

Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

NOVEMBER 2013

37TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

2013 OFFICERS

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Next VCGS Meeting November 21, 2013

Jack Butler of Apopka will be speaking on "Wills and Estates"

VOLUSIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Meeting of October 17, 2013

Opening of Meeting:

In the absence of the President, Kim Dolce, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

On motion by Hal Gauper and second by Tom Peake, the minutes of the meeting of September 19, 2013 were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Kitty Consalvo reported that the closing balance on September 19, 2013 was \$1,243.24. There were receipts of \$50.00 and expenditures of \$107.01 with a balance on October 17, 2014 of \$1,186.23.

Dues:

Kim reminded members that at the last meeting it was approved by the membership to change the fiscal year from January 1-December 31 to September 1-August 31 and to raise the dues to \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a couple.

Seminar:

Kim notified members that the biennial Seminar would be held in January 2015 and that the Executive Board at their meeting that evening had recommended handling the Treasurer and Registration functions.

Program:

Kim gave the background on and introduced the speaker for the evening, Bernardette Zappala, who spoke on "Ireland - Ready to Dig Into Those Resources But Don't Want to Cross the Pond?" Ms. Zappala began by talking about things to think about before you begin your research. She then explained that Irish surnames reflect Irish history as one finds Anglo/Norman, Gaelic, English/Scotch, Quaker, French Huguenot, Palatine/German and Jewish family names. It is also important to know the divisions in Ireland, i.e. province, county, barony, parish (both civil and church), poor law unions and townland. The latter is the smallest in Ireland and important for genealogists.

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VCGS Society Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013 Board Meeting 5 pm

Thursday, November 21, 2013 6 pm

**Jack Butler will present a program on
"Wills and Estates"**

Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Library Nov. 14, 2013 at 1 pm. Elin Iselin
"The History of French Huguenots: From Documents to DNA"

GSSVC NSB Library, Sunday, Nov. 10 at 2:00 pm

GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library - Wednesday, Nov 20 at 5:30pm Bill Meister on "Timelines, a Valuable Underused Genealogy Tool"

\$\$ Report by Treasurer Kitty Consalvo \$\$

\$1,186.23



The National Archives, United Kingdom launches new First World War portal

08 NOVEMBER 2013



Today we are launching a new [First World War portal](#) and announcing our plans to mark the centenary of the First World War with an extensive programme, spanning a five-year period from 2014 - 2019.

With primary sources at its heart, the programme - First World War 100 - aims to attract a new audience for archives during the centenary, as well as offering historians and regular archive users fresh insights into this landmark conflict.

Centenary themes

We will be exploring key aspects of the war through our themes of diplomacy, technology, home front, air and sea, peace, bravery and courage, medicine and health, and global perspectives. The first of these themes, diplomacy, will be the subject of a conference at our Kew site in June 2014.

Opening up our collections

The National Archives will open its unique collection of millions of First World War records through a rolling series of digitized record releases, including the popular unit war diaries, online and on site events and education resources from 2014, all of which will be accessible through the new portal.

Online collections - such as medal cards, service records and prisoner of war interviews - and resources including the popular [My Tommy's War blog posts](#) form part of the new [First World War portal](#) and ongoing centenary programme to draw attention to lesser-known series of records and help people to discover the stories behind the war.

Our First World War education offering includes a videoconference learning resource - [All Pals Together](#) - which has been created for schools who can book a session for their classes to 'meet a real life soldier' and learn about what it was like to serve in the war.

World War II Teen-agers' Remembrances of Daytona Beach

Reprinted by permission of Denny Bowden . Blog Address: volusiahistory.wordpress.com

When I was a teen, I worked a job that required me to drive north of Ormond-by-the-Sea on A-1-A in early morning hours, and I would almost always look to the seaside to catch a glimpse of the World War II watch tower that stands sentinel over the beach to this day. It's the last remaining tower in our area from the days when teens had opportunities to do meaningful war effort work.

That World War II era will come to life again Saturday, November 9, at 10:30 at the "History at Halifax" lecture series at the [Halifax Historical Museum](#) when a panel of four or five people will share their teen-aged experiences of growing up during World War II in Daytona Beach when [Volusia's entire county population](#) was about 54,000 (fewer than the number of people who now live in Daytona Beach alone), and Flagler County's population was only 3,000.

Last month at the museum we relived this past, hearing six "former teenagers" tell us of the time when the isolationist movement led by Charles Lindbergh to keep America out of the war was dramatically replaced by the trauma of learning that Pearl Harbor had been bombed, and life for the teens changed entirely for the next four years.

Suddenly Daytona was being depleted of its young men. Older teens were dropping out of school to join the war. Men were being drafted, leaving the town short-handed of workers. Doctors, of course, were called away to war, so teenager Carol Underwood's father, a pharmacist and chemist, was often called on to treat injuries. With so many men gone from Daytona, many teens began to work part-time jobs, as Carol did.

The world was indeed changed, and [Jay Adams](#), whose family had just built the Miramar Tourist Court motel on the beachside the year before, faced the abrupt end to tourism as gas rationing became the law, and even local high school sports teams were restricted from traveling. Ration books for food and other necessities were issued to cover each member of the family. [Silk stockings](#) had become very rare because silk was urgently needed for parachutes, and when young [Vince Clarida](#) accompanied his mother to a downtown store as she asked if any silk stockings were available, he embarrassed her in front of the store clerk by blurting out, "Why do you need another pair? You already have two pairs at home."

Elastic rubber was also vitally needed for troop use, and the mother of teenager June Hughes had to resort to using a button—a single button—on her daughter's homemade underwear, which ended in a minor accident later that forced the young teen to sit down immediately and to remain seated for the evening at a dance when she spotted her single button on the floor at her feet.

With boyish nostalgia, Vince Clarida recalled that even candy was redirected to men in the war effort and that [sugar continued to be rationed](#) until a year after the war had ended.

The war was a trying time also for local grocers in Daytona, which Everett Pearson recounted in remembering that wholesalers who supplied his father's store on Second Avenue (now George W. Engram Boulevard) would often say, "I can let you have two slabs of bacon." Plentiful food supply was no longer possible, and rationing was also experienced by grocers. Families were encouraged to plant "[Victory Gardens](#)," but Vince Clarida recalls that when his family attempted to grow a garden on South Segrave Street during the war, they were successful in growing only some carrots.

Teens and children joined the war effort at schools, and Clarida made this tangible when he passed around his [War bonds](#) ("[Defense Bonds](#)") booklet, partially filled with ten-cent stamps pasted in 70 years ago in hopes of filling it to be redeemed for a \$5 bond to help win the war.

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Genealogy Tip of the Day

Michael John Neill

Estate Sales for the Neighbors?

Looking for something to show your ancestor was alive? If he was in a rural area, consider looking at estate settlements of his neighbors. Your ancestor's name may appear on a list of buyers at the sale, thus giving you a date on which he was alive. You'll also know what he purchased and for how much.

Just make certain it's your ancestor and not someone with the same name!

DUES

A letter has been sent to all members who have not paid their dues for 2014 advising them of the increase and the change of the dues year.

All members who have not renewed by January 1st will not receive the January newsletter.



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

World War II Teenagers' Remembrances of Daytona Beach

(continued from page 3)

[Blackouts](#) required that no light escape from any house, and Carol Underwood remembered that as a young teen she was reading by flashlight in her bedroom when suddenly a banging knock on the door was accompanied by a loud demand for "Lights out!"

The top half of car headlights had to be painted black, and June Hughes recalled that the beach was closed in January 1942, the month after Pearl Harbor; and nighttime access to the beach was restricted for years until the blackout ended in May 1945.

German ships sank many American tankers, and Jay Adams remembered tar balls would wash onto the beach, and he and other daytime beach-goers could stop at special cleaning places when leaving the beach where they could clean off their feet with kerosene.

Carol Underwood remembered that one Sunday afternoon some Daytona teens at the beach spotted a German submarine as it came to the surface in the daylight, so they rushed home to warn their parents, but no invasion occurred. At another time during the war, though, German saboteurs did come ashore near Jacksonville, but they were captured, and both horse and dog patrols were instituted along Atlantic beaches.

Vince Clarida recalled that the [Ground Observer Corps](#) had 30-foot towers five miles apart on the beach and that one was also on City Island.

Glenn "Smitty" Smith, along with other teenagers, joined the Civil Air Patrol, and he remembered riding in a [Piper Cub](#) that flew 65 mile-per-hour searching for enemy submarines along the coast and also hearing Navy fighter bombers fly over houses in Daytona, even at night. He also recalled that the quiet town had become a busy place after the WACs ([Women's Army Corps](#), formerly, Women's Auxiliary Army Corps) began training on the beachside. Buses ran every fifteen minutes, but they were always full of WACs.

Vince Clarida said that in 1942 a tent city that housed 6,000 women was originally set up at Bethune Point along the Halifax River until the cantonment center was built in the Welch area, now the site of Daytona State College.

[Daytona Boat Works](#) built 110-foot subchasers on the west side of the Halifax River south of the marina, and Vince Clarida noted that they had 375 employees in this war effort, including his father. June Hughes added that each boat was christened and that as a young teen she had yearned to be chosen to christen one of the subchasers.

Wounded American servicemen were treated at [Halifax Hospital](#) which had been appropriated for military use, and Carol Underwood recalls that she and other young teens were asked to attend a dance in formal dresses, but because the men were in their 20's she felt uncomfortable and chose not to go again.

Carol summed up the former-teens' experiences when she said, "When the war ended, it seemed odd."

The war effort is poignantly depicted in the reminiscences of numerous Daytona area citizens in Virgil Taylor's and Bob Arcuri's engaging hour-long film, *The Home Front* (sold at the Halifax Historical Museum and available at public libraries).

[The tower above is one of the last remaining unused beach lookout towers in the State of Florida. It is currently owned by an RV resort on SR-A1A in Ormond-By-The-Sea.](#)

[Members of Flotilla 44, then called Flotilla 1-3, stood guard in this tower around the clock during World War II, looking for enemy ships and submarines, troop movements, and American and Allied ships torpedoed by enemy submarines](#)



'Roots' remake in works from History cable network

Lorena Blas, USA TODAY ***Cable network acquired rights to award-winning miniseries and book it was based on.***

The cast of the 1977 miniseries 'Roots' backstage at the Emmy Awards in 2007, Louis Gossett Jr., from left, Ben Vereen, Cicely Tyson, LeVar Burton, Leslie Uggams and John Amos. (Photo:



Dan MacMedan USA TODAY)

SHARE 277 CONNECT 16 TWEET 5 COMMENTEMAILMORE

Roots is making History. Or, History is making *Roots*.

The cable channel has confirmed that it has acquired rights to the classic 1977 miniseries, starring LeVar Burton, Leslie Uggams, Ben Vereen, Ed Asner and many others, as well as the book on which it was based, *Roots: the Saga of an American Family*. [Deadline Hollywood](#) reported the development first.

Plans are for an eight-hour version of the original 12-hour miniseries, according to Deadline. Mark Wolper, son of David L. Wolper, the late executive producer of *Roots*, is on board as executive producer of the History remake. The cable network approached him and the estate of author Alex Haley about remaking the award-winning drama after Michael Stiller, vice president, development and programming, suggested the project.

"We would like to revive that cultural icon for a new audience," Dirk Hoogstra, History's executive vice president and general manager said to Deadline. Discussions with writers for the project are set to begin.



Genealogy Research and How to Examine the Evidence and Sources

By Mark D Jordan

Those beginning in family history research often are not sure how the classification of the information found really works. To do research properly and to understand the value of what you find it is important to learn how to group your information into classifications. As well, it is also good to learn how the review process works.

Confused yet?

What A Source Is

When doing family history research you find out information from various sources. Sources are things like family bibles, tax returns, census data or things your grand mom said. More specifically we can classify sources into the below Types.

1. Books
2. Documents
3. People
4. Artifacts

Sources are considered "original" or "derivative". An "original" source can come in various forms. We are not concerned with the reliability of the information at this point, but simply the type of information such as visual, oral or written down. How was the information distributed to you? To be original it needs to be straight from the source and not derived from some other source.

A "derivative" source is information that originally came from another source and so is repeated or copied in written, oral or visual format. Such records include things like indexes, a typed copy of a record, transcribed wills, etc.

Defining Information

Having gathered your sources you will then have "information" to look at and sort through. This information is classified into "primary" or "secondary" types. Many researches get confused at this stage, by those two classifications.

Primary information is written or oral communication that comes from a primary witness to the event or from a person with first hand knowledge. An official who is responsible for directly dictating records of a court proceeding will produce primary information. A relative who was at a wedding of your father will produce a primary oral history of the event. A family member writing down births in a bible right after the event is producing primary information. The form of the information is not important and the accuracy is not guaranteed either, but it is primary.

Secondary information is information received from a secondary source such as a story handed down verbally through the generations. Such a story is far removed from the original witness to the event. Again, the form of the information is unimportant here. If the information you have on hand was written or spoken by someone not directly knowledgeable to the event or officially appointed as the recorder of the event, then it is secondary.

Determining The Evidence

With your sources and your information in hand, you can now determine how strong the evidence is for your family history questions. Ask yourself, "What is the relevance of the information I have and how well can it answer my family history questions?" Evidence is born from information and comes in two types, Direct and Indirect.

In family history research "direct" evidence is evidence that is complete in itself. You don't have to fill in missing pieces or assume things. This evidence includes all the details you need.

"Indirect" evidence is incomplete and needs more supporting evidence before you can reach a decision as to its conclusiveness. It can be compared to the circumstantial evidence decreed in law courts. If you are looking at evidence that seems to need some assumptions on your part before you can reach a conclusion, than it is "indirect" evidence.

For more tips on doing better family history research read Family History Blog [<http://www.genealogyblog.familyhistoryresearch.net/>]. The author, Mark D. Jordan writes from and resides in PA-

(continued from page 1)

There are four key Irish records: land and property valuation records, civil registration records, church records and the census 1901/1911. Previous census records were destroyed when the building in which they were stored caught fire. Fortunately, a few of the previous census records are still available since they were stored in another area. She explained that when looking at the census make sure you look at Part B as it contains vital information about the family's living situation. Other important sources for Irish records are heritage centers, newspapers, specific interest groups and gravestones although many graves never had tombstones.

Ms. Zappala provided a handout which included Internet resources which included birth, marriage and death records, church records, tithe applotment book, Griffiths valuation, list of townlands, Irish place names and a broad range of archives. In addition it included sites for the Public Records Office in Northern Ireland, county mailing lists and newspapers. She provided a list of books available in the City Island and Deland libraries for those researching their Irish roots.

Adjournment of Meeting:

On motion by Kitty Consalvo and second by Hal Gauper, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Consalvo, Recording Secretary Pro Tem

German Immigrants in American Church Records By Melissa Shimkus

For those seeking the hometown of Germanic ancestors, the search can quickly become frustrating as many records found will simply indicate the birthplace as Germany, and nothing more specific. However, many newly-arrived immigrants migrated to towns and neighborhoods populated by individuals of similar ethnicity, and a common meeting place for those acclimating to the new country often was the local church. Documents kept by the church can provide a broader view of the immigrant ancestor's socialization within the new community, and might also mention these ancestors' places of origin in new member lists and meeting minutes. Other official church documents that recorded vital statistics also could furnish specific details, including the town and province of birth in the "old country."

"German Immigrants in American Church Records" (929.13 M662g), edited by Roger Minert, provides these details in a ten volume set. Immigrants of Germanic descent who attended Protestant churches in Indiana, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa and Illinois are documented within these volumes. Each volume focuses on an individual state and is organized alphabetically by city or township then alphabetically by the church's name. The entries follow the order of the original church books. Each volume includes an individualized bibliography and everyname index.

Details that might be found in an entry are birth date and place, parents' names, marriage date and place, spouse's name, year of immigration, death date and place, age at time of death, and burial date and place. Even if specific family members were not named in the immigrant's entry, perusing the other individuals within the church parish may yield familial results. The source for each entry is referenced so the researcher can locate the original documents.

Researching filmed and original church ledgers, the compilers of the set took special care with verifying the consistency of the spelling of an individual's name within these records. Reverse alphabetical indexes were used to properly spell place names as some locations were improperly spelled within the church documents.

With all of these details available, searching church records should be a definitive part of a research plan. And if one is seeking Germanic immigrants in the Midwest, the "German Immigrants in American Church Records" set is a resource worth examining.