



THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MAY 21, 2018

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May 26 at GSOC 10:30 am
John Marshal presents "Ready, Set, Now What..."



*John Marshal at the gravesite of his
5th GGF, Richard King, in Harrison
County, Kentucky*

John's presentation "Ready, Set, Now What..." is designed to appeal to a wide range of audience members and skills. As an introduction for those new to DNA genealogy, John will briefly introduce the various tests and vocabulary needed to successfully get started in using DNA testing. With that foundation behind us, John will devote the rest of the program to highlighting what happens after you test, which is very much

dependent on what you are looking for. Perhaps you are looking for someone specific (like a parent or sibling). Perhaps you are looking to expand your network of cousins (for a future family reunion). Or perhaps you are wondering about your distant past and want to explore your lineage. Using practical examples that he has accumulated through being self-taught, John will blend strategies and tools to give you a starting point for your research. John spent 20 years in the United States Air Force as an aircraft maintainer; starting his second career with Boeing 13 years ago, where he currently works in Logistics Support. John enjoys boating, camping, and all the other nice things that life on the Emerald Coast offers – with his evenings being spent on genealogy, of course. John and his wife, Darlene, live in Shalimar.

UPCOMING EVENTS

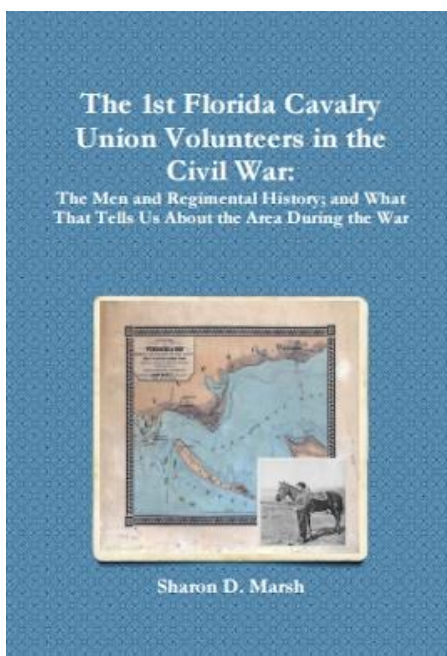
JUNE 23, 2018



Sharon D. Marsh is a descendant of several northwest Florida pioneers on her mother's side of the family and early panhandle arrivals to the new state of Florida on her Dad's side. After retiring from a day job, she set out to follow her love of history and genealogy and her writing passion. One passion that took more than a decade was a book on the 1st Florida Cavalry Union Volunteers, a regiment of Southern men who fought for the Union in Pensacola and the panhandle. Descended from one of the men who served and related to many more, she set out to try and understand these men and the decisions they made. The result is a book that is both history of the area and the regiment, and a basic genealogy of each man. Her current projects are a biweekly blog at www.nwfloridahistory.com; a history of one of the earliest American settlements in the Florida territory, Oak Grove in what is

now Okaloosa County; an effort to capture many of her ancestors' experiences of the Civil War, mostly Confederate but a few Union; and working with the historic Yellow River Baptist Church to complete the digitizing and organizing of all the historic records of the church, mapping and documenting the history of the three cemeteries around and connected to the church membership and eventually applying for an historical marker for the church and community. She can be reached through her website at www.sharondmarshauthor.com or liked through Facebook to keep up with ongoing events and projects.

Presentation



The 26 May meeting presentation will be on the 1st Florida Cavalry Union Volunteers. It will present a brief synopsis of the nine counties that in 1860 contributed a significant number of men to the regiment then move to discussing the regiment itself, how it was organized, how it functioned in the panhandle and some detail on the various activities and expeditions they participated in during the war. The presentation will wrap up by focusing on the men who served, presenting some detail on some of the families represented in their service, some detail on service of these men in the Confederacy versus draft dodging, and some photos of a few of the men. Paperback and hard cover books will be available for purchase and signing.

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 is a Family Tree Made?"

Genie says: The web has many free templates and instructions on how to make a family tree. Enter "How is a family tree made" in Google. Here are some sample links:

- WWW.ancestry.com/family-tree/ . Start a family tree for free.
- WWW.smartdraw.com/family-tree. What a family tree is, how to make a family tree, and free templates.
- WWW.Wikihow.com/make-a-family-tree-on-excel.
- WWW.familytreemagazine.com/kids/familytreekids.
- WWW.shieldmysenior.com/how-to-make-a-Family-tree.
- WWW.smartdraw.com/family-tree/family-tree-template.htm.
- [WWW.familytreetemplates.net/previews/10-generation family tree](http://WWW.familytreetemplates.net/previews/10-generation_family_tree). Free template & others.

KIDS: Here is a link to a neat video about family trees, go to:

WWW.youtube.com Then search Family tree for kids (plus there are other videos at that page).

Assorted training videos on many aspects of Genealogy & Family History for all interest levels can be found at:

[Youtube.com/channel/UC7hqNOQt-2AfeVEpDuc7sCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7hqNOQt-2AfeVEpDuc7sCA) (submitted by Val Moreland).



GENEALOGY FOR KIDS – ON THE WEB

Click on this web link: WWW.familytreemagazine.com/kids/familytreefun/
You will find:

- Genealogy Word Searches
 - Make Picture Magnets
 - Create a Tombstone Rubbing
-

Social Security Cards Issued by Woolworth

The most misused SSN of all time was (078-05-1120). In 1938, wallet manufacturer the E. H. Ferree company in Lockport, New York decided to promote its product by showing how a Social Security card would fit into its wallets. A sample card, used for display purposes, was inserted in each wallet. Company Vice President and Treasurer Douglas Patterson thought it would be a clever idea to use the actual SSN of his secretary, Mrs. Hilda Schrader Whitcher.

The wallet was sold by Woolworth stores and other department stores all over the country. Even though the card was only half the size of a real card, was printed all in red, and had the word "specimen" written across the face, many purchasers of the wallet adopted the SSN as their own. In the peak year of 1943, 5,755 people were using Hilda's number. SSA acted to eliminate the problem by voiding the number and publicizing that it was incorrect to use it. (Mrs. Whitcher was given a new number.) However, the number continued to be used for many years. In all, over 40,000 people reported this as their SSN. As late as 1977, 12 people were found to still be using the SSN "issued by Woolworth."

Mrs. Whitcher recalled coming back from lunch one day to find her fellow workers teasing her about her new-found fame. They were singing the refrain from a popular song of the day: "Here comes the million-dollar baby from the five and ten cent store".

Although the snafu gave her a measure of fame, it was mostly a nuisance. The FBI even showed up at her door to ask her about the widespread use of her number. In later years she observed: "They started using the number. They thought it was their own. I can't understand how people can be so stupid. I can't understand that."

New York wallet manufacturer was not the only one to cause confusion about Social Security numbers. More than a dozen similar cases have occurred over the years--usually when someone publishes a facsimile of an SSN using a made-up number. (The Whitcher case is far and away the worst involving a real SSN and an actual person.) One embarrassing episode was the fault of the Social Security Board itself. In 1940 the Board published a pamphlet explaining the new program and showing a facsimile of a card on the cover. The card in the illustration used a made-up number of 219-09-9999. Sure enough, in 1962 a woman presented herself to the Provo, Utah Social Security office complaining that her new employer was refusing to accept her old Social Security number--219-09-9999. When it was explained that this could not possibly be her number, she whipped out her copy of the 1940 pamphlet to prove that yes indeed it was her number!



Note: Article from the Social Security web site

Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County Meeting Minutes, 28 Apr 2018

GSOC President Jon Sheperd welcomed members and visitors, including our guest speaker, Joe Meyer, to the meeting. In addition to our guest speaker there were 6 other guests: Clarice Heibinck, Theodore Jacobs, Michael Arrington, Dan Harp and Dennis & Susan Blumenthal. There were 26 people present.

OLD BUSINESS: Minutes from the March meeting were in the April Newsletter. Members present approved the minutes as written.

Genealogy Workshop: There will be a genealogy workshop at the Crestview Public Library on May 10th from 10:00 to 12:00. GSOC members are encouraged to attend. Jon thanked Cindy Barber for heading this up.

Field Trips: The GSOC is planning to go to the Baker Block Museum on Friday, June 8th. The museum opens at 10:00 a.m. and Jon recommends we arrive about 10:30. After visiting the museum we'll have lunch at the Gator Café. Jon suggested carpooling; both he and Val Moreland can drive. He is looking for a volunteer to carpool from the Valparaiso and Niceville area. We are also planning on a trip to the Pensacola genealogy library in a few months. More details will follow on that.

2018 Journal: Just a reminder that the theme for the journal this year is "Why did you or your Ancestors come to NW Florida?" Please start thinking about how you can contribute with your own story. Please consider adding any family genealogy information if your family settled in the area.

NW Florida Genetic Genealogy Society. This society has formed and had its initial organizational meeting on April 14th. Bill Streitz, one of the founders, attended this meeting and reported that this informal beginner group is trying to figure out DNA. Some members have taken the DNA tests but don't know what to do with the information. John Marshall gave a short presentation and they did a survey to determine who needs various types of information. This is an on-going meeting which meets the 2nd Saturday of each month from 4:00-5:30 pm at the LDS Church in Niceville.

Group Photo: Jon reported that everyone should have received the digital "members group photo" taken at the last meeting and sent to members.

NEW BUSINESS: Door Prizes: Betsy Christianson won the drawing for Val's Homemade Jam and Marsha Cox won the box of document protectors donated by Sue Basch. Keith Latimer won the drawing for Ed Crosby's home grown local honey. Thank you to our donors!

DNA Workshops: The West Florida Genealogical Society is sponsoring workshops on DNA on both May 5th and 9th at the Pensacola Genealogy Library. They are titled "Ancestry DNA: Let's Get Started" and "DNA 3rd Party Tools". Cost per workshop is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Each workshop is limited to 16 people so if you are interested go to wfgsi.org for more information and to register.

VP Resignation: Unfortunately, Cindy Barber tendered her resignation as VP for GSOC Programs on March 28th. We have a need for someone to fill her position until the end of the year. Cindy had previously coordinated and scheduled all the 2018 guest speakers so that won't be a problem. However, we need an interim 1st VP that will follow up with each scheduled speaker before their scheduled month to speak and get a brief bio/description about their talk. This is important, and we need someone to step in and help the society. If you are interested, contact Jon.

New Book Donation for Library: Jerry Rush was kind and donated a new copy of "Companion Guide to Family Tree Maker" for the FWB Library genealogy section. Thank you, Jerry.

Lunch at local restaurant: The group went to Mary's Kitchen, at Uptown Station in Fort Walton Beach.

REPORTS: Jon, reporting for 1st VP: Upcoming presenters. John Marshall, who was supposed to be our speaker today, will give his DNA presentation at the May meeting. Sharon Marsh will talk about the 1st Union Florida Calvary in the Civil War at the June meeting.

2nd VP Jerry Rush: We received dues for about 6 more people. This puts our membership at 75 people. Dues are \$24 for a single member, or \$35 for family. Membership forms are at each meeting; on the table by the door.

Treasurer Phil Hoge: Jerry reported that we have \$1800.56 in the bank (as of 28 April).

Recording Secretary Kathie Sheperd: Nothing sufficient to report.

Corresponding Secretary Val Moreland: Let her know if you are not receiving GSOC emails.

Newsletter, Ed Crosby: Nothing sufficient to report. Jon thanked Ed for always putting out our newsletter.

Webmaster, Jim Young: RootsWeb is still down and making slow progress. He reminded everyone that our GSOC website is temporarily located at <http://www.youngj.us/GSOC> until RootsWeb is back up.

Genealogist, Margaret Harris: Margaret will continue to send out her bi-monthly newsletter of genealogy information. As a reminder, the FWB Family History Center has Ancestry.com and Fold 3.

PRESENTATION:

Jon introduced Mr. Joe Meyer and thanked him for graciously moving up his presentation one month when John Marshall (original speaker for April) had an out of town job conflict. Joe Meyer is a native of Louisiana and a resident of Navarre, Florida. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Humanities from the University of West Florida (1999). He works as a Research Associate III, with the Center for Environmental Management Military Lands (CEMML), Colorado State University. With over 30 years of experience in cultural resource management across the southeastern US, Joe provides guidance on Federal Laws and Regulations such as the National Historic Preservation Act and the Archaeological Resource Protection Act. Today he is here to speak to us about the cemeteries located on Eglin AFB property.

Joe Meyer: Joe has a data base at his Eglin AFB office to track all the cultural resources on Air Force properties. This includes open area cemeteries on Eglin AFB and cemeteries that are in closed areas. He has documentation for 30 cemeteries now and most cemeteries are marked. (It should be noted that Joe is a "one man" office at Eglin).

He reminded us that cemeteries are usually better kept, orderly, and landscaped. A graveyard or burial ground is a location of grave sites often adjacent to a church.

Back in 1983, the government hired New World Research to look for archeological sites on the Eglin AFB Reservation. They did an environmental study to look at landforms and paleo era objects/landforms. They made a map and identified 28 cemeteries in Okaloosa, Walton and Santa Rosa areas, using the information provided by former GSOC member Mary Ellen Wexler, (but they did not survey Cape San Blas). Mossy Head, FL had one cemetery that was not in the Eglin Reservation holdings.

Joe described and showed pictures of the cemeteries and graveyards since that time. For some places, there is no remaining evidence of graves, but since they were originally reported as burial places, Eglin AFB still carries them as cemeteries. One cemetery, known as Flowers Field Cemetery had one head stone and it was broken at the base. The old records of these places are confusing and sometimes it's not exactly precisely known. For example, Broxon or Flowers Field cemetery – these names were used interchangeably. Eglin has documentation stating one cemetery was relocated, but there was no record of where the cemetery was moved to. There are three locations they cannot verify (located in a special use area). They have also identified two new cemeteries since the 1983 study. More recent investigations have focused on determining actual boundaries of cemeteries.

The National Historical Preservation Act says the federal government must evaluate cultural resources. In recent years, they have surveyed over 95% of the federal land here and have identified 3,000 archeological sites. Any federal undertaking has to look at its effects on cultural resources.

To that end, they do remote sensing with magnetometers (an instrument that registers at 50cm and down – i.e. 18-39 inches) that measures electrical resistance in the soil – “resistivity”. Sometimes people refer to it as ground-penetrating radar. Joe uses it to find items such as nails (formerly in coffins), shoe laces, etc., (things which might find evidence of burial locations and grave shafts). Almost all cemeteries have grave shafts outside the delineated (marked) graveyard locations.

There are no federal laws that specifically protect cemeteries, but there is a Florida State Statute 872.02 that protects gravesites. This law says a person “commits a felony of the third degree if he/she willfully and knowingly destroys, mutilates, defaces, injures or removes any tomb, monument, gravestone, burial mound, earthen or shell monument containing human skeletal remains...” Additionally, there is a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (federal law regarding Native American burial grounds) and the Archeological Resource Protection Act (for cemeteries that are over 100 years old) that offer some protection.

Black Oak Cemetery is one of two cemeteries that is still active. Someone surveyed it and provided information to FindAGrave.com. There is a Taylor Crane Family Cemetery, but Mr. Taylor Crane is buried on another Eglin AFB plot. Eglin AFB has an intranet (for military/civil service personnel) that shows the sensitive areas to avoid on Eglin Property. In many cases, they are areas no longer considered safe because of military firing ranges/training, chemical hazards, etc. The military will mark trees with purple paint to warn people to back out the way they came in.

For those people wishing to visit a cemetery on Eglin property, they should contact Jackson Guard in Niceville and buy a pass for 20 years. This will allow them access to the reservation and to the open areas.

See: <https://eglin.isportsman.net/outdoorRecPermits.aspx>

Joe closed by saying that Florida state law... cannot keep family members from cemeteries. There are group permits for cemeteries in closed areas. Local families have access to the family cemeteries. Because of financial law governing use of government money (and how it is spent), his office cannot spend government dollars on maintaining the cemeteries.

Some useful websites:

- Eglin AFB Map with links to cemetery inventories by Mary Ellen Wexler (1999): <http://fl-genweb.org/ookaloosa/eglin cem.htm> (note: 28 cemeteries reported then)

Burials on Eglin AFB:

- Walton County, Florida: <http://files.usgwarchives.net/fl/walton/cemeteries/eglinafb.txt>
- Okaloosa County: <http://files.usgwarchives.net/fl/okaloosa/cemetery/eglinafb.txt>
- Black Oak Cemetery (Find A Grave website includes photos and links to individuals): <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/71787/memorialsearch?cemeteryname=BLACK%20ak%20cemetery&page=1#sr-70707959>

Note: Joe left a copy of his presentation for GSOC to use. We will post a copy in the Members Only section of our website.

CLOSING: Jon thanked Joe for his very interesting presentation. He thanked everyone for attending, especially our visitors. The next meeting will be at the FWB Library on May 26thth at 10:30 am when we will hear from John Marshall about DNA testing and how it can be used in our genealogy research.

Meeting adjourned.

/S/

Kathie Sheperd

Recording Secretary, GSOC

Events and Information of GSOC Interest

Officers for 2018

President, Jon Sheperd
 1st Vice President (Programs),
 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

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Newsletter Editor: edcrosby@valp.net

GENIE Section: EditorGSOCFLnews@gmail.com

Genealogy Special interest Group: GSOCSGSIG@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.

NOTICE: Temporary Web Site

WWW.youngj.us/GSOC

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

Temporary Web Site: WWW.youngj.us/GSOC 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)



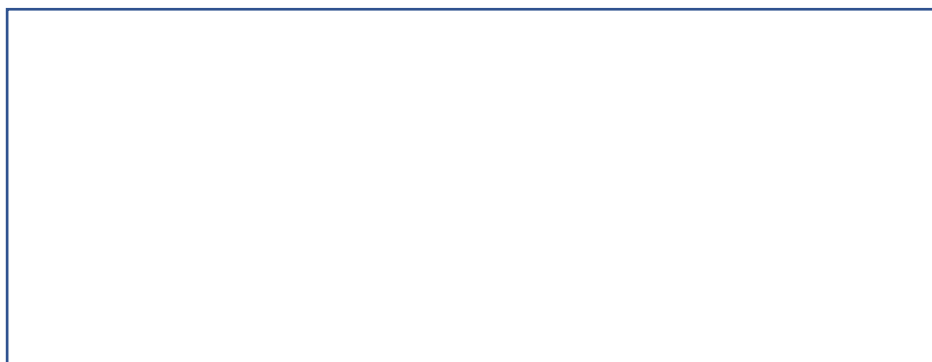
Our May meeting will on Saturday,
April 26^h, at 10:30 am.

Featuring: **“The 1st Florida Cavalry Union
Volunteers in the Civil War”**

Presented by: *Sharon D. Marsh*

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

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



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