

Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

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Message from the President

Regular meeting Thursday May 15, Dr. McNally a professor at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, is scheduled to share how he gathered information about his family from recently discovered old diaries in "Digging Weather out of Old Diaries". At press time we have no confirmation, so as a back up will then have a "Round Table" for members to share their own interesting notes of recent research or ask questions or open discussion of the group in an informal setting.

VCGS 2008 membership is now 59. Please share your genealogy with family members or friends and invite just one of them to a meeting.

See Celia Jones, City Island Librarian if you can spare a few hours a week in the Genealogy and History Room at City Island Library. VCGS mission is to support the growth of the collections in this room. Having members in the room to assist visitors is a great way to introduce them to the Society and Volunteering is rewarding. See you May 15th.

John Woodard

Cemetery Clean Up - Volunteers Needed in DeLand

Oakdale Cemetery is having a cleanup day **Saturday May 10, 2008** in DeLand on West Plymouth Ave and N. Clara Ave. If you can help please bring rakes and tools, No power chain saws please.

Starts at 8 am till complete. Lunch will be provided. Please RVSP reply to wmcdonough@cfl.rr.com so we will have a head count to know how much food will be needed. [MAP IT LINK](#)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

VCGS Calendar, New Member	2
Cookie Recipe 2009 Seminar Update	2
P.T. Barnum Excerpt	2
V-F Sister Societies Beware of Friend Report	3
LOC on History Channel "Opinions" Society Mission	4

Link of the Month

West Virginia vital records are now On- Line with Death Certificates up into the 1960's include most counties while Marriage and Birth records still have counties missing. The site claims to update the missing records.

www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx

Orlando Library Trip May 18

Roots n Branches / VCGS Orlando Main Library Genealogy Trip has been cancelled. The Central Library Genealogy Room Tour is still scheduled for 1:30pm.

Those interested in still going will meet at **12 Noon May 18** at DeLand Library to carpool to Orlando. For those that have not been, this is a great Library Room Gen Room.

Welcome New Member

Carol Smith
 260 Country Circle East
 Port Orange Fl 32128
 386- 756—3634
csmith2@prodigy.net

Surnames	Areas of Research
FOSMER	NY , ILL
FARR	MA NY
DENSMORE	CT
CADWELL	CT NY
FOX	CT NY

Recipe request from March. We are always pleased to share recipes by request from Refreshment Socials. Email to vcgs@cfl.rr.com

Waverly Cookies

45 Waverly wafer crackers
1 Stick butter
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup pecan or other nut pieces
1/2 tsp. Vanilla

Lay crackers in cookie sheet with sides.

Bring butter and sugar to boil in saucepan for 2 minutes. Add vanilla. Sprinkle crackers with nuts, pour all liquid over crackers. Bake 350°F 10-15 minutes.

SOCIETY CALENDAR

Thursday, May 15 2008 5pm Board Meeting
 6:00pm Round Table Discussion and History Quiz subject to change.

Thursday, June 19, 2008 5pm Board Meeting
 6:00pm Summer Social Party - Bring Food

**From "The Fabulous Showman;
 "The Life and Times of P.T. Barnum",
 by Irving Wallace.**

In referring to the mid-1800's: Barnum liked best to illustrate the morality of business in those days with a story he had often heard and as often repeated. The story concerned the proprietors of a village grocery store, who was also the town's deacon. Once, before breakfast, he shouted downstairs to his clerk: "John, have you watered the rum?"

"Yes, sir."
 "And sanded the sugar?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "And dusted the pepper?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "And chicoried the coffee?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "Then come up to prayers."

Submitted by Joyce Bailey.

2009 V-F CGS SEMINAR COMMITTEE REPORT

All Day Seminar Saturday January 24, 2009. George Morgan and Drew Smith

Look for Registration form in June VCGS and V-FCGS Newsletters Registration packs will available at all V-F September Society meeting. Committee meets next on May 5 11am City Island.

V-F CGS Quarterly Meeting is May 20, 2008 10 am City Island for any Board members interested in attending

March happenings at our Volusia—Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Beach Library, Thursday, May 8 "Tracking Your Ancestors Across The Atlantic"

R&B - DeLand Sunday, May 18 - Meet 12noon DeLand Library to carpool to Orlando Library Tour.

GSSVC NSB Library. Monday, May 12 , "DNA—a New Presentation!"

GSFC Flagler - Thursday, May 22 5:30 p.m Meet FHC in Bunnell guided tour of new facilities.

BEWARE OF FRIENDS POSING AS RELATIVES *By Tammy Tipler-Priolo BayToday.ca Monday, 04 2108*

Family stories can be quite interesting and amusing at times, as well as very helpful to genealogy research. Talking to relatives about one's family history is the first thing recommended to most who are beginning their ancestral quest. I personally spent hours interviewing and conversing with family members in the attempt to fill in blanks on the family tree or glean any clues that would put me in the right ancestral direction. There is however, a misguided custom that can lurk in family trees that many may not be aware of; friends who pose as relatives. This is not intentional on the part of these friends of course, family friends can be such apart of one's life that they feel like family; my daughter's best friend is a perfect example of this, as she really does seem like a second daughter to us.

My sister's in-laws are Philipino and have this quaint custom of having the children call adult family friends in the Philipino community Tita & Tito (Aunt and Uncle). This can get very confusing when you are trying to conduct family history research. My brother-in-law thought he had more aunts and uncles then he really had. He had no idea that many of his aunts and uncles were really family friends and that he called them aunt and uncle out of courtesy. Now I remember calling some of my parent's friends Aunt and Uncle, but I knew the difference as these friends did not come into our lives until we were older children. Thankfully, we have straightened out who my brother-in-law's blood relatives really are. Can you imagine if this was left until all the older generation had passed on; what a tangled mess that would be.

My father-in-law made a great revelation in the car on our way to Niagara Falls. He told us of the car trips that his family would take to New York in the 1940's to visit his mother's cousins. My ears perked up when I heard the word cousins, as I did not have much information on his mother's side of the family. What was this, had I missed out on a whole branch of the family? Needless to say, when I returned home I began to investigate this side of the family. I located the so-called cousins in New Jersey on the various US censuses, Social Security records as well as war records and city directories. I learnt about all the possible maiden names, but still could not connect them to the family tree of my father-in-law. I called various relatives who remembered that yes, these people were cousins but none knew how they connected. One relative told me that she did not think that they were related but just really close family friends from the old country. Could this be true? Am I chasing the dog's tail or should I look into this further? Of course, I will check into this further with obituary and death record checks etc, but I might have to admit that these cousins are really not cousins at all.

As history researchers, we try to acquire as much family information as possible. Knowing who fits into the family tree and who brushes up against it is all up to us to figure out. No one should disregard the family friend as they may have much information on your family that you could not find anywhere else. A friend of my grandmother was able to tell me when my grandmother was baptized as she was baptized the same day as her; grandma was baptized in the Baptist Church and church records of this sort are hard to come by. The big thing to remember is how to separate fiction from reality. If someone truly belongs on those family branches make sure you have confirmed this the best way you can. Keep your friends close and your family even closer. Do you know who your relatives are?

Happy Hunting!! "MAY ALL YOUR GENEALOGICAL DREAMS COME TRUE!!!"

Tammy Tipler-Priolo BASc, PLCGS [The Ancestor Investigator](http://www.ancestorinvestigator.com) is also the Ancestor Whisperer

Pam Cooper announces the Indian River County Main Library has a NEW URL:

<http://www.irclibrary.org/genealogy>

Library of Congress will open its vaults to the History Channel

NEW YORK(AP) The Library of Congress will open its vaults to the History Channel in a deal to bring the library's vast public collections to a larger audience.

The History Channel and its numerous sister channels will draw from the historical content preserved by the Library of Congress for original specials and documentaries. An official announcement of the partnership is to be announced Monday.

"We're pleased to join forces with History in this effort that will help better fulfill our mission of making knowledge more accessible and useful to the Congress and the public," Librarian of Congress James Billington said in a statement.

Billington said there are over 138 million items in the library's collections, meaning plenty of fodder for historical stories previously untold. Such items include a Gutenberg Bible, George Washington's copy of the Constitution, the first United States map and the contents in Abraham Lincoln's pockets the night he was assassinated.

In contrast to an exclusive deal made in 2006 between the Smithsonian Institution and CBS's Inc.'s Showtime Networks, the History deal is non-exclusive, meaning all items will still be publicly available.

Abbe Raven, president and CEO of A&E Television Networks _ which owns the family of History channels _ said the deal will "result in millions of Americans having better access and knowledge of history by utilizing the collections of one of the nation's greatest institutions."

A spokesman for A&E said that no money was changing hands in the deal. Content will be cobranded to both History and the Library of Congress.

Opinions Everybody's Got One

On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents."

Volusia County Genealogical Society founded in 1976, is the oldest Genealogy Society in Volusia County.

Mission: Encourage Society Members and the community to find their ancestors and connect with the past. Provide enlightening speakers at the monthly meetings on relative topics to aid, assist and better our research. Promote the use of and growth of our genealogy research room, develop our resources and grow the collection in the Genealogy and History Room at City Island Library .