



Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

JUNE 2009

34TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

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Next meeting is **Thursday June 18 at 6pm.** We will have our Summer End of Season Social. Everyone please bring a food dish or treat to eat. Remember we have some with sugar issues so non-sugar treats are OK. Coffee and punch will be available. Bring a friend. See you then

Last months meeting on May 21 [Elmer Spear](#) gave a great overview on Elmers Genealogy Library in Madison, FL. Mr. Spear donated 3 books to the Genealogy Room on Florida history. Mr. Spear began by saying that he started genealogy when he was 16 years old in Ohio although he didn't know what Genealogy was at the time. His English teacher had students write a paper on their family history. His library is open from Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in a building built specifically for this purpose at a cost of \$350,000, which was entirely paid for by Mr. Spear. They moved into the building in January of 2000, and it now contains over 26,000 books. His 12-year-old granddaughter did his first Power Point presentation. The library is a repository for the Ohio Genealogical Society. There are 124 drawers of family information, which have been left with the library.

Books in the library are arranged by state and then in alphabetical order by county. Since a number of books are about New England, they created a state of "New England." The library contains over 1200 family name books and over 5,000 city directories ranging from the 1800's to current. There are special categories such as wars. There is microfilm and wireless computer support and access and support for Ancestry and www.GenealogyBank.com

The library's Website is www.elmerslibrary.com

For people interested in staying overnight in the area there is a Holiday Inn Express. Volunteers are available to assist visitors with questions.

Mr. Spear asked for a show of hands of those in attendance that had been there when his original talk was scheduled. True to his word, he had those individuals interested in a free one day visit to his library complete a form for him with pertinent information. Mr. Spear gave 2 books away in a free ticket drawing of those attending.

This editor has visited Elmer's Library, 3.5 hour drive from Port Orange, and can say it is worth the drive and the \$10 donation fee to use the library. My only regret is that Elmer's Library is not in Volusia County. If you get near Madison, take time to visit Elmer's Library. A great break on an I-10 drive west.

Thank you Elmer Spear.

Have a great summer and if you travel, travel safe!. If you travel for research bring back an interesting story to share.

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VCGS Society Calendar

Thursday, Jun 15, 2009 5pm Board meeting
6pm Regular meeting; Summer Social -
Everyone brings a treat to share.

NO MEETINGS JULY OR AUGUST

Thursday Sept 17, 2009 5pm Board meeting
6pm Regular meeting; Bob Grenier - TBA

Book Committee

VCGS Book committee will meet again
Wednesday June 3 at 1pm in the Gen
Room at City Island Library to select
new book acquisitions for the Gen Room
at City Island Library.



Flag Day Jun 14
Fly em if you got em!

Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Next Meeting Sept 10 1 pm
R&B DeLand Library, Jun 28, 2pm Sharon
Lopes - How to Write Family Histories.
GSSVC NSB Library, Jun 8, 5pm Harris
Samuels - Historical Accounts of a First Span-
ish Period Presence at Mosquito Inlet and
Identification of the Ruins at Old Fort Park.
GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library- Jun 25,
5:30pm Frank Pierce - Mayflower John
Alden

VCGS as of May 2009**Membership**

59 Regular Paid Members for 2009
and 2 Honorary Members .

Treasurer Report

\$1,447.11

Volunteers needed for the City Island Genealogy History Room

Thank you to those that have given their time to volunteer in the Library. We still
need a few spots filled. See Librarian Celia Jones or call her at 257-3036.

New on Volusia Gen Web Project - Lost Pine Ridge African American Cemetery in
town of Blake Florida, later became South Daytona in 1951. The Cemetery was declared abandoned in
1966 . Some burials now identification that were lost to vandalism and unmarked HS where James St
Park now sits. www.flgenhisonline.com/counties/flagvol/volusia/Pine_Ridge/Pine_Ridge_Cemetery.htm

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Website www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flvcgs/

The VCGS Newsletter is published monthly Sept—June , sent by email to all members and is
placed online each month at VCGS website www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flvcgs/nl.htm

Volusia Vines

Last of the series By: Ruth Patrignani

There have been many “famous”, “infamous”, “not so infamous”, and “not so famous”, people that have resided in Volusia County over the years. Some have stayed only a short time while others settled in and remained rooted to the area. Combined they have provided the region with a rich heritage, thus we have Volusia Vines.

Bert Fish

I’m sure you are all familiar with Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach and in near-by DeLand. I have often wondered who Bert Fish was and so I did a little research for this column. Bert Fish was born in 1875 in Lawrence Co, IN. As near as I can tell his parents were George and Sarah (Sallie) Fish. When Bert was 6 (ca 1881), the family moved to Volusia County, FL. By the time the 1900 census was taken his father had died but Sarah had her four children with her: Bert, Laura, Benjamin, and Lavenia.

Bert graduated from Stetson University in 1902 and entered a law partnership in DeLand. He became a judge in 1904 serving for 6 years which helped him to purchase land to get him through the depression. He also served as Superintendent of the Volusia County Schools at the young age of 25.

He traveled quite extensively and became the Florida campaign manager for Franklin Roosevelt. After FDR was elected, Fish served as ambassador of the United States serving as US Minister to Egypt 1933-1941 and as US Minister to Saudi Arabia 1939-1941. These activities were critical to opening the Middle East petroleum market to the United States and Europe.

In March of 1941 Fish was appointed US Minister to Portugal. He died in Portugal on 21 July 1943 under unknown circumstances. He is buried in the Oakdale Cemetery in DeLand. Fish never married. His intentions for his earnings were to develop healthcare facilities and for education. This was carried out.

Sources:

Various websites including Ancestry.com

Note from the Editor: Volusia Vines has been a monthly Historical Sketch contribution in 2008-2009 by Ruth Patrignani a VCGS member and regular volunteer at City Island Library Local History and Genealogy Room.

Thank you Ruth for your enlightening contribution to this Newsletter. Ruth will return in September with a new column.

Volusia County Genealogical Society, Inc - Founded 1976, is the oldest Genealogy Society in Volusia County. Meeting City Island Library Daytona Beach, 3rd. Thursday monthly at 6pm. Sept—June

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.

FLRare	970.1HAN	Missions to the Calusa	John A Hann
FLRare	Biography	Bernard Romans, Life and Works of	P. Lee Phillips
FLRare	971.0MIL	Florida Indians and the Invasion from Europe.	Jerald T. Milanich
FLRare	917.59ROM	Concise Natural History of East West Florida	Bernard Romans
FLRare	975.901MIL	Archaeology of Pre Columbian Florida	Jerald T Milanich
FLRare	975.901BRO	Florida's First People	Robin C. Brown
FLRare	975.9SMI	Florida , Land of Images	Nixon Smiley
FLRare	975.921FRA	Steamboats of DeBary Merchants Line	Arthur E. Francke Jr.
FLRare	584.15AME	Drawings of Florida Orchards	Blanch Ames
MIL	369.14GEN	General Society of the War of 1812 - Roster 1989	
FL	910.453WAG	Pieces of Eight	Wagner Taylor
FL	975.921COR	A Freemans Dream - Freemanville Florida	Collis and Dubbins
FL	912.BEC	Florida Reference Atlas	Becker and Christenson
FL	940.54759FLO	Florida WWII Heritage Trail	
FL	975.901BRO	Florida's First People	Robin C Brown
FL	975-918DEA	Fort Mose, Colonial Americas Black Fortress of Freedom	Deagan and Mahon
FL	333.9162FLO	Florida Scientist Autumn 2007 Vol70-No 4	
FL	355.37FLO	Camp Blanding Museum and Memorial Park 2nd WW w/ Summaries	
FL	971.HAN	Missions to the Calusa	John A Hann
FL	910.453MAT	Treasures of Atocha	Mathewson
FAM	929.2SEWEL	Sewell, Life and Times of Jessie L.	D. Lipscomb
FL	971.1MIL	Florida Indians and the Invasion from Europe	Jerald T. Milanich
FL	975.958MOO	Miami - Then and Now	Arva Moore Parks
FL	614.4323DES	West Nile Story	Dickson Despommier
FL	975.901MIL	Archaeology of Pre Columbian Florida	Jerald T Milanich
FL	973.7097WYN	Florida in the Civil War	Wynne and Taylor
FL	975.941VIE	Florida Keys , A History of the Pioneers	John Vielie
FL	975.979TOL	Bonnie Melrose	Z. H. Tolles
FAM	929.HOL	Hollingsworth, Leon S. Genealogical Card File	
FL	929.1FED	FGS / FSGS 2003 Conference Syllabus	
FAM	929.2BATEMAN	The Bateman Connection	Bradley B. Ridge
HOW	929.1MIN	Mini Dictionary for Research in Foreign Gen Records Vol -1	Everton
HOW	929.1HOW	How to Prepare and Publish Your Family History	Everton
HOW	929.1HAN	Handy Tips on Immigration, Emigration and Naturalization Records	
HOW	929.1HAN	Handy Tips to Your Genealogical Research in Southern Records	
HOW	929.1HAN	Handy Tips on US Military Records	
HOW	929.1GOB	Whos Where In Your Genealogical Records	Gobble
HOW	929.1GOB	What To Say In Your Genealogical Letters	Gobble
MA	369.12PHY	Order of Descendants of Physicians and Chirurgiens	Boden
MA	369.COL	Colonial Clergy, Pedigrees of the Descendants of the	Colonial Clergy
MIL	335.348MOR	Woman's Army Corp 1945-1978	Bette J. Morden

	286.3SAN	Free People in Search of Free Land	Don A. Sanford.
HOW	16.929 -	35 Year Index to Helper Articles	
FAM	929.2BOTTOMS	Bottoms Families in America and Descendants	Almira Bottoms Butler
FAM	929.2FROST	Frost Genealogy in Five Families	Frost
FAM	929.2HOWE	HOWE Genealogies	Abraham James Edward
FAM	929.2SHEPPARD	Sheppard Family of New England Vol -2	Sheppard
NC	975.6MED	History of Anson Co. NC 1750 - 1976	Medley
FAM	929.2WOODWARD	Woodward Who Came From Boston, Some Descendants of Nathaniel	Harold E. Woodward
ENG	942.0FAR	Plantagenet Ancestry of 17th Century Colonists	David Faris
ENG	942.PED	Pedigrees of Some of the Emperor Charlemagne's Descendants Vol.III	Buck and Baird
ENG	942.2PED	Pedigrees of Some of the Emperor Charlemagne' Descendants VOL.1	M.D.R. von Redlich
GER	943.HAN	Handy Tips to your Research in Germany	
ENG	942.WOR	World Conference on Records, British Family and Local History Part 1-Vol 1	
MA	974.4VIT	ACTON Vital Records of Mass. 1850	NEHGS
NY	974.7FOX	Designated Landmarks of Niagara Frontier	Austin M Fox
NY	974.7HIS	The Mohawk	Codman Hislop
PA	974.8MYE	Venango County Soldiers	Myers
PA	974.8BAT	Crawford Co PA. Our County And Its People 1899	Samuel Bates
NJ	974.9GAR	Valley of the Delaware	John P. Garber
NC	975.6HOO	Third Creek Church Cleveland NC	David Foard Hood
ARK	976.7DEA	Times Not Forgotten , History of Drew Co Arkansas	Rebecca Dearmound
TN	976.8BUR	Green Co Tenn. Wills	

Check new books at City Island Gen Room online at www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flvcgs/index.htm

Beginning Genealogy Classes

Three classes -Tuesdays, September 15, 22, 29 - 2009

City Island Library Board Room

9:30 – 11:00am

Free

Join Carol and Ruth as they show you how to trace your family line back through the generations. As the mystery unfolds you will be shown how to use primary and secondary sources to prove your lineage. Perhaps you will find an ancestor that fought in the Revolutionary War or went off to the “far west” just over the mountain.

We can guarantee a good time in the pursuit.

If interested, please call Carol Smith at 756-3634 to register.

Sponsored by Volusia County Genealogical Society and the Sugar Mill Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.