

# Newsletter

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1992

## COMPUTER SIG TO START

A Computer Special Interest Group (SIG) is being formed to create an environment for an exchange of ideas. This group will meet monthly in the auditorium of the DeLand Library in the afternoon. There will be a short business meeting, then a program pertaining to the use of computers with genealogy. An open discussion will follow the program for the purpose of solving individual problems.

This is where you can obtain information on buying a computer, how to use one, specific problems or bugs in the programs, etc. The SIG will maintain a library of shareware programs which may be purchased for a copying fee only. This group is open to anyone. You do not need to be a member of Roots & Branches, and there is no fee. For time and date, call Harry Kebel at 822-5500.



merry christmas

## BASIC GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

A Basic Genealogy Workshop will be conducted by area genealogist, Toni Prevost. There will be five sessions beginning on Thursday, January 14 in the afternoon at the Methodist Church on Woodland Boulevard. For more information, please call Harry Sellards at 985-4046.

## FEBRUARY SEMINAR

On Saturday, February 27, Marilyn Miller Morton, nationally acclaimed genealogist and Executive Director of the Samford University Library in Birmingham, Alabama, will conduct a one-day Seminar sponsored by Roots and Branches. Mrs. Morton is a specialist on British and Irish Research. She has been a lecturer at National Genealogical Society Meetings and at Samford University Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research. Mrs. Morton has also conducted eight British and Irish Study / Research groups to the British Isles. Details for the Seminar will be announced at the Roots and Branches meetings. For more information, call Harry Sellards at 985-4046.

## GENEALOGY BOOKLET

Carolyn Nell, president of the National Genealogical Society, cautions genealogists to watch out for the cheesy firms that offer you a book with all the names and addresses of living persons with your surname, culled from public telephone books.

For genuine help, get the new free booklet, *Branching Out, Tracing Your Family Tree* (800-950-4873) published by the National Genealogical Society and MCI. The booklet offers 6 pages of tracking your ancestors and the names of 5 reputable genealogy resources.

"Be cautious and definitive when engaging a genealogical researcher. The cost can ratchet up quickly." (John Sims, *Money*, Nov. 1992)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## BY-LAWS REVISION

A Committee, headed by Charles Baker, is being formed to revise the Roots & Branches By-Laws. Volunteers are needed. Please call Charles before December 15 if you would like to serve on the committee.



## DAPHNE BROWNELL COLLECTION

Charles Baker, Chairman of the Brownell Project for the preservation of the collection, is asking for volunteers who type and/or use a computer. The work assigned may be done at home.

Members of the committee are Alyce Gillingham, Lee Meichner and Jean Lichtenwald. Advisors are Larry Kebel and Bob Sanford.

## ROOTS & BRANCHES STAFF

Editor	Dorothy Weichman
Contributing Editors	Bob Wallace, Millie Young, Jane West, Larry Kebel and Jeanne Reeser
Distribution	Walter Pounds

## SPECIAL THANKS

A special thank you is extended to our Book Committee Chairman, Louise Caccamise, who has gone far beyond the call of duty in her efforts to get all of our genealogy books on the shelves in the Genealogy Room. Louise made special trips to Daytona to learn the county library computer system and to catalogue books into our system in which 100 books were processed. Books we used to wait months for are now and will continue to go directly on the shelves. A super round of thanks from all in Roots & Branches. Thanks also to Louise and Alyce Gillingham for reselving many of the books to accommodate our expanding inventory.

## NEW BOOKS

Marriages and Deaths from Mississippi Newspapers, Volumes II and IV (We have I & III)

Indiana, Louisiana, Iowa and Missouri, 1850 Federal Census Index. Volume II of the Ohio Index. (We have I).

The History of Essex County Massachusetts, 2 volumes, given by Dorothy and Herbert Eggleston.

1st Maine Heavy Artillery given by Marjorie Heany.

Atlantic Bridge To Germany given by R. A. Weichman

The History of Orange County New York, 2 volumes with another Index volume given by Dorothy and Frank Reuhl.

## SOME GOOD INFORMATION FOR YOUR FILE

Jeanne Reeser has compiled a list of Library sites and hours in a number of Florida libraries and a few out-of-state libraries. Several have good directional maps. Included in the list are area meetings and seminars which could be of special interest. Check the Genealogy Room.

## DAPHNE BROWNELL A PROFILE

Daphne Brownell has been a genealogist and a genealogical researcher for more than three decades. How fortunate Roots and Branches has been to be the beneficiary of her expertise. The notebooks she has authored and accumulated are on our shelves in the Genealogy Room attest to her skill as a researcher and her interest in Roots & Branches.

Born in Jamestown, New York, Daphne came to Florida in 1926 with her family and to Volusia County in 1935 to attend Stetson University where she received both a Bachelor of Arts and a Masters Degree. Later she earned an M.A. from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. She is a certified Record Searcher of the Board of Certification for Genealogists and Records Searchers in Washington, D.C.

From 1962-82, she researched intermittently as she worked on the notebooks. She completed the Oakdale Cemetery Records in 1971. The other cemetery records came later: 3 volumes of West Volusia County and 1 of East Volusia County.

In 1967, she completed the Bledsoe Family History and in 1971, the Justice Akin Family History. (Most of her search for information has been through "first records" in court houses which is where the factual records are found.)

Daphne also donated 100 notebooks to the State University of New York at Alfred to the Henkle Memorial Library. Additionally, she completed 42 families of West Volusia County and Seven Early Families of West Volusia County and unpublished works of a study of cemetery inscriptions found in Allegheny and Steuben Counties in New York. Her favorite hobby is "Cemetery Hopping."

Her achievements have been recognized by being listed in the Dictionary of International Biography, Notable Americans, Personalities of the South and Hereditary Register of the United States of America.

A life member of the Quaker Association, as Quaker descendant of Benjamin Akin, Daphne is also a past Regent of the Colonel Arthur

Erwin Chapter (DeLand) of the DAR, a charter member of the Mound of Surrogate Chapter of the XVII Century Colonial Dames, a member of the National League of American Pen Women and other organizations.

Daphne Brownell has been a tireless worker in researching and recording genealogical history. She has worked quietly at her craft, always ferreting out the actual facts. We are grateful that she has been a member, a Charter member, of Roots and Branches. We thank her for her many contributions.

We wish you well in your new venture, Daphne, and we wish you Godspeed.

## NOTES FROM COMPUTER GENEALOGY

Aside from all the technical material covered in the Computer/Genealogy class this fall, taught by Larry Kebel, Larry had some additional advice to offer.

Any material you have, PUBLISH! If your children aren't interested, it is a safe bet your grandchildren will be.

Where to send you book or information: AGLL (Lending Library), Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Library of Congress, Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, New York Public Library. There are others. The only cost is the postage to get it there.

You can be "with the times," and distribute your book by disc. It is easy if you have a computer, or you can do it the old fashioned way- printing it out yourself. The important thing is to share your information. Back up your your hard disc files. If something goes awry, you are back to square one.

"BUT above all, publish!" There is an old cliché, "Publish or perish," used by professionals. As far as genealogists are concerned - "PUBLISH BEFORE YOU PERISH!"

## FLORIDA STATE ARCHIVES

The Florida State Archives is located in the R.A.Gray Building, 2 blocks west of the State Capitol in Tallahassee on 500 South Bronough Street, (904)487-2073). Check with the Archives to verify operating hours prior to visiting.

Initially, you will be asked to fill out a registration form to obtain a research card. In order to protect their archival holdings, the rules of what you may bring in and what is prohibited are exacting.

The staff of the Archives undertakes only limited research. The Archives contain military records (the military records of Floridians). County records generally date from the creation of the county to the mid-1920's. Microfilm copies of the county deed, marriage and probate records, tax rolls and election returns are available. One hundred-fifty rolls of microfilm covering various Native-American censuses and enrollment cards are also available for search.

The Archives has a growing collection of U.S. Census and Soundex Records. Florida State censuses: 1885, 1935 and 1945 are on record. The book collection has over 7000 published resources with emphasis on the southeastern U.S. Other types of records are also in the Archives, among which are the files of the Florida State Genealogical Pioneer Descendant Certificate program and the computerized disc genealogy research system.

## ELLIS ISLAND COMPUTER

The Ellis Island computer will be available on site to the public in 1992. The Ellis Island Restoration Commission has launched a new computerized family history center project. By using simplified computers for 10 to 12 minutes, visitors will be able to glean information from original ship manifests: where relatives came from, how old they were, who traveled with them, where they were going and what possessions they carried.

A special program is being developed to

track immigration officials. The plan is to feed 5 million names a year into the computer for a total of 17 million. The goal is to open the Ellis Island Center during the monument's 1992 centennial.

(Vol. IV, No 1 Pioneer Branches)

## RANDOM INFORMATION

### CIVIL WAR OBITUARIES & BIOGRAPHIES

Bradfoot Publishing Company has a large collection of biographies and obituaries of Civil War veterans. A free catalogue may be obtained by writing Rt. #4, Box 508-C, Wilmington, N.C. 29405.

### BORDER CROSSINGS FROM CANADA

A Soundex index for those crossing over the Canadian border either to visit or to live. It is great for Northern New York families from 1895 to 1925. On microfilm in Salt Lake City - a separate card for each family, where born, parents, nearest relative in Canada, height, hair and eye color and weight.

(LaCrosse Genealogical Society, September 1992)

**WESTERN NEW YORK SOURCES:** Resources available in Western New York - a six-page leaflet lists such sources has been issued by the Livingston-Steuben County N. Y. Genealogical Society. Information includes names of over 100 county and town historians and town clerks who may be able to supply genealogical information. Enclose a long SASE (self-address, stamped) envelope and write to Major Lyman F. Barry, President, 9297 Shaw Road, Nunda, N.Y. 14517.

**SCOTLAND** - when researching women in Scotland, look for their maiden name as that is what appears in all legal transactions, including death records. Their name at birth remained their legal name throughout their life.

## THE CENSUS AND SOUNDINDEX

One of the most popular and productive avenues in locating an ancestor, initially, is the census record. U.S. records began in 1790, and have been made every ten years since that time. Each differs depending on what Congress was interested in enumerating for the decade.

Indexes to the censuses have proliferated in the past few years. Many are complete, however, some are only partially done. The 1880 census has a partial index. 1900, 1910 and 1920 censuses are completely indexed.

The federally compiled indexes are arranged by the "Soundex" indexing system. Soundex is a coded surname index based on the way a surname sounds rather than how it is spelled. The filing system is alphabetical. It was developed to find a surname even though it may have been recorded under various spellings. Space doesn't permit the guide letters, but information is in the Soundex catalogue in the Genealogy Room.

Soundex can be a very valuable adjunct to the census search. The census schedules are arranged by state or territory and thereafter by county and finally Enumeration District. The Enumeration District is CRITICAL, especially if the county has more than one roll of film. (Try Chicago!). The E.D.'s are given following the name of the county in the National Archive Catalogue or that provided by the AGLL. (American Genealogical Lending Library). When you find the E.D. number in the Soundex, that same number appears on the Census schedule itself; the E.D. is given in the upper right hand corner of each page.

We have the AGLL for Soundex in the Genealogy Room. Soundex will save you time, save your eyesight and save those aching neck muscles. Ask a volunteer to help you order the Soundex film. When you find the E.D. number you need, working with the regular census will be much easier.

(Soundex Catalogue)



## MORTALITY SCHEDULES

Census records list only those living persons who were residing in that particular household on the census date, with one important exception known as a "Mortality Schedule." This is a list which includes the names of those who had died during the twelve months immediately preceding the census date.

Mortality schedules were created between 1850 and 1885, and while they may reflect only a fraction of the actual deaths in the U.S. during the recording periods, they can, nevertheless be of great value. They give the name, sex, age, color, whether free or slave, married, single or widowed, place of birth (and for 1870 and after, parents' places of birth) month of death, and number of days ill. From 1880 the length of residence in the area are also given (Brian Michaels-Florida Magazine- September 1991)

### ROOTS AND BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Single membership                      \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

Make check payable to: Roots and  
Branches Genealogical  
Society

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

Mail to:    Roots and Branches  
Genealogical Society  
P.O.Box 612, DeLand,  
FL 32721-0612

\_\_\_\_\_  
State    Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone

## NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

Patty Barrett  
Joyce Brady  
Thelma Huyett  
Jean Lichtenwald  
Kim Lyons  
Joyce Peterson  
Ann Petticord  
Judith A. Warensford



## ADDENDUM & CORRECTIONS TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Blais, Frances L.  
4168 N. Grand Avenue  
DeLand, FL 32720-4519

Herman & Rosemary Goossens  
Mildred Young  
Chester & Mildred Poole  
Harry Sellards

574-9423  
736-7410  
736-7520  
985-4046

## REGULAR / BOARD MEETINGS

Regular membership meetings for Roots and Branches are scheduled for the following Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

January 7, February 4, March 4  
April 1, May 6 and June 3.

Meetings of the Roots and Branches Board of Directors will be held on the following Saturdays from 10:00 until Noon.

January 2, January 30, February 27,  
March 27, May 1 and May 29.

You are cordially invited to attend any of these meetings, and your input will be appreciated.

Membership is open to anyone interested in the quest for their ancestors and the general aims of the Society on payment of \$10.00. All meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at the DeLand Public Library on 130 East Howry Avenue. Guests are welcome.



ROOTS AND BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
130 East Howry Avenue  
P.O. Box 612  
DeLand, Florida 32721-0612