



Roots and Branches Genealogy Society of West Volusia County

130 E. Howry Avenue, DeLand, Florida 32724

October, November, December 2007

Gladys Paulin Fine Tunes The “How To” on Research at the September Roots & Branches Meeting— Jim Pardee

At the regular meeting of the Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia on September 16, 2007, the featured speaker was Gladys Friedman Paulin, CG, of Winter Springs, Orange County, Florida.

Ms. Paulin, a professional genealogist, spoke on the subject of “Your Country Store—Finding Your Ancestors in the National Archives”.

She walked us through research at the NARA with the help of a very professional looking slide show.

She pointed out the kinds of records and publications there and emphasized that those records and publica-

tions are not ONLY for genealogists but for anyone doing any kind of research on documents that the Federal Government has produced.

Part of her presentation focused on the internet portion of the NARA, and how to do our own research or how to hire a local researcher.

One of the most helpful things that she told us about was NARA’s partnership with www.footnote.com, which is building a searchable database of all of the documents held by the NARA.

Ms. Paulin pointed out that there many Record Group (RG) numbers in the U S National Archives and

each number represents the organization or government department that originated the document. In addition, she recommended many free publications that are obtainable through the NARA’s website or by calling the National Archives in the Washington, DC, area.

A point that was well taken in her presentation was that for all those who have visited the National Archives in Washington, DC, and entered through the Constitution Avenue entrance in order to view the Declaration of Independence and other historical documents, the main research area of the NARA might have been missed.

It is on the first floor of the reverse side of the building, and is not on the usual organized tour trips.

There were many questions asked by the members at the end of Ms. Paulin’s presentation and she graciously answered them all.

Everyone felt that they had learned a great deal about researching the NARA from her.—Jim Pardee



Inside this issue:

<i>Message from Jerry</i>	3
<i>Georgia Death Certificates Now Online</i>	4
<i>New Online African American Database</i>	4
<i>Member’s Spotlight</i>	5
<i>Tidbits from the Old Iowa Press</i>	6-7

Special points of interest:

- Read about Jerry’s travails in *Jerry’s Message* as he tries to explain how hard it is to get back into a regular routine after having a great summer with Margot researching the ancestors. (Do you know that Jerry and Margot have been married 50 Years?) Happy Anniversary, Jerry and Margot! May you have 50 more!
- *New and Improved Databases Coming Online*
- Jim Pardee discovers the proof is in the pudding... oops...no... sorry...the proof is in the DNA! Read about it in *Member’s Spotlight!*
- Read how “it used to be” in the *Old Iowa Press*.



Mary Lois Kelley, Louise Caccamise,
Gladys Paulin, and Robert Weaver

What Is Roots & Branches?

History & Mission: Founded in 1986, the Roots & Branches Society of West Volusia County, serves the cities of DeLand, Deltona, DeBary, Enterprise, Os-teen, Pierson, and Seville. The purpose of this Society is to stimulate and promote interest in genealogical and historical research; to provide instruction in the use of efficient mechanics and adherence to scientific principles of accuracy and thoroughness in research.

Society Projects & Lecture Subjects: Our meetings feature workshops and speakers on such

topics as early land, church, census and probate records; re-search documentation and organization; DNA testing and internet search. Society projects include staffing the Genealogy Room at the DeLand Public Library, digitizing the Brownell Collection for preservation and sharing with the Historical Society, maintaining the vertical files and an indexed collection of obituaries from the Beacon and News-Journal, and continuing the collection of pertinent information on West Volusia cities and pioneer families of the area.

With over 100 members from all over the United States, the Society is a diverse group of all ages. We meet the third Sunday of each month, September through June, in the Auditorium of the DeLand Public Library for a Program at 2:00 PM. A 45 minute beginner's lesson is offered at 1:00 PM prior to the meeting in the Conference Room behind the Audio/Visual desk. Guests are always welcome. The Society's Board meeting is held the Thursday prior to the General Meeting at 2:00 PM in the Conference Room. Members are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Officers & Committees

Acting President &

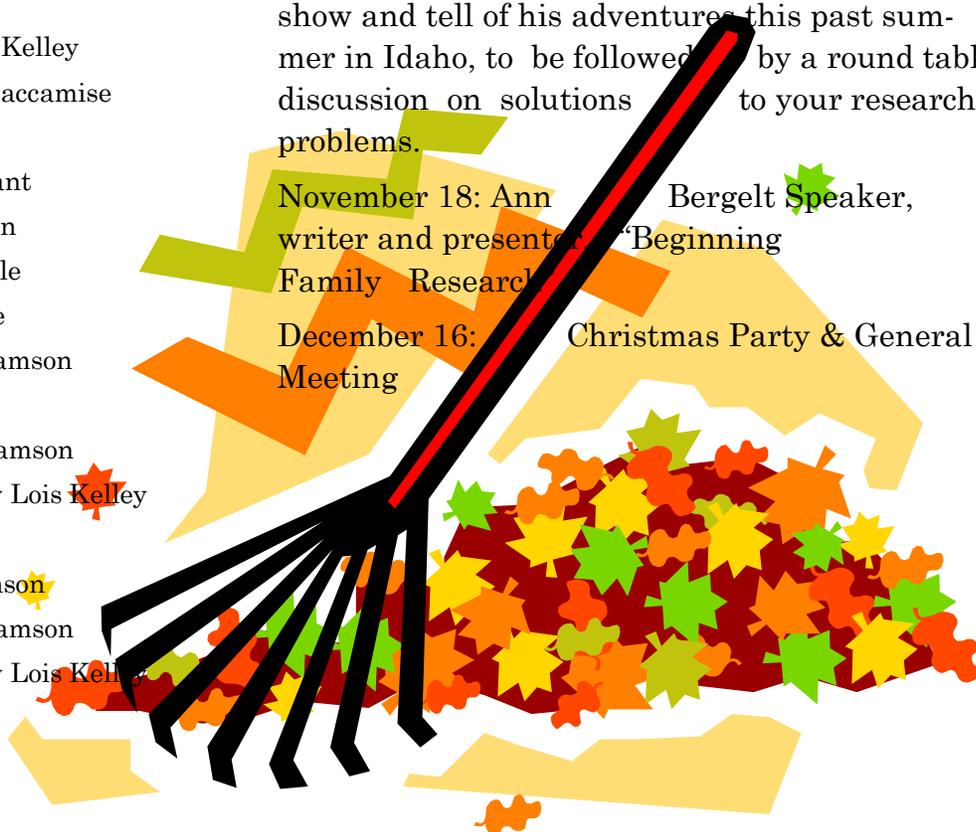
- 1st Vice President:** Jerry Hale
- 2nd Vice President:** Mary Lois Kelley
- Recording Secretary:** Louise Caccamise
- Treasurer:** Robert Weaver
- Corresponding Secretary:** vacant
- Past President:** Rosemary Sutton
- Programs Chairman:** Jerry Hale
- Publicity Chairman:** Jerry Hale
- Publicity Assistant:** Linda Williamson
- Membership:** Mary Lois Kelley
- Newsletter Editor:** Linda Williamson
- Newsletter Distribution:** Mary Lois Kelley
- Webmaster:** John Woodard
- Website Design:** Linda Williamson
- Newsletter Editor:** Linda Williamson
- Newsletter Distribution:** Mary Lois Kelley
- Vertical File:** Kay Jenkins

Our Fall Calendar

October 21: Jerry Hale will present a short slide show and tell of his adventures this past summer in Idaho, to be followed by a round table discussion on solutions to your research problems.

November 18: Ann Bergelt Speaker, writer and presenter "Beginning Family Research"

December 16: Christmas Party & General Meeting



A Message From Jerry (Acting President) — It Was A Long Hot Summer!

Hello everyone. As you may have heard, Marti has resigned as President of Roots and Branches for health reasons. That leaves me "acting" President until the elections in December. We wish Marti well and will miss her leadership and all of her hard work very much.

Right away things started flying off the track. Margot and I spent the summer with the motor home parked in my sister's back yard in Iowa.. Just before we were to begin our trip home to arrive before the September meeting my sister went into the hospital with a gall bladder attack. It was supposed to be a routine operation but things went wrong and she became very seriously ill. We, of course, delayed our departure. She recovered and came home and was on the mend when we left.

I made some stops in IL, IN and OH then we stopped to visit our daughters, both of whom live in Concord, NC. Michele's father-in-law, who has been suffering from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) started going down hill rapidly so we told them to drop everything and run and we would stay and take care of the girls and the house. The father-in-law passed away on October 1st. We made it home on the eighth of October.

The next thing that happened was that Ann Osisek, who was to be our speaker for the October meeting, had a family emergency and canceled late on Wednesday the 17th. Ann Bergelt, who is scheduled to speak at the November meeting was unable to reschedule for September because of other commitments and so WHAT TO DO for a September program. I plan to prepare a short slide show and talk about my summer adventures and then we will have a round table discussion about your research problems and possible solutions.

The last straw was when, on the way to the board meeting on Thursday, my old car lost oil pressure and left me stranded on the side of Martin Luther King Blvd just south of Orange Camp. It got VERY hot sitting there waiting for the road service. Fortunately Margot came to my rescue and we got to the library in time to catch Bob Weaver and Rosemary Sutton in the parking lot and have a short meeting there. I guess that's what happens when you are driving an old car with 147,000 + miles on it.

The nominating committee has been working on a slate of officers for the coming two years. If you have any ideas on the subject please contact Mary Lois Kelley, Mary Ann Cring, or Jim Pardee. They would be happy to hear from you.

We still have many jobs that need to be covered so please hold up your hand and volunteer to help in manning the Genealogy Room at the library or scanning the Brownell Collection (we're working on notebook 46, thanks to Margaret Marcolese and Jim Pardee) and there are many other tasks that need a helping hand. If you want your Society to prosper each person should be looking for a way to help.

Jerry

Georgia Death Certificates Now Viewable Online — Some 275,000 Certificates from 1919 to 1927 Linked with Index and Images

October 8, 2007, Salt Lake City, Utah—FamilySearch* digitized the records, and volunteers from both FamilySearch and the Archives used FamilySearch indexing technology to create a searchable online index from the digital images of the original historic documents. "These death records are obviously a gold mine for genealogists and historians. Certificates include age, county of death, parents names, occupation, gender, race and cause of death; these documents open all kinds of possibilities to researchers," said Georgia Archives director, David Carmicheal.

The deceased person's name, birth and death dates, sex, spouse and parents' names and location of death were extracted from each certificate for the searchable database. The linked image of the original death certificate can reveal additional interesting facts and clues for the family historian—like the names and birth

places of the deceased person's parents, place and date of the decedent's birth, marital status, occupation, permanent residence, and place and date of burial and cause of death.

Before making the certificates viewable online, Carmicheal said patrons had to order copies through the mail for a fee or visit the state archive's office in person. The new online database will make it quicker and easier for patrons to get the information they are seeking.

"It is always exciting for family historians when they can freely search a vital record index online like the Georgia death records. The link to the original death certificate is an added bonus—it saves you time, money, and provides rich genealogy data," said Paul Nauta, manager of public affairs for FamilySearch. The users just type in an ancestor's name that died in Georgia between 1919 and 1927. They will see a brief summary of information from the ancestor's death certificate with a link to

also view the original image. Additional state indexes are currently in production.

Genealogical Society of Utah, doing business as FamilySearch, is a non-profit organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. FamilySearch maintains the world's largest repository of genealogical resources accessed through FamilySearch.org, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and over 4,500 family history centers in 70 countries.

* FamilySearch is a trademark licensed to the Genealogical Society of Utah and is registered in the United States of America and other countries.

SOURCE: DICK EASTMAN'S ONLINE GENEALOGY NEWSLETTER AT

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2007/10/georgia-death-c.html#more

New Online Database for African American Genealogy

WeRelate, the USF Africana Heritage Project and Ideas4 have announced plans to build a free, central Internet database for digital images and records of African American genealogy, history and culture. The database, which will be called the Afriquest data crossroads (<http://www.afriquest.com>), will be built using collaborative software. Anyone will be able to add images and records to the database or draw images and records

from the database for research purposes. Access to the images and records on Afriquest will always be free.

The central, collaborative database will make it easy for researchers to access a wealth of records which were previously unavailable online, or widely-scattered on the Internet and difficult to find. Every record readers add to the database will not only be preserved, but will be available to anyone for free, now and in years to come.

The Afriquest data crossroads will also place new tools and resources in the hands of webmasters, scholars and educators. Webmasters will be able to interface with Afriquest by using it as their primary document database, or adding an Afriquest search box to their websites; eliminating the need to develop and maintain expensive database software. Scholars and educators will also find a variety of primary historical docu

Cont'd on page 8



Member Spotlight by Jim Pardee

It Seemed Like A Good Idea At The Time....

It seemed like a good idea at the time...Back in the 1920's, Donald Lines Jacobus, the foremost genealogist of his day compiled the Pardee Genealogy with the aid of a \$100,000.00 grant from the Estate of William Scranton Pardee. In those days; with that kind of money; there was nothing to hinder him from using all of the resources available, scant as they were.

When he came to Joel Pardee, born in West Haven, New Haven County, CT, about 1811, he found that Joel's second child, Willis H., born in West Haven on 24 Nov 1796, had married and divorced Nancy Sizer and moved away from CT and didn't communicate with his family.

In the 1850 census, Jacobus found a Willis H Pardee in Alachua County, FL, who fit the description of the one who disappeared from CT, however his descendents didn't have any idea that he may have been born in CT and Jacobus entered a question mark (?) after Joel's

name in the compilation of Willis's second marriage and issue indicating that he thought that he might be the same person but, as a good genealogist, he had no primary sources to rely on.

In 2006, Megan Smolenyak spoke at the Roots and Branches Genealogical Society of the De Land, FL, public library about DNA and it's ability to verify ancestors.

Since I had been in communication with many of Willis' modern day descendents, I had made a task of my own to try to "re-join" them with their CT ancestors. What better way than to do a Pardee surname YDNA project? I was willing to pay for my test. I just had to find a living Pardee descendent of Willis' to participate.

One was found, however, he was reticent to give up his DNA information. After a couple of weeks of coaxing (and agreeing to pay the \$200 myself) he agreed, and I sent his name and address to the lab.

Shortly, my test results came

back with 43 markers and I waited for the other guy's results. Boy, was I surprised when only 19 of his markers matched mine !!!

I called the laboratory and questioned them as to how the results could be so different when I had a perfect paper trail linking us both to our 9th great grandfather in Uffculme, Devonshire, England, in 1590? The answer was: we were no closer related than 4000 years; or, someone's grandmother wasn't always true to her marriage vows.

If the latter was the case, how many of the estimated 6000 Pardee males in the world were NOT related to John, the wool-gatherer and tanner, of 1590?

I am still waiting for another Pardee male to contact me (or the lab) with the intention of submitting HIS YDNA. One of us is related to the eldest Pardee, or the other. Only science will tell. —Jim Pardee

Tidbits from "Iowa Old Press"—The News Was a Lot Different Back Then— by Cathy Joynt Labath & Sharyl Ferrall <http://www.IowaOldPress.com>

Paint Him Yellow

WATERLOO - Frank Bruner, a machinist at the Illinois Central railroad shops here, expressed an opinion that "85 per cent of the American soldiers are bums." The shop men painted him yellow from head to feet and the company approved the job by discharging him. The United States commissioner told him he got off easily. Bruner is a German-Russian, 12 years in the United States, and 40 years old. In the back of his watch case he carried a picture of the Kaiser.

(Now there's an idea .)

War Cross For Ottumwa Boy

Ottumwa - The first American officer to lead a raid on German trenches was Lieut. Walter Shafer, of Ottumwa. The raid was a "fizzle" the lieutenant wrote to his parents, because the section was deserted. But the work was there and for it the Ottumwan will receive the French war cross, the *croix la guerre*.

The New Era

Humeston, Wayne, Iowa

January 26, 1898

Defaulter Adams Sentenced

SIOUX CITY, Jan. 22 - George B. Adams, the defaulting cashier of the local office of the American Express Com-

pany, was sentenced to serve a term of two years in the state penitentiary at Anamosa. Adams pleaded guilty to the embezzlement of about \$2,888 of the company's money. He was brought to Sioux City a few days ago by Superintendent Garner, of Omaha. Adams made a plea for clemency and said liquor was the cause of his downfall.

Post Office Robber Confesses.

FORT DODGE, Jan. 21 - The robbing of the post office at Pioneer, the little station just north of Webster county line on the Rock Island road, which has occurred at different times during the last fall and part of the winter, has been cleared up by the confession of Oscar Webster, a carpenter of Pioneer.

ACCIDENT AT CHEROKEE

CHEROKEE, Jan. 21 - A terrible accident occurred in Silver township by which Henry VanSickle will die and his brother, Steve VanSickle will be maimed for life. Both young men were at the farm of Joshua McCammit, a big farmer and cattle feeder, helping operate a horse power feed grinder. Steve VanSickle was working at the power when a knuckle burst and a piece of it struck him on the head, breaking his jaw and fracturing his skull. Later, when the machine was started again Henry VanSickle was passing near the power when the tumbling rod flew out of place. It

struck him in the forehead with such force that the entire front of his head was crushed in. Doctors say he will not recover, and have but slight hopes for his brother.

(These guys didn't know when to quit! /H/)

Arnold Murder Trial

WAUKON, Jan. 21 - The trial of Frank Arnold for the murder of Henry Duffy is on here and continues to excite the greatest interest. It will be remembered that Duffy was found dead in his store with a bullet in his brain; in his hand he grasped a revolver and it is supposed that he had suicided. Upon close examination, however, it was found that every chamber of the weapon contained an unexploded cartridge. Another revolver was found, one belonging to Frank Arnold, with a chamber discharged and this circumstance pointed to him as a probable murderer.

(They thought he had suicided! Where did that word go? /H/)

Wheeler Found.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Jan. 21 - Albert Wheeler, who mysteriously disappeared from Cedar Falls, December 27, has been located at Bowman, S.D. He says the team attached to his sleigh ran away and he knew nothing more until he found himself in Bowman.

(Santa Clause needs to hire this guy, Cedar Falls is in Central Iowa! /H/)

The Generations Network, Parent Company of Ancestry.com to be Acquired by Spectrum Equity Investors— Investment will support and Accelerate Company's Strategic Direction and Growth Plan

PROVO, Utah, Oct. 17 -- The Generations Network, Inc., today announced that Spectrum Equity Investors will lead an investment of \$300 million to purchase a majority interest in the company. Spectrum, a private equity firm

based in Menlo Park and Boston, has been a shareholder in The Generations Network since 2003. Following the transaction, Vic Parker and Ben Spero from Spectrum will serve on the company's new board of directors, along with Tim Sullivan, President

and CEO of The Generations Network. Additional terms of the transaction were not disclosed. The acquisition is subject to customary regulatory and closing conditions and is expected to close in 2007. From a posting by Dick Eastman, 10/17/07

Rev War - Digital Books

(Oct 19th was) the anniversary of the surrender at Yorktown in 1781 when General Cornwallis surrendered to General George Washington, ending the war that would be finalized in the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

To read or download these books (free service) go to:

<http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com/2007/10/books-of-day-surrender-at-yorktown-oct.html>

Cornwallis, Charles Cornwallis, Marquis. An answer to that part of the Narrative of Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton which relates to the conduct of Lieutenant-General Earl Cornwallis during the campaign in North-America, in the year 1781. London: Printed for J. Debrett, 1783. 260p.

Winthrop, Robert Charles. Oration on the hundredth anniversary of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to the combined forces of America and France, at Yorktown, Virginia, 19th October, 1781: delivered at Yorktown, 19th October, 1881. Boston, MA: Boston, Little, Brown, 1881. 73p.

Johnston, Henry P. The Yorktown Campaign and the surrender of Cornwallis, 1781. NY: Harper & Bros., 1881. 206p.

To automatically receive this daily list of books Sign-up now - It is a free service

<http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com/>

Use a Jump Drive, It's Better

While standing in the checkout line today at the local Target store, my eyes zeroed in on the one high-tech device on the nearby rack - jump drives for the techies.

Yes, the local Target store is selling USB jump drives at the checkout stand. 32 megabyte jump drives for \$3.99 each.

For many years, I always carried a couple of blank floppy drives whenever I was traveling. I never knew when I might want to copy some files from my laptop and give them to someone or perhaps hand the blank floppies to someone else, have them copy files to the floppies, and then give them back to me. After all, each floppy disk stores up to 1.44 megabytes and each costs between fifty and seventy-five cents. That's cheap. A few years ago, every computer had a floppy disk drive, so that was the universal method of exchanging files.

As the years went by, I found floppies to be less and less practical. The files I wanted to exchange seemed to be getting bigger and bigger. Eventually, I switched to carrying a couple of blank CD-ROM disks. Each blank CD could store up to about 660 megabytes, roughly 450 times the storage capacity of a single floppy disk. Blank CDs cost 40 or 50 cents each if purchased 100 or so at a time, then add in a few more pennies for a plastic carrying case. They certainly are more cost effective than floppies. Nowadays, most new computers are manufactured without floppy drives so CD-ROM disks seemed like a good method of exchanging files. .

What I found is that the CD-ROM

disks are physically larger, so they are not quite as convenient to carry. I didn't always have one when I needed one. I also broke two or three of them carrying them around on my trips. The plastic cases and the CD-ROM disks themselves seemed to be more fragile than floppies. They both cracked easily. Sometimes I only had a damaged disk available when I needed to copy files.

As I stood in the checkout line today, it struck me that jump drives are now becoming the low-cost "portable, carrying-around media of choice." The 32-megabyte jump drive stores the same amount of data as 22 floppy disks, although still only a fraction of a CD. However, I rarely need to copy more than 32 megabytes of data on the spur of the moment. The typical USB jump drive is tiny and very rugged. It is almost impossible to physically damage these things unless you run over them with an automobile.

At \$3.99, the jump drive is still quite a bit more expensive than a CD disk, but I believe that this drawback is outweighed by the small size, the ruggedness, and the convenience. The next time I want to give someone a GEDCOM file or copies of all those pictures I took a minute ago with a digital camera, I'll reach into my backpack and grab one of these inexpensive drives. At that price, these devices are nearly disposable. I can afford to give away an occasional drive and its data to a friend.

As I stood in line, I grabbed five of these USB jump drives and added them to the shopping basket.

Posted by Dick Eastman 18 Oct '07



Roots and Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County

C/O DeLand Public Library, 130 East Howry Avenue, DeLand, Florida 32724

We're on the Web!

www.rootsweb.com/~flrbg

**"Dig up your Roots and
discover your Branches."**

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

African American Genealogy—cont'd from Page 4

ments on Afriquest to enrich their research and teaching.

Development efforts for the Afriquest database are well underway. The project team expects to release a beta version of Afriquest in the early spring of 2008 and is now seeking volunteers to add or index records and help manage database content. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Toni Carrier at toni@africanaheritage.com or Dallan Quass at [dal-
lan@werelate.org](mailto:dallan@werelate.org).

About the collaborators: WeRelate is a free public-service wiki for geneal-

ogy sponsored by the Foundation for On-Line Genealogy, Inc. in partnership with the Allen County Public Library. It is the world's largest genealogy wiki with pages for over 1,000,000 people and families and growing. Their goal is to be the number one community website for genealogy.

The USF Africana Heritage Project is an all-volunteer research project sponsored by the Africana Studies department at the University of South Florida. Their research mission is to rediscover records that document the names and lives of slaves, freed persons and their de-

scendants, and share those records on the free Internet site www.africanaheritage.com. Their searchable online database contains more than 4,000 primary historical documents of interest to anyone researching African American genealogy, history and culture. For more information, please visit the USF Africana Heritage Project press kit at [http://www.africanaheritage.com/Pr
ess Kit.asp](http://www.africanaheritage.com/Press Kit.asp).

From a posting by Dick Eastman on October 17, 2007