

# Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

NOVEMBER 2010

## 35TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

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**Next VCGS Meeting** will be the Book Sale

**November 18, 2010 6pm Auditorium City Island Library Daytona**

**October Meeting** From the Minutes of the Society *by Kitty Consalvo*

**Program** for the October 21 meeting was speaker, Nancy Lohman of Lohman Funeral Homes presenting "The Funeral of John D Rockefeller". Prior to her talk, she gave a history of the funeral homes that the family owns, the oldest being Baggett and Summers. She brought books of funeral records from 1917 when the home was Baggett and Weatherby, and one from 1945. She also showed the funeral record of Mr. Rockefeller. These items were passed around to the audience at the end of her presentation.

John Davison Rockefeller was born in Richford, NY, lived much of his life in Cleveland, OH, but spent his later years at his home "The Casements" in Ormond Beach. He is interred in Lakeview Cemetery in Cleveland between his wife, Laura "Cettie" Spelman Rockefeller, and his mother, Eliza. In Ormond he was known as "Neighbor John" and passed out shiny dimes to little children. He and his wife had 5 children, 4 daughters and 1 son. At age 57 he retired from Standard Oil which he founded.

He died on Sunday, May 23, 1937, at the age of 97 and a service was held that night at The Casements". The casket then went by train to Tarrytown, New York, where his estate "Kykuit" was located in the Pocantico Hills, arriving on Tuesday. The funeral was by invitation only. The body then traveled by train to Cleveland, OH arriving on Wednesday with a funeral service and interment at Lakeview Cemetery. His son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., spent his lifetime giving away his father's massive fortune which at one time was valued at \$900 million.

Mrs. Lohman distributed handouts to the members including a bookmark with Mr. Rockefeller's "newspaper tribute" (as obituaries are known in the funeral business.)

**Advent Concert**—Kay Stanton announced there would be an Advent Concert at St. Brendan's Church in Ormond Beach on December 5th at 3:30 p.m. Admission: Free Donations Appreciated.

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**VCGS Society Calendar**

**Thursday, November 18** 5pm Board meeting  
6pm Program Book Sale—

**Thursday December 16** 5pm Board meeting  
6pm Program Christmas Social

**Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies**

**HGS Ormond Library** Nov 11, 2010 at 3:00 pm

**R&B Deland Library**, Nov 21.2010 at 2:00 pm

**GSSVC NSB Library**, Nov 14 2010 5:00 pm

**GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library** - Nov 25,  
2010 5:30pm

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**\$\$ Report by Treasurer Tom Peake \$\$**

October Balance \$1,044.42 , NO Receipts in Oct.

Oct. Expense \$35.00,



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**What Your Relatives Can Tell You About The Great Depression**

Excerpts by Emily Anne Croom in "Unpuzzling Your Past"

Collecting family history also means trying to fit the family into the history of the community, county, state and nation. You can find the political, economic and social histories of these areas in books and contemporary newspapers but only family members can share their personal reactions to the public events.

For example, if your elders are 80 or over, they will have lived through the worst of the Great Depression of the 1930s. They can tell you about the challenges of living through economic crisis—one considerably more severe than the one the world finds itself in right now. How did their parents and other loved ones cope with financial disaster? How long did family members go without work? What do they recall adults saying about the politicians of the time, like FDR, Herbert Hoover, or Huey Long? Did one of their elders work for the Civilian Conservation Corps or one of the other temporary federal agencies created to put people back to work?

If you do have octogenarian relatives, don't let their stories of the 1930s slip away before you have taken the time to add them to your family history. Besides, it's a lot easier than you might think. All you need is a tape recorder--or a pen and legal pad--along with a list of questions, already prepared for you by Ms. Croom, concerning the trenchant events of that era, and you are on your way

Some of the questions you might ask are:

1. To what extent did the Depression change your habits, way of life, school, plans? Did you "feel" the Depression? Did you observe a difference in the way the Depression affected people living in cities and people living in the country or small towns?
  2. Did the family move during this decade? Why? How frequently? Where? What household conveniences did you have or lack: electricity, telephone, indoor plumbing, others?
  3. Which family members had jobs? Doing what? Were they paid in cash, goods, or scrip? How much was rent? Was it difficult for the family to find housing or jobs?
  4. At the time, what did you or the family think of Presidents Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt? Have you changed your opinion since then? Whom did the family support for president in 1928 (Hoover or Smith), 1932
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5. Did any family member work for one of the New Deal agencies, such as the CCC, the WPA (Works Progress Administration), or the PWA (Public Works Administration)? If so, who? Which agency? Doing what? How long? Where?
6. Did the family raise, hunt, can, or preserve any of its own food? If so, what? What food items did you find to be scarce or plentiful? Did you live on a farm, in a small town, or in a city? Did you observe or experience any difference in the availability of food in rural and urban areas?
7. Did you experience the "Dust Bowl" that damaged so much of the middle of our country?
8. What sacrifices did you or your parents make during the Depression? Why?
9. Did the family have a car? What make or model? How much did it cost? How much did gasoline cost? Did you or the family limit driving? Did you or the family have to give up the car during the Depression? If you did not have a car, on what kind of transportation did you rely?
10. Did you or the family have money in a bank before or during the Depression? If so, did you lose any of it because of the Depression? Did you or the family lose money in the stock market crash?
11. Did the family make any of its clothes during the Depression? If so, what?
12. Did you hear Orson Welles's "War of the Worlds" on radio on 30 October 1938? What did you think of it at the time? Did you fall for it? Why or why not? How did other family members react?
13. What was it like to go to silent movies? What was your reaction to your first talkie or your first color movie? Explain.
14. How have your experiences during the Depression affected your attitudes of the present?
15. What further recollections and stories can you share about your experiences during the 1930s?

## Membership Corner

Ruth Patrignani

Thirty-one members and guests attended the October 21st meeting. As the year 2010 is drawing to a close, it is time to renew your membership. Dues are still \$10 per individual or \$15 for family membership. Beyond the usual maintenance fees of the organization, the dues help to purchase books for the genealogy room at City Island Library. As most of you know, this is a wonderful asset for our community. We are still looking for members to help man the room. It is a great way to check out the materials we have in the room and to assist others in their search. Please consider sharing your knowledge with others. Checks for dues may be given to Tom Peake at our next meeting, November 18th, or you may mail them to: Treasurer, VCGS, P O Box 2039, Daytona Beach, FL 32115-2039. See you in November

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**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 .

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# Fast Food Nations???

By Tana Pederson Lord

Have you ever wondered what your ancestors did when they wanted food on the go? While grabbing a fast food meal back then wasn't as easy as it is today, our ancestors had their share of fast food options, too.

## **79 A. D. Thermopolium**

You can still see the remnant of ancient Rome's "corner bars" the thermopolium in the ruins of Pompeii, Italy. The setup consisted of an L-shaped counter with circular openings in it where jars of hot food could be placed. Romans who didn't have cooking facilities in their homes, or those just interested in a quick lunch could stop by for meat, cheese and spiced wine.

## **1200s –Tea Houses**

In Hangzhou, the wealthy capital city of China, tea houses were the place to be. What we'd consider appetizers were served alongside the ever-present tea. Diners could snack on everything from steamed or fried dumplings to rice rolls and pot stickers, with some houses offering hundreds of varieties to choose from.

## **1300– Taverns**

Natives of Britain headed for the local tavern for sustenance in medieval times. And one of the most portable foods to buy? Pasties. Known in other countries as turnovers, calzones, and empanadas, the pasty is bread or pastry stuffed with a filling. And in Britain, that meant beef and potatoes with a few slices of onions.

## **1500s—Coffee Houses**

Exclusively for men, Persian coffee houses were a place to gather, play games, listen to music, and, of course, drink coffee. They became so popular in Constantinople that the sultan closed them down fearing that people would stop attending the mosques.

## **1765—Soup Vendors**

Always a destination for culinary delights, Paris, France was modernized when A. Boulanger I introduced his "restoratives". These soups and broths, made from sheep's feet, were prepared and served on site. Parisians were able to dine and dash instead of having to take their meals at a community table.

## **1948—Fast Food Restaurants**

Chicken McNuggets, Big Macs, Egg McMuffins, McDonald's. perhaps the world's most well-known fast food restaurant, had its beginnings as a family-run restaurant, complete with carhops in San Bernardino, California. More than 119 countries now boast local McDonald's restaurants. That makes for quite a number of future descendants—of all cultures and nationalities — who will be able to savor the taste of generations of fast food junkies.



## November Meeting

The Volusia County Genealogical Society will meet at 6 p.m. November 18, 2010 at City Island Library, 105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach, FL Books that have been discarded by the Library Cat system and/or duplicated (some new, some used) will be available for purchase. The funds raised through this book sale will enable the society to acquire new books for the genealogy room Public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. For more information call 386-322-4206 or email [patrigru@bellsouth.net](mailto:patrigru@bellsouth.net)



*Genealogy helps us*

*Understand who we are and  
where we come from.*

Family historians are accustomed to silent searching through history, but wouldn't it be nice if history actually said something to us.

