

THE GSOC NEWSLETTER

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 1, 2012

Next GSOC Meeting September 8, 2012

The September meeting of the GSOC will begin at 10 AM at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida. The program will be a discussion of genealogy, genetics, and DNA by Charlene H. Grafton, RN, BS, MS, CCM. Ms. Grafton is a Registered Nurse and a nationally certified Case Manager. She was selected for listing in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities and is also a Veteran of the Army Nurse Corps. Ms. Grafton has demonstrated her natural leadership style through volunteer work and participation in a number of organizations and has spoken on genetics, genealogy, and DNA to a many organizations. The meeting will be followed by an optional Dutch Treat lunch at a nearby restaurant.



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GSOC Meeting Minutes August 11, 2012

Mary Ellen Ahlstrom, Recording Secretary

The August meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM by President Donna Elliott. Fourteen members were in attendance. Mrs. Elliott asked for approval of the July minutes as printed in the current newsletter. A motion to accept as printed was made by Bob Basch. A second was made by Mary Skillman. Motion passed.

Attention was brought to the membership of the professional example of the monthly newsletter published by the newsletter editor Jim Young. Mr. Young presents a very interesting and informative publication prior to each monthly meeting and the members in attendance gave him a congratulatory applaud.

Ken Elliott announced he has had no reply from the previous scheduled speaker who was unable to attend the previous meeting. He also announced upcoming programs and asked for suggestions for future meetings.

Sue Basch, Membership Chairman, reported on the status of the society membership.

Bob Basch, Treasurer, reported the balance in the checking account is \$2,467.92 as of this meeting. The Post Office box rent has been paid with an increase to \$86.00 a year. The financial report shows below budget for the year at this time.

Corresponding Secretary & Newsletter Editor, Jim Young, reported on recent requests for publications. He also requested input for the monthly newsletter.

Malcolm Flanagan, Nominating Committee Chairman, announced that nominees for all officer positions have been filled with the exception of Recording Secretary and he is waiting on confirmation for this one office. The new officers will be elected in October.

Pat Pruett, Publicity Chairman, showed a newspaper photo of a few of the members who attended the tour of the Heritage Museum recently.

Hilma Janus announced she had placed some genealogical society quarterlies on a table at the rear of the room for the members to view. The publications will be placed on permanent display at the Fort Walton Beach Library.

Mrs. Elliott announced the following upcoming events: 15 August - Baker Block Museum Folk Days; 17 August - Lunchtime Lecture at the Heritage Museum; 25 August - Heritage Museum yard sale; 8 September - Camp Walton School House 100th Anniversary; 20 October - Bay County Genealogical Society Seminar.

Other upcoming events are listed in the GSOC Newsletter on a regular basis.

The only old business pending was the completion of the slate of officers to be announced as soon as possible. There was no new business.

Bob Basch gave out tickets for a door prize; and, when drawn, the winning ticket was held by Jim Young. He was presented a copy of the Florida Archaeology Month poster, *Destination: Civil War*, depicting scenes and locations of Florida's involvement in the Civil War. The poster was donated by Valparaiso Librarian, David Weatherford.

At the close of the business session, Ken Elliott, Program Chairman, announced the program would consist of Show

and Tell from the members present. Four members participated.

Jim Young reported on the 1940 Census indexing that had been completed by two genealogical organizations and is now available online. He explained in reviewing both sites he had found a few problems and discussed the pros and cons with each. For anyone who would care to locate information from the 1940 Census the following two sites can be located at: www.ancestry.com/1940census and <http://familysearch.org>

Charles 'Chuck' Licari gave a short presentation on his grandfather J. J. Licari who immigrated to this country. Through the years his grandfather became a U S Attorney, a member of congress and later a Judge. He also founded the International Society Sons of Italy. Chuck showed photos, certificates and a badge that were his ancestors possessions.

Bob Basch gave a short report and presented printed information he retrieved from the 'Local Clan Book' about his great-grandmother while on a research trip to the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Hilma Janus talked about a list of items to be considered to document and pass down to descendants. She also announced she would be co-teaching a genealogy class for Senior Citizens this fall at the Center for Lifelong Learning in Ft. Walton Beach.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Two Free Indexes Now Available for the 1940 Census

They can be located at www.ancestry.com/1940census and at <https://familysearch.org>

Although both indexes have been completed, not all the states are yet searchable in the FamilySearch index. As of August 10th, 2012, the states that are NOT searchable in the FamilySearch index are MD, SC, IL, KY, MA, NC, WI, CN, GA, MI, NJ, TN, OH, and TX.

You use both of these indexes by putting information in an entry form. The ancestry.com form and the FamilySearch form are similar but not identical. The basic information you need to input is the name of the person that you are looking for. However, you can (and should) enter the location where that person was at the time of the 1940 census and other information that you may have since the search will be of the entire U.S. and there may be hundreds or thousands of people with the same name. You should also remember that the name entered by the census enumerator may not be the name you commonly use for that person and that the handwritten name may not have been spelled correctly or written legibly enough

for the person who did the indexing to get it transcribed correctly. My grandfather Morgan, for example, was named Albert Hosea Morgan. He is listed in the census as A. Hosea Morgan. His wife was named **Eula**. The enumerator's handwriting was so bad that the one of the indexes show her name as **Bula**.

To check these indexes, I searched for some of the names that are contained in actual 1940 census images. I entered the names and spelling from those images into the search forms to see what results were reported.

I searched for my father, **Thomas W. Young, Calhoun County, Mississippi, US**, in both indexes. The Ancestry.com index could not find him nor could it find my mother or me or my sister, all of whom are on the actual census image. Still using the Ancestry.com index, I searched for **George Watson** who is on the same page of that census image and it immediately found him. I tried searching for various other names in the Ancestry.com index for which I have the actual census images. Some were found (for instance **Charles Ruckel** and his family in Valparaiso, FL) and others were not (for instance, my maternal grandparents weren't found although my great grandfather who was living in their household at the time and was listed in the census schedule as being part of their household was found.)

On the other hand, the FamilySearch index found every name that I searched for.

Based on my searches, I found that the FamilySearch index was easier to use and more accurate than the Ancestry.com index. Here are the first two listings on the results page from the FamilySearch search for my own name. The information provided is: Name, Birth, Parents, Spouse, Children, Residence. (**James R. Young** was my uncle). The Ancestry.com search never found me at all:

[James M Young](#) 1938 Mississippi, Thomas W Young & Monette Young, [no spouse], [no children], Beat 5, Calhoun, Mississippi, US

[James R Young](#) 1919 Mississippi, [no parents], Gay Young, [no children], Vardaman, Beat 5, Calhoun, Mississippi US

[Spouse and children names are provided only for heads of households. Parents names are provided for some household members.]

Note that my name and my uncle's name are actually links to more information. If you click on my name, you'll find a page containing all of the information about my family that was in the 1940 census. These links are on both the Ancestry.com and FamilySearch results pages as well as are links that will take you to the image of the actual hand-written census schedule where the searched-for name appears.

Reviewed by Jim Young

I am a
GENEALOGIST
Ask me about my ability
to annoy complete strangers

Thanks to Mary Ellen Ahlstrom

History of Genetic Genealogy

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_genealogy

The investigation of surnames in genetics can be said to go back to George Darwin, a son of Charles Darwin. In 1875, George Darwin used surnames to estimate the frequency of first-cousin marriages and calculated the expected incidence of marriage between people of the same surname. He arrived at a figure between 2.25% and 4.5% for cousin-marriage in the population of Great Britain, with the upper classes being on the high end and the general rural population on the low end. (His parents, Charles Darwin and Emma Wedgwood, were first cousins.) This simple study was innovative for its era. The next stimulus toward using genetics to study family history had to wait until the 1990s, when certain locations on the Y chromosome were identified as being useful for tracing male-to-male inheritance.

Dr. Karl Skorecki, a Canadian nephrologist of Ashkenazi¹ parentage, noticed that a Sephardic² fellow-congregant who was a Kohen³ like himself had completely different physical features. According to Jewish tradition, all Kohanim are descended from the priest Aaron, brother of Moses. Skorecki reasoned that if Kohanim were indeed the descendants of only one man, they should have a common set of genetic markers and should perhaps preserve some family resemblance to each other.

To test that hypothesis, he contacted Professor Michael Hammer of the University of Arizona, a researcher in molecular genetics and pioneer in Y Chromosome research. Their report in the *Nature* in 1997 sent shock waves through the worlds of science and religion. A particular marker was indeed more likely to be present in Jewish men from the priestly tradition than in the general Jewish population. It was apparently true that a common descent had been strictly preserved for thousands of years. Moreover, the data showed that there were very few "non-paternity events"⁴

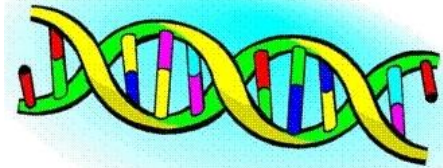
The first to test the new methodology in general surname research was Bryan Sykes, a molecular biologist at Oxford University. His study of the Sykes surname obtained valid results by looking at only four markers on the male chromosome. It pointed the way to genetics becoming a valuable assistant in the service of genealogy and history.

In April 2000, Family Tree DNA⁵ began offering the first genetic genealogy tests to the public. This offering marked the first time that a personal theory on the Y chromosome could be tested outside of an academic study. Additionally, Sykes' concept of a surname study, which by this time had been adopted by several other academic researchers outside of Oxford, was expanded into online Surname Projects (an early form of social network) and the effort helped spread knowledge gained through testing to interested genealogists worldwide.

In 2001, Sykes went on to write the popular book *The Seven Daughters of Eve*, which described the seven major

haplogroups⁶ of European ancestors. In the wake of the book's success, and with the growing availability and affordability of genealogical DNA testing, genetic genealogy as a field began growing rapidly. By 2003, the field of DNA testing of surnames was declared officially to have "arrived" in an article by Jobling and Tyler-Smith in *Nature Reviews Genetics*. The number of firms offering tests, and the number of consumers ordering them, had risen dramatically.

Another milestone in the acceptance of genetic genealogy is the [Genographic Project](#). The Genographic Project is a five-year research study launched in 2005 by the National Geographic Society and IBM, in partnership with the University of Arizona and Family Tree DNA. Although its goals are primarily anthropological, not genealogical, the project's sale by April 2010 of more than



350,000 of its public participation testing kits, which test the general public for either twelve STR markers on the Y chromosome or mutations on the HVR1 of the mtDNA, has helped increase the visibility of genetic genealogy.

More state-of-the-art commercial laboratories now recommend testing at least 25 markers, since the more markers tested, the more discriminating and powerful the results will be. A 12-marker STR test is usually not discriminating enough to provide conclusive results for a common surname. Genetic laboratories such as Genebase and Family Tree DNA give the option of testing 67 Y-DNA Markers.

1. Jews descended from the medieval Jewish communities along the Rhine in Germany from Alsace in the south to the Rhineland in the north.
2. Descendants of Spanish-Portuguese Jews who lived in the Iberian Peninsula before their expulsion in the Alhambra Decree.
3. The Hebrew word for priest.
4. Non-paternity event is a term in genetic genealogy and clinical genetics to describe the case where the biological father of a child is someone other than who it is presumed to be.
5. Family Tree DNA is a commercial genetic genealogy company based in Houston, Texas with its partner laboratory, Arizona Research Labs, housed at the University of Arizona. Family Tree DNA offers analysis of autosomal DNA, YDNA, and mtDNA to individuals for genealogical purposes based on DNA samples collected using a cheek swab method with a kit supplied by Family Tree DNA to its customers.
6. A group of similar haplotypes that share a common ancestor. A haplotype is a combination of DNA sequences at adjacent locations on the chromosome that are transmitted together



Civil War Sesquicentennial

Selected Highlights of September 1862

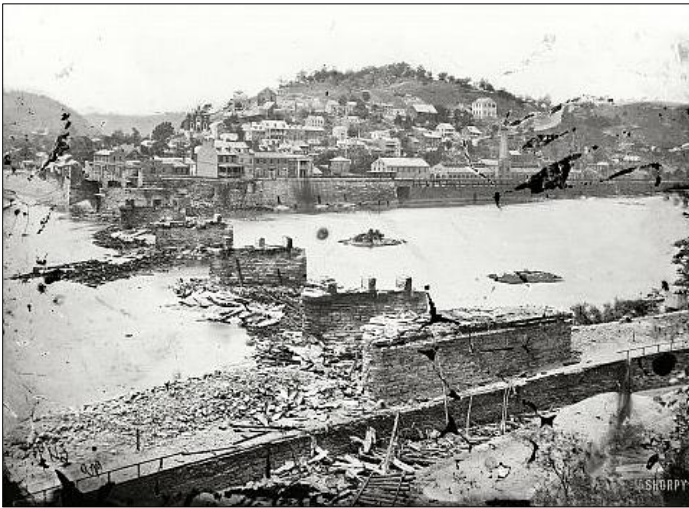
<http://blueandgraytrail.com>

Sept 1 Battle of Chantilly, Major General Phillip Kearny [US] is shot and killed when he crosses Rebel lines while riding his horse. Gen Issac I. Stevens [US] is also killed

Sept 2 General John Pope is replaced by Ambrose Burnside, following the disaster at Second Bull Run, combining the Army of Virginia with the Army of the Potomac under George McClellan

Sept 14 Brigadier General Samuel Garland [CS] is mortally wounded during the Battle of Fox's Gap, dying later that day. Later that day, Major General Jesse Reno [US] is also mortally wounded a few feet from the spot where Garland fell.

Sept 15 Battle of Harpers Ferry, Stonewall Jackson takes 12,000 prisoners



Harpers Ferry, September 1862, Railroad Bridge in Ruins
Wet plate glass negative by C.O. Bostwick

The hill at the extreme left in this photo was the location of one of Stonewall Jackson's artillery batteries that shelled Harper's Ferry and forced the surrender of 12,000 Union troops garrisoned in the city. Col. Dixon Miles, commanding the Federal troops, was killed after he negotiated the surrender by a last salvo fired from Loudoun Heights.

Sept 15 With the fall of Harper's Ferry, Stonewall Jackson begins sending men to Robert E. Lee, preparing to face the Army of the Potomac at Sharpsburg.

Sept 17 Battle of Sharpsburg (Confederate), Battle of Antietam (Union), Army of the Potomac under McClellan [US] defeats the Army of Northern Virginia under Lee [CS], resulting in the bloodiest day in American history. Union losses: 12,401 (2,108 dead); Confederate losses: 10,406 (1,546 dead.)

Sept 22 President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in states or portions of states still in rebellion effective on January 1, 1863



<http://www.ushistory.org/us/34a.asp>

Sept 27 The Confederate Congress passes the Second Conscription Act, authorizing the President to draft men between the ages of 35 and 45.

Sept 27 The first all-black regiment in United States history is formed in Union-controlled New Orleans from "free Negroes." While their official name is the First Regiment Louisiana Native Guard they call themselves "Chasseurs d'Afrique". The name translates to "Hunters of Africa."



Pickets of the First Regiment, Louisiana Native Guard guarding the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad.

Frank Leslie's
Illustrated

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CRESTVIEW, FLORIDA

By Members of Crestview Scout Troop 30, Submitted by Jan Rutledge

**First published in *A Journal of Northwest Florida*,
Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County, Florida, Volume X, Number 34, Spring 1986**

The Methodist Episcopal Church South in Crestview, Florida, was organized about 1908. The Reverend C. A. CORNELL was the presiding elder at that time. At the time of organization this was the western boundary of the Marianna District. Services were being held in the Congregationalist Church located on block 4 and block 5 according to the Army Survey of the town.

From 1915-1918, the Reverend D. A. SELLERS served as pastor of the Milligan charge which consisted of monthly appointments at Crestview, Milligan, Holt, and Falco (Alabama.) Later Niceville replaced Falco.

During 1919 the church was served by, the Reverend J. W. MATHISON who resided in DeFuniak Springs. The annual conference for that year was held at Demopolis, Alabama, and the Reverend R. J. COXWELL was assigned to the charge for the year 1920.

The Reverend COXWELL, together with the board, saw the need for a building and a campaign was started to raise funds for the building. Plans were conducted for the purchase of anchor concrete blocks and to raise funds for a new building for the First Methodist church. The first collection of funds was made by three girls, Bobby Lee COXWELL, age 14, Faye McGRIFF, age 14, and Velma CLARY, age 12. They sold sandwiches and collected \$23.66.

During the year, sufficient funds were received to purchase 3000 blocks and at the fourth quarterly conference, Frank C. WEBB, D. H. McCALLUM, and J. C. H. CORLEY were appointed as the building committee. Sufficient funds having been raised, the blocks and the lots were purchased. \$175.00 was paid for lots one and two, with the Crestview Land Company donating the third.

The conference assigned Reverend W. F. FLOYD to the charge for the year 1921, and soon after his arrival work began. Mr. J. B. HAYSLIP and Mr. M. T. BARROW did the stone work.

The first service was held in the new church on Sunday, November 6, 1921.

Among the ministers serving the church during its long history were: The Reverends A. G. ELLIS, D. R. WHITE, R. W. JUDKINS, PAUL B. DANSBURY, O. VANLANDINGHAM and W. H. WILLIAMSON. It was during the ministry of the Reverend WILT WILLIAMSON that the first unit of church school rooms was added to the sanctuary. This unit included the church office, the Ministers study, the Fellowship Hall and three classrooms.



Crestview First Methodist Church circa 1940s

During the pastorate of the Reverend W. E. MIDDLEBROOKS the Annex was added to the fellowship hall. It included eight classrooms and housed the children's division, the kindergarten and two nurseries. Three years later, the second story was added to house the Youth Department and the Junior Division.

In May 1962 the Reverend A. L. MARTIN, church pastor, presided at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Methodist Church. The construction was completed at the cost of \$316,000 which included the parsonage (\$37,000).

The new church building is located at Texas Avenue and Eighth Street. The parsonage is a block away on Eighth and Alabama Avenue.

Bishop W. Kenneth GOODSON, leader of the Methodist Church in Alabama and Northwest Florida, took part in the consecration of the First United Methodist Church on October 2, 1962. This service brought to completion four years of labor. Space on the main floor of the sanctuary was provided for 440 people with additional room for 150 people in the balcony and 50 seats for the clergy and choir.

The educational building includes 31 classrooms, a fellowship hall, kitchen, recreation room, nurseries, and office suite. This past year a portico has been built on the east side of the sanctuary in memory of George W. BARROW, SR. who passed away in March 1985. Mr. BARROW had been a member of the church almost from its beginning.

For sixty-four years the Methodist Church has provided Christian leadership in the community through its faithful members and outstanding ministers. We have a rich heritage in our church of which I am proud to be a member.

The memorial windows in the original Crestview Methodist Church were dedicated as follows:

Rev. W. F. FLOYD
Mr. Purl G. ADAMS
Mr. Wm. E. WEBB
Mr. & Mrs. C. B. FERNDON
Rev. B. B. BROWN
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. CORLEY
Mr. L. BUSH
Mr. & Mrs. J. G. PERRYMAN

Rev. R. J. COXWELL
Dr W. H. DELACY
F.C. WEBB
Charles Dean SAVAGE
Mr. & Mrs. D. H. McCALLUM
Mr. W. L. ADAMS
Mr. & Mrs. J. W. BOWERS
Mr. J. D. COBB.

Ministers serving our church were the Reverends:

W. S. GUICE 1912-13
C. WESTON 1913-15
D. A. SELLERS 1915-17
J. W. MATHESON 1919-20
W. F. FLOYD., 1920
B. F. BROWN 1921
J. F. PRICE 1922-23
B. L. FOLSOM 1923
J. F. PRICE 1924
O.H. VANLANDINGHAM 1925
Grant GAFFORD 1926
E. E. STAFFORD 1927
J. W. GIBSON 1928
O. H. VANLANDINGHAM 1929-31
Paul DANSBY 1932-35
J. O. WILSON 1936

J. T. AECKFORD 1937
J. L. WHITE 1938
A. G. ELISOR. 1939-41
R. W. JUDKINS 1941-44
Walt WILLIAMSON 1945-49
W. E. MIDDLEBROOKS 1950-52
W. B. ATKINSON 1953-56
O. W. MATHISON 1957-58
A. L. MARTIN 1959-64
H. E. EDDINS 1964-68
Lamar SPENCER 1968-74
James N. LOVE 1974-76
James SAVAGE 1976-78
Thomas SOWELL 1978-82
Stanley MULLINS 1982-

*[GSOC Journal Editor's Note: This history was prepared by Billy RUTLEDGE, Lee SMITH, and David SMITH in January, 1986, as part of the requirements for earning their Boy Scout **God and Country** Recognition (received during the morning service on February 9, 1986). Opal BARROW (their great grandmother) helped them with this portion of their work. George W. BARROW, SR. (their great grandfather) was the first Scoutmaster of Troop 30, the same troop to which these boys belong. This was also the first scout troop formed in Crestview.]*

Letter to the GSOC Barclay & Ingram Families

"I'm researching the Barclay family, am not finding good info here in Pensacola, & am not able to come to Okaloosa county. Can you tell me if you have any info on John Barclay who was in Walton County & Holmes county 1830 to 1860? The Barclay & Ingram families were closely intertwined, and many of them settled in Okaloosa county & other NW Florida counties. If you have any books or CDs that definitely discuss this family, I can purchase them... but I'd like to know I was on the right track first. Any help would be appreciated,"

Shelby Elayne Diamond, shelbydiamond@cox.net

Editor's Note: Our GSOC Genealogist, Margaret Harris, has provided some information to Ms. Diamond in response to this email. If you have information on these families that might be of use to Ms. Diamond, please contact her.

Lightning Kills Three in Baker, Florida

On Sunday afternoon, July 31, 1949, a baseball game was scheduled to take place at Baker, Florida. The Okaloosa County Baker team was to play the Munson team from over in Santa Rosa County, Florida.

It was a nice day with just a few white clouds floating around when suddenly an extremely loud boom was heard and lightning ripped the ball diamond as players were taking their places for infield practice before the scheduled double-header game. As soon as people could think rationally, it became clear that this was a very bad situation. There were several players down on the ball field as well as spectators at the concession stand and behind the fence.

The full force of the lightning bolt struck near third base which was manned by Allen Joiner. Joiner was killed instantly as was Harry Moore who was playing shortstop. Joe Blue Taylor, second baseman, was critically injured and died the next day in Enzor Brothers Hospital, Crestview.

Several other players and many spectators felt the charge from the lightning. Fifty people were injured. Morgan Reeves of Baker, a spectator was knocked out, but had no apparent permanent injuries. In the attached photo he is showing the lightning path and describing the events of that fateful Sunday afternoon to a reporter.

The picture and story were carried in local and national newspapers and magazines.



This photograph was reproduced in the National Geographic Magazine for June 1950 with a caption stating that "Lightning Gouged This 40-foot Trench," and the text further informs us that "three baseball players were killed when a bolt furrowed the infield during a game at Baker, Florida, in 1949... Ground's resistance to current 'blew' the earth like a fuse." The article went on to say that "this photo shows a zigzag excavation roughly 18 inches across and about 6 inches or so deep. The debris from the explosion is spread to both sides of the trench, perhaps six feet each way, and it is so

thinly deposited that blades of infield grass can be seen poking through it. Vaguely visible is a marking in the trench bottom that suggests that the hottest part of the current channel meandered even more than the gross outlines of the trench itself."

Adapted from an article in *The Heritage of Okaloosa County, Florida, Volume II*, Heritage Publishing, Clanton, AL, 2008. The original article was written and submitted by Donald R. Reeves, Baker, Florida.

Shortage of Salt: A Major Problem for the Confederacy

How Florida's Gulf Coast Helped to Solve It

The Union naval blockade of the South severely limited the Confederacy's overseas trade. While swift moving blockade runners managed to evade Union warships throughout the war, these vessels could not possibly bring in enough goods to make up for the loss of trade. This loss was especially glaring for one crucial commodity: salt.

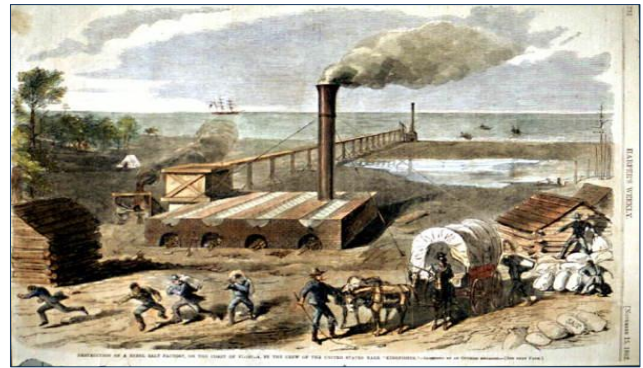
Although there were large salt mines in Virginia, cheap foreign-produced salt had been the South's major source of the mineral before the war. Within months of the war's outbreak, the Confederacy faced a salt crisis as its armies, which required massive supplies of salted pork, and citizens quickly used up stocks of the vital preservative. The South soon turned to Florida to make up its deficit.

Florida's long coastline made it ideal for salt production. The process involved boiling kettles of seawater and refining the salt through a process of repeated dipping, pouring and drying. While salt-making occurred on both the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, most of the salt works were on the Gulf from Tampa Bay north through the Florida Panhandle, with the biggest concentration along the St. Andrews Bay in Washington County and St. Joseph's Bay in Gulf County (Calhoun County before 1925).

These bays were ideal for salt-making, containing all the resources needed for production: salt marshes, pine forests for firewood, and relative seclusion, which made it difficult for Union raiding parties to approach undetected. Salt works ranged from a few kettles to makeshift factories fired by steamboat boilers.

Along with the many Floridians engaged in the work, Alabamians and Georgians poured in to make salt. Their states also established government-owned works to supply their citizens with salt at reduced prices—the price in Atlanta, for example, was sometimes as high as \$140 a sack—to compensate for rampant speculation in the trade. Florida Governor John Milton denounced the “vile spirit of speculation and extortion.” He removed from sale public lands in the most lucrative salt-making areas, where speculators were buying up land to sell at exorbitant prices, and proposed a tax in-kind on in-state manufactured salt to provide for poor families. The Confederate government tried to limit speculation by establishing its own works at St. Andrews Bay, where large state-run factories produced salt for the Confederate Army.

The United States considered anyone engaged in the salt trade in the South to be an active Rebel. In 1862, the U.S. Navy began operations against salt works in Florida. The Union created two operational commands for the blockade of Florida's coast: the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, which also covered the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina, and the East Gulf Blockading Squadron, which covered the Gulf from Key West to a line just east of Pensacola. Union gunboats shelled salt-making plants and landed raiding parties to destroy the works and supplies of salt.



Destruction of a Salt Factory on the Florida Coast
State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory

In November 1861, James Boyd, an engineer aboard the Union gunboat U.S.S. *Albatross*, wrote to his wife about some of the St. Andrews Bay raids in which he participated. A portion of Boyd's letter, which can be found in the Louis James Boyd Papers at the State Library and Archives of Florida, is quoted (except for paragraphs and periods, without editing) below:

“ . . . Well we left Pensacola on the 14th of this month, for this place [St. Andrews Bay], we arrived here on the 16th. The object of this Expedition was to destroy Salt-Pans, which the Rebels have to make Salt in. Since we have been laying here we have fit out some four or five Small Boat Expeditions, which has proven very successful. We have destroyed more Salt-Pans than all the other Expeditions put together. The Salt-Pans that I speak of are generally Situated in Small Creeks and Swamps. We cannot get to them in the Steamer [the Albatross], therefore we have to go in small Boats.

The manner in which those Expeditions are arranged are that we would leave the ships about four o'clock in the morning, and proceed up the Bay until we would discover Smoke, for that is the only way that those pans can be found by a stranger. As soon as we would get near enough we would then fire at them with a Small Cannon we have and such Skidaddeling you never seen in your life. They would leave everything behind them. We went in Several of these camps and found there Breakfast cooked and on the Table ready for eating, which our boys would soon demolish, after rowing So early in the Morning. We would then set about breaking up their pans and works. . . .”

Boyd's account is typical of the irregular war waged on Florida's coast. Despite their frequency, the salt raids were never enough to stop Confederate salt production in Florida, which historian Robert Taylor has called “Florida's most important contribution to the Confederate economy.”

Extracted from:
<http://www.floridamemory.com/blog/2012/07/25/needs-more-salt/>
Division of Library & Information Services, Florida Department of State

Events, Groups, and Sites of GSOC Interest



History Sandwiched-In "Pirates! The Last Scourge of the Gulf"

Free Lunchtime Lecture

FRIDAY, September 21, 12:00 PM

Historian Mike Thomin from the Florida Public Archaeology Network will share information about pirates who terrorized ships along the Gulf Coast during the 1800s in a special presentation, "Pirates! The Last Scourge of the Gulf".

Bring a sandwich and take your lunch break at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida for History Sandwiched-In, an informal lunchtime education program, Friday, September 21 at 12PM.

This lecture is free and open to the public. Space is limited. Please call to reserve a seat. (850) 678-2615

Saturday, October 13 **Laurel Hill FL Hobo Festival**



Gene Clary Park, Laurel Hill
Laurel Hill turns out for a free community celebration on the second Saturday of October. Vendors offer food, arts and crafts, and more. Activities for children are available. Enjoy live entertainment. Learn more at:

www.laurelhillnow.com/hobo_festival.htm

Friday - Sunday, October 19-21 **36th Annual**

Boggy Bayou Mullet Festival

Family fun, entertainment, fine art, home handcrafts, and a staggering array of food concessions. Mullet fans will enjoy this humble fish that has played such an important role in our local history, economy, and nutrition.

<http://boggybayoumulletfestival.info/>

Saturday, October 20

Bay County Genealogical Society

Fall Seminar: Genealogy Teams Up with Technology

9:00 am till 3:30 pm, Bay County Public Library
898 West 11th St., Panama City, FL

Cost: \$15 BCGS members, \$20 non-members, includes lunch, juice, water, coffee, pastries, handouts, and door prizes. Experienced Florida genealogists will introduce you to family history discovery techniques, tips, important resources, repositories, and references.

For more details and registration forms, see:

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flbcgs/seminar/index.html

Saturday, November 3 **Baker Block Museum, Baker FL** **Annual Heritage Festival**



Saturday, November 3 **West Florida Genealogical Society, 2012 Seminar**

Theodore B.D. Bennett Auditorium at
Booker T. Washington High School
6000 College Pkwy., Pensacola, FL, 32504
Registration: 8 am- 9 am Seminar: 9 am- 4 pm
Preregister: Members: \$35.00; Non-Members: \$40.00
On-Site Registration: \$45.00.
Continental Breakfast Included

Megan Smolenyak will present *Right Annie, Wrong Annie* and *Trace Your Roots with DNA*. After a lunch break (lunch on your own), Megan will speak on *Find That Obituary!*, *Online Newspaper Research*, and *Honoring Our Ancestors*.

Click here for the [Info & Registration Form](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flwfgs/)
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flwfgs/>

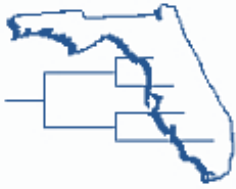
Thursday - Saturday, November 8, 9, & 10 **Florida State Genealogical Society 2012 Conference**

The 2012 FSGS Annual Conference, "The Best of Times: Genealogy + Technology" will be held at the Hilton Deerfield/Boca Raton in Deerfield Beach, Florida. The Hilton is located between Ft. Lauderdale and Palm Beach next to the Deerfield Country Club and an 18-hole executive golf course just off I-95.

www.flsgs.org

Saturday, December 8
Genealogical Society of Okaloosa County
Annual Holiday Party and Installation of Officers
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flocgs/

Saturday, December 8
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso FL
Yule of Yesteryear Holiday Celebration and Victorian Tea
www.heritage-museum.org/



The Florida Genealogist is the premier publication of the Florida State Genealogical Society. The Society offers a searchable CD containing all the issues of this magazine for 31 years (1977 to 2008) for \$19.95 with postage paid.

Make your check payable to FSGS and remit to Marlis Humphrey, Publications Chairman, 182 Bayshore Drive, Melbourne Beach, Florida 32951-3950.



20,000 Digitized Church Records Added to Florida Memory Website

The Florida Division of Library & Information Services has added approximately 20,000 digitized [church records](#) to the Florida Memory website.

Search for your county or city to learn about the history of **your local churches and synagogues**, from [Escambia](#) to [Monroe](#), and from [Adamsville](#) to [Zuber](#). These records were created by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the late 1930s and early 1940s in order to document archival holdings in Florida's places of worship. They contain a wealth of information about the size and ethnic background of congregations and clergy members as well as historical narratives and lists of church property.

The Florida Memory Project website is located at: <http://www.floridamemory.com/> and the church records mentioned here are located at: <http://www.floridamemory.com/collections/churchrecords/>

Thanks to Sandra Dreaden, Crestview Library

Historical Records User Survey

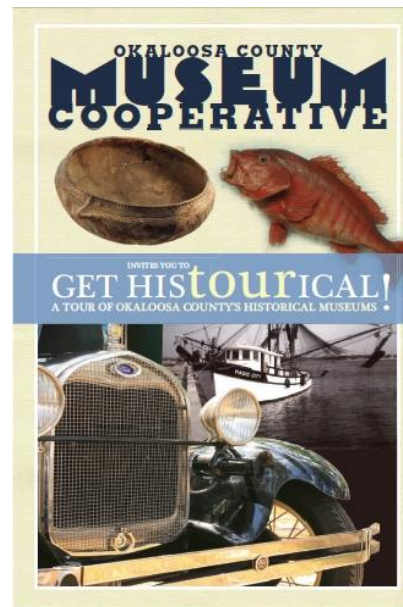
The Florida State Historical Records Advisory Board serves as the central advisory board for historical records, projects, and plans; and provides leadership and guidance to help ensure the identification, preservation, and use of the state's historical records.

As a part of its strategic plan revision, the Board is conducting surveys to assess the state of historical records in Florida. The surveys focus on three groups: historical records repositories, government records managers, and historical records users.

If you use historical records as a part of your research, please complete the [Historical Records User Survey](#) by September 14, 2012.

Gerard Clark, Coordinator

The Okaloosa County Museum Cooperative



The historical museums of Okaloosa County strive to preserve and promote our region's rich heritage. Through exhibits, public programs and the care and management of historic collections, they ensure that Northwest Florida's unique history and culture are a part of the future.

A colorful brochure which describes and shows the location of the eight museums in Okaloosa County that

are members of the cooperative can be downloaded from the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida website at:

http://www.heritage-museum.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/coop_booklet.pdf

A Genealogy Nightmare by E.H. Waldram

My daughter never married
but she's lived with Joe so long
And they and the kids are so happy
that somehow it doesn't seem wrong.

My son, he was legally married
but his wife kept her own name.
We don't know the name of our grandkids,
but we love everyone just the same.

But my sister, she got married
and 'tied the knot' all seven times.
Her family could pass for a railroad
with the crossing of so many lines!

My brother, well he was adopted,
but he found his natural kin,
And our family tree is just "blooming"
like a wild and monstrous thing.

I try to keep things in order,
every one a place of their own,
But what shall I do about Father?
He says he's really a clone!

Thanks to Mary Ellen Ahlstrom

GSOC INFORMATION

Officers for 2012

President, Donna Elliott
 1st Vice President (Programs), Ken Elliott
 2nd Vice President (Membership), Sue Basch
 2nd Vice President (Membership) Asst, Carol Lessard
 Treasurer, Bob Basch,
 Recording Secretary, Mary Ellen Ahlstrom
 Corresponding Secretary, Jim Young
 Immediate Past President, Malcolm Flanagan
 Journal Editor, Beverly Gross
 Historian, Sue Basch
 Genealogist, Margaret Harris
 Publicity Chairperson, Pat Pruett
 Webmaster & Newsletter Editor, Jim Young

(Elected, Appointed, and Ex Officio positions)

Addresses

P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175
 Web Site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flocgs>
 Email: gsocokaloosa@yahoo.com
 Newsletter Editor: youngjmy@cox.net

Meetings and Membership

Regular meetings of the GSOC are 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 get one of the appropriate forms.

The Newsletter

The GSOC Newsletter is 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. 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 2011 issue, Volume XXXII, Issue 100, was published and distributed in November 2011.

The Web Site

The GSOC web site is hosted by Rootsweb at:
<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.



The symbol on the left is the QR code for the address of the GSOC web site. Scanning this symbol with properly equipped mobile devices will connect that device to the GSOC website.

Meeting Location



Arrow indicates the door to the room used for GSOC meetings at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida

GSOC Publications

Volume I (out of print), Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida 24 cemeteries east of the Yellow River & north of the Shoal River	Out of print but available on CD, see below
Volume II (out of print), Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida 26 cemeteries north and east of the Yellow River	Out of print but available on CD, see below
Volume III Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Florida 11 cemeteries south of the Shoal River	\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage
Funeral Records of Okaloosa County Records from McLaughlin Funeral Home, Crestview, FL, from 1927 - 1984. Over 11,000 entries. Includes the names of the deceased and, when given, the names of parents. Deceased are listed alphabetically, parents names are indexed.	\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage
Santa Rosa County Marriages 1869-1906 Over 7,000 names with every-name index, 123 pages.	\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage
Walton County Marriages (out of print), 1895-1915 Over 10,000 names with every-name index, 165 pages.	Out of print but available on CD, see below
The GSOC Publications Disk This compact disk (CD) contains searchable PDF files containing the books listed above: <i>Cemeteries of Okaloosa County, Volumes I, II, and III; Funeral Records of Okaloosa County; Santa Rosa County Marriages 1869-1906; and Walton County Marriages 1885-1915</i>	\$15.00 plus \$2.00 postage

Please send your order information with your check to
GSOC, P.O. Box 1175, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175
 and mark your envelope "Book Sales"



The September GSOC meeting will be on Saturday, September 8, 2012, at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida at 10 A.M.

The program will be presented by Charlene Grafton and will discuss genealogy, genetics, and DNA.

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

**Genealogical Society of
Okaloosa County (GSOC)**
P.O. Box 1175
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-1175

