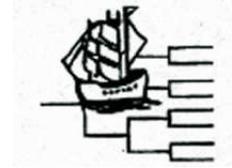


The Tracers



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Brandon Area Genealogical and Historical Society
PO Box 2635 Valrico, Fl. 33595-2635

Dear Members,

As our vacations are coming to an end and our summer travels have ended, it is now time to get back to work on the materials and information you might have gathered during the summer. Think about sharing those with the membership in the form of a program.

Our membership continues to increase and our programs are varied and sure to be of interest to our membership. In October, we are having someone from the Bureau of the Census present a program about the census throughout the years. As you know, our country is preparing for our next census which will take place in 2010, just a few months away. As researchers you know how very important the census records are for us. One of the best places to begin family history research is with the census records which began being gathered in 1790.

Be sure to RSVP for the Spanish Cultural Day which will be held on Saturday, November 14th. It will include an historic overview of the Spanish in Tampa, a tour of the Centro Asturiano club building, lunch at the Latam Restaurant and a tour of the original Centro Asturiano Cemetery. The details are on our website and there are fliers available at our meetings. Our last day similar to this was an Italian event and was very much enjoyed by the many who participated.

Elections are soon to be held, so if you are interested in holding an office or serving on the board, please let us know. We are also looking for interesting programs for next year. All dates for the remainder of this year are taken.

Happy researching,
Scott L. Peeler, Jr.
President

With Ahnentafel, you will be #1:

This is a German word for ancestor table and it uses a unique numbering system starting with you. It is user-friendly and computers are not required. The Ahnentafel chart will be much more compact than your ordinary ancestor tree, if you simply use the numbers and let the detailed information be documented elsewhere. For more information check out the Ancestry Learning Library:
<http://www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=6490>

(As Thanksgiving approaches keep this in mind.)
Family, by Paula Stuart Warren, CG

This recent [last] Thanksgiving got me thinking about the definition of family. Several years ago one of my grandchildren had a family history school project. She corrected me on the charts we prepared together. She asked why we weren't including one aunt, one uncle, and one grandpa. They are certainly family, but not relatives by blood. The aunt is a family friend, the uncle is my brother-in-law's brother, and Grandpa Bud is his father. Additionally, I have others who call me Mom or Grandma. The oldest granddaughter calls them my fake children and grandchildren. (Don't get upset, the term fake is used lovingly between us; that is a story for another time.) My children and now my grandchildren have always had many "relatives" that don't fit into the spaces in genealogy software or paper charts. This year's Thanksgiving celebrations were spent with many good people who are not blood relatives. I have some special genealogy families, too. Will future generations know who all these people are in my life and yours? Don't forget to include them as you document your family's history and add their names to pictures. Have you written the story of their connection to you? Maybe it is time.

Indian Settlement of Peru (Pee-Roo):

By: David Boyett

Peru was Located along the south banks of the Alafia River, known as the River of Fire by the Indians. At night the water's high phosphoric content would produce what appeared to be fire in the dark waters. Peru had been an Indian Settlement for hundreds of years before statehood.

The community was listed in "Webb's Industrial, Historical and Biographical Florida, Part I" by Watson S. Webb, 1885 New York.

"PERU is situated on the south bank of the Alafia River, 4 miles from its mouth. Good water transportation is had to Tampa. It was settled in February, 1874, by Mr. James M. Boyett, the present postmaster. In 1882, there was only one family there. At the present time the population is about 70 and rapidly increasing. J. J. Boyett is the name of the land agent. The Alafia River is navigable to this place, and with a little dredging the depth of water could be made seven feet. Nathan Boyett, I. H. Pelham, S. E. Mays, and R. Moody have the largest and finest orange groves. Cattle do well. Sheep are being raised very extensively with satisfactory results."



Photo: Government Lot #5 (Owner J.M. Boyett)

According to Land Grant Records, the Boyetts owned 72 acres along the Alafia, known as Government Lot #5. The location is now the Riverview Civic Center and Park, 11020 Park Drive.

July 15, 1880, Sunland Tribune:

...Peru is situated on the Alafia River about two miles from its mouth. It is southeast from Tampa, the distance being fourteen miles by land, twelve by water, and M.J. Boyett's store near Leslie's ferry is

nearly the central point. I did not intend to convey the impression that it is a town, or even a village, but a closely settled neighborhood whose citizens are intelligently wide awake to the best and most important interest to their community, county, State and entire country."

Hillsborough County Historical Resources Survey Report, 1989:

Of Peru's 81 farmers in 1884, they controlled 5878 acres of land. The smallest farm consisted of 10 acres and H.H. Freer's farm, the largest, had 183 acres. Seventy-three acres was the average size. While raising sheep and cattle, farmers also grew guavas, potatoes, sugar cane, oranges, cabbage, and turnips. Nathan Boyette, Samuel E. Mays, Benjamin Moody, and I.H. Pelham were the area's largest orange growers. With four general stores, a public school, and two churches in 1886, property values ranged from five dollars to a whopping 200 dollars an acre. According to J.J. Boyett, the local land agent, James M. Boyett sold \$18,000 worth of goods from his store in 1886.

During the late 1880's phosphate was discovered on the Alafia and processing plants were established on the north banks. This boom resulted in the rapid growth of a new community of Riverview on the north side of the river and slowed the growth of Peru.



Riverview Park, Government Lot #5

The post office in Peru was closed on December 31, 1900 with mail delivery going to Riverview. Despite the bridge being built in 1901, Riverview, located on the north side of the river continued to be the center of commerce. By 1920 Peru was no longer as the name Riverview was now common to both sides of the river along what is now Highway 301.

Annual July Indoor Picnic:

BAGHS held its annual July Picnic during the scheduled July 14 meeting. Members enjoyed fried chicken and the “fixings” along with a little time for socializing and genealogy.



Waiting for dessert!



The Ladies from the back table!



After desserts!

Lunch at Latam Centro de Tampa:

If you enjoyed the indoor picnic be sure and join BAGHS for the Spanish Cultural Day on Saturday, November 14, 2009. The event starts at 10 a.m. in the Centro Asturiano de Tampa Building and is followed by lunch at the Latam Centro Restaurant. Please R.S.V.P. the society president and the cost including tour and meal is \$17 each. For more information see the upcoming events on the web page. For information on Centro Asturiano de Tampa and map information:

<http://www.centroasturianotampa.org/>



USF Photo Collection: Centro Asturiano 1976

World Archives Project, August Program:

BAGHS member, David Boyett presented a program about the new initiative between the Federation of Genealogical Societies and Ancestry.com to transcribe historical records. All members were invited to participate and be part of this important effort to index public records. The indexed records would then be made available free to researchers on the Internet.

It is easy to volunteer for the World Archives Project, just download the free software and follow the on-line instructions. It is not necessary to be members of Ancestry.com but if you are subscription discounts are available for Archive Volunteers.
<http://community.ancestry.com/wap/download.aspx>

Also discussed was the Family Search Volunteer Program which is similar to the program at Ancestry. To volunteer at Family Search:

http://www.familysearch.org/eng/indexing/frameset_indexing.asp

Another new feature at Family Search is the new record search application that is still under development and will be released later this year. The "pilot" release can be found here: <http://www.familysearch.org/eng/indexing/frameset/indexing.asp>

The new release is an excellent source for census records and death certificates with original copies being available in many cases, especially for Texas Death Records.



August Speaker, David Boyett and Society President Scott Peeler at the August Meeting.

September Program, "Lightning Round"
Pam Treme and Pattie Schultz are back with us for another informative program.



Pam Treme and Patty Schultz

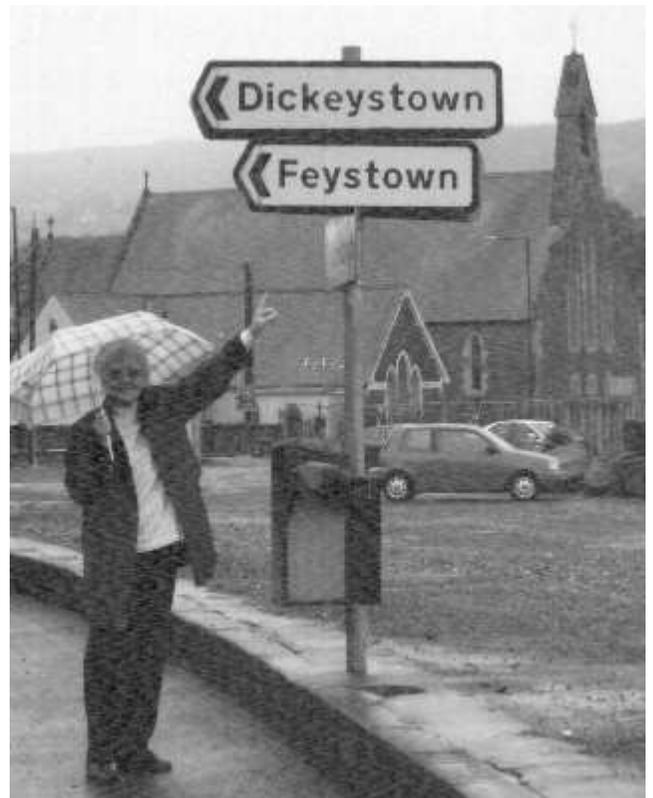
Lighting Round included various Internet resources:

Alternate to Google as it categorizes the results: www.clusty.com People Search from public records & Web Pages: www.pipl.com Looking for a book try www.worldcat.org Need a Research Assistance

to Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness www.raogk.org Land Patent Search use www.glorerecords.gov/patentsearch/default.asp? Don't forget, igoogle for Gmail, News, Document Sharing, Calendars and Chat: www.igoogle.com

Research Corner:

Anna Jean Springer ajdickey@aol.com : Dickey Family of Ulster/Ireland migration to PA, VA, KY and MO. Seeking parentage of William F. Dickey b. bet. 1783-1788 VA or PA d. 1877 in Polk Co MO. Married Sarah Gabbert in 1813 Mercer Co KY, daughter of Rev. War Patriot, Michael Gabbert.



Anna Jean Springer braves the weather and travels with daughter, Celeste Ray to Dickeystown, Ireland in search of ancestors.

Dickey Family Research: by Anna Jean (Dickey) Springer, August 2009

I recently enjoyed a wonderful two week tour of Ireland with my daughter who teaches Anthropology and Celtic Archaeology. This was a fast paced trip mainly for one of her continued research projects, but we made a point of visiting "Dickeystown."

After traveling as far north in Ulster as possible, we wound through the spectacular Glens of Antrim and

along the east coast drive overlooking the Irish Sea. This brought us to the southernmost Glen in County Antrim (still north of Belfast) to Glenarm Castle and to my desired destination - Dickeystown Road.

Years ago someone I found on the General Forum, also researching Dickeyes, had sent me pictures of herself by a sign for Dickeystown Road and I had always hoped to make the pilgrimage.

Drenched on a more than "soft" day, I am photographed here beside the sign before we traveled out Dickeystown Road seeking someone to ask about the area. Dickeystown is not a town, but an Irish "townland" (the smallest of geographical land divisions used for administrative purposes and mail delivery). Townlands feature in local and family histories and people still identify today with their townland of origin. For anyone interested: "Townlands fit into parishes, parishes into baronies, baronies into counties and counties into Provinces; however, some civil parishes may be in more than one barony and sometimes in more than one county." (From Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.) At Dickeystown, we photographed some now-dilapidated buildings of perhaps 18th or 17th century origin which included a farmstead and outbuildings. There were many working farms throughout the area and the beautiful rolling countryside was covered in sheep and the quintessential Irish green in the continuous rain we encountered.

We then stopped at a home to speak with a Mr. Matthews who had been recommended as a long time resident in the area. He was not home but his daughter next door said he was out on his tractor so we didn't ask her to stop him from his work. He lived in a very attractive house, which I am sure was originally thatched as his daughter said it dated back to the 1600's. It was raining very hard where I stood talking with her and I failed to get her father's address so that I could write to him but have now found his home on-line listed as "Briarfield" with rental for self catering and his e-mail address. I had taken a picture of his house so recognized it immediately when I saw it on-line while searching for Dickeystown, Co. Antrim so have sent him an e-mail seeking information on the area.

From that location, we drove a few miles through Broughshane, a town literally covered with beautiful flowers on the walls of buildings, in window boxes and in containers along the sidewalks with street signs "Britain in Bloom" - it really was. This was on the way to Ballymena, a distance of about 30 miles and another stop on the itinerary as, back in 2000 when I did some research at the National Library of

Ireland, I'd learned that many Dickeyes had lived in Ballymena.

At the Ballymena Library, a most resourceful assistant in the Local Studies Department gave me a copy of the 1861 Griffith's Evaluation for the Union of Larne, County of Antrim for the General Valuation of Ireland which clearly listed Dickeystown as a town land with 15 male heads of household - but no Dickeyes! (My Dickeyes were in the United States by the early to mid 1700's.) She also gave me a 1961 Census of Population for the Government of Northern Ireland which still listed Dickeystown as a townland.

Later, in checking local phone book pages, I found a man by the exact same name as my 2nd Great Grandfather, Wm. F. Dickey, who lives in Broughshane, the town full of flowers, which we had passed through on the way to Ballymena. Had I realized this sooner, I would have stopped to look for him but have now written to him hoping to find out more about the origin of Dickeystown and what prompted that place name.

Well, maybe we don't want to hurry and find all those long lost ancestors as the research is so much fun!

F.G.S. Tampa 2009 Fall Genealogy Seminar By: David Boyett

Researchers from across the Bay Area and outlying Counties gathered at the Hillsborough Community College to listen to renowned Genealogy researcher and author, Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA. shown@comcast.net



The seminar was sponsored by the Florida Genealogical Society of Tampa and included a number of vendors and local Genealogical Societies including BAGHS.

You never know what you might find while attending these programs. During our lunch break I joined a group from the Polk County Genealogical Society www.ipgs.org and discovered that I had common ancestors from the Virginia Colony with one of their members.



Book Sales for Author Elizabeth Shown Mills



Noreta Wells at the D.A.R Booth



David Boyett at the BAGHS Booth

Check Upcoming Events: <http://www.baghs.org>
Mark your calendars now for the Society Christmas Party on December 8, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 3, 2009 10:30 am (Research-a-Rama) at the John F. German Library sponsored by FGS-Tampa. Come and learn how to use the library.

Saturday, October 17, 2009 8:00 am Lectures by Jana Sloan Broglin, CG – Polk County \$40

Ask A Genealogist:
Every Tuesday 4-6 p.m. Bloomingdale Library
Co-sponsored by BAGHS and the Library.
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flbaghs/>

President: Scott L. Peeler Jr. baghs@yahoo.com
Vice President: Bob Rooke
Secretary: Annetee Lee
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