. He also received an Archives Certificate from the Ohio Historical Society.

Dean's expertise lies in the fields of West Florida history, archives cataloging and management, preservation of manuscripts and books, genealogy, and the American Chautauqua Movement.

Dean is a frequent lecturer on history and genealogy and his writings have appeared in many professional journals and publications.

At our February meeting Dean is going to give us tips on preserving documents and other items we may have in our personal genealogy collections. If time permits, Dean is also going to tell us how to prepare for a research trip to the Archives.



SAVE THE DATE - MARCH 3, 2018

9:00AM – 12:00PM (THREE 40 MINUTE SESSIONS)

2018 NORTHWEST FLORIDA FAMILY HISTORY FAIR

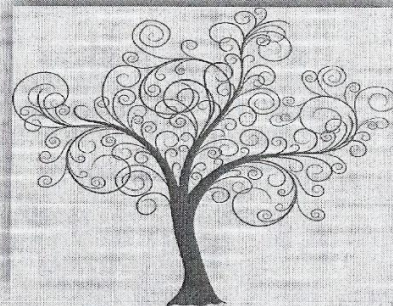
Gain New Skills and Helpful Family History Information. Knowledgeable and Experienced Instructors. FREE, everyone is Welcome

Location : Ft. Walton LDS Church Building
339 Lake Drive NW
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

For detail information on classes and instructors visit the Northwest Family History Fair-2018 Facebook Page

Three Ways to register: (1) Email your selection of classes to familyhistoryfair1@gmail.com, (2) Visit the Northwest Family History Fair-2018 Facebook Page or (3) Drop in at any of the FWB Stake Family History Centers to register.

This event is sponsored by the Fort Walton Beach Florida Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



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.

This month:

"How do I start my family research?"

Genie says: If you enter that question in Google, you get 36,000,000 results. But I say entry the following address in your search:

<https://www.findmypast.com/content/10-tips-to-start-your-family-history-journey>.

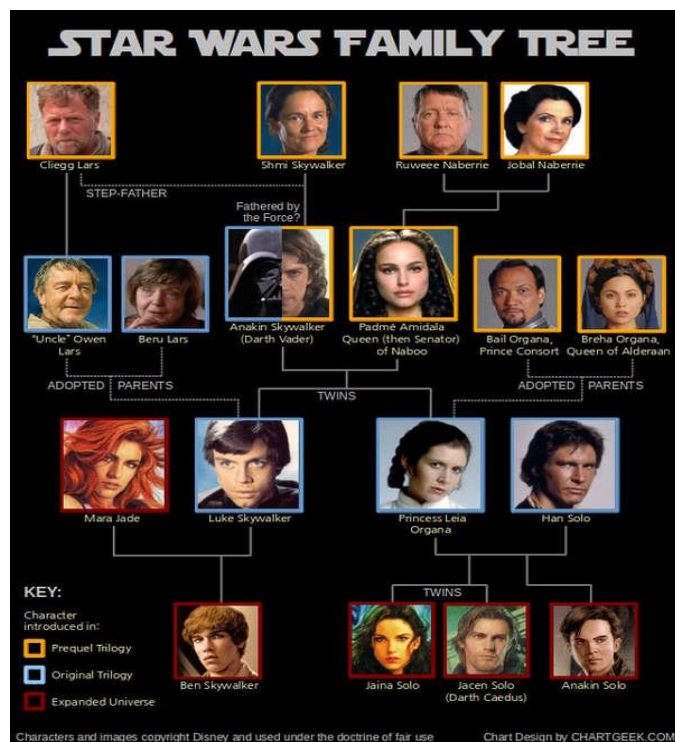
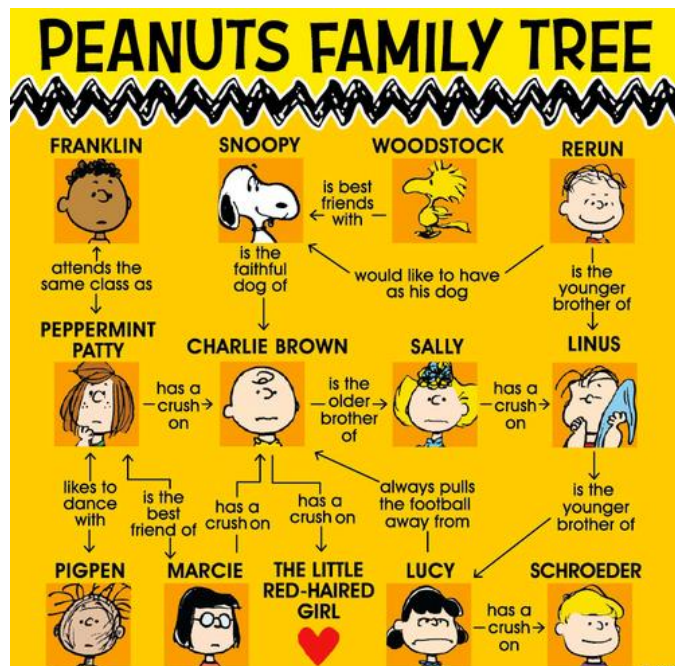
"REMEMBER, THE ONLY DUMB QUESTION IS THE ONE YOU DON'T ASK"

GENEALOGY TO-DO-LIST for January

- Make a research plan
- Plan trips & visits
- Organize collected data
- Review last year's work
- Read book about genealogy
- Read about your ancestor's local history
- Digitize family photos
- Start new family history chapter
- Add Christmas cards & letter to genealogy collection
- Take genealogy class

Note: for more information visit: AncestralFindings.com

Kids' Tree Limb





FREE STUFF –

For 17 Creative Family Tree Ideas that are printable, check out this web site: <https://www.personalcreations.com/blog/family-tree-ideas>

Best Genealogy Websites for Teens and Kids



So, you're a young person interested in genealogy, but all the websites and books you find seem geared to adults. Or you're a grown-up who's trying to foster a healthy appreciation for family history in your child, grandchild or students.

Start with the family-friendly genealogy websites listed here, then explore where they take you.

[Genealogy for Kids](#)

[Canada GenWeb for Kids](#)

[Cyndi's List—Kids & Teens](#)

[Family Tree Magazine free family group sheet](#) - Use these forms to record your ancestors' and relatives' names for your school genealogy projects.

For teachers, parents and grandparents:

["Ancestors" Teacher's Guide](#) - Tips for teaching kids about the lessons in each of the PBS series' 13 episodes.

[Fun & Easy Family Projects](#)

[Helping Your Child Learn History](#)

[History.com Classroom](#)

This entry was posted in [Save and Share Family History](#) and tagged [genealogy](#), [generation](#), [history](#), [kids](#), [sites](#), [younger](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#).

Related reads:

- [Simple Four-Part System for Naming Digital Photo Files](#)
- [Looking for Clues in Old Family Photographs](#)
- [4 Tips for Digitizing Your Genealogy Effectively](#)
-

SOURCE: <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/kids/familytreekids/>

THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE HAS JUST PUBLISHED A SHORT REFERENCE DOCUMENT THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO MANY NEWSLETTER READERS: *MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS, AWARDS, AND UNIT HISTORIES: A GUIDE TO LOCATING SOURCES*

BY MESE F. DEBRUYNE AND BARBARA SALAZAR TORREON.

THE GUIDE PROVIDES INFORMATION ON LOCATING MILITARY UNIT

HISTORIES AND INDIVIDUAL SERVICE RECORDS OF DISCHARGED,

RETIRED, AND DECEASED MILITARY PERSONNEL. IT ALSO

PROVIDES INFORMATION ON LOCATING AND REPLACING MILITARY

AWARDS AND MEDALS. INCLUDED IS CONTACT INFORMATION FOR

MILITARY HISTORY CENTERS, WEBSITES FOR ADDITIONAL

SOURCES OF RESEARCH, AND A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF OTHER PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING RELATED CRS REPORTS.



Military Service Records, Awards, and Unit Histories: A Guide to Locating Sources can be downloaded for free at: <https://fas.org/spp/crs/secretcy/RS21282.pdf>.

Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County (GSOC) - Meeting Minutes, 28 Oct 2017

The October 2017 GSOC meeting was presided by GSOC President Jon Sheperd, who welcomed members and six visitors, two of which were former members. The meeting was held at the Fort Walton Beach Library.

OLD BUSINESS:

GSOC Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the September 2017 minutes were discussed and approved by acclamation.

- Journal: Jon checked that all members received a copy of the 2017 Journal and thanked Cindy Barber and her helpers for a great journal product.
- Fundamentals of Genealogy Book: If you ordered a copy of the book titled "Fundamentals of Genealogy: The Most Helpful Tools You've Never Used" and were not at the last couple of meetings please see our Treasurer, Phil Hoge, to pay and get your copy.
- Genealogy Special Interest and Genie Groups: These two groups were proposed to the GSOC Board and introduced to the membership at the September meeting. The Board approved the proposed formation for both groups. The Genie Group, (with Ed Crosby as the moderator), was described in the October Newsletter. The second group, called Special Interest Group, or SIG, will commence in January 2018. Cindy Barber is heading up the SIG and she announced it will be held in the FWB Library on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Look for a meeting time and location announcement in the future.
- Nominating Committee: Jim Young, chairman of the GSOC nominating committee, opened the nominations by describing each board member position as written in the GSOC bylaws. The nominated 2018 positions will be for a one year. Jim announced the current slate of 2017 officers and said that each of them are willing to serve as nominees for 2018, with the exception of Margaret Harris, who will step down as 1st Vice President. Margaret will continue as our GSOC Genealogist. Cindy Barber has agreed to be nominated for 1st Vice President. Nominations are open until the November meeting.
- Afghans: Cissy Larson donated two knitted afghans (solid red and teal/cream colors) for a GSOC fund raiser. Please see Phil to purchase tickets. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6/\$5. A flyer was mailed via email to members. The afghan drawings will be at the December Christmas luncheon.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Door Prize(s): Marian Roberts drew the winning ticket for a jar of Ed Crosby's honey and Bill Neel drew the winning ticket for Val Moreland's homemade jam.
- Lunch: Today's lunch was held at Chapala's Mexican Restaurant, Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach.
- Newsletter: The October edition of the GSOC Newsletter was sent out Oct 23rd. Jon thanked Ed Crosby for his very informative newsletter.
- Christmas Luncheon: This annual luncheon will be December 16th at 11:00 am at the Fort Walton Yacht Club. (Note: this is not the fourth Saturday in December.) We will have a short business meeting, have a fun activity, enjoy a great lunch, and install officers for next year. We will order off their extensive menu so no food selection ahead of time. There is a flyer, menu, and sign-up list going around. Please ensure you sign up so we can advise the Yacht Club of the reservation number.

REPORTS:

- 1st VP and Genealogist Margaret Harris: Margaret was out of town for the birth of a granddaughter. Jon said the November program will be the second half of the Journey of Man. Using genetics, this DVD presentation examines how the human race populated the world. We saw the first half last November when Charlene Grafton introduced it. Margaret is currently working on programs for the early part of 2018. If you have any ideas for speakers, please let me or Margaret know.
- 2nd VP Jerry Rush: We gained one new member this morning. GSOC has a total of 71 members.
- Treasurer Phil Hoge: Our balance is \$1379.78 in the bank.
- Recording Secretary Kathie Sheperd: Nothing sufficient to report.
- Corresponding Secretary Val Moreland: Reminder: November 4th is the Baker Block Museum Heritage Day Festival. GSOC received 4 newsletters: Pea River Trails, The Coweta Courier, Suwanee Valley Genealogy and the Butler County History and Genealogy Society Quarterly. These will be filed in the GSOC file cabinet.
- Newsletter, Ed Crosby: Nothing sufficient to report.
- Webmaster, Jim Young: Jim is updating the website.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Jim Young introduced our October guest speaker, Mr. Bruce Cosson. Mr. Cosson is a lifelong resident of Walton County who has been doing serious family history for many years. He is a great researcher and a preservation enthusiast of Walton County history and heritage. Mr. Cosson is a Board Member of the Walton County Heritage Museum. He will be speaking about Walton County History.

Mr. Cosson: For many years much of what we knew about Walton County came from a book titled "History of Walton County" that was published in 1904. In examining the history of the county, he noted that there were a number of errors to the book because it was incomplete and some of the described creation of the county was inaccurate.

In 1821, President Monroe persuaded Spain to give up lands. Florida was divided into east and west Florida and their capitals were Pensacola and St Augustine (these cities were 400 miles apart). Settlement began before 1821 and in NW Florida; settlers came to the Alaqua area as early as 1815. If you are a genealogy enthusiast of Walton County, look in Escambia county records. Until 1854, the Florida county lines were not settled. As time went by, Jackson and Walton counties were made. Walton County was created by the Lottery Act of 1819 and was named for George Walton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Jackson County was named after Andrew Jackson who was sent here in 1821, down the Mississippi River. Cosson spoke of an occasion where Jackson's boat jammed up in the river and he had to be rescued by his friend and colleague, Henry Marie Brackenridge.

Brackenridge was born in Pennsylvania and highly educated (he spoke five languages, including Spanish and French). Brackenridge had many important roles in life and one of them was being appointed by Jackson as the territorial judge of the West Florida district from 1822 to 1832. He had come to Pensacola to help set up a government and was the first U.S. Forester and Superintendent of the first American forest experimental station at Live Oak plantation on the Santa Rosa peninsula in December 1828.

George Walton, Jr, was the first Secretary for Florida during 1822 – 1826. He asked the (Washington DC) government for money to improve the prison systems here. And he embezzled the money! Walton subsequently ruined his family fortune when paying off loans and was put on trial for the financial theft. The jury found in favor of the Florida Territory and Walton owed damages of \$10,000. He was later pardoned by Brackenridge.

The first (Walton) county seat (1824) was in Alaqua on Poquoson Road, a stagecoach route. Brackenridge had a home there and wrote 450 letters to his family. Travel was by the Choctawhatchee Bay and then by boat up the Alaqua Creek.

In 1825, there were 717 people in the county. Although there were Native American Indians in the territory, the settlers were not friendly with them. The actions of the settlers amounted to a hostile takeover of their lands.

A good book to read is “A View of West Florida” by John Lee Williams (written in 1827). A PDF version is on line and it describes the early history and settlement of Florida through families, tobacco farms, cotton plantations and the lumber industry. Land was \$1.25 an acre (owned by the Federal Government and granted through a deed) and settlements were in the Alaqua, Euchee, Yellow River, Wardville, Alamante and East River areas. If settlers arrived before 1825 they had a preemption deed. The deed records state who was there first. Charles S.V. Jones was the first preacher in Walton County. He was also the postmaster and a Methodist Church preacher. He was the founder of Alaqua.

In 1830, the first Superior Court Document was recorded at Alaqua Courthouse. Walton County preserves this deed. Eucheanna was established in 1834. The historical marker the town has since erected states the wrong date of the establishment of the town. Mr. Cosson has a letter which proves their request for a post office and a road. At that time, it was more of a business center with few residents. The Historical Society has possession of the County Seal, which was not destroyed in the Civil War.

Another place, Euchee Valley is a separate location and was established prior to Euchee Anna.

Cosson’s research also looked in to Knox Hill Academy. Knox Hill Academy was a private boarding school founded by John Newton (1814-1893), a Presbyterian minister. (Note, the historical marker gives John Newton’s life as 1814-1871, and the death date is incorrect.) Newton later moved further west and started a settlement where he was post master. His daughter was named Mary Esther. (We now remember her name as the town of Mary Esther).

Knox Hill pottery flourished from 1859-1860. This was the first pottery in Florida and they produced salt glazed pottery. A man named Robert Turner owned it and Thomas Bennet Odom made the pottery.

Mr. Cosson brought and shared all kinds of artifacts that he had found. These included coins, buttons, gun parts, and 1790-1800 English Flat buttons. He mentioned that some of the items have disappeared from the Historical Society through negligence or carelessness of others.

CLOSING:

After the presentation, Jon thanked Mr. Cosson for his fascinating presentation and perseverance to Walton County history research. He then thanked everyone for coming. The next meeting will be at the Fort Walton Beach Library on Nov 25th at 10:30 am when we will see part two of the Journey of Man (National Geographic DVD).

/s/

Kathie Sheperd

GSOC Recording Secretary

Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County (GSOC) - Meeting Minutes, 16 Dec 2017

A brief meeting was held in conjunction with the annual GSOC Christmas Party. This year, the meeting and Christmas luncheon was held at the Fort Walton Yacht Club. President Jon Sheperd welcomed GSOC members, and visitors.

OLD BUSINESS:

Afghan Drawings: The drawings for the beautiful donated afghans were won by Marian Roberts and Phil Hoge. The GSOC is very grateful to Ms. Cissy Larson, who knitted them for us. We also thank Hilma Jenus for her connection with Cissy so that we were able to receive these beautiful gifts.

November Meeting Cancellation: Unfortunately, we were notified with little notice that the library would be closed on our meeting date (due to Thanksgiving). The Board decided it would be better to cancel the meeting instead of scrambling for a new location and notifying everyone. We will be looking at other meeting alternatives next year for November. We will also try to re-schedule part 2 of the National Geographic “Journey of Man”.

NEW BUSINESS:

2017 Year End Report: Jon highlighted some of GSOC’s 2017 achievements:

- We capitalized on our new FWB Library location by attracting more visitors
- We brought in several new memberships.
- We, or members, conducted four workshops/seminars during the year.
- We published a great Journal about Education in Okaloosa County.
- We had a very informative field trip to the UWF Archives.

- We established a Facebook page.
- And Jon's favorite: we enjoyed food at many different restaurants in FWB.

The Year Ahead: The GSOC Board met in November and looked at ways we could make GSOC even more relevant and helpful to the community in their pursuit of ancestors. These will be introduced in 2018. Jon requested members to volunteer and assist their time and expertise. Without member involvement, we would not be a successful organization.

Jon acknowledged and thanked the 2017 GSOC officers and committee members.

- 1st VP, Margaret Harris: We enjoyed wonderful meeting programs in 2017. Margaret is already assisting Cindy Barber in transition. And as usual she's been a great help as our expert genealogist and teacher.
- 2nd VP, Jerry Rush: Jerry kept track of our membership and dues and helped teach seminars.
- Treasurer, Phil Hoge: Phil managed our bank account and helped with fund raisers
- Kathie Sheperd: Kathie kept comprehensive minutes of our meetings
- Val Moreland: Val managed our mail/correspondence and made sure we had publicity in the local papers.
- Former President, Sue Basch: Sue has corporate memory and gave wise counsel and advice during the year.
- Jim Young: Jim did a terrific job as Newsletter editor until June, when he stepped down. We are grateful for his continuing expertise as our Webmaster and Facebook administrator.
- Ed Crosby: Ed stepped up to the newsletter editor position and continues the publication with great content and information.
- Cindy Barber: We were fortunate to have her as the Journal Editor which was a big job, with excellent results. Jon thanked her for coordinating all the details of our December luncheon -- setup, food ordering, and decorations.
- Jon thanked all the other members for their faithful meeting attendance and assistance in many other ways; all of which helped ensure that GSOC will continue to be a vibrant organization.

REPORTS:

1st VP and Genealogist Margaret Harris: In January, our guest speaker will be Fred Borg from the Bay County Genealogical Society. He will speak to us about using photography in genealogical research. In February, Dean Debolt, the archivist at UWF will speak to us.

- 2nd VP Jerry Rush: Reminder to renew memberships. The cost is the same.
- Treasurer Phil Hoge: The balance of our funds is approximately \$1,300.
- Recording Secretary Kathie Sheperd: Nothing sufficient to report.
- Corresponding Secretary Val Moreland: Nothing sufficient to report.
- Newsletter, Ed Crosby: Nothing sufficient to report.
- Webmaster, Jim Young: Nothing sufficient to report.
- Cindy Barber reminded us that the Genealogy Special Interest Group (SIG) will research special topics and ways to share information with others. The first meeting will be the first Saturday in January and it will be an organizational meeting. In February, look for the SIG to meet on the third Saturday. More information will be in the newsletter.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:

Jon turned the meeting over to Former President Jim Young for the installation of officers' ceremony. All the 2017 officers were assembled and thanked for their service and dedication to the Genealogical Society of Okaloosa. Pictures were taken.

The officers for the 2018 year were sworn in and each position description was read from the GSOC Bylaws. Officers should refer to these descriptions when carrying out their duties in the next year. The following officers were sworn in and pictures taken:

- President, Jon Sheperd
- 1st VP, Cindy Barber
- 2nd VP, Jerry Rush
- Treasurer, Phil Hoge
- Recording Secretary, Kathie Sheperd
- Corresponding Secretary, Val Moreland

CLOSING:

At the end of the luncheon and meeting, Jon thanked Cindy for her great efforts and a wonderful luncheon. The meals were delicious, the room was terrific, and the view of the Choctawhatchee bay was beautiful. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, a joyous holiday, and a Happy New Year.

Next meeting: We will meet January 27th at the FWB library where we will hear from Fred Borg about photography for the genealogist.

/s/

Kathie Sheperd
GSOC Recording Secretary

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

Newsletter Editor: edcrosby@valp.net

GENIE Section: EditorGSOCFLnews@gmail.com

Genealogy Special interest Group: GSOCSGISG@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. 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

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 27th, at 10:30 am.

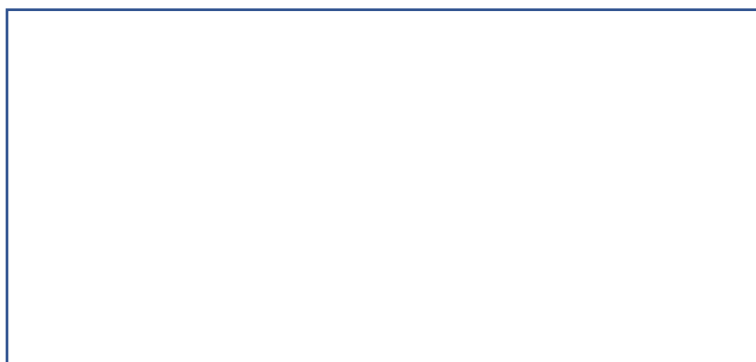
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