



THE REGISTER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH BREVARD, INC.
P.O. BOX 897, TITUSVILLE, FL 32781-0897
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flgsnb>

6 November 2007

The Scottish Mayflower

Our guest speaker tonight, **Rich Shader** is no stranger to our group having presented a well-received program to our society on *Clans, Kilts & Tartans* at our September meeting in 2006. He is a member of the Scottish Tartans Authority, USA and is the Central Florida Commissioner of Clan MacLeod Society, USA.

He is recognized as a Central Florida authority on Scottish/Celtic culture. We are fortunate that he is willing to share his expertise with us.

SURNAMES

HOW TO FORM PLURALS

Many people have the erroneous idea that plurals are formed by adding an apostrophe and the letter "s". This is not the case. Apostrophes are NOT used to form plurals, but to form possessives (as in *John Smith's family* and *Tom Watts' house*) and to indicate contraction or abbreviation (as in *can't*, *didn't* and *nat'l*).

Surnames are pluralized in the same manner as ordinary nouns, by adding "'s" or "es".

In general, if the name ends in a letter other than "s", simply add an "s". Note: ordinary nouns ending in "y" change "y" to "i" and add "es", as in *babies*, but family names are not changed.

If the name already ends in an "s", "z", "sh" or "ch", then you simply add "es". Examples: *Joneses*, the *Sanchezes*, the *Wattses*, the *Owenses*, the *Bushes*.

If you want to make a plural name possessive, then add an apostrophe after the final "s", as in the *Smiths' house*, the *Donaldsons' land*, the *Wattses' ancestors*.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER WILL BE CLOSED THANKSGIVING WEEK

The Family History Center in Rockledge (1801 South Fiske Blvd.) will close on Saturday, November 17th at 4 pm and not reopen until 9 am on Tuesday, November 27th.

Normal hours of operation are:

Tuesday - 9 am to 1 pm, 6:30 to 9 pm

Wednesday - 9 am to 5 pm, 6:30 to 9 pm

Thursday & Friday - 9 am to 1 pm

Saturday - 10 am to 4 pm

GENEALOGY THIS MONTH IN BREVARD

The **Brevard Genealogical Society** normally meets the second Monday of each month at 9:30 am in the Meeting Room at the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center (308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa.) Since the library will be closed in observance of Veterans' Day on the 12th, this month's meeting will be held on November 19th. The National Sojourners will appear in costume and present a patriotic program, *Building the Flag*.

The **Genealogical Society of South Brevard** meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Melbourne Public Library (540 Fee Ave.) This month's meeting will be held on **November 14th** beginning 9:30 am. **Connie Bradish** will present a program titled *DNA and Genealogy*.

**Nancy Sieck is available
at the Titusville Public Library
now on Thursdays
from noon to 4 pm**

NEED PRE-1946 MILITARY PERSONNEL FILES?

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) will open for the first time all of the individual Official Military Personnel Files (OMPFs) of Army, Army Air Corps, Army Air Forces, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard military personnel who served and were discharged, retired or died while in the service prior to 1946. Additional records will be made available to the public each year through 2067 until the entire collection is opened.

These archived files are treasured by family members, historians, researchers and genealogists. Contained in a typical OMPF are documents outlining all elements of military service including assignments, evaluations, awards and decorations, education and training, some medical information and documented disciplinary actions. Some records also contain photographs of the individual and official correspondence concerning military service.

To obtain copies of records, write to
National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132

fax a request to 314-801-9195, submit a request online [<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>] or submit a Standard Form 180.

Cost? Copy fees are waived for veterans or primary next-of-kin (surviving spouse or children of the veteran). The fee schedule for others:

OMPFs 5 pages or less: \$15

OMPFs 6 pages or more (most OMPFs fall in this category): \$50

OMPS of Persons of Exceptional Prominence (PEP): \$.75 per page. PEP records pertain to famous individuals such as former Presidents, famous military leaders, decorated military heroes, celebrities, entertainers and professional athletes who left military service and who have been deceased for at least 10 years.

NARA GIFT FUND DOLLARS FOR DOCUMENTS

Each year GSNB donates \$1 per member to this fund. Based on last year's membership, our recent donation amounted to \$72.

Established in 1983, this fund which is administered by the Federation of Genealogical Societies seeks to raise funds to create finding aids and to microfilm valuable research materials held by the National Archives in Washington, DC.

The current goal is to raise \$1.25 million to microfilm two collections - the War of 1812 Pension and Bounty-land Warrant Records and the Compiled Service Records of the United States Colored Troops. Once microfilmed these records will become accessible to researchers *via* the Family History Library and at the National Archives regional branches such as the Southeast Regional Archive located in Morrow, GA which serves AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC and TN.

Individual contributions are always welcome. You can send a check or money order payable to NARA Gift Fund to the Federation of Genealogical Societies
P O Box 200940
Austin, TX 78720-0940.

**TITUSVILLE COMPUTER CLUB
meets monthly
2nd & 4th Thursday, 7 pm
St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church
(414 Pine St., Titusville)
Visitors always welcome!**

The GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH BREVARD, INC.

is a non-profit corporation chartered by the State of Florida. It is affiliated with the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the Florida State Genealogical Society, Inc., and the National Genealogical Society.
Dues: \$15/person or \$20/family per year
Web site: www.rootsweb.com/~flgsnb

Be Part of Something Big!

The Family History Library is indexing its 2.5 million microfilms and 1.5 million microfiche to make 5 billion documents easily accessible to people all over the world, free of charge. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints expects to have 100,000 volunteers by the end of the year, and hopes to eventually have one million volunteers. You do not have to be a member to participate in this project; join in if you have the Internet and occasional half hours! To extract information from digital images of historical documents go to:

www.familysearchindexing.org

- Establish that your computer has the needed specifications.
- Set up as a VOLUNTEER with a user name and password.
- INSTALL the needed program.
- Go to HELP for a tutorial on indexing guidelines.
- Select a PROJECT and learn specifics about the chosen records.
- START INDEXING; the handwritten records will appear on the screen, along with a form or table to be completed with your typewritten extraction. Type what you see!
- Once downloaded, you can index the documents off line.
- Each batch of downloaded records takes 30-40 minutes to index.
- Each handwritten record is indexed twice by two different volunteers; if there are any discrepancies an experienced genealogist will look at the original record and make a final decision on the name, date, or place. If you are experienced, ask to be an arbitrator.
- E-mail indexing@support.familysearch.org with any questions.

Share this information with family, friends, neighbors, and others. Help create automated indexes that assist everyone in finding their ancestors!

2007 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

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BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, 13 November
6 to 9 pm

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 4 December
7 - 9 pm
Christmas Social

Jacob Hannemann Memorial Room
Titusville Public Library
(2121 South Hopkins Ave)

Remember Your Veteran Ancestors - 11 November