



# 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 10, 2012

## TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

We welcome Patricia Andrews as tonight's presenter. Her topic is the LaGrange Cemetery. The program will contain history of the cemetery and will include numerous charts displaying gravesite locations. The honor roll of early pioneers can be read off the grave stones at LaGrange Cemetery. The history of LaGrange Church and Cemetery, located at 1575 Old Dixie Hwy, 3 miles north of Titusville, is the thread that binds us to those who have gone before and made our lives pos-

## UPCOMING GENEALOGY MEETINGS

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). Their next meeting will be on February 13th. BGS is offering a beginners' genealogy course that begins January 19th—February 23rd on Thursdays from 9:30-noon. Seating is limited and pre-registration is required. More details are on their website: <http://www.flbgs.org/>

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.) Norm Desmariais will speak on "New England History" at their next meeting on Jan. 11th. Their website: [www.gssb.net](http://www.gssb.net)

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

Ed McMahan, along with several TV cameras, and an envelope from Publishers' Clearing House arrive at your front door on Super Bowl Sunday and the first thing you say is "Are you related to the McMahons in Ohio?"

## A Saturday with Dick Eastman

Here's a great opportunity to consider: Dick Eastman, author of the widely read genealogy e-magazine, Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter (eogn), will be the guest speaker at a one-day seminar on Saturday, March 3 in Melbourne. The eogn website has been named the 13th most popular genealogy-related site in the world! This event is co-sponsored by GSNB, BGS, and GSSB, the three Brevard County genealogical societies. Eastman will present four relevant topics: Better than Soundex; Mocavo: A Comparison of the Best (?) Genealogy Search Engine vs. Google; The Organized Genealogist; and Putting the Genes in Genealogy. Tickets are \$20 until 2/19. This event is expected to sellout so register now. Forms are available at tonight's meeting or online at [www.flbgs.org](http://www.flbgs.org).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Board Meetings:** Members are welcome to attend the GSNB Board meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 pm in the library, study room 2. The next meeting is January 17.

**Dues:** Dues for 2012 are now being collected. If you paid after September 1, 2011, your membership is paid through December 2012. Dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family. When paying by mail, please make check 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 meetings. The society receives Rewards credit from Staples that is used to pay our monthly printing needs, including the newsletter and handouts.

**Refreshments Needed:** The signup sheet for snacks and beverages is available at the welcome table. Your contributions at our monthly meetings are much appreciated.

## Presidential Candidates are Related to Most Everyone Else

The Presidential campaigns are heating up. There is an interesting side effect, as mentioned in an old saying: "Why pay money to have your family tree traced; go into politics and your opponents will do it for you." Indeed, that is happening now. Until Election Day 2012, you will see many news stories about the ancestors and other distant relatives of every major candidate.

Most of the candidates have family trees that go back for many generations in the United States. If your ancestry also goes back several generations in the U.S., it's likely that you share at least one common trait with the candidates: you are probably related to many famous people. We all are. After all, you have 2 parents, 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents, and so on. If you go back 300 years, you have about 4,000 ancestors, assuming no duplicates. Of course, most of us have duplicates.

According to an article by Elizabeth Weise in USA Today, "If you have blue eyes, you may be related to every other blue-eyed person in the world. Researchers in Denmark have found that every person with blue eyes descends from just one "founder," an ancestor whose genes mutated 6,000 to 10,000 years ago. Before then, everyone had brown eyes." You can read more about Ancestry.com's research at <http://goo.gl/i31tp>.

The news articles are about to begin, stating that every political candidate is related to almost everyone else who ever walked the face of the earth. Here are a few of the latest relationships for which proof has been found:

Mitt Romney, the former governor of Massachusetts, is connected to Presidents George W. Bush (10th cousins twice removed), George H. W. Bush (10th cousins once removed) and Franklin D. Roosevelt (8th cousins, twice removed) through Ann Marbury Hutchinson, a key figure in the development of religious freedom in America and early settler of Rhode Island and New York. Romney is related to Presidents Calvin Coolidge (10th cousins), Herbert Hoover (10th cousins) and Franklin Pierce (6th cousins 4 times removed) through Thomas Richardson, an English landowner in the late 1500s from Hertfordshire. Romney also shares a common ancestor with former first lady Barbara Pierce Bush: Franklin Pierce. In addition, he is related to three consecutive presidents of the U.S.: Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Rick Perry, the 47th governor of Texas, is a first cousin six times removed of Sam Houston, the commander-in-chief of Texas Revolutionary forces and twice-elected President of the Republic of Texas. Perry is the fifth cousin four times removed of Harry Truman. and is also related to Captain John Paxton, a hero of the U.S. Revolutionary War who survived the infamous winter encampment at Valley Forge with General George Washington.

Barack Obama's distant cousins include actor Brad Pitt, former Vice President Dick Cheney, former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, billionaire financial investor Warren Buffett, and radio talk show personality Rush Limbaugh.

Relatively speaking—if I can use that expression here—the one candidate who stands out as being different from the others is Minnesota Representative Michele Bachmann. Her ancestry is 100 percent Norwegian. So far, the researchers at Ancestry.com have not been able to find any relationship to any other famous Americans in her family tree. But there's hope, especially if any president had Norwegian ancestry.

These won't be the last articles you read about presidential candidates' relatives—the news media loves these stories.

Excerpts from Eastman's Online Newsletter 12.20.11

### SEASON 3 OF 'WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?' PREMIERS FEBRUARY 3

*Viewers can take an up-close look inside the family history of some of today's most beloved and iconic celebrities when NBC's "Who Do You Think You Are?" returns for its third season on Friday, February 3 (8-9 p.m. ET). The celebrities who star in the series are Martin Sheen, Marisa Tomei, Blair Underwood, Reba McEntire, Rob Lowe, Helen Hunt, Rita Wilson, Edie Falco, Rashida Jones, Jerome Bettis, Jason Sudeikis and Paula Deen.*

*"We're very excited about the stories we have this season. This fantastic group of people we have will take us to countries we haven't visited before which is thrilling and gives us glimpses into crucial details of history that not only shaped their families, but our world," said executive producers Lisa Kudrow and Dan Bucatinsky. This is what we love about this series; it's so enriching for us the viewer, as well as for the participants and their families."*

Excerpts from Geneabloggers 01.06.12

### A New Series On PBS: "Finding Your Roots"

Another genealogy series is about to be launched on TV: "Finding Your Roots" with historian Henry Louis Gates Jr. will begin on March 25 on PBS stations.

The 10-part series will feature two people in each one-hour episode, including husband-and-wife actors Kevin Bacon and Kyra Sedgwick, who jokes she's afraid they might turn out to be cousins. "They are indeed distant cousins," revealed Gates. "Talk about six degrees of separation, right?"

Check your local listings for the exact time and channel in your area.

Eastman Online Newsletter 01.04.12

## National Archives Places Videos of Popular Records Workshops Online for First Time

For the first time, the National Archives has launched online videos of its most popular genealogy "how to" workshops. These videos cover "hot topics" in genealogical research such as census, immigration and military records.

"The National Archives is proud to make our most popular genealogy lectures available online and ready for viewing by anyone, anywhere, at any time," said Diane Dimkoff, Director of Customer Services.

These videos cover "hot topics" in genealogical research such as census, immigration and military records. Now, these popular workshops led by National Archives experts are available on the National Archives YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives>

Excerpts from Eastman Online Newsletter 01.04.12

### UPCOMING SPECIAL SEMINARS

The Indian River Genealogical Society along with BGS, GSSB and the Treasure Coast Genealogical Society will present a 2012 Valentine Genealogical Seminar on Saturday, February 11 titled "How to Do 'Who Do You Think You Are' for Ordinary People." Like the popular television program, the seminar will feature four elements found in each of the WDYTIA episodes. Experienced genealogists Kim Garvey and Cindy Hineman will follow the program's format and present these programs: placing your ancestor in historical context; developing a research plan; using oral history and family/private archives; and using data bases to find information. The event is 9-4 in Vero Beach. Cost includes lunch. Pre-register at [www.irgs.org](http://www.irgs.org)

The Central Florida Genealogical Society will hold its annual Spring Seminar on February 18. Details will be announced soon on their website: [www.cfgs.org](http://www.cfgs.org)

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

## GSNB PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**February 7, 2012 - Marion Harrison**  
"1940 Census"

**March 6, 2012 - Bob Hudson**  
"History of Titusville"

**April 3, 2012 - Patrice Green**  
"Internet Security"

**May 1, 2012 - Rachel Wentz**  
"Windover Dig"

**June 5, 2012 - Art Whelan**  
"New York Research"

**July and August - no meetings**

### Notes to Members...

- If you are interested in checking out any of the CDs in the society's collection, Ginny Nichols brings them to our monthly meetings.
- Please bring your empty printer cartridges to the meetings and drop them in the bag at the sign-in table. All types of ink cartridges are accepted. GSNB earns \$2 for each used printer cartridge that we return to Staples. Thanks to the Staples rewards credits, we have been able to pre-pay the printing costs for our monthly newsletter.

### RESEARCH ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Are you looking for some help in your ancestry research? Several GSNB members are available to answer questions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am-1 pm in the library's Nancy C. Sieck Memorial Genealogy Area.

### 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

## 2012 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

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**NEXT BOARD MEETING**  
Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 6 pm

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING**  
Tuesday, February 7, 2012  
6 pm - 8 pm

Jacob Hannemann Memorial Room  
Titusville Public Library  
2121 South Hopkins Ave.  
Titusville, FL 32780