

The GSOC Newsletter

The Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County, Florida

May 23, 2020



GSOC President's Corner

Cindy Barber

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On May 8th, the Board had a meeting via Zoom to discuss the remainder of 2020. The Library has no idea when we may be able to use the conference room again. They are accepting books and doing 'curbside pickup' of books for patrons. The conference room is being used to quarantine returning books. The COVID directives make it impossible to hold GSOC meetings.

We agreed to cancel all GSOC meetings through August instead of going month to month. If things open up, we will pull a meeting together. In September, we hope the conference room will be available and the 10-person limit on gatherings may be relaxed.

We discussed trying to have a speaker by webinar, but there are so many free webinars available, felt it was not needed. We may try to hold some informal online meetings to answer questions or share success stories.

Pending Business Items:

The Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation updates will be tabled until regular meetings resume.

My Free Webinar Pick for May:

"City Directories: Much More than Ye Olde Phonebooks"

https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=786

Census of Agriculture:

We all work with Census records. The Population schedules help us document our families, but did you ever wonder what your 'farmer' may have grown? Or wondered what his farm may have been like? The USDA Census of Agriculture Historical Archive is a site you'll want to explore. The first Agricultural census was taken in 1840.

They were taken every 10 years until 1920, then every 5 years.

I spend way too much time looking through this site. The 1840 document reports the population census totals by county and principal towns. The only free white male Centenarian in the Florida territory was in Walton County.

In West Florida there were 767 horses and mules, 21,125 head of cattle and 871 sheep produced 1,412 pounds of wool. There were 6,633 swine. The only grain produced was 50 bushels of oats. Farmers grew 32,705 bushels of Indian Corn. 52,122 pounds of cotton were gathered.

Escambia county sold 4,695 cords of wood, but Walton did not sell any. There were 48 stores in Escambia County compared to 4 in Walton.

There were no fish or forest products reported sold. Take a look at the manufacturing section (image 337) - it may surprise you. Three people put out the only weekly newspaper in Escambia county.

Image 364 starts a very interesting section - It gives population figures from each preceding census. I love seeing how fast the states grew. Just how many people DID move west as the country expanded? It's easy to see with these tables.

Image 376 is the beginning of the Compendium of the Censuses. Was your ancestor in the Revolutionary War? Check out the Pensioners.

Check out the Ag Censuses!

They help paint a picture of what your ancestor's lives may have been like.

<http://agcensus.mannlib.cornell.edu/AgCensus/homepage.do>

New TV Show "The Genetic Detective" Premieres



The Genetic Detective Premieres
Tuesday, May 26 at 10|9c

Her hobby led her to become a new kind of detective.



Membership

By Jodie Biles

Hello my fellow genealogy enthusiasts. Hope everyone is keeping safe, healthy and busy. We have so much time on our hands, I'm sure you are using that time wisely.

I have been using my time to garden, clean and paint my house. I still have time for research though and of course for GSOC. We may not be able to meet on a regular basis, but we can always touch bases to see what each other is doing.

First of all, it has been decided that everyone who has renewed their membership this year will have their membership extended to cover next year as well. We thought it would only be fair, since we have not been able to meet but a few times this year.

I have been updating membership information to include the Ancestor Research List. While going over the list, I realized that some members don't have any names or places listed. If you would like to add to or update what you see online, please email additions/changes to me at jlbiles13@gmail.com.

Hope to see you all again soon!

Jodie Biles
Membership Chair

How to Find On-Line Genealogy Webinars Many are free, but not all of them!

Americanancestors:

<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes>

Familytreewebinar:

<https://familytreewebinars.com/index.php#>

https://familytreewebinars.com/archived_webinars_free.php

<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars-multireg.php>

https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=1085

Cyndislist's webinar section:

<https://www.cyndislist.com/education/online-courses-and-webinars/>

Misc:

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-resources/7-places-to-find-free-genealogy-courses-and-webinars-online/>

<https://lialisson.com/free-genealogy-courses/>

<https://www.gagensociety.org/events/you-use-what-for-genealogy-wonderful-uses-for-unusual-tools>

<https://www.gagensociety.org/webinar-schedule>

<http://eogn.wikidot.com/eogn-calendar:online-webinars>

 MyHeritage

Free Access to Millions of Military Records

May 20–26, 2020



www.myheritage.com/military-records

Fold3 is offering free access to certain military records starting now until May 25th at 11:59 ET. See link for more details. (Login with free user account may be required.)

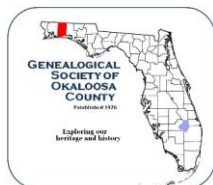


GO.FOLD3.COM

Free Access to Historical Military Records on Fold3 - Through May 28, 2019

Fold3 features premier collections of original military records. These records include the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and...





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