



Coastal Georgia

Genealogical Society

News & Reviews

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JUNE 22ND MEETING will be held at the College Place United Methodist Church on Altama Ave. in Brunswick at 2 p.m. Dr. Caroline Haley will be presenting the program. Some topics that she would like to touch on are new research that is available, filling in gaps in your research, being able to present your research in a readable form, and are you looking for ancestors or descendants? More info will be available in the next newsletter.

MARCH 16TH MEETING was headed by **Jerry Martin**, who snuck in a birthday on us. Happy belated birthday Jerry! Mr. Martin spoke of "What are you leaving behind?" Meaning what is your life story, what are you leaving behind for future generations? He showed us some excellent examples of cards that he made. One with his boyhood home on it, and inside he placed a little "story" on what happened in this house while living there. Marriages, deaths, sibling rivalry. We also viewed a short program about using the "Family History Catalog" from the LDS church. Very informative presentation Jerry!

Glynn County Genealogy Site

For the last few months, I have been working with the folks at the Georgia GenWeb Project and Susan Peterson, the Glynn County web page coordinator, in order to take over the site from Ms. Peterson.

After a lot of trial and error and error and some more errors, I have finally got the site up and partially running.

In March and April, 1996, a group of genealogists organized the Kentucky Comprehensive Genealogy Database Project. The idea was to provide a single entry point for all counties in Kentucky, where collected databases would be stored. In addition, the databases would be indexed and cross-linked, so that even if an individual were found in more than one county, they could be located in the index.

Now, every state in the US is joining in, including Georgia. The project is run by volunteers, like myself and Susan Peterson. Plus, it's not just about states and counties, there are census projects, cemetery projects,

genealogy clubs and societies, historical societies, and mostly any group genealogically-minded.

So check out Glynn County's genealogy site at: www.rootsweb.com/~gaglynn today! Hosted by yours truly, Amy Hedrick.

Last Surviving Civil War Widow Dies

One of the last living links to the American Civil War passed away on 19 January 2003 in Blaine, Tennessee at the age of 93. She will be buried next to her husband in the New Corinth Church cemetery in Blaine. The last veteran of the war died in 1950.

In 1927, 18 year old Gertrude Grubb married 81 year old John Janeway after a three year courtship, her parents would not allow him to marry her at the age of 15. Ten years later John passed away at the age of 91.

As a widow of a veteran, Jane has been receiving a check for \$70 every month from the Veterans Administration, since John Janeway's death in 1937.

John joined the army at the age of 18 after a chance encounter with some Union soldiers engaged in battle. He changed his last name to "January" so that his parents would not come looking for him. The pension checks came to Gertrude with the last name of January.

Gertrude passed away in the three room log cabin in Blaine, Tennessee that she and her husband lived in since the beginning of their marriage. Electricity was just installed a few years ago.

Alberta Martin, 95, of Alabama is now the only surviving widow of a Civil War Veteran. Confederate soldiers were never granted a pension by the federal government so Ms. Martin missed out on that monthly support.

An interesting thought, our government has been paying on pensions for Civil War veterans and widows for about 138 years, all for Mrs. Gertrude Janeway.

THE BRICK WALL

The old saying time flies when you're having fun must be true, even more so, the older you get.

The internet has been the greatest tool ever for genealogy research, but be careful. There is a lot of misinformation out there. I bought my first computer after having Bi- Pass surgery in Aug 1999. I thought it would help pass the time before I could get back to work. I got a lot of leads from the message boards and it paid off.

I found cousins from several tree lines. I still can't get over how some people won't give you the information you need. Today I am sharing a little of my mother's side.

This was a tough nut to crack. I had always heard and learned the hard way "don't believe all you hear". My story is about Henry Isaac Ferrell, my great grandfather. I didn't even know his name until a few years ago. I had always heard, (family hear say) that my grandfather Steve Kinnard Ferrell, Sr. only had one brother (not so). He had at least eight siblings, that really opened up a lot to expand my research.

My great great grandfather was Isaac Ferrell, he married Jane? (**This is my brick wall**). Isaac had Mary Elizabeth, Henry Isaac, Milton S., and Sarah B. Ferrell. Isaac was born about 1800 and died abt. 1858. His will was probated in 1859 Beaufort Co. South Carolina. Isaac owned a very large plantation called Riceshire, at Johns Island, South Carolina. Isaac is shown on several censuses as owning 4500 acres of land and several slaves, some of whom are named in the will. I can not even begin to speculate as to why the oldest child, and probably the heir to the plantation, decided to leave Riceshire about 1853 and settle in Glynn County, Georgia.

Henry was born abt. 1820, and married Mary Martha? Henry begins to show up on some Glynn Co. Jury lists about 1854. I don't believe he owned any property here.

The war of Northern aggression started in April 1861. Henry enlisted in The Brunswick Riflemen 26th infantry May 1861 as a private, he was discharged in Oct. 1861. My guess is at the age of 40 to 41 he was too old to stay in service.

As far as I can tell, Henry died in 1868 and is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery. I do not know where his wife moved to or if she stayed in Glynn County.

My grandfather Steve Kinnard Ferrell, Sr. was born 1864 and died 1941 and is buried in Palmetto Cemetery. Steve married Clifford Isabell Drury, from Glynn County. They had seven children, one of which was my mother Hazel Louise Ferrell, she married Woodrow Wilson Smith, Sr.

I have found several of Henry's children. One was George Edward Ferrell, Sr. George married Sarah Jane Ennis and had three children, he moved to Darien, Georgia and became a Harbor Pilot.

One daughter of Henry , Amanda , married Jacob H. Hotch. Both are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Another daughter, Louisa, died about 1870 of consumption.

After Henry died in 1868, I am sure his wife and children had a very hard time providing for their selves. She may have placed some in an orphan home, as the family rumor said. Maybe she moved back to South Carolina, if her parents were still alive.

I am still looking, it is a never ending search. The gratifying part to me is finding out as much as I have. Thank you for allowing me to share this story with you.

Bill Smith wssmith@btconline.net

INTERNET

Take a virtual tour of historic towns and homes. Before venturing out to an unknown town, visit them on the web and get a sneak preview of what they have to offer. Our own Brunswick, Jekyll, and St. Simons Island have a walking tour online, among many other cities in the United States.

Brunswick: www.brunswickexperience.com/

Jekyll Island: www.jekyllexperience.com/

St. Simons: www.stsimonsislandexperience.com/

Atlanta Preservation Center Walking Tours at: www.preserveatlanta.com/walkingtours.htm

Ghost Tours in St. Augustine, Florida at: www.infoperson.com/ghosttr.htm

UPCOMING EVENTS

3 May 2003 7:30 p.m. "The View from Pompey's Head" will be shown at the First United Methodist Church at Norwich and Monk Streets. Tickets are \$10 and available at Hattie's Books downtown and the Bookmark on St. Simons Island. Proceeds are to fund a memorial for shipyard workers and to repair a fountain in Hanover Square. For more info call (912)264-1456.

6 May 2003 "How to do oral histories" workshop headed by Dr. Barbara Hendry and sponsored by Old Town Brunswick Preservation Association. Dr. Hendry is an associate professor of anthropology at Georgia Southern Univ. The workshop is free, but pre-registration is

requested. [Call \(912\)264-1456](tel:9122641456).

10 May 2003 from 1 to 5 p.m. “Pride and Preservation, the 2003 Spring Home and Garden Tour” sponsored by Old Town Brunswick Preservation Assoc. [Advanced tickets are \\$15, tour day \\$18](#) and are available at [Hattie’s Books](#) and [Brunswick Station](#) downtown and the [Carousel](#) on St. Simons. Seven homes and two gardens are on the tour, with the proceeds going to fund a memorial site for shipyard workers in the new Liberty Ship Park and to repair a fountain in historic Hanover Square on Newcastle Street. [For more information \(912\)264-1456](#).

11 May 2003 1 p.m. at the library on Gloucester Street downtown. Ribbon cutting and dedication of the newly renovated library.

16 May 2003 7:30 p.m. Dwight Young of the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be giving a talk on “The Heyday of the Grand Old Hotels”.

20 May 2003 “Reel Georgia” film series continues with the movie classic Andersonville at the [Wayne County library at 7 p.m.](#)

30 May 2003 at 10 a.m. Mrs. Rockefeller Receives at Indian Mound. Mrs. Rockefeller, portrayed by Diane Silvernail, will tell stories about her experiences in their family home on Jekyll Island. Call the Jekyll Island Club Hotel for information and reservations (912) 635-2600.

PUBLICATIONS

“[The Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy](#)” by **William Wade Hinshaw**. Originally published in the 1930s, it has now been reprinted by the **Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.** It is also available online at subscription sites Genealogy.com and Ancestry.com. I like Genealogy.com’s better, as it is the actual images of the pages, where at [Ancestry](http://Ancestry.com) it has been typed up by their transcribers and you are not sure what page in the actual book you are viewing.

This is a valuable source for anyone with Quaker ancestors. I have many! Most of these records cover a time period starting in the 1600s up to the 1900s.

The Quakers kept very extensive records on their members, including births, marriages, deaths, and other topics like being disowned from the church. These records include dates and parents’ names, which is very helpful.

The Brunswick Advocate

“Life at the Wayne Springs”

A traveler passing through the pine forests of Wayne would not suspect that among the hills and glades were the habitations of man—that elegance and wealth had made these solitudes the scenes of social intercourse and happiness. Yet were he to follow the windings of the carriage paths which so frequently enter the public road, he would be conducted to rustic cottages, the abodes of gentlemen, who retreating here from their plantation, spend the Summer months, enjoying all the pleasures flowing from agreeable and refined society. Within a short space are scattered some dozen families who live on the most intimate terms. A club house in the neighborhood of the Post Office, is the rendezvous on each Saturday for the gentlemen, where a dinner is furnished by the members in turn. Billiards, bowling alleys and quoits, furnish them with amusement, and not unfrequently “pic nics” and dancing parties are got up and the ladies and gentlemen living within a circuit of many miles invited. Such a party was had last week, and an assemblage of beauty and talent that might will have graced the most polished circles of our country, enjoyed the pleasures of a rural festival. Such little events serve much to break the monotony of a secluded life, and until Brunswick shall contain within itself that greatest source of happiness, refined society, commend us to the Wayne parties.

6 July 1837

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual membership to the CGGS is only **\$15** for one person or **\$18** for a family. Membership extends from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2003.

Remit payment to our treasurer:

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