ROOTS AND BRANCHES

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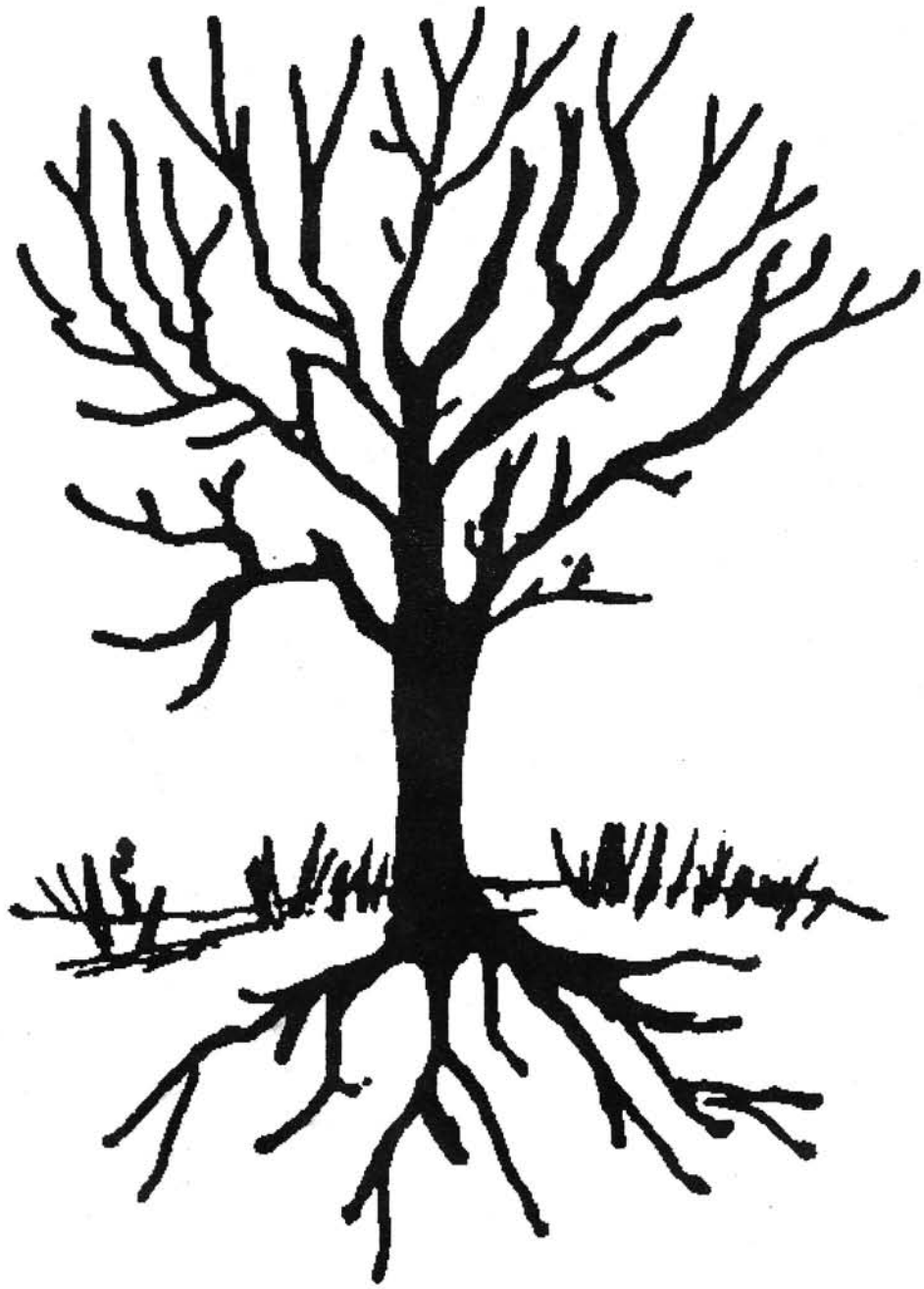

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Carol Izzo appreciates any genealogy related information for the Newsletter. The information can be provided to her by e-mail (jizzo@totcon.com), at meetings, or at the DeLand Library Genealogy Room with her name on it. Please put your name on the article so you get credit.

Meeting Schedules

The Roots and Branches Society meets at the DeLand Library at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, September through June.

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REMINDER

Do not forget to renew your annual memberships! Memberships run from June to June.

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NEW BOOKS IN DELAND GENEALOGY ROOM

Black Roots By Tony Burroughs. Call Number 929-1089Bur

Finding a Place Called Home by Dee Parmer Woodtor. Call Number Gen 929.1089 Woo 1999

Mayflower Families. Call Number Gen 369.12 v. 19.

Irish Famine Immigrants in the State of Vermont. Gravestone Inscriptions. Compiled by Ronald Chase Murphy and Janice Church Murphy. Call Number Gen 929.509743 Iri

Genealogies in the Library of Congress. Edited by Marion J. Kaminkow. Call Number Gen 929.1016 Gen.
Source: Janet Kappa

The Descendants of Timothy Stidman by Jack Stidman. Donated by Frances H. Goodley Lewis.

Vermont Newspaper 1783-1816. Written by Elizabeth Shones Mills. Donated by Marjorie Heaney.

CD'S IN DELAND GENEALOGY ROOM

American Genealogical Biographical Index By Ancestry.

PERSI: The Periodical Source Index. By Ancestry.

Passenger & Immigration Lists, 1538-1940. By Broderbund (covers 193 town records).

Marriage Index: New York #2. 1740-1880. By Broderbund.

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WOMEN IN THE YEAR 2000

The editor came across the following article in her research in New York. The article below has been summarized by John Izzo. A few copies of the entire article are upstairs in the DeLand Genealogy Room:

The February 14, 1891 issue of the Ladies Home Journal included an article by Edward Bellamy entitled, "Woman In The Year 2000." Mr. Bellamy tried to envision what the future held for women in the year 2000.

This article projected that in the year 2000 the following conditions would exist:

–"...women as well as men would be employees; and in the proceeds of which all shall be equal partners..."

-"...income to be the same in amount with that received by her brother, husband or father..."

-"...It is altogether probable by the way, that the term "old maid" will be by that time fallen into disuse..."

-"...The unmarried woman of the year 2000, whether young or old will enjoy the dignity and independence of the bachelor of today..."

-"...In the year 2000 no man, whether lover or husband may hope to win the favor of maid or wife save by desert."

(Women In The Year 2000 Cont'd from page 1)

-"...The most important single respect in which it would be altered would be as to her attitude toward marriage. She would no longer be obliged...to look forward to marriage...her only means of support..."

The article is based on the book "Looking Backward:2000-1887" by Edward Bellamy, published in 1888, about a man who falls into a hypnotic sleep and wakes up in the year 2000. It is the story of a young man living in Boston in 1887. He suffers from insomnia and hires a mesmerist to put him to sleep. "Looking Backward" is available through the DeLand Branch of the Volusia County Library, Call # YA PB Bellamy.

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I'M TIRED!!!

For several years, I've been blaming it on middle age, iron poor blood, lack of vitamins, air pollution, saccharin, obesity, dieting, underarm odor, and a dozen other maladies that make you wonder if life is really worth living. But now I found out, none of those are why I'm tired.
I'm tired because I'm overworked.
The population of this country is roughly 200 million;
84 million are retired, leaving 116 million to do the work.
There are 75 million in school, which leaves 41 million to do the work.
Of this total, there are 22 million employed by the Federal government.
That leaves 19 million to do the work.
4 million are in the Armed Forces, which leaves 15 million to do the work.
Take from that the 14,800,000 people who work for the State and City Government and that leaves 200,000 to do the work.
There are 199,998 in hospitals so that leaves just two people to do all the work. You and me. And you're sitting there reading this!
Taken from the Spring 2001 issue of The Tartan
Source: Marjorie Heaney

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STRANGS OF WESTCHESTER

(Fourth Generation)
NY Genealogical and Biographical Record
Vol. 100-1969 page 29

In 1789 John Strang and his wife bought a lot in Cortlandt from his brother Gilbert (Westchester Co. Deeds L:104). That same year he sued her for divorce. It would seem that during his frequent absences from Bedford she had become enamored of a physician Henry Wilson whom John had somewhat thoughtlessly allowed to board with them. (N.Y. Supr. Court Pleadings 1789 BM28005).

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NAMES OF ILLNESSES AND CAUSES OF DEATH

Death certificates, obituaries, and cemetery records often list the cause of death, but seldom explain what the medical terms mean. In order to understand obscure medical terms, visit Shirley Hornbeck's medical terminology site at: http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~hornbeck/disease.htm

This site gives definitions of some of the more obscure medical terms for diseases and illnesses.

At the bottom of the page is a listing of epidemics that traversed the country at different points in time. This list may help you locate a plague or epidemic cemetery along an immigration or pioneer route.

One such place is the Yellow Fever cemetery in Jones County, Iowa, where approximately 30 children are buried. The locals, who were afraid that they could catch the disease simply by walking on the cemetery grounds, moved the county road so that it wouldn't pass the cemetery.
Source: Judy Warensford

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT RECORDS

For those doing genealogical research on family members who worked for the railroad, the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board site is a good place to visit. Go to: http://www.rrb.gov/geneal.html

Not only does this site give excellent advice on how to research railroad retirement and pension records, but it also suggests ways to extend the research before 1836, when most railroads began in the United States. In addition, it leads you to other sites with valuable information on specific railroad lines.
Source: Judy Warensford

The 1880 census is now available on CD at the Latter Day Saints Church in DeLand. There is a 2-hr. limit and you must make an appointment to use these CD's. Below are their hours - Call to verify:

Tuesday:	10:00 - 2:00, 6:00 - 9:00
Wednesday:	6:00 - 9:00
Thursday:	10:00 - 2:00
Saturday:	10:00 - 2:00

For more information call Susie at: 822-9695

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Naming Patterns: Tips for Finding Your Ancestors

Ready for a name quiz?
(1) What's the most common surname in America?
(2) What's the most common male given (first) name?
(3) What's the most common female given name?

(Answers at the end of this article.)

There are over 1.6 million surnames in the United States. Researching these given names and surnames is one of the basic search strategies for family historians.

Experienced family historians know that you should always be on the lookout for spelling variations when searching for your ancestors. Spelling was not important until the middle to late nineteenth century. Some of your ancestors may not have known how to spell their name, especially those with very little education.

Be especially careful when searching census indexes and similar sources. You should never say, "But, our family never spelled our name that way!" Otherwise you may overlook your ancestors' names.

Some people signed records, such as wills and deeds, with an "X" or other mark. A county clerk observed that a man signed a land deed in 1850 with two X's: a large "X" and a small "x". The clerk asked the man, "I know that you can't read, so you signed your "X". But what does the small "x" stand for?" Well, the man replied, "That stands for junior."

People may have been known throughout their life by a nickname. My grandfather, for example, was Alfred Sperry of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, but was often known as "Allie." He is listed in the 1900 census as "Alla Sperry." Abby is a familiar form for Abigail, Delia for Cordelia, Ella for Eleanor, Eva for Evangeline, Sadie for Sarah, Sam for Samantha, Tish for Letitia, Trudy for Gertrude, and so forth.

Naming patterns, and situations where family names were repeated, may be important clues in family history research. The first son may have been named after his father's father, the second son after his mother's father, and the third son after his father. The first daughter may have been named after her mother's mother, the second daughter after her father's mother, and the third daughter after her mother.

Biblical names, such as "Daniel" and "Matthew," were often used. It's always interesting to see children in early America named "Experience" or "Wealthy." Other unusual names include "Preserved Fish" and "Etta Onions."

Some Internet sites that may be useful in locating surnames of your ancestors are:

Ancestry.com - http://www.ancestry.com
RootsWeb.com - http://www.RootsWeb.com
Surname Springboard Index - http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/2154/springin.htm
Surname Web - http://www.surnameweb.org

Tips for Locating Your Ancestors' Names

Be aware of spelling variations when researching your ancestors, especially when using census indexes. Your ancestors may not have known how to spell their names. People may have been known throughout their life, or listed in records, by one or more nicknames. Name dictionaries and Internet sites may be useful for learning more about your ancestors' names.

Answers to quiz: (1) Smith (2) William (3) Mary.

For Further Reference

Name dictionaries and reference sources are available which may give you the meaning, origin, and spelling variations of given names and surnames of your ancestors.

Barber, Henry. British Family Names. London, 1903.

Bardsley, Charles Wareing. A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames. Baltimore, 1996.

(Tips For Finding Your Ancestors Cont'd from pg 3)

Bell, Robert. The Book of Scots-Irish Family Names. Belfast, 1997.

Black, George Fraser. The Surnames of Scotland. New York, 1979.

Cottle, Basil. The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames. 2nd ed. Baltimore, 1967.

Dauzat, Albert. Dictionnaire Etymologique . . . France. Paris, 1938.

Dellquest, Augustus Wilfrid. These Names of Ours: A Book of Surnames. New York, 1938.

Dolan, J. R. English Ancestral Names: The Evolution of the Surname from Medieval Occupations. New York, 1972.

Fucilla, Joseph Guerin. Our Italian Surnames. Baltimore, 1987.

Grehan, Ida. The Dictionary of Irish Family Names. Boulder, Colo., 1997.

Guggenheimer, Heinrich W. and Eva H. Guggenheimer. Jewish Family Names and their Origins. New York, 1992.

Hanks, Patrick and Flavia Hodges. A Dictionary of Surnames. Oxford, 1988.

Harrison, Henry. Surnames of the United Kingdom. Baltimore, 1969.

Hook, J.N. Family Names: How Our Surnames Came to America. New York, 1982.

Jones, George Fenwick. German-American Names. Baltimore, 1990.

Kelly, Arthur C.M. Names, Names, and More Names: Locating Your Dutch Ancestors in Colonial America. Orem, Utah, 1999.

Kelly, Patrick. Irish Family Names. Detroit, 1976.

MacLysaght, Edward. A Guide to Irish Surnames. Baltimore, 1964.

Irish Families: Their Names, Arms, and Origins. 4th rev. ed. Dublin, 1985.
More Irish Families. Rev. ed. Dublin, 1996.

The Surnames of Ireland. 6th ed. Dublin, 1985.
O'Laughlin, Michael C. The Book of Irish Families. Kansas City, Mo., 1997.

The Master Book of Irish Surnames. Kansas City, Mo., 1993.

Price, Barbara. "Swedish Naming Patterns." Ancestry Magazine, May/June 1998.

Platt, Lyman D. Hispanic Surnames and Family History. Baltimore, 1996.

Reaney, Percy Hide. A Dictionary of English Surnames. 3rd ed. London, 1997.

Redmonds, George. Surnames and Genealogy: A New Approach. Boston, 1997.

Robb, H. Amanda and Andrew Chesler. Encyclopedia of American Family Names. New York, 1995.

Rowlands, John and Sheila. The Surnames of Wales. Baltimore, 1996.

Smith, Elsdon Coles. New Dictionary of American Family Names. New York, 1973.

American Surnames. Philadelphia, 1969.

Unbegaun, Boris Ottokar. Russian Surnames. Oxford, 1972.

Why U Can't Find Your Ancestors. RootsWeb's Guide to Tracing Family Trees.

Whyte, Donald. Scottish Surnames and Families. Edinburgh, 1996.

Source: Kip Sperry is an associate professor of family history at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

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Flags are hard to come by, but here are a couple of Web sites that might help:
— The American Flag and Banner Company at www.allflags.com/
— United States Flags
www.cctvsupplier.com/unstatflag.html

Remember that your flag should be taken down as it gets dark if there is no illumination on the flag.
Source: Ancestry.com

My mother, Bertha Lucille Gill-Haight's grandfather was Andrew Jackson Gill, Sr. He was born in Madison, Florida in 1849. He worked in that area as a farmer until he married, then migrated south to Lakeland, Polk County, Florida. There he was very active in the Gapway Baptist Church as secretary and church cemetery caretaker.

He carried his Bible everywhere and became known as "Preacher" Gill. Some of the families of the church took him in after his wife died. They all called him "Grandpa" Gill and "Preacher" Gill.
Source: Bee (Haight) Ruff

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Helen O. Brindle is a founding member of the DeLand Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of Volusia County. If anyone wants to write her, the following is her mailing address and e-mail address:

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Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022
e-mail: honbrindle@juno.com

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VITAL RECORDS IN CANADA

The key to conducting research on Canadian ancestors is knowing where to start. One of the best places is the vital records office of the province in which the family lived. Although these records may not go very far (the 1850's at the earliest), they can be useful for finding death certificates of original pioneers. Below is a list of sites you may want to check out:

Canada GenWeb Project
http://www.rootsweb.com/~canwgw/

Provincial Archives of New Brunswick
http://www.gov.nb.ca/archives/e/

OntarioGenWeb
http://www.rootsweb.com/~canon/research.html

GenWeb of Quebec
http://www.rootsweb.com/~canqc/regional.htm

Newfoundland and Labrador GenWeb
http://www.huronweb.com/genweb/nf.htm

Saskatchewan GenWeb
http://www.rootsweb.com/~cansk/Saskatchewan/

Alberta GenWeb
http://www.rootsweb.com/~canab/index.html

Manitoba GenWeb Project
http://www.rootsweb.com/~canmb/index.htm
Source: Judy Warensford

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HOW TO FIND ANCESTORS WHO WERE SQUATTERS

There were several areas in which squatters could live without having to own property or pay rent. These were typically:

_Areas next to rivers that were included in river easements, and flood plains that weren't plotted on county plat maps.

_Areas adjacent to national parks, preserves or deserts that were deemed uninhabitable and under government jurisdiction.

–Property (sometimes very small parcels) that lay next to railroad tracks or between tracks and was included in railroad easements (kind of noisy, but people did live there!).

People may not have held a job, paid rent or taxes, or owned property, but they were still included in the census. They also sent their children to school and attended church. So check census, school, and church records for information.
Source: Judy Warensford

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ROMANIAN ORTHODOX RESOURCES

The Orthodox church registers of baptisms, marriages, and burial are important resources for researchers. The Web site of the Romanian Orthodox Church (http://www.bor.ro/english.htm) is helpful in locating dioceses and parishes in Romania, in other European countries, and even in the United States. It includes an overview of the history of the Orthodox Church in Romania, and has links to Orthodox churches in Europe and America.
Source: Links & Bridges