



THE REGISTER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF

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

3 November 2009

"FAMILY TREASURES"

The meeting tonight will provide the display of items presented by members of GSNB. The items are primarily historical but valuable as family treasures. Most families have items that have been handed down and are retained as links to the genealogical past. We expect a wide variety of articles on display. Discussion of each will be limited to provide time for all.

DIGITAL ROOTS

Digital Roots is a non-profit BYU research laboratory dedicated to simplifying family history through the creation of powerful and intuitive software tools.

Web Site: <http://roots.cs.byu.edu>

GENEALOGY THIS MONTH IN BREVARD

The **Brevard Genealogical Society** meets the second Monday of each month at 9:30 am in the Meeting Room of the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center (308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa.) This month's meeting will be held on **November 16th**. **Connie Bradish** will present "**German Records and How to Read Them**".

The **Genealogical Society of South Brevard** meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Melbourne Public Library (540 Fee Ave.) This month's meeting scheduled for **November 11th** is cancelled due to FSGS Conference.

GSNB DUES

Dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family. 2010 dues can be paid now and are due by 1 January 2010. If paid by mail please make check or money order payable to GSNB, Inc. and send to P.O. box 897, Titusville, FL 32781-0897.

Our sincere sympathy
to the family of

Frances Rehrig

who departed this life on
Wednesday, 21 October 2009

Frances was a former and
long time member of GSNB.

WINDOWS 7

READ BEFORE UPGRADING

Windows 7 will be released on Thursday. I suspect that some people are planning to upgrade their Windows XP systems to Windows 7 soon after the release. If you are a Windows XP user who is thinking of upgrading, I'd suggest that you first read the instructions carefully. The upgrade path from XP to Windows 7 is a bit rocky.

Posted by Dick Eastman on October 20, 2009

"Genealogy is my hobby: irritating the living
and confusing the dead."

NARA SEEKS TO SHRINK SERVICES AND RESEARCH SPACE IN D.C.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has proposed some major changes that will significantly reduce the space and services available to researchers who wish to use NARA records in Washington, D.C. Specifically, the proposal is to relocate the Finding Aids/ Consultants to a smaller, open space within the library, reduce the number of microfilm readers, and replace self-serve microfilm access with a "pull on demand" process that requires staff to retrieve each film as someone requests it.

Posted by Dick Eastman on October 21, 2009

FAMILY SURNAME TIMELINES ON GOOGLE

W. David Samuelsen told me of a neat trick that was news to me: you can find family surname timelines on Google. In fact, it only takes a second or two to find timelines of events involving your family name.

To find a timeline, go to <http://www.google.com> and enter the following:

surname family history

The only thing is you have to substitute the surname of interest in place of the word "surname" in the above example. For instance, to find timelines of my family name, I had to enter:

Eastman family history

Next, Google will display all sorts of "hits" and, if you scroll down a bit, you will see timelines. In my case, I had to scroll to the bottom of the first page to see anything about timelines and then I clicked on "More timeline results." Depending how popular your surname is, you may have to scroll down even further.

The timeline I saw shows all sorts of historical events involving people with the same surname as my own. A blue timeline shows how many "hits" occurred for certain years and then the events themselves are listed below the timeline in typical Google fashion.

This can be a great resource when you have exhausted other possibilities. Of course, you can search for the names on Google at any-time but the timelines add quite a bit of visual help.

Posted by Dick Eastman on October 12, 2009

CASTLE GARDENS

CastleGarden.org is an educational project of The Battery Conservancy. This free site offers access to an extraordinary database of information on 12 million immigrants from 1820 through 1892, the year Ellis Island opened. Over 100 million Americans can trace their ancestors to this early immigration period.

Web site: <http://www.castlegarden.org>

STAPLES REWARDS

Please bring your used ink cartridges to our general meeting.

THE LOST BAGPIPER

As a bagpiper, I had been asked by a funeral director if I would play at a graveside service (something which I do occasionally) for a homeless man who had no family or friends. The funeral was to be held at a new cemetery in the remote countryside and he would be the first to be buried there.

Not being familiar with the area, I got lost and being a typical male, refused to stop for directions. Finally, I arrived an hour late. I saw the backhoe and the crew who were eating lunch, but the hearse had already left.

I walked over to the side of the open grave where I saw the vault lid already in place. I assured the workers I wouldn't hold them up, but I felt obligated to play my bagpipe. The workers gathered around me, still eating their lunch.

I played as if I were playing for my dearest friend. The workers began to weep. I played "Going Home", "The Lord is My Shepherd", "Flowers of the Forest", then I closed with "Amazing Grace".

When finished, I walked to my car. As I was opening the door and taking off my coat, I overheard one of the workers say to another, "Sweet Jesus, Mary 'n Joseph, I've never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for over twenty years!"

DIGITAL BOOKS

There are thousands of complete books on Google, most out-of-copyright. There are also many genealogy books online via the Family History Library and BYU.

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/digital/>

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/index.php>

<http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/>

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/dlib/spc/famhistorian/index.html>

FARMER IN YOUR PAST

If you have farmers in your family check out this new site by Dr. Lynn H. Nelson, University of Kansas. New and authored by Dr. Lynn H. Nelson.

WWW-VL: History: US Agricultural History

<http://www.vlib.us/history/agricultural.html>

DEMYSTIFYING COPYRIGHTS

Copyrights may be the single most misunderstood topic on the planet, and unfortunately, genealogists are prone to asserting copyrights improperly.

Many assume copyrights are all about writing. They are applied to writing, but are more specifically about rights – e.g., the right of an author establishes copying guidelines for intellectual property.

We see copyrights applied to music, photography and elsewhere – but often, they are misapplied. You may be surprised to learn which items can't be copyrighted:

1. Dates
2. Facts
3. Slogans
4. short phrases
5. Conversations
6. modifications of another's work
7. domain names
8. public domain items
9. antique treasures, such as old books and diaries

Before you wonder if I am a copyright lawyer, I'm not.

I learned this and more from the United States Copyright Office, which states,

"Copyright is a form of protection grounded in the U.S. Constitution and granted by law for original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression. Copyright covers both published and unpublished works."

How much of someone else's work can I use without getting permission?

"Under the fair use doctrine of the U.S. copyright statute, it is permissible to use limited portions of a work including quotes, for purposes such as commentary, criticism, news reporting, and scholarly reports. There are no legal rules permitting the use of a specific number of words... or percentage of a work..."

From RootsWeb Review, October 14, 2009

KENTUCKY CEMETERY DATABASE

This Kentucky Historical Society database contains 179,750 grave records from 3,170 cemeteries.

<http://205.204.134.47/cemetery.asp>

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

The current GSNB program schedule

8 Dec 2009	GSNB Members/Guests "Christmas Social"
5 Jan 2010	Elmer Spear "Elmer's Genealogical Library"
2 Feb 2010	TBD
"TBD"	

NARA

Are you looking for documents by the Continental Congress, court records related to the Amistad, details on the assassination of President Lincoln, or FBI investigative case files from World War I? You now have ready access to documents like these, which capture important American ideals and events that have shaped our country. More than 20 groupings of NARA records are available for free from any computer on Footnote.com. Just look for the red "FREE" label next to the links on the Footnote listing of Original Historical Documents. (<http://www.footnote.com/documents/>)

FLOPPY DISKS

Floppy disks have a **RELIABLE** life expectancy of a year or two. My experience has been that they usually last longer but you can't depend on that. If you store dozens of floppy disks, at least some of them will lose data within 2 or 3 years.

Posted by Dick Eastman on October 20, 2009

The GENEALOGY 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

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

2009 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President	Patrick Bowers	phbowers@covad.net	636-3089
Vice-president / Programs	Martha Noffel	mnoffel@bellsouth.net	383-8486
Secretary	Carol Eilers	ceilers@cfl.rr.com	267-4824
Treasurer	Jackie Palmer	jcqlplm@aol.com	383-1877
Historian	Barbara Maloney	BMAL1487@aol.com	269-9016
Publicity	Martha Noffel	mnoffel@bellsouth.net	383-8486
Telephone Committee	Martha Noffel	mnoffel@bellsouth.net	383-8486
	Lorene Shafer	shaferlor@aol.com	269-0903
Newsletter Editor	Patrick Bowers	phbowers@covad.net	636-3089
Webmaster	James Joyner	jj_joyner@yahoo.com	635-8707
CD Collection	Page Laney	pagelaney@bellsouth.net	264-7429
Name Tags	Joel Shealy	jshealy2@cfl.rr.com	267-3592
Surname Database	Thomas Vaughn	t_j_vaughn@juno.com	269-4921
FGS Delegate	Gwen Read		321-752-7881



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BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, 17 November
6 to 8 pm

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday, 9 December
7 - 9 pm

Speaker: GSNB members
Topic: Christmas Social

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