



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>

January 5, 2010

ELMER'S GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY



Our guest speaker tonight is Elmer Spear. He will provide details on Elmer's Genealogical Library that he founded ten years ago in Madison, FL. This extensive collection includes more than 20,000 books covering every

state of the Union as well as many overseas countries. The Florida State Genealogical Society recognized him as Genealogist of the Year in 1999. He also was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Federation of Genealogy Societies in 2003.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Meetings: Members are welcome to attend the GSNB Board meetings. The meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the library in study room 2. The next meeting is January 19 at 6 pm in the library's study room 2.

Dues: Dues for the New Year are now being collected. Dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family. When paying by mail, please make check or money order payable to GSNB, Inc. and send to P.O. Box 897, Titusville, FL 32781-0897.

Staples Rewards: Please bring your used printer ink cartridges to our general meetings. They will be turned in to Staples for reward credits that are used to pay for GSNB printing needs.

GENEALOGY THIS MONTH IN BREVARD

The **Brevard Genealogical Society (BGS)** 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 **January 11th**. **Jim Lacey** will present "**Using Genealogical Research to Write a Novel**".

The **Genealogical Society of South Brevard (GSSB)** meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Melbourne Public Library (540 Fee Ave.) This month's meeting will be held on **January 13th**. **Dee Swink** will present "**Tracing Your Roots Down the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road**".

Thank you!

A thank you to all those who contributed to the success of our Christmas Social, particularly to Patrick Bowers, who made sure that everyone went home with a gift, and Marty Noffel who coordinated the food. A fun time was had by all.

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■ "In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to

■ know our heritage - to know who we are and

■ where we came from. Without this enriching

■ knowledge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter

■ what our attainments in life, there is still a vac-

■ uum, an emptiness, and the most disquieting

■ loneliness."

■ **Alex Haley, Roots**

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West Virginia Offers Online Access to Vital Records

Internet users everywhere can now view Hank Williams' death certificate, or great-grandpa's birth certificate through an upgraded online database of more than 5.7 million vital records in West Virginia, officials said yesterday.

Unlike most states that provide only lists or indices of vital records online, West Virginia's database also includes images of the original files, said Joe Geiger, director of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History's archives and history section.

West Virginia's searchable database also is free.

State officials started the online service four years ago by entering records from Calhoun, Gilmer, Hardy, Harrison, Mineral and Pendleton counties, said state archivist Debra Basham. Just recently, it completed entering data from all 55 counties and upgraded its server to increase by three times the speed with which users can access and download information.

Records can be searched by name, date or county. Some birth and death records from as early as 1853 are available, but better records exist after 1917 when the West Virginia Department of Health Vital Registration began collecting county records. Marriage records are available from the inception of each county, the earliest of which dates to 1780. However, birth records are not placed online until 100 years after the event while death records are also kept offline, but only for 50 years.

The West Virginia online vital records database is available at <http://www.wvculture.org/vrr>. I'd suggest you first read a great article giving details that may be found at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/vitalrecordsarticle.pdf>.

Posted by Dick Eastman on December 18, 2009 in Online Sites

Download Free RootsMagic Essentials Software

Posted by Diane

RootsMagic, maker of RootsMagic desktop genealogy software for Windows, has released a free version called RootsMagic Essentials. The program contains many core features found in its namesake.

It's designed for people who want to start using genealogy software, but aren't yet ready to purchase a full-fledged program. RootsMagic Essentials offers the ability to

- add an unlimited number of people and events to your tree
- add pictures and media management
- write source citations using the SourceWizard
- create dozens of reports and charts
- share data with other people and software programs.

It can directly import data from Personal Ancestral File, Family Tree Maker (through version 2006), Family Origins and Legacy Family Tree. It reads and writes data using the GEDCOM format.

The full version of RootsMagic 4, which includes additional features, is available for \$29.95. See the website for more details.

Speaking of the web, RootsMagic unveiled a sleek new site today. The navigation tabs with drop-down menus neatly organize the site's content so it's easy to find.

You can download trial versions of other RootsMagic programs, too, including Personal Historian, FamilyAtlas and Family Reunion Organizer.

Posted on Genealogy Software
Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Paint.NET - the Free Photoshop Alternative

Paint.NET is a free, fast, and powerful image editor for Windows. It features an intuitive and innovative user interface with support for layers, unlimited undo, special effects, and a wide variety of useful and powerful tools. Paint.NET is a giant leap above Microsoft Paint, and a serious alternative to bigger, bloated image editors like Photoshop or GIMP. Being mean and lean, Paint.NET doesn't do everything that its expensive competitors can do; yet, it's a great value for the price (zero).

Originally intended as a free replacement for the Microsoft Paint software that comes with Windows, Paint.NET has grown into a powerful yet simple image and photo editor tool. It handles most of the basics you'd expect from advanced image editors, and the latest version has added new effects (including new blurs and distortions), better performance, and a complete refresh of the user interface.

The latest version is Paint.NET 3.5 and is available in English, Chinese (Simplified), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazil), Russian, and Spanish.

If you need to do the occasional image tweaking or heavy image editing but don't want to spend a lot of cash on Photoshop or dive into GIMP, Paint.NET is well worth the download. It may not be able to do everything Photoshop does, but it can do everything most users need. Paint.NET for Windows is a free application although the authors do accept donations. Paint.NET is available at <http://www.getpaint.net>.

Posted by Dick Eastman on November 15, 2009

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

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

The current GSNB program schedule:

2 Feb 2010	Patti Kirk
	"Google.com"
2 Mar 2010	Patrice Green
	"Websites: Why, How & HTML"
6 Apr 2010	TBD
	"TBD"
4 May 2010	TBD

Genealogy Quick Reference Guide

Thomas MacEntee has composed a Quick Reference and posted it on Geneabloggers. The Geneabloggers post is <http://www.geneabloggers.com/>

The Quick Reference Guide itself is <http://www.geneabloggers.com/>

The guide covers:

- * basic concepts of source citations
- * the do's and don'ts of using source citations
- * components that comprise a citation
- * popular citation styles
- * bibliography generation websites
- * how to code footnotes for blogs and websites
- * helpful links
- * recommended reads and items

Information provided by Doug Burnett, GSSB Publicity Chairman

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

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BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, 19 January
6 to 8 pm

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, 2 February 6 – 8 pm

Speaker: Patti Kirk
Topic: Google.com

Jacob Hannemann Memorial Room
Titusville Public Library
2121 South Hopkins Ave