



# Coastal Georgia Genealogical Society

## News & Reviews

1058 Whisper Ridge Loop, Waynesville, GA 31566

### February 2005

**03 April 2005 Meeting** will be held at 3 p.m. at the College Place United Methodist Church on Altama Avenue in Brunswick.

**23 January 2005 Meeting** started the new year right! We had many new faces, and a few of our constant attendees in house. Our new members shared with us their family "brick walls" and told us what they expect or hope to find. You can read about some of these hurdles under the "BRICK WALL" column.

Remember folks, our membership dues need to be paid for this year, so get that check in the mail.

**New members:** Gene Van Ormer, Nettie & Griner, and Peggy Murkerson.

### RESEARCH TIPS & HINTS

During our last meeting we welcomed some new members who are also new to genealogy. In the research world we would call you folks "newbies". But I prefer to think of us all as newbies, because the genealogy world changes daily, making us all newbies over and over again.

However, there are some basic seek and request rules to be followed on your quest to find your ancestors. The biggest tip, that I can't stress enough, is be specific. When you are asking for help from someone else, let them know exactly what you are looking for. Include dates, locations, spouses, etc. Just asking for information on Grandpa Joe helps no one.

Many of us use message boards as a way of contacting prospective cousins. One of the largest databases for message boards is Rootsweb.com [a sister site to Ancestry.com]. These message boards are free to use, just register your name and email [this is necessary] and off you go. The boards cover surnames, locations, and topics like adoption or the Civil War. Remember to log in when posting or answering posts, sometimes your name & email will disappear from the contact information if you don't.

When posting queries to these boards, BE SPECIFIC. In the title line, include something eye-catching. If you are looking for a person, put that person's name in the title, and the year of birth and year of death, and possibly a state. For example: **John Doe 1823-1893, Georgia**. Many people do not want to read messages just from the title, because they are too vague, like: **Help Please!!!!** or **Looking for Ancestors**.

Then in their message it states: "Researching Doe family, please contact me if you can help." Now, if this message was posted on a location board, it wouldn't be so vague. But if it's on a surname board, then there is no way to know which Doe family and where they lived, so you may never get an answer.

#### Important Information

Contacts  
Web addresses  
&  
Emails

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual membership to the CGGS is only **\$15** for one person or **\$18** for a family. Membership extends from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004.

Remit payment to our treasurer:

Barbara Baethke 119 Bayberry Circle  
St. Simons Is., GA 31522

#### Important Addresses & Links

**Bill Smith, President**

[wssmith1@adelphia.net](mailto:wssmith1@adelphia.net)

**Newsletter Editor**

[cggsgsnews@hotmail.com](mailto:cggsgsnews@hotmail.com)

Send articles for submission, or share info about a meeting or event.

**Mailing List Website**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cggs/>

**Group Information Page**

<http://www.glynnngen.com/cggs.htm>

**Glynn County Genealogy & History**

<http://www.glynnngen.com/>

**Brunswick Public Library**

208 Gloucester Street  
Brunswick, GA 31520  
(912)267-1212

**Meeting Information**

Meetings are generally held the last Sunday every other month at the College Place United Methodist Church located at 3890 Altama Ave. in Brunswick.  
Meeting time 3 p.m. until 4 or 4:30 p.m.

## Upcoming Events

**10-12 February Thur-Sat.** McBee's used book sale held by the McIntosh County Book Boosters. From 10am to 6 pm at the Ida Hilton Library in Darien. Proceeds go towards putting a new roof on the library. Call Martha at (912)832-5371 or Nila at (912)832-5622.

**11 February Friday** Jim Conline as Abe Lincoln at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel. For reservations call (912)635-2600.

**12 February Saturday** Fort Frederica Festival held at the fort on St. Simons Island from 9-4. For more information call (912)638-3639.

**12 February Saturday** Dr. William Birdsong talks about Civil War medicine at the Brunswick Library 208 Gloucester. Call (912)267-1212.

**24-26 February Thurs-Sat.** Friends of the Library book sale at the Brunswick Library. Preview sale for members or for those wishing to join at the door on Thursday 9-noon. Open to all from 12-8. Friday & Saturday from 9-5.

**26 February Saturday** Hofwyl Plantation Black History Month. Program by Braima Molwoi, native of Sierra Leone, returns with outdoor cooking and sampling of rice dishes. Music and slide show from 11-3.

## RESEARCH TIPS continued

by Amy Hedrick

Another avenue of exploration, are county and state websites. I maintain one for Glynn County, with Brantley and McIntosh County in the mix as well. There are several groups out there that provide these website, free to you. The group affiliations really have no bearing on your research, but just to put you in the know, there is the **USGenWeb** hosted by **Rootsweb.com**, the **American History & Genealogy Project** and the **American Local History Network** just to name a few.

These groups have, not only county pages, but subject pages as well, like Military History, family associations, and more. A great web page has been put together by the Mississippi ALHN project that will link you to every project and their state pages.

A little known research tidbit for you online users, is a website called **Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness [RAOGK]**. This is a site dedicated to volunteers around the world waiting to help you, for free. Be sure to read their guidelines before requesting help, then follow the links to the researcher in the state and county or country, you need a record looked for. You may have to pay for copies, mailing, etc., but that is to be expected.

While searching online indexes and websites, remember, just because you spell it a certain way, doesn't mean that you will find it exactly. I always discount initials in names, for example: John A. Doe, drop the "A" when searching, many indexes will pick up all John Does including the ones with initials. If there is a soundex option for searching, use it, you never know what you might have missed. You have to remember that online transcriptions were made by humans, and they can and do make typos. If you find records for your ancestor on a website, try to locate the original, ALWAYS check the original.

When searching courthouse records, don't limit yourself to one document, like a will only. Look for the whole estate file, you may find relatives listed in other documents pertaining to the estate. If I am at a brick wall with my research in a courthouse, I always look for odd names that I haven't seen in my family. An example would be from a recent research trip with member Gene Van Ormer to our local courthouse. We were searching for the Minehan family, and found all of these records for Michael, James, Timothy, Mary, etc. Names that we have seen throughout the family. While Gene was making copies, I thumbed through some of the loose papers folders and saw an Ellen Minehan, a name we haven't seen yet. Turns out Ellen was Gene's great grandmother! We found his family, and the dates of death for his grandfather and grandmother.

Follow the trail of your records, from birth to death. Many people leave a paper trail of some sort, whether just the census, or tax records, property records, criminal cases, voter registrations, church records, obituaries, etc.

Finally, if you are pulling your hair out trying to figure out how to start your family genealogy, try reading. Just as you did in school, you have to study a topic to know how to execute the task and get results. There are many books out there to help, like *Genealogy 101*, or *Genealogy for Dummies*, *Internet Genealogy*, and more.

Many people wonder how I get such in depth results when I research, I tell them from practice. I have been digging into data and extracting information since I was in elementary school, I've had 20 years of practice. I'm not the genius everyone thinks I am, anyone can do this and be great at it, it just takes practice and some trial and error. Never hesitate to ask for help, an outsider's opinion may be the key to breaking down a brick wall.

## BRICK WALLS

At our last meeting, members, new and returning, shared their stumbling blocks with the group. The following are just a few of their hurdles and some of my findings on the families.

**Gene Van Ormer** is looking for his real family. He recently found out that his grandmother Ada Warren was married to a man named Eugene T. Creamer, that his biological family name should have been Creamer and not Van Ormer.

Eugene T. Creamer was the son of a Patrick Creamer of Ireland who married Mary Minehan here in Glynn County in 1874. Gene would love to find living cousins to connect with, possibly through the Minehan family. Unfortunately for Gene, there are several Mary Minehans.

In our recent trip to the courthouse though, we think we have settled the problem of the Marys. Gene's Mary was the daughter of a Thomas and Ellen Minehan of Albany, New York. There were 4 Minehan families living in Glynn County, but not Mary E. (Minehan) Creamer's. Patrick Creamer and his parents & siblings were living with one of these Glynn County Minehans during the 1860s.

We have made the assumption that Owen Creamer [Patrick's father] may have moved the family up to New York during the war, and then Patrick met Mary Minehan. Patrick may have brought Mary back down to Glynn County to live with her Minehan cousins until they married. The problem is, tying Thomas Minehan of New York with the Glynn County Minehans. All were born in Ireland, and all are of the right age to be brothers.

Wayne Stewart has long been searching for his ancestor John R. Stewart for quite sometime. Unfortunately Wayne had been on the

wrong track, looking for a John D., but has finally been put on course. John R. Stewart can be found in the 1880 Appling Co., GA census with the initial "D". He is living with his wife Adaline (Leggett) in the home of Elizabeth Leggett [most likely Adaline's sister or sister-in-law]. John & Adaline have a daughter named Mary. John was born in North Carolina around 1853.

**Peggie Murkerson** is looking for her great grandmother Barbry [and many other spellings] Faircloth. She can be found at age 24 in the 1880 Emanuel Co., GA census in the home of Sallie Faircloth. She is listed as a daughter along with an Elizabeth. Grandchildren to Sallie are Lula B., Mollie, John G., & Thomas C. [Peggie's grandfather who was born in January 1880].

What is interesting is that on the same page, right next door, is another Barbry Faircloth only a few years older living in her house is her mother Martha Penilton. Stranger still is that this same Barbary, when she is 15 in 1860 is still living with Martha Penilton, when did she get the name Faircloth? She apparently didn't age over the years, in 1870 she is 25 and in 1880 she is 28.

I decided to take a different approach with this family and track Sallie Faircloth and Elizabeth. In 1860 I do find an Elizabeth living in the home of G.W. and Sarah Faircloth, so I can assume that Elizabeth is a daughter of Sallie in 1880. But there isn't a Barbary [or other like spelling] so she must be a daughter-in-law in 1880.

So a possible husband for Barbary could be an Andrew J., Thomas J., or a George N. as they are sons of this Sarah. But this is all speculation as we don't know if this is the right family.

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## Internet

<http://boards.ancestry.com/mbexec/script/main/rw> Rootsweb.com's message boards

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~msalhn/Super/> A Genealogical Supersite. Links to all project state pages

<http://www.raogk.org/index.html> Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/index.asp> So far one of the only magazines available that covers global genealogy research, methods, databases, and even technical toys like scanners and computers. A great buy!

But, if it is, I wonder if Barbary's husband was Thomas Faircloth, since there is a grandchild Thomas to Sallie in 1880?

I can understand Peggie's hardship with tracing this family. There is very little of value online for Emanuel County, on site research would be a must. If one of the grandchildren of Sallie in 1880 is a child of Barbary, she would have been 17 when Lulla was born, 18 for Mollie, 20 for John G., and 24 for Thomas C. A theory could be that Barbary did marry this Thomas J. Faircloth and Thomas C. was their only child.

However, searching the census does not turn up a Thomas of the right age in 1870 so this may not be possible. I do find an Andrew and George. In 1880 I find a George W. of about the right age married with children, one of them being named Thomas.

Another topic for Peggie's research, was Barbry Faircloth Native American?

Nettie (Thacker) Griner would like to know more about her Thacker ancestors. Her father was a Henry Brownfield Thacker, Jr., son of the same name. Henry Jr. can be found in the 1930 DeKalb Co., GA census as the son of Tommie L. Thacker [his mother] and he has a sister Sarah F. born about 1913. Henry was born around 1910.

Henry was a truck driver for a feed store and Sarah was a mail clerk at a mail order store and they are living at 468 Haas Avenue, Atlanta.

In the 1910 census the family can be found in Newton Co., GA. Father Henry B. was 40 years old, mother Tommie was 36. This census is very hard to read the names, but I can read that there are 3 daughters [Irene, Louise?, Martha?] and one son that looks like Henry B. who is 6 months old.

The 1900 census finds Henry B. Thacker & family in Rockdale County. Henry was born November 1869, wife Tommie L. was born December 1875, and daughter Irene was born June 1898. Henry was a blacksmith and he and Tommie had been married for 5 years and everyone was born in Georgia.

Newton Co., GA 1880, a Henry Thacker [10 years old] is found living with his father Dixon [38] and mother Sarah T. [33]. Also living in this house is John N. [8], Mary V. [5] and Lucian [3], all siblings of Henry. Is this Henry B. Thacker? It could be

assumed so.

Newton Co., GA 1870 we find Ezekial D. Thacker [28], wife Sarah E. [23] and Henry B. [6 months].

Newton Co., GA 1860 Ezekial D. [18] living with Mary T. [41] and Sarah E. or C. [15]. In this census, however, it says everyone is born in South Carolina. In Gwinett County there is an 81 year old Ezekial D. from South Carolina as well, could this be a grandfather?

Mary, Ezekial and Elizabeth [Sarah?] can still be found in Newton during the 1850 census.

According to the Newton County Cemetery records, Henry B. Thacker died in 1918 and Tommie Lou died in 1936 and are buried in the Oxford Historical Cemetery in lot #27. The Georgia Death Index has Tommie L.B. Thacker dying on 9 February 1936, so that means there is a death record that may have her parents listed.

Henry's obit can be found in the Wednesday 15 May 1918 Atlanta Constitution on page 3 col. 1, and is as follows:

HENRY B. THACKER DIES SUDDENLY IN OXFORD

Oxford, Ga., May 14--(Special.)--Henry B. Thacker, a substantial citizen of Oxford, dropped dead Tuesday morning about 8 o'clock. Mr. Thacker was in usual health and had just taken a seat in his car to take his children over to the public school in Covington, as was his daily custom. When he reached forward to release the brake and fell upon the steering wheel, his children discovered that he had ceased to breath. Mr. Thacker is survived by a widow and five children. Miss Irene Thacker, the oldest child, is connected with M. Rich Bros. company, Atlanta.

From the census records we have found 5 children as noted in the obituary, this appears to be the same Henry B. Thacker, Sr. that we have been tracking.

Happy Hunting Folks!

Don't forget to pay your membership dues. \$15 for single and \$18 for family. Mail your checks to our treasurer Barbara Baethke.