

# Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

MARCH 2014

## 38TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

### 2014 OFFICERS

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Next VCGS Meeting March 20, 2014

Liz Whitaker from the Clerk of Courts Office will speak on  
"Resources of the Volusia County Clerk's Office."

### Volusia County Genealogical Society Minutes of Meeting on February 20, 2014

#### Opening of Meeting:

Cora May Hartzell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. She also reminded members to fill out and turn in the form for the Membership Directory.

Cora May announced the seminar and that it will be held January 25, 2015 at Pelican Bay in Daytona Beach, FL. Early registration will be \$45 after the final date, the registration fee will be \$50. The speaker for the seminar will be Claire Mire Bettag, CG, her specialties are federal records, land records and Acadian-Cajun research. She has been published in NGS

*Quarterly*, *APG Quarterly* and other journals. She is a former Director at N.I.G.R. She has a masters from Columbia University in French with a minor in Spanish. Her topic will be Assumptions- a Genealogical Slippery Slope and Federal Land Records at the National Archives and the Congressional Serial Set of Documents, untapped genealogical treasures.

#### Approval of Minutes:

On motion by Stephanie DiMatties and second by Allie Goodwin, the minutes of the meeting of January 16, 2014 were approved as printed in the newsletter.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Kitty Consalvo reported that the closing balance on January 16, 2014 was \$1,177.78. There were deposits of \$40.00 from dues and expenditures of \$25.00, with a balance on February 20, 2014, of \$1,192.78.

#### Program:

The program was *Preserving Photographs* with Juliana Romneys. Juliana is the Exhibitions Coordinator at the Southeast Museum of Photography at Daytona State College.

The types of photographs are Daguerreotype, Tintype, Carte de Visite, Cabinet Card, Kodachrome, Kodacolor, Polaroid, and the common film used today.

Deterioration of photographs can be caused by temperature and humidity, light, pollution, contaminants, display and improper storage.

The best way to handle photographs is to wash hands and not put lotion on. Negatives should be kept in storage and not handled until if and when they need to be printed. Storage should be in acid-free envelopes and boxes in a closet or under a bed in room temperature.

A handout was available after the program.

#### Adjournment of Meeting:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie DiMatties, Recording Secretary

**VCGS Society Calendar****Thursday, Mar. 20, 2014 Board Meeting 5 pm****Thursday, March 20, 2014 at 6 pm**

Liz Whitaker from the Clerk of Courts Office will speak on "Resources of the Volusia County Clerk's Office."

**Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies**

**HGS Ormond Library** Mar 13 at 1:30 pm - "A Door To Time" by Bill Ryan

**GSSVC NSB Library**, Mar 9 at 2:00 pm "DNA—Not The Magic Bullet" by Carolyn Carlisle

**GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library** - Wednesday, Mar 19 at 5:30pm "Adoptions—Orphan Trains" by Heather McFadden

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

\$1,192.78

**StoryWorth - a Website that Allows People to Collect Family Stories**

By Dick Eastman

Family members, including children, nieces, nephews, and more distant relatives, can use StoryWorth to ask questions of an older relative. The StoryWorth.com web site sends the questions to the older person, collects the answers, and then shares them (privately) with all family members. It is one of a handful of new companies focused on enabling people to collect their family histories.

Some subscribers take advantage of StoryWorth's audio recording option, whereby they can speak their reminiscences into their telephone as if they're leaving voice mail. The stories are then saved as MP3 files. One user in her late 80s doesn't have a computer, so she receives her questions via a stand-alone printer. Each week, she writes her memories by hand and sends them via regular mail to her grandson, who reads and saves them.

StoryWorth's most active users are in their 60s and 70s. StoryWorth subscribers have generated more than 10,000 stories.

**Get It While You Can**

Try to download personal use copies of all data you can. What was free may suddenly not be or you may choose not to renew a subscription to a database or website.

Even sites that always stay free may move things around to where it is difficult to find them again. When it's on your screen, save it in a way that you can find it.

That way you have it. Even if you're not online or if you let your membership lapse

By Michael John Neill

## Family Chronicle Magazine List "Top Ten" Books

The magazine, "Family Chronicle" lists the following books as the "Top Ten" every genealogist should own or have access to.

**1. The Source: The Guide book to American Genealogy**

**Szucs, Loretta Dennis and Luebking, Sandra Hargraves, 1997**

**Ancestry, P O Box 990, Orem, UT 84059 800-531-1790**

**2. The Handybook For Genealogists, 1991**

**Everton Publishers, P O Bo 368, Logan, UT 84323 800-443-6325**

**3. The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy**

**3rd Edition, Greenwood, Val D. (2000)**

**The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore MD 21202, (410) 837-8271.**

**4. Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian**

**Mills, Elizabeth Shown**

**The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore MD 21202, (410) 837-8271.**

**5. Periodical Source Index**

**Allen County Public Library Foundation, Ft. Wayne, IN (219) 421-1225.**

**6. Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources**

**Eichholz, Alice, Editor**

**Ancestry, PO Box 990, Orem, UT 84059, (800) 531-1790.**

**7. The Genealogist's Address Book**

**Bentley, Elizabeth P.**

**The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore MD 21202, (410) 837-8271.**

**8. American Genealogical-Biographical Index**

**Rider, Fremont**

**The Godfrey Memorial Library, 134 Newfield Street Middleton, CT 06457 (860) 346-4375.**

**9. Genealogical & Local History Books in Print**

**5th Edition, (1996-97)**

**The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore MD 21202, (410) 837-8271.**

**10. Genealogy as Pastime and Profession**

**2nd Edition, Jacobus, Donald Lines (Revised 1986)**

**The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore MD 21202, (410) 837-8271.**

**All of these books except Nos. 4, 5 and 10 are available in the Library. No. 5—The Persi Index will soon be available on Find My Past. You can access the index from the Allen County Public Library website.**

## Atlas of Historical Geography includes details that can fill out Ancestors' stories

What were your ancestor's politics?

Unless he wrote in a diary or a letter or somehow was recorded in a local newspaper, you might never know. But if he lived in Henry County, Ala., in 1892, odds are he voted Democrat. In 1917 he probably voted against women's suffrage. If he was a farmer in 1920, he still plowed his fields with a mule.

Of course, as genealogists we want to ferret out as many tidbits as we can about each ancestor. So, how do I know so much about your Henry County ancestor?

You can discover some interesting and valuable things by using the Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States, first published in 1932 and now animated online at <http://dsl.richmond.edu/historicalatlas>.

The book contains 14 chapters and nearly 700 maps. Among its pages, I learned that 97 percent of the votes cast in that 1892 presidential election were for Grover Cleveland. No one in the county voted for women's suffrage. Another map shows that no one in Henry County in 1920 owned a tractor; hence your ancestor still used a mule to till the earth.

An 1830s map shows how long it would have taken an ancestor to travel the 700-plus miles from New York City to a town in North Georgia. An 1851 map shows how that travel time had dropped to three days, and by 1930 (by rail) the trip only took a single day.

An 1804 post roads map makes it easy to see the migration routes of ancestors from New England to New Orleans and places in between.

This wonderful resource is the product of the Digital Scholarship Lab. Its founder, Edward L. Ayers, said, "We live in history the way fish live in water. It's invisible to us, but a historical atlas can give us a sense of coherence of the larger pattern."

Studying this publication is no quick task, so set aside a chunk of time before you start exploring.

By Sharon Tate Moody

## DAR MEETING

The Sugar Mill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be meeting at the Port Orange Christian Church at 904 Taylor Rd, Port Orange at 7:00 p.m. on March 18, 2014. The meeting will be about "Chipping Away at The Brick Wall ".The guest speaker will be Ruth Patrignani, Genological Researcher. She will explain how to find resources to help trace your ancestors. Members will be glad to help new comers get started on finding their ancestors. The meetings are free and we have snack time half way through. All are invited to If you have an ancestor that has been in this country since the 1700's or want more information please contact the Regent, Bettie McMullen at 1-386-760-9921.

## Search For Commanding Officer

If you are searching for newspapers to learn more about your ancestor's military unit, try searching for the name of his commanding officer. There may be references to the unit under the officer's name. If your ancestor was a private, as mine usually were, they generally don't merit mention and searching based on unit numbers and letters can be problematic.

This search for [Commander Stone for a War of 1812 relative](#) resulted in more than I expected

By Michael John Neill

## Bizarre Jobs of Our Ancestors that no longer Exist



The Bureau of Labor Statistic's occupational classification list from 1850 lists a number of occupations that no longer exists or else exist only in small numbers. Factory lecturer, chimney sweeps, home deliver milkmen, hemp dressers, rat catchers, quarrymen, "knocker-ups" (or is that "knockers-up?"), and other occupations are rarely found these days. You can read more and see pictures of these occupations in the Business Insider at <http://goo.gl/e3RSe3>.

Gee, I don't see telemarketer in the list of obsolete occupations. That is one occupation that I would like to see

disappear!

By Dick Eastman

**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

## Who Was Saint Patrick?



Every March 17, millions of people pause to reflect on their Irish heritage. Conceived as a Saint's Day in the Catholic Church, Saint Patrick's Day is now a time of celebration for millions. However, many of us have little knowledge of the man whose name we celebrate.

First of all, Saint Patrick wasn't Irish. He was a Roman, although born at Kilpatrick, near Dumbarton in Scotland, in the year 387. His original name is recorded as Maewyn Succat. His father, Calphurnius, belonged to a Roman family of high rank and held the office of decurio in Gaul or Britain. At the age of sixteen years old, Patrick was carried off into captivity by Irish marauders and was sold as a slave to a chieftain named Milchu in Dalriada, a territory of the present county of Antrim in Ireland. He was soon sold to another chieftain in the area. The future saint spent six years tending his master's flocks near the modern town of Ballymena. During this time he learned to speak fluent Celtic.

After six years of bondage, Patrick escaped, apparently by simply walking away at a convenient opportunity. He wandered for some time, eventually finding his way to Westport. There he found a ship ready to set sail and was allowed on board. In a few days he was in Britain, safe under Roman rule. He then traveled extensively to other lands and studied religion. Patrick spent time in St. Martin's monastery at Tours and at the island sanctuary of Lérins. He met Saint Germain and became a student of the great bishop. When Germain was commissioned by the Holy See to proceed to Britain to combat the erroneous teachings of Pelagius, he chose Patrick to be one of his missionary companions.

Pope St. Celestine the First had taken note of the young man's abilities and commissioned Patrick with the mission of gathering the Irish race into the Catholic Church; he also gave him the name "Patercius" or "Patritius." It was probably in the summer months of the year 433 that Patrick and his companions landed at the mouth of the Vantry River in Ireland, close by Wicklow Head. The Druids were against his missionary work and wanted to kill him, so Patrick searched for friendly territory in which to enter on his mission. Near Slemish, the missionary was struck with horror on seeing at a distance the fort of his old master, Milchu, enveloped in flames. It seems the fame of Patrick's marvelous power of miracles had preceded him. In anticipation of Patrick's arrival, Milchu had gathered his treasures into his mansion and set it on fire, casting himself into the flames in a fit of frenzy. An ancient record adds, "His pride could not endure the thought of being vanquished by his former slave."

Saint Patrick traveled all over Ireland, preaching wherever people gathered. His sermons were not always well received, and many attempted to murder him. Saint Patrick wrote in his "Confessio" that twelve times he and his companions were seized and carried off as captives. On one occasion in particular, he was loaded with chains, and his death was decreed. However, Saint Patrick always managed to escape death. He converted thousands to Christianity and built many churches. It is recorded that he consecrated no fewer than 350 bishops. Legends attribute many miracles to Saint Patrick.

Saint Patrick died on 17 March 493, and that date is now dedicated to his memory. It is not known for sure where his remains were laid although Downpatrick in County Down in the North of Ireland is thought to be his final resting place.

There are many Web sites devoted to Saint Patrick, providing a wealth of material. You can read more at <http://www.ireland-information.com/saintpatricksdays.htm>, <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11554a.htm>, <http://www.americancatholic.org/features/patrick/> and many others.

Happy   
St. Patrick's Day



March 28-30, 2014 at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Gainesville, Florida

Featuring as the Keynote Speaker Lisa Louise Cooke

Lisa Louise Cooke is the owner of Genealogy Gems, a genealogy and family history multi-media company. She is Producer and Host of the Genealogy Gems Podcast, the popular online genealogy audio show available at [www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com), in iTunes, and through the Genealogy Gems app, and free toolbar. Her podcast brings genealogy news, research strategies, expert interviews and inspiration to genealogists in 75 countries around the world, and recently celebrated it's 1 millionth download!

Lisa will be presenting:- The Great Google Earth Game Show - Fascinating Family History Fun!-

How to Reopen and Work a Genealogical Cold Case- Tap Into Your Inner Private Eye:

8 Strategies You Need to Find Living Relatives-

How the Genealogist Can Remember Everything with Evernote