

Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

MARCH 2012

37TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

2012 OFFICERS

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Next VCGS Meeting

March 15, 2012 6pm City Island Library Daytona Beach
Kenneth Nunnelley, Attorney with the Office of the Attorney General
will be speaking on "DNA"

VOLUSIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Meeting of February 16, 2012

Opening of Meeting:

Cora May Hartzell, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 21 members present and 4 guests.

Introduction of Guests:

Sandy and Pelham O'Neal introduced themselves. They are researching Georgia and a land grant in North Carolina.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom Peake reported that we have a balance of \$2,206.48 as of February 16, 2012.

Refreshment Chair:

Cora May announced that we need a refreshment chair. Jeanine Hausaman and Barbara Maliff will work together on it.

Announcements:

Cora May made the following announcements:

- 1) On Saturday, February 18th the Central Florida Genealogical Society will hold a seminar in Altamonte.
- 2) Sugar Mill Chapter DAR is hosting a presentation by Mary Fears at 7:00 p.m. in the Port Orange Christian Church on Taylor Branch Road in Port Orange.
- 3) On March 3rd George Schweitzer will be the speaker at an all day seminar in Lakeland.

Program:

Hal Gauper, Vice President, introduced Miles Gardner, speaker for the evening. Miles said that he has been studying family history and making notes for 50 years. He noted that genealogy is the second most popular avocation in the United States. In history, nobility had pedigrees. He had an advantage growing up in an area where 3 of his 4 grandparents were from, and, therefore, he heard stories as a kid. His first source for genealogy was his next door neighbor. Now when he looks back at his first notes he is astounded that he was that ignorant.

He offered several pointers to the attendees: 1) Know the area that you're dealing with. You need to go to the area where your ancestor lived. Find out before you go what's available, and have a local person available from the genealogical or historical society. 2) Go into files. You need to know the individual locale as to names of various agencies. Look at books of sheriff sales. 3) Talk to your kinfolk. 4) Seek out new resources such as books of stories or

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VCGS Society Calendar

Thursday, March 15, 2012 5pm Board meeting

Thursday, March 15, 2012 6 pm

Kenneth Nunnellely, Attorney, will be speaking on "DNA"

Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Library March 8, 2012 at 1:30 pm

R&B Deland Library, March 18, 2012 at 2:00 pm

GSSVC NSB Library, Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 2 pm

GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library - Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 5:30pm



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

\$2,206.48

**"Mr. Moneybags"**

A new column is being added to our newsletter this month. It will be highlighting one of our members each month, starting with our officers. This month we will be highlighting "Mr. Moneybags", our treasurer, Tom Peake.

I was born in Wheeling, WV. Yes we were hillbillies and it is true that you should never trust mountain women (they are never on the level). Graduated from Linsly Military Institute which is no longer a military school (guess during the Vietnam war it was too hard for them to attract students) Attended West Virginia University (tuition was \$55.00 a semester back then) studied engineering and to this day still have not operated a train.

Enlisted in the United States Army Reserve in 1961 thru 1984 final rank Chief Warrant Officer in combat engineer battalion. We, wife Patricia and daughter Carol, moved to Florida in 1978 to find our fortune. We owned and operated Florida Motors from 1978 to 1984 and then (after my lease quadrupled) I went into real estate (acquired my license in '78) working for several brokers. I ended up working for Civil and consulting engineering companies until 1998 when I began working at home via computer.

As for genealogy I owe my beginning to Ed Ubbens who was on duty at the genealogy room in our library. He was and is very knowledgeable and pointed us in the right direction, which at the time was the census records in Orlando. Then we branched out to the LDS family centers, ordering fiches and films. Those were the DOS days before internet images, etc. Hopefully we can continue doing so for many more years.

Tom....

Family History Books Reprinted courtesy of Dick Eastman

You can search through more than 40,000 digitized genealogy and family history books from the archives of seven important family history libraries in the United States. Best of all, it is available right now and all of it is free of charge. Every word in every book is searchable. No, this isn't on Google Books. It is FamilySearch.org, the same web site that hosts the huge databases online at the same site: FamilySearch.org.

You can perform a search at <http://books.familysearch.org> or click on the links to the individual libraries themselves. They are Allen County (Indiana) Public Library, Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University Hawaii Joseph F. Smith Library, Church History Library, Family History Library, Houston Public Library's Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, and the Mid-Continent Public Library's Midwest Genealogy Center.

The materials in the collections include family histories, county and local histories, genealogy magazines, how-to books, gazetteers, and medieval histories and pedigrees. Not all the books in all libraries have been digitized just yet. It is an on-going effort. If you don't find what you want in a search today, come back in a few months and try again. The book you seek may have been added by that time.

You can search easily by entering a name in the search box. That operates in more or less the same manner as Google or most any other search engine. However, I'd suggest you first click on "Advanced Search" and then enter a more focused search in the form shown below.

Family History Books BETA

Any	contains		Material Type:	All Material Types
Any	contains		Language:	Any language
			Libraries:	All records

Using the Advanced Search will usually result in "hits" that are closer to your exact area(s) of interest.

This has to be one of the greatest online sources available to genealogists today. I am surprised at how little publicity has been generated about this valuable resource.

Try it yourself at <http://books.familysearch.org>.

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.

Discovering The Occupation of Your Ancestors

By Kimberly Powell of Ask.com

Finding Clues in Occupational Records

Do you know what your ancestors did for a living? Researching ancestral jobs and occupations can teach you a great deal about the people who make up your family tree, and what life was like for them. An individual's occupation may give insight into their social status or to their place of origin. Occupations can also be used to distinguish between two individuals of the same name. Certain skilled occupations or trades may have been passed down from father to son, providing indirect evidence of a family relationship. It's even possible that your surname derives from the occupation of a distant ancestor.

Finding An Ancestor's Occupation

When researching your family tree, it is usually fairly easy to discover what your ancestors did for a living, as work has often been something used to define the individual. As such, occupation is an often listed entry in birth, marriage and death records, as well as census records, voter lists, tax records, obituaries and many other types of records. Sources for information on your ancestors' occupations include:

Census Records - A good first stop for information on your ancestor's job history, census records in many countries list the primary occupation of at least the head of household. Since censuses are usually taken every 5-10 years, depending upon the location, they may also reveal changes in working status over time.

City Directories - If your ancestors lived in more urban locations, city directories are a possible source for occupational information. Copies of older city directories are often available on micro-film or through the local library.

Tombstone & Obituary Records - Since many people define themselves by what they do for a living, obituaries generally mention the individual's former occupation and, sometimes, where they worked. Obituaries may also indicate membership in occupational or fraternal organizations. Tombstone inscriptions, while more brief, may also include clues to occupation or fraternal memberships.

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Indians, Squatters, Settlers and Soldiers In The "Old Southwest"

The Federation of Genealogical Societies is sponsoring their annual conference in Birmingham, AL August 29—September 1, 2012.. Early registration is \$195.00 plus extra fees for luncheons, workshops and special events. The conference hotel is the Sheraton—Birmingham where rooms start at \$138.00/night. The hotel is adjacent to the Birmingham—Jefferson Convention Complex where the conference is being held. Brochures will be available at the meeting for anyone interested in attending.

FEBRUARY MEETING PICS

Speaker Miles Gardner
"Putting Flesh On Your An-
cestors Bones"



Miles had his audience
really engrossed in his
speech.



Prez Cora May listening to guests
introduce themselves.





You've heard of the Million Man March on Washington, DC? How about a "Million Genealogists March" to index the 1940 US census? **March** right up to your computer desk and sign up to index **now** at www.the1940census.com.

CONSIDER

According to US Census Bureau stats reported at the 1940 US Census Project, there were 132 million people living in the US in 1940. If there are 132 million people to index, here's how the indexing project will shake down.

- Each name must be indexed TWICE to ensure a quality index is created, so that's 264 million entries. ARBITRATION compares and resolves keystroke differences. Let's say this happens 10% of the time, based on my personal experience arbitrating earlier census records at FamilySearch Indexing. Check Ol' Myrt's numbers closely. Back in the day, my ACTs math scores were in the bottom 7% . *(In my defense, my English writing and comprehension scores were in the top 3%, but I digress.)*

264 million double data entry indexing tasks
+ 26 million arbitration tasks, if a 10% error rate
=====

290 million indexing tasks

LET'S SAY THE AVERAGE PERSON INDEXES 10 names per day, or 70 names per week, then 1 million indexers could do this in 29 days .

Right now, according to Jim Erickson of FamilySearch, there are an average of 21,000 indexers submitting work each day. That's up from 8,000 in early January, but it is no where near the number of indexers needed to roll out the 1940 index on a timely basis.

LET'S GET SERIOUS and say that 1 million indexers could do this in 2.9 days if they index 100 names per day.
100 names per day isn't difficult. In previous census indexing I've done, that is roughly 2 pages of the census.

OK, let's get this straight. However we decide to crunch the projection numbers, the 1940 US Census Project needs volunteers.

ASK EVERYONE

Most genealogy society members are using the internet, but what about those who aren't yet? What about the **FAN** - **f**amily, **f**riends and **n**eighbors of each society member? Our circle of influence is larger than we realize, and now is the time to corral all that talent to get the job done starting on day one. The 1940 Census Project will notify you between 2-27 of April 2012 when your preferred state is available to index.

March DAR Meeting

The Sugar Mill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at the Port Orange Christian Church at 904 Taylor Rd., Port Orange at 7:00 p.m. on March 20, 2012. The topic will be "Women's Health Issues" presented by Thomas Orthopedic. Please call the Regent at 760-9921 for more information. All women who have ancestors who fought in or provided assistance in the American Revolution are eligible. We will be happy to assist you in preparing your paperwork.

(Minutes continued from page 1)

and have a local person available from the genealogical or historical society. 2) Go into files. You need to know the individual locale as to names of various agencies. Look at books of sheriff sales. 3) Talk to your kinfolk. 4) Seek out new resources such as books of stories or lunacy records. Miles found information in a Mormon baptismal record. 5) Don't expect genealogy to ever be completed.

Miles is currently working on a project to put flesh on bones of 2 Revolutionary soldiers

Payment of Dues:

David Farris reminded members that dues need to be paid if they haven't already done so.

Adjournment of Meeting:

On motion by Hal Gauper and second by Ruth Patrignani, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Consalvo, Recording Secretary

Ancestor's Occupations (continued from page 4)

Social Security Administration - SS-5

In the United States, the Social Security Administration keeps track of employers and employment status, and this information can generally be found in the SS-5 application form that your ancestor filled out when applying for a Social Security Number. This is a good source for the employer's name and address of a deceased ancestor. Wills, probate records, military pension records and death certificates are other good sources for occupational information.

What is an Aurifaber? Occupation Terminology - Once you find a record of your ancestor's occupation, you may be puzzled by the terminology used to describe it. Headswoman and hewer, for instance, are not occupations you commonly come across today. When you run across an unfamiliar term, look it up in the [Glossary of Old Occupations & Trades](#). Keep in mind, that some terms may be associated with more than one occupation, depending upon the country. Oh, and in case you are wondering, an aurifaber is an old term for goldsmith.

Happy St. Patrick's Day