



JUNE 1, 2016

### Next GSOC Meeting

June 11, 2016 10:00 a.m. at the  
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida

#### *How I Wound Up Here*

Presented by Margaret Nichols

Our June program will feature Margaret Lane Nichols who will talk with us about the National Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists (NSDAC) National Historian's Project which deals with migration patterns. Her presentation is titled, *How I Wound Up Here*.



Mrs. Nichols was born in Birmingham, AL, and graduated from The University of West Florida with BS and ME degrees in Business Teacher Education. She and her husband Roger are the parents of two children and have three grandchildren.

Margaret served 21 years in the United States Air Force in Education and Training assignments and retired from active

duty in the rank of Chief Master Sergeant.

She is a member of six lineage societies and is an officer in the local Eucheeanna Chapter of the NSDAC. NSDAC members are descendants of a man or woman who rendered patriotic or civil service to the American Colonies prior to 4 July 1776.

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### What Kind of Genealogist Are You?

I love research. I love the challenge of the hunt, the mystery waiting to be solved. My husband dislikes research. He finds it tedious and a lot of work. If he were rich, he'd hire someone to do all the research for him. I'd hate that, I even often feel bad that I'm not leaving my grandchildren the fun of the hunt!

It seems to me that there are several types of genealogists:

**The Hunter or Detective:** Loves the research. They'll research anyone's ancestry just for the thrill of the hunt. They are easily sidetracked from their own ancestral research by the challenge of solving a stranger's brick wall.

**The Gatherer or Ancestor Collector:** Loves to know about their ancestors but doesn't really enjoy the hunt. He/she is happy to have others share what they have found.

**The Ancestor Finder:** Loves it all - doing the actual research and finding that elusive ancestor but they only enjoy researching their own family tree, not the ancestry of strangers.

**The Hoarder:** Does lots of research, finds new things about their ancestors but refuses to share any of the information.

**The Junkyard Collector:** Gets excited over online Family Trees and merges them with his/her own, never verifies anything or checks their facts. Before long they have a mess of unsourced information, conflicting data that doesn't make sense.

**The Scholar:** Lives and breathes source citations. Often submits articles to scholarly journals. Page after page of red edit marks from the editors don't intimidate them. They'll plow through their article drafts, refining and revising and making each more accurate than the last.

**The Analyzer:** Finds a new fact, then studies it and analyzes it carefully before moving on to the next bit of research. They verify every piece of information they find and they view it critically, thinking about what it actually means and what other clues might be gleaned from it.

**The Planner:** Faithful keeper of research logs, creates research plans and follows them; extremely meticulous about planning before they go on a research trip.

**The Writer:** Driven to write the stories of the ancestors. Some publish the books they write and offer them for sale, others write only for their family.

Some of us may fit more than one category. I am definitely a Hunter-Detective, a Writer, and an Analyzer, but I'm also a little bit of a Scholar. My husband is a Gatherer. He doesn't seem to fit any other categories. Where do you fit in?

Lorine McGinnis Schulze, *Genealogist/Historian/Author*

# Funerals in the early days of Northwest Florida

Burial methods in the rural areas of northwest Florida between about 1875 and 1925 were similar to those in rural areas in other less developed areas of the south and west. These areas saw a flow of new settlers. Some were homesteaders, some found jobs in the turpentine and sawmill industries, and others moved through on their way to other places. Disease, lack of doctors, lack of medical knowledge, wild animals, and relatively dangerous work caused death to be a too-familiar event for people of all ages.

Families had to rely on themselves and their few neighbors for help in taking care of their dead. The warm climate and lack of improved roads here caused additional hardships for grieving relatives. There were only a few towns and most of the very earliest burials outside the towns took place on the family homestead. The grave was within walking distance and easy to take care of. Gradually more family members and then friends and neighbors might be added until what had been a family cemetery grew into a community cemetery.

Sadly, some burials took place in isolated areas where a family may have lived for only a few years before moving on; and single graves, or two or three, were left behind. Some families who were just traveling through had to bury a loved one along the trail. Most of these have been lost forever because of the crude wooden markers that were used. Others disappeared as the wilderness reclaimed the land, hiding forever these final resting places.

**Eglin AFB is dotted with small cemeteries which were left behind when the U.S. Government claimed the land.**

**GSOC member Mary Ellen Wexler is to be commended for contributing the document *Burials on Eglin Air Force Base, Okaloosa County, Florida* to the USGenWeb Archives. It can be seen at:**

<http://files.usgwarchives.net/fl/okaloosa/cemetery/eglinafb.txt>

Further information about some of these graves can be found in Volume III of the GSOC cemetery series.

As more people moved in, land for a church was obtained and a cemetery was usually begun next to the church. In northwest Florida, land for graveyards was sometimes donated along bodies of water so that boats could be used to transport the deceased. The Jesse Rogers cemetery in

Mary Esther and the Sunset cemetery in Valparaiso are examples.

The more permanent turpentine stills and sawmills sometimes established their own graveyards for workers killed in the woods or at the stills or mills. Early development companies were known to donate land for cemeteries near their developments and they usually selected hilltops or elevated land because of high water tables.

Friends and neighbors usually prepared bodies for burial. If there weren't any nearby neighbors or friends, the family members had to take on the task of washing and dressing the body. A "cooling board" held the body while it was prepared for burial. This was often a wide wooden plank between sawhorses or other available supports. In some cases, a door was taken down and used until the coffin was ready.



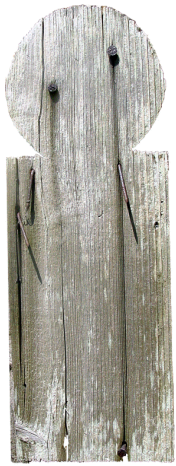
Men constructed the wooden coffins using wood which may have been stored at a central location for that purpose. The coffins increased in width from the head to about a third of

the way down and then tapered from there to the feet. The lids were flat. Traditionally, coffins were almost never built before a person died, even in those cases where death was expected soon. There are stories, however, of people who made their own coffins, or had them made by others, and kept them in their houses or barns.

The coffins were lined on the inside with cotton and muslin: black for older people, and white for younger people. The outside was covered with the same fabric or sometimes left uncovered. Later, coffins could be bought in stores in the towns. Deceased men were usually prepared for burial by men friends or neighbors. Women and older girls prepared female bodies. The deceased were buried in their best clothes, white or black dresses for women, dark suits for men, and white clothing for children. Shrouds and robes also were used.

After the body was dressed and placed in the coffin, it was placed in a room in the home. People brought an assortment of foods to the family of the deceased, and then stayed. If the house overflowed with people, friends camped in the yard until the burial took place. Neighbors

sat up with the body all night out of respect, to comfort the family, and to protect the deceased. If available, flowers were picked from gardens, and wildflowers were gathered where they could be found.



News of the death had to be carried by word of mouth or through the mail, which often didn't arrive until after the burial. The graves were dug by men of the community who volunteered for this task. Graves were marked in many different ways. A common early marker was a simple wooden cross. More elaborate heart pine and cypress pieces, carved to resemble a human's torso were later used. The top of the grave might be decorated with colored glass, pottery pieces or sea shells. Marking a grave with a cedar sapling was another early tradition. Permanent concrete markers, often homemade, were fairly common.

In the earliest days, only a few people were able to afford marble or granite grave markers.

## The Cooling Board

by Monette Morgan Young

Around about 1910, a family living on the western edge of Chickasaw County, MS, had two sons. An elderly relative had recently died at this home and, in that day, bodies were prepared for burial in the home where the person had died. The designated coffin maker in the community made the coffins. The body was first bathed and dressed and then it was laid on a 'cooling board'. The quick cooling helped preserve the body and also provided a place to keep it until the coffin was ready. Each community usually had a wide board for that purpose which was taken from house to house as needed. The board was laid between two tables, or between a table and the foot of a bed, or four chairs, each pair turned back to back. The board was smooth and quite wide. This man's body had been prepared and 'laid out' on the cooling board in the boys room until his coffin was ready and the funeral held.

A week or so later, there was a country dance in the community and all the young people were eager to go. The older of the two boys sometimes got a little wild, especially when he'd sampled some country moonshine. In those days young ladies frowned on loud behavior and especially boys with obvious signs of having a little too much to drink. So the older brother was shunned out of the dance by the girls, especially the one he was most interested in. After about an hour or so he gave up and left the dance and came on home.

Their house, as did many others, had "the boys' room" sitting off from a corner of the porch of the main house. The boys' room's porch created a walkway to the main house porch. As he neared the house an idea for a

practical joke began to emerge. His brother had been very popular that night with the girls who had rejected him so he thought he would have a prank waiting when his brother got home.

He tied his horse to a tree in the woods behind the barn and his parents in the main house didn't hear him come in. He sat down in a chair in the room he shared with his brother. He didn't light the lamp, but by the moonlight coming through the window he could barely see the cooling board still propped up in the corner of the room. When the older brother heard the younger one's horse approaching about midnight (parties were not prolonged things then), the older brother set up the cooling board in the place where it had supported its last burden and got on it and stretched a sheet over himself.

The younger brother came jauntily into the moonlit bedroom and saw the apparition and was quietly terrified. He slowly backed out of the room and went to his parents' room. He sat down in front of the still warm hearth. It was late autumn. His mother raised up and asked why he was not in his room. He replied that he was cold. Finally after another span of time she told him he must go on to his bed. The father was snoring happily all this time.

The boy got up and headed back to his room. He felt like his probable hallucination had vanished by then but it was still there. The brother had heard him coming back and had gotten himself back on the board. The younger brother retreated back to his parents' room. Again his mother questioned him and again he told the story of being cold. He sat and sat, finally she demanded he go to his room. The fire was quite dead.

The boy said something to the effect that something was in his room. She said that was foolish and she would go and prove to him nothing was there. She lit the kerosene lamp and set out with the boy, illuminating the way. The older brother heard someone coming but did not know the mother was along so he got back on the board.

When she saw the cooling board and its sheeted burden, she screamed and dropped the lamp. Fortunately, the lamp went out when it crashed to the floor and there was no fire. The father woke up and went hurrying in and found out there had been such a loud commotion and why.

The father sat in that room wrapped up in a quilt and made the older boy lie on that cooling board the rest of the night.

**Monette Morgan Young**, (1915-2000) was born on her parents' small farm in north central Mississippi. She loved family and community history and writing and also did extensive research on her own family line as well as on her husband's line. She won awards for her poetry and articles.

She was the author of *The Cherry Hill – Poplar Springs – Reid Community in Calhoun County, Mississippi* and "The Cooling Board" story above was extracted from that book and used here by permission.

NewsJuli11

# Surnames Being Researched by GSOC Members

Compiled by Jon Sheperd from GSOC Membership Forms as of May 2016

Surname being researched and areas of primary interest	GSOC Member
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ANDERSEN, NJ	Rush, Jerry
ANDREW, Scotland	Basch, Sue
ABERNETHY (ABERNATHY) NC, AL, MS	Flanagan, Malcolm
ADAMSON, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
ADKINS, KY	Lessard, Carol
ADKINSON, FL	Buxton, Beckie
ARNOTT, WI, Scotland	Sutherland Bob & Anne
ARSENAULT, Canada (NS)	O'Neill, Sherry
ASCHEHOUG, Norway	Jenus, Hilma
ATWOOD, MA	O'Neill, Sherry
BAILEY, MS, NC, VA	Sajwaj, Thomas
BAKER, GA, AL	Ward, Rick
BARNETT, KY, VA	Lessard, Carol
BARTLETT, AL, FL, GA, NC	Lessard, Carol
BASCH, Alsace	Basch, Bob
BECKER, MN, NY	Elliott, Ken & Donna
BERGE, Norway	Jenus, Hilma
BESSE, MA	O'Neill, Sherry
BILLINGS, WI, IL, NY	Sutherland Bob & Anne
BISHOP, MN, Michigan	Elliott, Ken & Donna
BLACK, OK, GA, AL, NC, VA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
BLACKMON, AL, SC, Scotland	Lessard, Carol
BLEITZ (Blietz), IO, IL	Meyer, Gail
BLOUNT, South US, TX	Buxton, Beckie
BLUE, MS, NC, VA	Young, Jim
BOHL, WI, SD, Germany	Sutherland Bob & Anne
BOONE, NC, SC, FL, AL	Hicks, Sue
BOUDREAU, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
BOURGEOIS, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
BOYETT(E), GA, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
BOYNTON, MA	O'Neill, Sherry
BRADFORD, VA	Stiles, Tom
BRAULT (Bro), Canada	Lessard, Del
BREKKE, Norway	Jenus, Hilma
BROBLEK (Brobleck), IO, IL	Meyer, Gail
BROOKS, CT, NC, KY, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
BROWN, FL, AL	Buxton, Beckie
BROWN, GA	Ward, Rick
BROWN, KY, VA	Lessard, Carol
BROWN, Scotland	Basch, Sue
BROWN, TN, NC, VA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
BRYAN, NC, SC, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
Bryant, MA	O'Neill, Sherry
BRYANT, MS	Flanagan, Malcolm
BUIE, AC, GA, FL, AL	Lessard, Carol
BURGOON, MD OH, IO, TX	Licari, Charles
BURKHALTER, GA, SC, Switzerland	Sutherland Bob & Anne
BURLESON, FL, AL, SC	Manis, Glenda
BURMAN, Sweden	Jenus, Hilma
BURNY, AL, GA, NC	Ward, Rick

BURRIS, SC, MS	Flanagan, Malcolm
BUXTON, NC, AL, FL	Buxton, Beckie
CALLAHAN, Sligo IRL	Basch, Bob
CARNLEY, SC, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
CARRIGAN, NC	Laws, Carl
CARROL, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
CARROLL, NC, FL, AL	Hicks, Sue
CATHEY, AR, OK, TN	Cochrane, Marvin
CAUSEY, AL, GA	Lessard, Carol
CH&LER, CO	O'Neill, Sherry
CHAPPELL, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
CHENEY (CHANNEY), MD	Cochrane, Marvin
CLARK, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
CLARK, FL, AL, SC	Manis, Glenda
CLARK, VA, TX	Grafton, Charlene
CLEMEMENT, NY, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
CLOUD, GA, SC, VA	Manis, Glenda
COATES, GA	Ward, Rick
COLLINS, VA, TX	Grafton, Charlene
CONKLIN, NY & NJ	Basch, Sue
COOK, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
COPELAND, VA, AL	Richburg, Bob
COUSINS, GA, AL	Sutherland Bob & Anne
COX, NC, GA	Stiles, Tom
CRAMER, OH	Pruitt, Patricia
CRAWFORD, Northwest FL	Wexler, Mary Ellen
CREWS, GA	Laws, Carl
CROMELIN, NY	Stiles, Robin
CROUGH, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
CUNNINGHAM, VA, NC, TN, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
CURRIE, KY, NC, Scotland	Sutherland Bob & Anne
CUTTS, NC, GA, AL, FL, OK	Wexler, Mary Ellen
DANIELS, PA, IL, AR	Sheperd, Kathie
DAVIDSON, NC, MO, AR	Sheperd, Kathie
DAWSON, MD	Cochrane, Marvin
DEAN, GA, NC, VA, England	Sutherland Bob & Anne
DEATS, NJ	Sheperd, Jon
DEMING, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
DESTIN, FL, CO, England	Blue, Kathy
DeVIVO (DiVEVA), NY, Italy	Cochrane, Marvin
DIEZEL, PA, CA, WI	Jehn, Judy
DILLON, IL, AR	Hicks, Don
DiNARDI, NY, Italy	Cochrane, Marvin
DONAHUE, Philadelphia, PA	Pruitt, Patricia
DOWNS, AL, SC	Lessard, Carol
DRAPER, SC, AL	Licari, Charles
DRURY, GA	Laws, Carl
DUDLEY, VA	O'Neill, Sherry
DUNCAN, MD	Stiles, Tom
DUNSTAN (DUNSTONE), MD	Cochrane, Marvin
DURBIN, MD	Cochrane, Marvin
EAVENSON, GA, PA, England	Sutherland Bob & Anne
EDGE, NC, GA, AL, FL, OK	Wexler, Mary Ellen
EDGERLY, Canada	Moreland Val
ELLIOTT, GA, SC, NC	Elliott, Ken & Donna



ESCHBAUGH, OH, Germany	Moreland Val
EVANS, OH, LA, TX	Kleypas, Mike
FENNEL, MA	Latimer, Keith
FERRON, Canada	Lessard, Del
FIALKA, NY, Eastern Europe	Lessard, Del
FOLEY, AL, VA, Ireland	Lessard, Carol
FOSTER, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
FRAZIER, OK, MO, AR, TN,	Sutherland Bob & Anne
FRAZIER, NC, MD	Sutherland Bob & Anne
FREEMAN, NJ, Nova Scotia	Sheperd, Jon
FULLER, MD PA	Cochrane, Marvin
GARRETT, AL, FL	Buxton, Beckie
GEARHART (Gerheart) IN, FL	Wexler, Mary Ellen
GEDDING, MA	Latimer, Keith
GERLACH (GERLACHEN), MD PA	Cochrane, Marvin
GILLIS, South US	Buxton, Beckie
GOODMAN, TX	Payne, Vvonne
GOODWIN, Northwest FL	Wexler, Mary Ellen
GOODWIN, TX, AL, GA, NC,	Sutherland Bob & Anne
GOODWIN, VA, England	Sutherland Bob & Anne
GRANGER, Canada	Lessard, Del
GRANT, GA	Ward, Rick
GRAVENER, MD KY	Sheperd, Jon
GREEN, NYC & Brooklyn, NY	Sheperd, Jon
GREGORY, MA	O'Neill, Sherry
HALL, OK, AR, SC	Cochrane, Marvin
HANCOCK, GA, SC	Manis, Glenda
HARDIN, MS, AL, NC	Young, Jim
HARRELL, GA	Laws, Carl
HARRISON, TN	Flanagan, Malcolm
HART, IL, KY, VA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
HARVEY, IN, FL	Wexler, Mary Ellen
HATHAWAY, ME, SC, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
HEADRYL, MI	Loomis, Robert
HELTON, AL	Moreland Val
HENDERSON, OK, MO, TX, AL, GA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
HICKS, TN, AR	Hicks, Don
HILLEY, GA, VA, Ireland	Sutherland Bob & Anne
HOGUE, Scotland, WA, OR, NY	Hoge, Phil
HOGUE, FL, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
HOPEY, Canada (NB)	O'Neill, Sherry
HOPKINS, OK, MO, TN, KY, NC, MD	Sutherland Bob & Anne
HOPPER, NC, OH, FL	Hicks, Sue
HORNSBY, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
HOWERTON, VA, TN, IL, AR	Sheperd, Kathie
HOWEY, GA	Ward, Rick
HOYLE, AL, GA	Lessard, Carol
HUCKABAY, GA, TX, LA, OK	Grafton, Charlene
HUEBSCH, WI, Germany, Prussia	Sutherland Bob & Anne
HUNT, IO, IN	Basch, Sue
HUTCHISON, Scotland	Grafton, Charlene
JACKSON, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
JASKINIA, KS, MO, TX	Sajwaj, Thomas
JEHN, WI	Jehn, Judy
JENUS, Poland, NJ	Jenus, Hilma
JEWETT, WI, NY, NH	Sutherland Bob & Anne
JOHANNSEN, Germany, Denmark	Elliott, Ken & Donna
JONES, VA	O'Neill, Sherry

JUDD, MA	Sheperd, Jon
KAISER, IO, IL	Meyer, Gail
KEVIL, Sligo IRL	Basch, Bob
KING, SC, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
KING, South US	Buxton, Beckie
KING, WI, NY, MA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
KIPLING, NY	O'Neill, Sherry
KLEYPAS, TX, Germany	Kleypas, Mike
KNAPP, MD Germany	Cochrane, Marvin
KNIGHTON, GA	Ward, Rick
LACOMBE, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
LAMBRECHTS, Norway	Jenus, Hilma
LANCASTER, GA	Blue, Kathy
LANGLEY, FL	Buxton, Beckie
LaPIERRE, MN, PA, Canada	Payne, Vvonne
LASKOWSKI, KN, Poland	Sajwaj, Thomas
LACKOSKI (Lasowska), Poland, NJ	Jenus, Hilma
LATHROP, New England, England	O'Neill, Sherry
LATIMER, MA	Latimer, Keith
LAWS, NC	Laws, Carl
LEDBETTER, VA, NC, GA, AL	Licari, Charles
LESSARD, NY, CT, Canada	Lessard, Del
LEWIS, WI, NY, MA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
LICARI, NY	Licari, Charles
LINTON, MA	Latimer, Keith
LOLLAR, NC, AL, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
LOOMIS, MI	Loomis, Robert
LOTHIAN, IO	Stiles, Robin
LYONS, KY, VA, TN, NC, GA	Sutherland Bob & Anne
MADDEN, GA	Ward, Rick
MALONE	Ward, Rick
MANCUSI, NY, Italy	Cochrane, Marvin
MANCUSO, NY, Italy	Cochrane, Marvin
MARLER, FL, US, Europe	Blue, Kathy
MARTIN, IL	Hicks, Don
MAY, NC, IL, AR	Sheperd, Kathie
McCARTHY, MN, PA, Canada	Payne, Vvonne
McCOY, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
McCUBBIN, NC, KY	Lessard, Carol
McDERMIA, GA, AL, MS	Kleypas, Mike
McGUIGEAN, Derry Ireland	Basch, Bob
McKENZIE, MD Scotland	Cochrane, Marvin
MENDENHALL, SC & IN	Basch, Sue
MERRILL, MA, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
MEYER (Meier), WI, Germany, Prussia	Sutherland Bob & Anne
MILAM, AL	Walker, Pat
MILLER, WI, Germany, Prussia	Sutherland Bob & Anne
MITCHAM, AL, NC	Kleypas, Mike
MITCHEL, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
MOORMAN, IN	Basch, Sue
MORELAND, OH	Moreland Val
MORGAN, NC, AL, MS	Young, Jim
MORGAN, NC, MS, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
MORRIS, AL	Moreland Val
MORRIS, AL, GA	Lessard, Carol
MORRISON, NY City	Sheperd, Jon
MOSER, PA	Rush, Jerry
MURPHEE, MS, AL, NC	Young, Jim
MURPHY, VA, MS, TX	Sheperd, Kathie

NARDI, NY, Italy	Cochrane, Marvin
NEEL (Neil, Neal) MD OH	Sheperd, Jon
NEWMAN, MD PA	Cochrane, Marvin
NICHOLSON, US, Norway	Blue, Kathy
NOBLES, SC, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
NORWOOD, FL	Buxton, Beckie
NORWOOD, GA, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
O'FLYNN, MD	Cochrane, Marvin
ORR, GA	Ward, Rick
O'STEENE, GA	Walker, Pat
PADGETT, NC, FL, AL	Hicks, Sue
PAQUIN, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
PARDUE, MO	Pardue, Don
PARKER, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
PARRISH, FL & GA	Blue, Kathy
PARSONS, MA	Sheperd, Jon
PATTERSON, PA, VA, TN, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
PAYNE, VA, KY, MO, OK	Payne, Vvonne
PETRIE, IL	Stiles, Robin
PILOTTE, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
POINDEXTER, VA, NC, KY,	Sheperd, Kathie
POINDEXTER, MO, AR	Sheperd, Kathie
PRAHL, WI, Germany	Jehn, Judy
PROVOST, Canada	Lessard, Del
PUTNAM, NC	Laws, Carl
RAMSDELL, MA	O'Neill, Sherry
RANKIN, MS	Flanagan, Malcolm
REEVES, TX	Payne, Vvonne
REYNOLDS, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
RICHARD (Richards), MS, AL, NC	Young, Jim
RICHBOURGH (RICHBURG, RIGHBOURG), VA, SC, AL, FL	Richburg, Bob
RIDLING, NC, GA, AR, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
ROBERTSON, SC	Stiles, Tom
ROBERTSON, Scotland & US	Basch, Sue
ROBILLARD, NY & French Canada	Basch, Bob
ROBINSON, Illinois	Stiles, Robin
ROGERS, MS, FL	Buxton, Beckie
ROUPE, KY, PA, MO	Lessard, Carol
RUSH, NJ	Rush, Jerry
S&ERS, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
S&ERS, GA	Ward, Rick
SAJWAJ, KN, Pol&	Sajwaj, Thomas
SANGAREE, FL, GA	Elliott, Ken & Donna
SANGREGORIO, Italy	Elliott, Ken & Donna
SANTOIRE, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
SATTERLEE, WI, IL, NY	Sutherland Bob & Anne
SAULS, GA	Walker, Pat
SCESNY, Eastern Europe	Lessard, Del
SCHLUTER, WI, LA, Germany, Prussia	Sutherland Bob & Anne
SCHUBERT, MN, Germany	Elliott, Ken & Donna
SCHULTZ, TX, Germany	Kleypas, Mike
SCHULTZ, WI, Germany	Sutherland Bob & Anne
SEATON, IL	Stiles, Robin
SEWELL, MO, KY, TN, MD, Eng	Sutherland Bob & Anne
SHEPHERD (Sheperd), OH, Ireland	Sheperd, Jon
SHULTIS, MN, NY	Elliott, Ken & Donna
SIDEBOTTOM, KY, England	Lessard, Carol
SIDLOVSKY, CT, NY, Eastern	Lessard, Del

Europe	
SIMONDS, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
SIMONIK, CT, Eastern Europe	Lessard, Del
SLAHTOVSKY, PA, NY, East Eur	Lessard, Del
SMAJSTRLA, TX, Czech	Kleypas, Mike
SMITH, OK, GA, TN, AL, SC, NC	Sutherland Bob & Anne
SRYGLEY, PA, KY	Lessard, Carol
STAFFORD, South US, England	Buxton, Beckie
STANFORD, VA, KY, MO, OK	Payne, Vvonne
STILES, GA, VA	Stiles, Tom
STILES, NJ	Basch, Sue
STRECKENBACH, WI, Germany	Blue, Kathy
STRICKLAND NC, GA, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
STUBBINS, CT, NC, TN, TX	Sheperd, Kathie
STUBBS, GA, SC, VA	Manis, Glenda
SULAK, TX, Czech	Kleypas, Mike
SUTHERLANC, WI, NY, VT, Scotland	Sutherland Bob & Anne
SWINDOLL, MS, AL	Young, Jim
THOMAS, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
THOMPSON, GA	Ward, Rick
THOMSEN, MN, IL, Denmark	Elliott, Ken & Donna
THORTON, GA, NC, VA, England	Sutherland Bob & Anne
TIPTON, MD OH	Sheperd, Jon
TITUS, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
TUECKE, IO, IL	Meyer, Gail
TURCOTTE, NY, Canada	Lessard, Del
TURNER, NY	O'Neill, Sherry
TURNER, PA, WI	Jehn, Judy
TUTTLE, OH	Pruitt, Patricia
VESTERDAL, Norway	Jenus, Hilma
WADE, OH	Pruitt, Patricia
WALDRON, ME, MA, NH	Moreland Val
WALLACE, PA, OH	Sheperd, Jon
WALTER, NY & NJ	Basch, Sue
WARD, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
WARD, South US	Buxton, Beckie
WARDEN, MO	Pardue, Don
WEBER, Austria	Jehn, Judy
WEBSTER, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
WEEKS, SC, AL, FL	Bryan, Bob
WELSH (WELCH), MD PA	Cochrane, Marvin
WEST, LA, TX, MS, VA	Kleypas, Mike
WESTPHAL, WI, Germany	Jehn, Judy
WHITCH, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
WHITE, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
WHITE, Philadelphia, PA	Pruitt, Patricia
WHITMORE, OH	Sheperd, Jon
WHITTIER, NH	O'Neill, Sherry
WIGGINS, PA, OH	Sheperd, Jon
WILLETTS, MD	Stiles, Tom
WILLIAMS, IL, TN, VA, SC, Wales	Sutherland Bob & Anne
WILLIS, MS, AL	Sajwaj, Thomas
WINTER (Winters), MS, AL	Young, Jim
WOLF, AL, GA	Ward, Rick
WOOTEN, NC, FL, AL	Hicks, Sue
YOUNG, MS, AL, TN	Young, Jim

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# Events and Information of GSOC Interest

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## GSOC INFORMATION

### Officers for 2016

President, Sue Basch  
1st Vice President (Programs), Charlene Grafton  
2nd Vice President (Membership), Jon Sheperd  
Treasurer, Phil Hoge  
Recording Secretary, Kathie Sheperd  
Corresponding Secretary, Val Moreland  
Immediate Past President, James Young  
Journal Editor, Kathie Sheperd; Historian, TBD  
Genealogist, Margaret Harris  
Publicity Chairperson, Val Moreland  
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor, Jim Young

### Addresses

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

### Meetings and Membership

Regular meetings of the GSOC are usually held at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso, FL, at 10 AM on the second Saturday of each month. There is no admission charge and all are welcome. The meetings are usually followed by an optional Dutch treat lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Annual membership dues are \$24 for an individual and \$35 for an individual and spouse at the same address. If you would like to become a member, want to renew your membership, or want to update your membership record, please go to the GSOC web site and download the membership form.

### The Newsletter

The GSOC Newsletter is usually published on or before the first 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](mailto: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 2015 issue, was published and distributed in October 2015.

### 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.

### West Florida Genealogical Society Saturday, June 4, 2016, 10:00 AM

5740 N. 9th Ave, Pensacola, FL, 850-494-7373

**Topic: Resources You Might Have Missed at the West Florida Genealogical Library; Speaker: Bruce Rova**

Bruce Rova, WFGS member, has been actively involved in acquiring new resources for the West Florida Genealogy Library and making them available for library patrons. He will give us information about some of those items at this meeting. Guests are welcome. Refreshments at 9:45.

Contact: Charlotte Schipman, 850-477-7166, [cschipman@mac.com](mailto:cschipman@mac.com)

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### Bay County Genealogical Society (BCGS) Panama City, FL, Saturday, 18 June 2016, 1 PM:

898 West 11th Street, Panama City, FL

**Topic: Materials available at the Bay County Library which can help with genealogy and family history research, presented by Laura Moree**

Meetings are held the third Saturday of each month (except July and August) at 1 p.m. in the conference room of the Bay County Public Library.

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### Walton County (FL) Reunions in June Walton County Genealogical Society

Any updates received will be posted on the Reunions page of the WCGS website.

**Cosson** - 2nd Saturday in June at the Harry Cosson house in Alaqua. For more information, contact Harry Cosson.

**Evans/Lindsey/Brown** - 1st Saturday in June at the Euchee Valley Community Center. For more information, contact Carolyn Brown.

**Jones** - Last Saturday in June at the Cluster Springs Church in Liberty. For more information, contact Marsha Jones Cox.

**Mitchem** - 3rd Saturday in June at Ponce de Leon Springs. For more information, contact Ella Smith.

**Nelson** - 2nd Saturday in June at the Sportman's Club in DeFuniak Springs. For more information, contact Marie Rhodes.

**Sunday (relations of William Criglar "Greg" Sunday)** - Last Sunday in June at the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood in DeFuniak Springs. For more information, contact Dorothy Sunday.

# MINUTES OF THE 14 MAY 2016 GSOC MEETING

Kathie Sheperd, Recording Secretary  
Photos by Val Moreland

1st Vice President Charlene Grafton presided over the meeting for President Sue Basch who was not able to attend due to an injury and follow-on surgery. Charlene welcomed GSOC members and guests.

## OLD BUSINESS:

**Journal:** Note: the Journal is a former discussion topic, but updates/new information is also contained here to keep the subject matter together. Charlene called for someone to take charge of the Journal and for volunteers.

**Journal Committee:** The following people volunteered to work on the upcoming Journal (publication date Oct-Nov 2016): Charlene Grafton, Pat Pruett, Margaret Harris, Jerry Rush and Kathie Sheperd. Our guest Dee Walker, said she had previous experience with publishing 4 journals; and could assist, but not be in charge. The first meeting was planned for May 18th. (\*\*Note: At this meeting, Kathie Sheperd volunteered to be Editor. More volunteers are needed to help write and do research for articles. If interested, please contact Kathie, 651-8008.)

**Journal Theme:** Members present voted to publish the Journal with the theme of the Vietnam War. (Research and articles are needed to depict how the Vietnam War affected the residents/members of NW Florida.)

Charlene suggested having a writing contest open to the local public with the winner's piece to be used in the Journal. Hilma Jenus has an outline of "Remember Whens" which could potentially be used.

## NEW BUSINESS:

**Door Prizes:** The GSOC Membership Board requests our members to help donate items for the monthly meeting door prizes. Examples could be a useful book or magazine, a jar of jam like Val's, or something thematic, as in keeping with the season of the year. To that end, this month's door prizes were a Civil War book and a jar of strawberry fig jam.

**Monthly lunches:** In order to save time at meetings, the Board will develop a list of restaurant names for lunches following the monthly meeting. Restaurants will be rotated so that all we need to do is to take a quick head count and announce the month's restaurant location. Members offered several restaurants for consideration and Charlene made a note of them. Others may suggest restaurants: email Sue Basch with further suggestions prior to the next meeting.

**GSOC Members:** Jim Young was unable to attend as he has a prior commitment. Bob Basch fell, possibly fracturing a rib, and Phil Hoge is out of town. No other people updates are known.

**Heritage Museum:** Please consider supporting the Heritage Museum by becoming a member. This will help preserve our local history.

The GSOC Board decided that Journals will be available to non-members for \$10. Bob Basch has a few remaining journals from the last 3 or 4 years.

**Future meetings:** The next GSOC Board meeting board meeting (Board Members Only) will be held at Shalimar United Methodist Church on May 21, 9:30 am.

## REPORTS:

**President Sue Basch:** Not able to attend

**1st VP Charlene Grafton:** Today's program is the U.S. Civil War round table and there are 6 people lined up to present their ancestor's Civil War involvement.

Upcoming programs are:

June 11, 2016: Margaret Nichols, Daughters of the American Colonist History Project

Jul 09, 2016: Dr Brian Rucker, Professor, West Florida's Unionists

Aug 13, 2016: Kathy Marler Blue, Early Destin History & The Marler Family Presence

Sep 10, 2016: Barbara Russell & Dorothy Pichardo, Cemeteries and the Electronic Obituary Service

Oct 08, 2016: Professor Thomas Tesgen, Ethics in DNA

Nov 12, 2016: Charlene Grafton, The Genographic Project by National Geographic

Dec 10, 2016: Formal Annual Meeting and Christmas Party

**2nd VP Jon Sheperd:** Jon will shortly publish a GSOC membership roster that is for members only. It will not include information that members want to keep private. Jon is awaiting privacy confirmation from six individuals. (Open)

Jon is also still developing an ancestor surname data base. When completed, this data base will list the surnames (with their locations) and which of our members are researching them. (Open)

**Treasurer Phil Hoge:** Phil Hoge could not attend the meeting, but sent his report. The GSOC collected \$349 in donations; there were expenses of \$15.48 for mailings; the balance of funds is \$2,539.36.

**Recording Secretary Kathie Sheperd:** Thank you, Pat Pruett, for taking the minutes last month. She made a reminder to the board and members, to remember to follow up on the open action items from previous



meetings. For instance, President Bash is still looking for inputs about GSOC future direction/goals.

**Publicity Secretary Val Moreland:** The annual bill for the Heritage Museum (we rent the space) is now due and will need to be paid this month. (Open: Phil)  
Genealogist Margaret Harris: She has one request for family history information to work.

As a reminder, the Center for Lifelong Learning will have new classes offered in September. There will be 3 genealogy classes offered Sept 12th – Nov 4th:

1. ABC's of Genealogy
2. Family History on the Internet
3. Accomplishments in Genealogy

All classes are taught by our GSOC members Hilma Jenus, Tom Sajwaj, and Margaret Harris. For info, go to: <http://www.cll-fwf.org/> (Registration is Sept 2, 2016)

**GUEST SPEAKERS:** Charlene Grafton introduced our Civil War Round Table. She planned this topic 6 months ago; how the American Civil War affected our ancestors and its effect on the country. Other places, such as Nashville TN, do this program annually. Richmond VA has presented programs such as women in the Civil War.

Charlene said most of her ancestors went to Texas and got involved with Stephen Austin and the citizens of that time. They started farming in Lamar County and had large spreads of farm animals to include cattle, pigs, horses, etc. As the Civil War developed, many members of her family left TX to fight in other units.

Charlene then introduced 2 local historical sites with ties to the Civil War, Fort Barrancus and Fort Pickens. Jon accessed the hyperlinks to two informative YouTube videos about these places. For members not present, these videos are at:

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaC2rTis10> (Fort Barrancas in Pensacola)
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0ktoOvnV-0&list=PL9FDB61E1A75D514E> (Fort Pickens)



**Presenter Hilma Jenus:** Hilma informed the GSOC members of alternative ways to learn about their Civil War ancestors. These include asking family members for stories, looking for alternate reading sources such as a book company called ER

Hamilton (they have cheap books/CDs), TV documentaries, and YouTube videos. She suggests going on genealogical and historical field trips, but prepare your agenda/goals before leaving. Know where you are going, develop schedule(s), and research in advance to find out what is in the area you are visiting. Visit libraries and local historical societies. Other sources can be gathered such as real estate brochures. Take pictures, write explanations and put the journey/findings in a scrapbook (does not need to be fancy).



**Presenter Kathie Shepherd:** Kathie discussed her ancestors from Dade Co, MO, a boarder state with groups of the Union Army, the Confederate States Army, guerrillas, militias, and bushwhackers. Her ancestor family was orphaned and the oldest child (of 4) was 10 years old. Their savior came from a male cousin, 24 yr old, unmarried civil war veteran, John Newton Poindexter, who became their legal garden. Kathie showed Poindexter's civil war enlistment and POW parole records, probate/guardianship records for the minor orphan children, and Poindexter's widow's pension request, made 60 years after the war's end.

**Presenter Jerry Rush:** Jerry's family ancestors were the Hughes and Whites from Bertie CO, NC. He had been told family stories and then did research through census records and family records. The challenge was determining who his great-great grandmother's family was. He was able to find the North

Carolina marriage bonds to help him determine his lineage to her. He also did his DNA to connect with other family members. Jerry brought one of his ancestor's Civil War rifle – it was heavy and huge! Follow-up note: Jerry's rifle is a Springfield Model 1864 .58 caliber "rifled musket" with bayonet. It weighs 9 lbs empty and is 56 inches long, without the bayonet. These rifles were in service between 1864 & 1865. About 255,040 were manufactured. See this rifle at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkkLOOUMXBU>



**Presenter Ken Elliott:** Ken's great-great grandfather was Vito Sangregorio who emigrated from Sicily in 1847/8. He was a fisherman who settled and fished in Apalachicola, FL. Vito fought in the battle of Olustee in 1864 and the Battle of Natural Bridge, which is south of Tallahassee.



Ken brought Vito's civil war sword and told the story about how it had disappeared for many years and is currently in his possession. He also had a small replica sword to show how the sword originally looked. On a follow up note: Ken discussed how the confederate flag was a battle flag, and was not associated with slavery.

**Presenter Bob Sutherland:** Bob had 3 ancestors in the Civil War; 2 on his maternal side with German ancestry and one on his paternal side. They all lived 75 miles apart in SW Wisconsin. He showed the routes they took during the war and some of the battles they participated in. One of those ancestors was 61 and at the end of the war participated in the "Grand Review of Armies" in Washington DC (May 23-24, 1865).



**Presenter Pat Pruett:** Pat talked about her family showing relationships using Family Search and pictures.



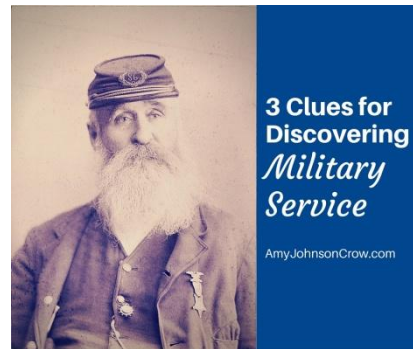
**Presenter Jon Sheperd:** Jon discussed how his great-grandfather, Edward Green, from Brooklyn NY, participated in the war as a (Navy) 1st Class Boy at the age of 16. Jon showed how the Union developed the Anaconda Plan to block southern

seaports and control the Mississippi River and its resultant impact on trade and commerce. The Union navy grew by 600% to meet demand. Green was assigned to 2 ships and Jon showed how by using the ship records and Green's pension request, he was able to trace the ship's historical history, assignments, battles engaged, and other blockade running ships captured. With the Pension Act of 1907, Green was able to apply for a pension and his record shows payments made.

The meeting concluded with Charlene thanking the Roundtable presenters. It was widely agreed that this was a very informative program.

The next GSOC general membership meeting will be held on June 11, 2016 at 10:00 am.

MAY ATTENDANCE	
Members	
Keith Latimer	Jon Sheperd
Kathie Sheperd	Val Moreland
Carl Laws	Hilma Jenus
Ken Elliott	Bob Sutherland
Sherry O'Neill	Marsh Cox
Don Hicks	Sue Hicks
Mike Kleypas	Marv Cochrane
Lynn Fabian	Charlene Grafton
Pat Pruett	Pat Walker
Bob Loomis	Jerry Rush
Visitors	
Dee Walker	Cindy Barber



**By Amy Johnson Crow**

[AmyJohnsonCrow.com](http://AmyJohnsonCrow.com)

Digging into military records can yield an incredible amount of information about our ancestors. (My favorite is my 3rd-great-grandfather's Civil War pension file.

It showed that he married his second wife 12 days after she divorced her previous husband. Yeah, that.) While some records will spell out military service, there are times when we need to tease that fact out. Here are 3 clues to look for to discover your ancestor's military service.

### 1. Organizations

Henry Clay Ruby's obituary doesn't come out and say that he was a Civil War veteran. However, it does state that he was a member of the O. P. Morton post, Grand Army of the Republic. The GAR was an organization comprised of honorably discharged Union veterans. Knowing about the Grand Army of the Republic gives us the clue we need to start exploring Henry's Civil War service. Also, look for flag holders at the grave. Learn about the organizations that they represent. (Keep in mind, of course, that the flag holder might be in front of the wrong grave.)

### 2. Symbols on Tombstones

Not all information on tombstones is words and numbers. Not to sound like *The Da Vinci Code*, but there can be meaning in the symbols. Look for things like crossed swords, crossed flags, cannons, etc. One symbol that often *isn't* a clue to military service is the anchor. An anchor on a tombstone is often used as a symbol of hope.

### 3. Census Records

We can get so focused on the names and relationships in the census that we skip looking at the whole record. Question 30 (yes, 30!) on the 1910 census lists whether the person was a veteran of the Union Army (UA), Union Navy (UN), Confederate Army (CA), or Confederate Navy (CN). (When you're looking at the 1910 census, be careful, as the Census Bureau also used those right-hand columns for statistical notations.) The 1840 census listed Revolutionary War pensioners by name and age. The 1930 census has a column asking if a person was a veteran and, if so, which war. The 1940 census, too, has a supplemental question about military service.

## Genealogy research classes at library

The Walton County Coastal Library offers classes 1-3 p.m. the first and third Thursday each month in June, July, and August on using the free website [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org).

The class is designed for people of all levels of experience. Call 850-267-2809. Coastal Branch Library is at 437 Greenway Trail, Santa Rosa Beach.



Our June program will feature Margaret Nichols who will tell us about the National Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists (NSDAC) National Historian's Project which deals with migration patterns. Her presentation is titled, *How I Wound Up Here*.

This meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida.

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

**Genealogical Society of  
Okaloosa County (GSOC)**  
P.O. Box 1175  
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