



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. The topic “Share Time, Some New Tricks, and Some Old Faithful Ones” will be headed by Dr. Caroline Haley. Bring your problems, successes, helpful hints--and be ready to talk about, or show them. Caroline will bring some useful reminders.

MARCH 16TH MEETING was headed by **Jerry Martin**. 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!

State Archives is Open for Business

The Georgia State Archives has completed their move and as of 6 May 2003, they have been open for business.

Regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm and the building is located at 5800 Jonesboro Rd., Morrow, GA 30260 adjacent to the campus of Clayton College and State University. Their phone number is (678)364-3700.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) plans to move its Southeastern regional facility from East Point, Georgia, to this location, and a new NARA headquarters will be built alongside the Georgia Archives. This co-locating of state and federal archives facilities will be a national first.

You can visit them on the web at:

<http://www.sos.state.ga.us/archives/>

The Occupation of Brunswick

While visiting at the Bryan-Lang Historic Library in Camden County, Mr. Harper showed me a newspaper from 1862. It was “The New York Times” and it was reporting on the occupation of Brunswick in March of that year.

I have transcribed the article fully and placed it on the Glynn County website under the Military links. The direct address is:

http://www.rootsweb.com/~gaglynn/military_occofbwk.htm

The space between military and occofbwk is not a space but an underscore mark. It should read military_occofbwk.htm so there is no confusion.

Racial DNA

My family members are always telling stories about this ancestor or that ancestor. One of the more constant stories is that we are part Cherokee. Of course no one is sure how much Cherokee that part is.

While doing my family research I came into contact with a very distant “cousin” who told me which ancestor of mine was Cherokee and that I am 1/64 Cherokee. He has traced a family line of his back to 600 B.C. so I think he may know what he is talking about.

My fourth paternal great grandmother was born in 1812 on Cherokee lands in North Carolina. Apparently she was given a Christian name of Rebecca Sanders, along with about 100 other little girls in the area!

She married a Quaker, Moses Rich, which caused him to be disowned from the church for marrying out of unity or society. He then moved to Indiana from North Carolina, and quite possibly was accepted back into the society there. I am not sure about this, as there are many Moses Rich names listed in Quaker Records.

My dad’s brother tells me that we are in fact part Cherokee and that his grandmother received lands in North Carolina, but refused them because she didn’t want to move from Indiana. How true this is, I have yet to find out.

The point of this story, is that I have family accountings of my Cherokee history, but no physical or paper documentation. Wouldn’t it be great to just test your

blood and find out what your racial mix is, really?

Well, for about \$158, you can! DNAPrint Genomics offers a home testing kit that you do yourself, and send off to them, and in return you will find out your ethnic background. According to this company we all descended from a common ancestor about 200,000 years ago and due to their migration to other areas, we now have different ethnicities.

For your \$158 you get a certificate and results table showing your ancestral proportions, a graphical representation of your results, a map of ancient human migration patterns, your genotypes at tested markers, and more. For an extra \$5 they will store your results, and an extra \$10 they will store your DNA for future use and testing.

Right now I have a little extra money, and I am very curious, but \$158 will pay a lot of bills and buy lots of hamburgers.

Their web site is at: <http://www.dnprint.com/> or email them at: admin@dnprint.com.

Or you can write or call them at:

900 Cocoanut Ave.
Sarasota, FL 34236
(941) 366-3400
Fax # (941) 952-9770

Anyone else curious, with deep pockets? Of course you may find out something you don't want to know!

THE BRICK WALL

Amy asked us about our "brick walls" in genealogy research- but I would like to report on MY brick wall that just came tumbling down!

For years I have searched for the Graves family home in New Kent Co., Virginia called "Indian Fields". Eleven years ago I wrote to the librarian in Providence Forge, Virginia and she told me of a house called "Spring Hill" but knew nothing of the one I continued to look for- convinced by now that it was long gone.

Six months ago I received a letter from an architect in Williamsburg about "Spring Hill" being put on the National Register of Historic Places and inquiring about my connection to the Graves family (somehow my letter to the librarian had survived!)

It turns out that Spring Hill is indeed the old Graves home (built in 1760) and is located in Indian fields- the area where the Indians long ago camped!

I contacted the couple who now own the property

and they invited me to visit- which I did last April when I was in Williamsburg. And what a thrill it was. Originally only 4 rooms and used as a tavern and stopover as a half way point between Richmond and Williamsburg (legend has it that Thomas Jefferson stopped there on his way to Williamsburg to get married) the house now has an addition but is still the typical VA colonial with dormers.

It served as a field hospital in the Civil war and we were shown the blood stains on the floor of an upstairs bedroom that served as an operating room

The present owners were as happy to meet descendents of the original Graves family as we were to find our roots.

So never discount `dead ends` or 'brick walls' in genealogy. One never knows when a miracle will happen- eleven years later!

Dot Fowler dotfowler@earthlink.net

Note From Editor: I know it sounds gruesome, but that is "so cool" that there are still blood stains on the floor from the Civil War operating room. I hope they never try to clean them up, it is a stain of history!---Amy

INTERNET

<http://www.newenglandancestors.org/> New England ancestors anyone? This site has been put together by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, which has been acquiring and preserving unique family history records for over 150 years! New databases are added every week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June Slave Cabins at Gascoigne Bluff take a tour of the slave cabins and learn about their history and their future renovation. Tours are available from 10 a.m. to noon every Wednesday. To set up special tours, call (912) 638-5791. Tours are also free but donations are accepted. Sponsored by the Cassina Garden Club.

June Mildred Nix Huie Museum the life work of Ms. Huie will be on display in the historic Mediterranean house built in 1929 by Fred. R.L. Stroberg. Summer hours are Wed.-Sat. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a 30 minute tour given each day at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. with tour available upon request. Call (912) 638-3057 for

group reservations or call (912)638-3017. Admission is free but donations are accepted.

2-28 June 2003 Hands-On History Program. Four different opportunities to learn about Jekyll Island's fascinating history while possibly getting your hands dirty! Parents are invited and encouraged to participate alongside their children. 10 a.m. to noon, Monday-Saturday. Island History Center, Jekyll Island. \$8 per person with a \$25 family cap. Information: 912-635-4036.

14 June 2003 2pm at the Midway Museum, Buddy Sullivan will be holding a book signing.

26-27 June 2003 Buckner Melton discusses his book about American naval history "A Hanging Offense: The Strange Affair of the Warship Somers."

26th he will be at the Wayne county Library at 7 p.m.

27th he will be at the Brunswick-Glynn Library at 7 p.m.

PUBLICATIONS

"Cumberland Island, Strong Women, Wild Horses" by **Charles Seabrook**; published by John F. Blair, Publisher 2002. This book can be found at most local bookstores. It is a very entertaining read, giving history, stories, and recent upheavals and changes on Cumberland Island, Camden Co., Georgia. There are many photos of the people and the homes before they (the homes) were destroyed by fire, time, and carelessness. 373 pages including index.

War Correspondence Letters

Andrew Carroll, best-selling author of "Letters of a Nation" and "War Letters" is heading up a new project this August. Over an eight month period, Mr. Carroll will travel to 25 different nations seeking out letters that were written during various wars by people of other nations such as Germany, Korea, Vietnam, etc.

The spark was lit by the military personnel that Mr. Carroll talked with on his various research endeavors. They were curious to know what the other allies and enemies were living with, and what they had to overcome during these wars. After all, many people who fought in these wars were young men, like our soldiers, who just wanted to go home in one piece.

Mr. Carroll is also the head of the "The Legacy

Project" and they have already received many letters donated by the American born children of veterans from other countries.

Most of these letters will be donated to a museum or archive, to preserve the war history of nations, as every nation is fast losing their war veterans.

Even though this new endeavor has not even started, you can submit your letters as soon as you like. The Legacy Project is still accepting correspondence between US soldiers and their families. Any correspondence from the following qualify: American Revolution, the Civil War, the War of 1812, the Spanish-American War, the Philippines, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Operation Iraqi Freedom, etc.

The letters do not even have to be from combatants. Here are some guidelines on what the Legacy Project is looking for:

Letters & emails written by soldiers to home, and from home to the soldiers.

Letters from civilians during the Blitz in London or New Yorkers on 9/11.

Letters from nurses and members of peacekeeping forces.

Letters from foreign-born war brides of American service.

Letters between veterans from different countries who have stayed in contact after they returned home. Especially letters between former enemies who have become friends after the battle ended.

To submit your letters, make a photo copy of the original and a type written transcription. If it is in a foreign language, a translation would be appreciated. You can email them to WarLetterProject@aol.com or you can mail them to:

The Legacy Project
P.O. Box 53250
Washington, D.C. 20009

For more information about the project you can visit them on the web at www.warletters.com. All letters go directly to Mr. Carroll and are not used without permission.

Georgia Records Online

I know many of you are not computer savvy, and many more of you are not into subscription web sites, for whatever reason, but I thought this worthy of mention.

After only a couple years of researching from home, I realized that at least one subscription site could

quite possibly be handy. I did a little research between Genealogy.com, who is the sponsor of my genealogy software, and Ancestry.com. There were only a few differences that I saw, and they were pro and con on both sides.

One, is that Genealogy.com's books online are the actual scanned pages of the books they came from, whereas on Ancestry there are transcribed pages, more prone to mistakes, and harder to search. However, some are scanned pages. Also on Genealogy.com is the 1900 census index, not found on Ancestry.

However, Ancestry's pros outweighed Genealogy.com's, so I chose Ancestry. I have a subscription to their databases, and one for the census images, which have been extremely useful.

Now, in my volunteer research pursuits, I have come across some locals here who have some records that I just wish I could look through at home, but I can not, as I don't have a microfiche machine. One of these sources is the Georgia Death Index spanning from 1919 to 1998. The state health department quit making copies of these microfiche because the copies were getting very poor and hard to read. I know of only two sets that are available in this area. One is in Camden County at the Bryan-Lang Library and the other is in a private collection, that will hopefully one day be donated to our local library.

Well, this doesn't help me when I sleep most of the day and would like to do my research in the evening or at night. Ancestry.com is always surprising me, because they now have this index online. You just type in the name, and or the county they lived in or died in, and viola, everyone with that name is there.

But just like the books, this is a transcribed record so may not be very accurate, but hey, it is something.

Another neat little resource that has just recently come online at Ancestry is the "Memoirs of Georgia" published by the Southern Historical Association in 1895. And this book, glory be, has been scanned and you can view the actual pages, not a transcription.

Contained in these two volumes are personal sketches, history, military history, and industrial history.

Other Georgia records at Ancestry are: Georgia Marriages up to 1850 and Georgia Marriages from 1851 to 1900, many books on military history, family charts and pedigrees, maps, newspapers, court records, and so much more.

The intent of this article is not to get you to buy a subscription, but to share with you that there are more and more valuable resources coming online, not just at Ancestry, everyday that may help you with your "armchair" or "pajama" researching.

Sites such as these have been invaluable to my personal research and for my volunteer research that I do

for others. I have tumbled a few brick walls using the message boards here, and the census images are great, especially since I live in Georgia and need to see Indiana census images. And I can do this at 3 a.m. if I wish.

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