

Volusia County Genealogical Society

N E W S L E T T E R

JUNE 2014

38TH YEAR SERVING DAYTONA BEACH GENEALOGY

2014 OFFICERS

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Next VCGS Meeting June 19, 2014

We will have a short webinar by Crista Cowan, from Ancestry.com on "Finding People in pre 1850 Census. Our end of the year pot luck social will follow.

Volusia County Genealogical Society

Minutes of Meeting of May 15, 2014

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.

Approval of Minutes: Cora May asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as published in the Newsletter. On motion by Kitty Consalvo and second by Ruth Patrignani, the minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Kitty Consalvo reported that there was an opening balance on April 18, 2014 of \$1,287.26 and a closing balance on May 15, 2014 of \$1,262.26, with expenses of \$25.00. She announced that to date \$100.00 had been raised from Belk's charity day but that was not a final figure.

New Business: Cora May announced that the national genealogical meeting will be held in San Antonio this year. Information is available on the back table for anyone interested. Kim Dolce announced that in 2015 the meeting will be held in Florida.

Program: Kim Dolce introduced Barbara Costello, Government Documents Librarian at the duPont-Ball Library at Stetson University, who spoke on "The American State Papers and the United States Congressional Serial Set – unexplained sources for genealogical information." Stetson serves as a repository for the Federal government. The papers and serial set contain documented acts of Congress and most of the papers have been digitized. Prior to 1895 the bound volumes were divided by subject area. However, in 1895 they started using serial numbers thus the name. There are over 14,000 volumes, however, not all of them are available at any one location.

These materials are good for genealogists because they cover a critical time period in our country, and they have specific types of information. They list all government employees, and anyone who had a claim against the Federal government that was submitted to Congress which lists individuals. Accompanying Papers file is only available at the National Archives. These are personal papers, i.e. marriage licenses, discharge papers, baptismal certificates, etc. which provided back-up documentation for an individual's private claim.

The U.S. Serial Set can be accessed through Heritage Quest. Also, soldiers homes have lists of individuals who were in that particular home.

Adjournment of Meeting: On motion by Kitty Consalvo and second by Ruth Patrignani, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Consalvo, Recording Secretary Pro-Tem

VCGS Society Calendar

Thursday, June 19, 2014 Board Meeting 5 pm

Thursday, June 19, 2014 General Meeting 6 pm

Webinar by Crista Cowan

“Finding People in pre 1850 Census”

Volusia -Flagler Sister Societies

HGS Ormond Library - No Meeting till September 11, 2014

GSSVC NSB Library, June 8 at 2:00 pm

“Explaining and Exploring New Family Tree and Ancestry by Kathy Henningan & Carolyn Carlisle

GSFC Palm Coast Flagler Library - Wednesday, June 18 at 5:30 pm “Identifying and Dating Old Photographs” by Maureen Taylor (Live Webinar)

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

\$1,262.26



Quick-Tip of the Month for Preservation~Tracking Genealogy Correspondents by Dawne Slater-Putt, CG(sm)*

Most genealogists find it rewarding to connect with others who are researching the same family lines in order to share information, photographs, scans of the family Bible, and other material. However, even the most avid family historian usually has other activities in life that take his or her attention away from genealogy from time to time and before we know it, months or even years have passed since we last were in contact with a genealogy correspondent.

One way to keep track of contact information for your genealogy correspondents is to record the data all in one place, either in an address book just for that purpose, a Rolodex, an index card file box, or – perhaps more convenient these days – in a program or application you can access on your computer, tablet or smartphone. You could even store the file in Google Drive or Dropbox so that you can access it on-the-go!

This can be as simple as a Word file, with headings for the surname of the family in common and correspondents listed under the appropriate heading with their address, phone number, email address and the most recent date of correspondence. Or you can create a spreadsheet file in a program such as Excel, with fields for each of these pieces of information. You might also include how your distant cousin is related to your common ancestor.

There are address book apps specifically for tablets and smartphones that are available through the iTunes App Store and the Google Play Store that could be a helpful way to store this information. You can access the Apple iPad App Store at <http://www.apple.com/ipad-air/app-store/>. The Google Play Store is at <https://play.google.com/store>. Use keywords like “address book” or “contacts” to find appropriate apps for storing your genealogy correspondents’ contact information.

*“CG” & “Certified Genealogist” are service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists®, and are used by authorized associates following periodic, peer-reviewed competency evaluations. Certificate No. 386 awarded 4 July 1996; expires 4 July 2016.



Have a Great Summer

Leave No One Behind . . .

by Curt B. Witcher

Oh my, is the current Veterans Administration hospital situation ever a mess, a national embarrassment! When I reflect on the many news stories I have encountered and the ones that continue to be broadcast, I can't help but think about the "Soldier's Creed." I have keyed it below.

"U. S. Soldier's Creed"

I am an American Soldier.

I am a warrior and a member of a team.

I serve the people of the United States, and live the Army Values.

I will always place the mission first.

I will never accept defeat.

I will never quit.

I will never leave a fallen comrade.

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills.

I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.

I am an expert and I am a professional.

I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy, the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.

I am an American Soldier.

If our military men and women are willing to do that for us, wouldn't it be amazing . . . and appropriate and so very meaningful if those who serve our veterans would be bound by a similar creed or oath? "I will serve the people of the United States by serving those who put themselves in harm's way to defend our liberties; I will always put my veterans' well-being first; I will never quit or believe the task of true service is too big; I will be proficient in all my tasks on behalf of my veterans; I am an expert and a professional, and I know I can engage and execute the necessary duties to see that our guardians of freedom are fully served"-wouldn't that be awesome?

Continuing my musing, wouldn't it be equally awesome if we as genealogists and family historians committed to *our* own version of the Soldier's Creed? Let's challenge ourselves to do that, and focus particularly on "I will never leave a fallen comrade." Modifying that phrase for our field, let's commit to never leaving an ancestor who provided military service unremembered, undocumented, un-memorialized. Let's don't think about it, plan for it, discuss it-let's just do it. Let's make the weeks between Memorial Day and Veterans' Day the time when we create a memorial for each of our military ancestors-and then share that memorial.

I know this step-at-a-time approach works. Over the Memorial Day weekend, The Genealogy Center posted three new items from three different wars on the part of our website known as "Our Military Heritage." <<http://www.GenealogyCenter.Info/military>> We started this past weekend with a simple little goal: Post one military "something" (anything!) for each day of the weekend. By the time of the fireworks on Monday evening, the following items were posted.

Oak Grove Cemetery, Delaware, Ohio, Memorial to Unknown USCT Soldiers, Civil War

www.GenealogyCenter.info/military/civilwar/search_oakgroveusct.php

Biographical data and single document about Vincent Siemowski, 10th Infantry, WWI

www.GenealogyCenter.info/military/wwi/viewpage_vincentsiemowski.php?realpage=5&display=vincentsiemowski

Biographical data and single document about Louis G. Mossburg, U.S. Army Air Forces, WWII

www.GenealogyCenter.info/military/wwii/search_louismossborg.php

There's nothing flashy or terribly extraordinary about the above-mentioned three files, except that now they're available for anyone in the world with an Internet connection to use and enjoy. Perhaps as important, or more important, these men and their service are now memorialized in a virtual place many visit, in a place where anyone can visit. We have honored their service by helping ensure they are not left behind, that they are not forgotten.

Leaving no one behind-it is really very straightforward and doable. Within the next seven days, identify an ancestor who served in the military, or a family member or relative who is currently serving or has recently served. At a minimum, gather this basic data: Full name, unit(s) in which s/he served, period of service, and enlistment location as well as discharge location. If you want to add a picture of the individual in uniform and/or a picture after service, that would be terrific. If you have service documents (muster records, pension papers, discharge papers, etc.), and/or a letter or two from the battlefield or the home-front, including those would help tell a better story of the service rendered. Write a couple of sentences or a paragraph articulating what you know about this person.

(Continued on Page 5)

Historical Records Survey of the Works Progress Administration by Kimberly Powell

The Historical Records Survey was a nationwide series of projects conducted by the U.S. Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) from the winter of 1935 through 1942. The purpose of the Depression-era program was to provide useful employment to needy out-of-work historians, teachers, lawyers, and research and clerical workers by conducting the largest survey of public records ever conducted in the United States. The mission was to organize and compile inventories of historical materials, particularly unpublished government records and important privately owned historical materials, for use by government officials, historians, legal scholars, and other researchers.

"American life will indeed achieve more dignity and richness as we study our past in the only way that it can be studied, that is, in the archives and other materials which the Historical Records Survey makes adequately accessible to us for the first time."

—Luther Evans, organizer of the Historical Records Survey

The boon for genealogists and other historians is that the surviving inventories and publications of the Historical Records Survey provide an invaluable roadmap to the availability and location of a wide number of historical records and manuscript materials in counties, churches, and archives across the United States. The inventories produced by Historical Records Survey projects generally go beyond just a list of records, and also include historical background material on the county, church, etc.

One of the biggest projects of the Historical Records Survey was the Survey of County Records. Field workers inventoried the extant public (and some private) records of counties in states across the nation—locating, describing and classifying government records, manuscripts, and church records—to make them more easily accessible to county officials, historians, and researchers. The WPA workers also compiled histories of each county, and descriptions of the organization and function of each government unit. The completed inventory for each county, along with the historical background material, was to be published as a guide for each county.

The Historical Records Survey (part of Federal Project No. 1) lost its funding and became a unit of the Research and Records Program in 1939, and the survey work was continued from that point by state agencies until the federal program was officially discontinued in 1942.

WPA

Personal Digital Archiving

The Library of Congress has an excellent set of guide materials to assist individuals in "personal digital archiving"

at <http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/personalarchiving/>.

Check it out for ideas on preserving your own materials.

Michael John Neill

Changes in Parking

This year the Daytona Cubs will be charging \$2.00 for parking during home games.

Per our agreement with the City of Daytona, library patrons will not be charged.

The two west rows of parking spaces are reserved for library patrons (which in about 50 spaces)

They will have workers at the east side of the small bridge to collect the money starting at 5:30p. Our patrons just need to say they are visiting the library and they will be directed to park in the designated rows. Anyone already in library parking will be allowed to stay and will not be required to move. The majority of their home games start at 7:05pm.

Leave No One Behind (continued from Page 3)

Follow these simple yet profound steps, and then share what you have gathered and compiled! Share it in an email to a family member, blog about it, pin it on Pinterest, post it on Facebook, and/or put it on your family webpage. If you need a little inspiration, see what a couple of proud mothers did in honor of their sons' service. Go to the "Our Military Heritage" portion of our website and click on "Afghanistan & Iraqi Wars." Explore the links for Jay S. Gibson and David Temby.

If you want to ensure that this memorial you have created is around for generations, email the data with attachments to Genealogy@ACPL.Info. We will post it and maintain it on the "Our Military Heritage" site. You can also send us the data on a DVD or USB drive. After you've done one, the next ones get easier and easier. And you will want to start a second memorial immediately after you have finished your first one. For those who will visit our Center in the summer months, a military display at the entrance will serve as a reminder of this great work we must be doing. We truly can leave no one behind.

Think about your ancestors or even some of your descendants. Will you write their story and have it preserved for future generations by submitting it to Allen County Public Library?



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

Genealogy Research Guides, Inventories & Finding Aids

BY Kimberly Powell

Large record repositories such as National Archives are home to a vast collection of records that may potentially help you answer your genealogical research questions. But do you know everything that is available to you and where to find it? Even the indexes, inventories and card catalogs available on the Internet don't always tell the whole story. Before tackling your research in a given area or repository, you should always turn to inventories, research guides and finding aids prepared and published by various repositories, societies and even individuals to learn what may be available to you.

Before you begin research at a new repository (or even in a new record group at a repository you're already familiar with), a preliminary search in published finding aids or inventories may provide detailed descriptions of records pertaining to your research and expedite your time accessing records once you arrive at the repository. Online card catalogs are often a good place to start, but once you've narrowed your search to a particular collection or record type it is worthwhile to see if more detailed finding aids also exist. Such finding aids may cover many record groups (these are often called Research Guides or something similar), or they may cover a particular record type or record group, or even a specific type of document within a particular record group.

Types/Examples of Genealogical Research Guides & Finding Aids

Research guide, finding aid, inventory and similar terms are often used interchangeably, but here is a general feel for what you might expect to look for or encounter.

Genealogical Research Guides - These may take many forms, from general record inventories of multiple record groups available in a particular locality or from a particular repository, to how-to guides which cover both research strategies and at least some of the available records that cover the particular locality or topic addressed by the guide.

[Research Guides/Information Leaflets](#) of the UK National Archives

Guide to Research Materials in the North Carolina State Archives: County Records by the North Carolina Department of Archives and History (older 2002 edition [available online](#))

Inventories - Inventories generally offer descriptions of the holdings of a particular record repository. This may take the form of an inventory of all available records of an individual repository, or be more specific, as in the case of a series or collection-level inventory.

[Inventories, Preliminary Inventories and Special Lists of the U.S. National Archives](#)

Finding Aids - A finding aid can be generally classified as anything that helps you to locate or find something. In this general sense, online indexes and databases can be classified as a finding aid. More specifically, a finding aid may be written to describe in depth the available records of a particular collection, such as a manuscript collection. In this way they are much like an extremely detailed inventory.

[East Carolina Manuscript Collection Finding Aids](#) - Includes detailed descriptions, historical/biographical background, container lists, card catalog entries and preliminary inventories.


A word about relying completely on online finding aids and inventories as your sole source of information on available records with potential genealogical information. In some cases the finding aids published online by a particular institution are the most detailed available, while in other cases the online version may be abbreviated, with a more detailed inventory or finding aid available in published form, or even from an alternate source. -

How Do You Pronounce Ye


By Dick Eastman


Many of us have encountered “ye” in old documents. Of course, we have all seen tourist shops labeled as “ye olde” something-or-other. How many of us know how to pronounce that?

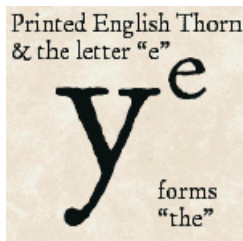
For years, I assumed it was pronounced as it was written. I would pronounce it as “Yee Old.” Perhaps a more correct way to write

it is with a long e: . I was a bit surprised later to learn that I had been wrong.

What looks like a “y” is a written character deriving from the old English letter, “thorn,” representing the “th” sound. No, it is not the letter “y,” it is the letter thorn. The thorn was commonly used in written English in the Middle Ages and for some time after. That explains why we see it on old documents and even in modern written sentences that imitate historical writing. Other than these cases, the thorn has now almost disappeared.

The thorn originally appeared to be written a bit different than the letter y as it had a descender. In fact, it looked more like a lower case “p” on top of a lower case “b” than a “y.” It typically looked like this: .

This was before the days of printed books when all documents were written by hand. The exact shape varied from one scribe to the next. Depending upon the scribe, the second letter was often written above the thorn, as in . Reprints of the 1611 edition of the King James Version of the Bible always show “ye” written as:




By the mid-15th century almost all scribes stopped using the descender, and the thorn has since been written in an identical manner as the modern letter “y.”

This shows the “thorn” in both upper and lower case, in serif and sans serif

While the Middle English thorn is now written exactly the same as a modern letter y, it always was pronounced with a voiced “th” as in “this.” In other words, several hundred years ago the word that was written as “ye” always was pronounced as “the,” exactly the same as it is today. An educated person of 1611 would al-

ways pronounce  as “the” although today we might spell it as “thee” when referring to a person, as in “thee of little faith.”)

Wikipedia has a rather detailed description of all this at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thorn_\(letter\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thorn_(letter))

So what killed the thorn? According to at least one source, it was the printing press. Here’s a simple but plausible explanation from http://www.h2g2.com/approved_entry/A2922077:

The thorn was particularly popular as a sign for ‘th’ in Medieval English, but with the advent of printing came a problem. There was no thorn sign in the printing fonts, as they were usually cast outside of England. So, since the sign for thorn slightly resembled the lower-case ‘y’, that’s what was substituted.

The thorn was used in several languages besides English but has since been replaced by other letters in all languages except Icelandic, where it is still used.

So, how do you pronounce the following?



Answer: “The Old Pizza Parlor”