

Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

MAY 2010

35TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

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Next VCGS Meeting will be Thursday MAY 20, 2010 at 6pm
Program will be Dr. George K. Schweitzer's VIDEO on
REVOLUTIONARY WAR GENEALOGY.

The April program was Mr. Ari Morse, who locates missing heirs to estates. "This is forensic genealogy". He noted that every state is different regarding dependent distribution. He said that his great grandfather started the business in Boston in 1939, and he is the fourth generation in the firm. His searches take him all over the world and handles land title issues. European records are very different from those in the United States.

Obituaries are the biggest tool, and old addresses are extremely helpful. A funeral home is a good place to start. Mr. Morse suggested looking to see who is buried in the same plot or who is paying the perpetual care. Librarians are extremely helpful and if you send a letter to Social Security listing individual's last known address, Social Security will accept it. He described briefly several different cases he has worked on, wills and line of succession, and noted that a child given up for adoption can't inherit. *See page 4 this NL for the Morse Family Relation Chart*

Several good websites are: Newspaperarchives.com, Vitalchek.com and MyFloridaCounty.com

Report of last meeting taken from Minutes by Kitty Consalvo

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CALENDAR
AND VCGS
REPORTS 2

BIBLE
PROJECT 3

HELPFUL HINTS
BY RUTH 3

MORSE CHART 4

U.S. History Living Map

Moving map of the country (American history) Save and enjoy all year! You can click on each state for more about them. This moving map of the country, showing it from the beginning of the 13 states and going through the present. I thoroughly enjoyed watching it and have book marked it on my desktop. It includes the acquisitions from England and Spain, the Slave states, the Free states, a segment on the Civil war, it includes some mentions of Central and South America, etc. Shows the Indian Nations as they were during the Indian Wars: Modac, Miwok, Mujave, Nez Perce, Flat Head, Crow, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Navajo, Apache, Dakota, Sioux, Kiowa, Wichita and Comanche.

You'll enjoy this site, especially if you enjoy American history. Turn on your sound, as the narration is a significant portion of the presentation. Share this with children of all ages. You can click on each state for more about them. **CLICK ADDRESS** <http://www.animatedatlas.com/>

VCS Society Calendar

Thursday May 20 5pm Board meeting
6pm Program Dr. George K. Schweitzer's video on
REVOLUTIONARY WAR GENEALOGY.

Thursday June 17 5pm Board meeting
6pm Program Summer Social Please bring food.

No Meetings July or August

See you in September !

Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Library May 13, 1:30pm Raff
Ellis "Making of Kisses From A Distance."

R&B DeLand Library, May 16, 2pm Cinderic
Documentaries, Eric Dusenbery

GSSVC NSB Library, May 10, 5pm Clyde
Stickney - "It's All in the Family, Creating a Com-
prehensive Surname Database

GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library - May 27,
5:30pm Roundtable discussion—Brick Walls

Family Bibles If anyone has a Family Bible or copies of a Family Bible, please contact Kitty
Consalvo at spunkysmom123@gmail.com or call me at 386-767-0595.

NEW BOOK ABOUT CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Rick Frederick, Archivist and Webmaster of the Caswell County Historical Association (CCHA), and a descendant of genealogy 270, recently sent information about a new book, Images of America - Caswell County, which has been released by CCHA. It contains many photographs never seen by the public, with captions by experts in the history of Caswell County. Genealogy 270 has numerous entries. The African-American families of Caswell Co. (gen. 22, 218, 455, and 658) are not included because no photos were submitted.

The introduction, written by Caswell's own Dr. Houston G. Jones, Ph.D., is more than would be expected; it is an essay on the history of the region that became Caswell County.

The book is a must for those interested in Caswell's history and the genealogy of its people. Containing 128 pages and over 220 images, the book is divided into the following chapters:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Caswell's People | 2. Churches and Schools |
| 3. Business and Farming | 4. Caswell's Buildings |
| 5. Scenes around the County | 6. Entertainment, Events, and Sports |

Also included are an extensive bibliography, index, information on the CCHA and other publications.

The new book may be purchased online at:

<http://ncccha.org/publications/publications.html>

It also is on sale at the Richmond-Miles History Museum in Yanceyville, North Carolina, and by mail. Instructions for ordering by mail will be found at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ncccha/memoranda/publications.html>

The price is \$21.99 (excluding shipping and sales tax where applicable), and proceeds will be used by the CCHA to explore and preserve the history of Caswell Co. The CCHA is a non-profit organization.

Helpful Hints – Chipping Away at the Brick Wall

Ruth Patrignani

You have followed all the usual avenues in trying to track down that elusive ancestor and still can't find him/her. You feel like you're beating your head against that "brick wall". Best thing to do....get all your notes out, sit in a comfortable chair with feet up and read through your notes taking notes as you do so. Work on a time line and make sure all the dates fit in correctly. Check out the formation of counties where the ancestor lived. Remember the ancestor may have stayed in the same house on the same acre of land but the county "moved". Make a note of all the counties you need to check again.

Make a note of the county histories that you should read. These will give you an idea of the churches that were formed in the area, towns that grew up along with the influx of people to that area, and the names of early settlers of the area. Recheck census and/or tax records to see if these same families were living in the same area in later years. If they are not there then do a search for those names in close proximity in other states. Many of these families traveled together as they had often intermarried and/or were related.

Make a note to track down newspapers that were published in the area. Check online for the repositories of such newspapers and try to read them on microfilm. Little tidbits in these old papers can give you a clue to your family. Schools, hospitals and other public facilities often kept records. Check online for the repository where these records can be found.

After you have exhausted your notes, continue to search online using different search engines to get names, addresses, and phone numbers of the various places to contact. Send out emails or phone to see if you have the correct repository, court, library etc. Write a concise but informative letter with one specific request and approximate dates. Don't expect the recipient to send you volumes of information. Wait patiently for their response. Sometimes that is a dead end and other times it can lead to new information.

When all else fails.....plan a trip to the area so you can research the library, court house and archives of the county yourself. More about that next month.

Happy Hunting!
Ruth

\$\$ Treasurer Report \$\$

March balance \$ 982.42 - Receipts \$ 25.00 dues - Disbursements \$ 0.00 April Balance = \$1107.42



Volusia Gen Web Project - Part of the Florida and US Gen Web Projects

<http://www.volusiagenealogy.net/>

Volusia - Flagler Council of Genealogical Societies Newsletter with monthly Gen Society, DAR and SAR meeting announcements on line at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flvfcs/>

THE MORSE CHART

"HAVE YOU ACCOUNTED FOR EVERYONE?"



Numbers indicate relationship to
Subject under civil law

Letters indicate nearest ancestors in
common with Subject

HARVEY E. MORSE, P.A. — Toll Free: 1-800-410-4347

www.probate.com

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"LOCATING THE MISSING — A MORSE FAMILY TRADITION SINCE 1939" SM