



Genealogical Society of South Brevard

Melbourne, Florida

<http://gssb.net>

P.O. Box 786, Melbourne, FL 32902-0786

Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. except July and August

Melbourne Public Library

540 Fee Ave., Melbourne, FL

Membership: \$25 annually (1 Jan-31 Dec)

The Bulletin

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Issue 1

Protect the past Cherish the present Inspire the future

Founded in 1974, the purpose of the Genealogical Society of South Brevard is to foster knowledge and interest in genealogy. The society provides classes and workshops, maintains the Genealogy Room at the Melbourne Public Library, and publishes and distributes a quarterly, *The Bulletin*. An annual Student Family History Contest encourages genealogy interest in elementary and middle school students in South Brevard County.

Membership is open to all. The \$25 annual dues cover two persons in the same household. The membership year is from 1 January through 31 December.

The Genealogy Room is located in the northwest corner of the Melbourne Public Library. GSSB meets at 10:00 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month except July and August. Currently, a subgroup has been formed: the French & Canadian Heritage Society. Education classes are held twice a year to learn the tools for genealogical research.

Local Research Facilities

Melbourne Public Library, 540 Fee Ave., Melbourne, FL 32901 (321) 952-4614

Hours: Sun: 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Mon, Wed: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Indian River County Main Library, 1600 21st St., Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 770-5060

Genealogy Department Hours: Mon-Fri: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 1st and 3rd Saturdays: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Central Brevard Public Library, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922 (321) 633-1792

Hours: Sun: 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. ; Tue, Thu: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32801 (407) 835-7323
Hours: Mon-Thu: 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri, Sat: 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun: 1 p.m.-6 p.m.

Family History Center, 1803 Fiske Blvd., Rockledge, FL 32955 (321) 636-2431
Hours: Tue, Thu, Fri: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Wed: 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Family History Center, 3980 12th St., Vero Beach, FL 32960 (770) 569-5122
Hours: Mon: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wed: 6 p.m.-9 p.m.; Fri: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Genealogical Resolutions for 2012

by Yolanda Lifter

I hope all of you have set genealogical goals for this year. If not, I encourage you to do so. They will help you stay focused on your research.

A number of us in the genealogical community have obtained genealogy buddies to provide encouragement and accountability. My two buddies and I have a group on Facebook called The 3 Gs (3 Gals and Their Genealogy Goals). The group is private so it is just the three of us posting and commenting. We have set up our goals for January and post updates weekly. It seems to be working well so far.

If you have not yet set any goals for this year, it is not too late to do so, and below are some examples.

Organize your Family Photos

<http://www.lifeorganizers.com/Family-Relationships/The-Organized-Photographs/Organizing-Family-Photos.html>

<http://genealogy.about.com/library/authors/ucmishkin3a.htm>

<http://www.wikihow.com/Organize-Your-Photos>

http://www.hp.com/united-States/consumer/digital_photography/organize_archive_photos/tips/photo_organization.html

Start a Blog

<http://genealogy.about.com/od/publishing/a/blogging.htm>

<http://amberskyline.com/treasuremaps/create-genealogy-blog-1.html>

<http://www.geneabloggers.com/genealogy-blog-primer/genealogy-blog>

<https://www.familysearch.org/techtips/2012/01/getting-started-with-a-genealogy-blog>

Attend a Webinar

<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/webinars.asp>

<http://relativeroots.net/webinars>

<http://genealogy.about.com/od/education/tp/genealogy-webinars.htm>

Attend a Local, State, or National Conference

2-4 February 2012: **RootsTech 2012**

Salt Palace, Salt Lake City, UT

<http://rootstech.org>

11 February 2012: **2012 Valentine Seminar with Kim Garvey and Cindy Hineman**

Richardson Center, Indian River State College Mueller Campus, Vero Beach, FL

2-3 March 2012: **Annual Conference of the Florida Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society with Donna Moughty**

Indian River County Main Library, Vero Beach, FL

3 March 2012: **A Saturday with Dick Eastman**

9:00 am to 4:00 pm - Unity Church of Melbourne, 1745 Trimble Rd., Melbourne, FL 32934

Take an Online Class

<http://www.genealogy.com/university.html>

<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/university.html>

<https://www.familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html>

<http://www.familytreeuniversity.com>

GSSB Dues for 2012

Our Annual GSSB Membership dues will be going up to \$25 for 2012. Our Directory of Members is scheduled to be distributed in 2012.

WHAT A BARGAIN!!

GSSB membership dues help us to:

Bring interesting speakers to our general meetings.

Provide programs for youth including training scouts for genealogy badges and our annual Family History Essay Contest.

Purchase materials for our genealogy room.

Provide outreach to the community through our Ancestors Roadshows.
 Enjoy fellowship time with refreshments before our monthly meetings.
 Publish a Membership Directory every 2 years.
 Compile a surname reference book of members.
 Maintain our website, <http://www.GSSB.net>
 Publish *The Bulletin*.
 Members receive the added bonus of receiving Doug Burnett's *TidBits* online.

New Acquisitions to the Genealogy Room at the Melbourne Public Library
 submitted by Lucy Gunthorpe

- 6,11 Maryland RG 929.3752 Ski Skinner, V. L. Jr.
Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland Volume XXIX: 1755-1758
- 6,11 DAR RG 360.135 Rob Robinson, Tracy E. and Rebecca C. Baird
My Father Was a Soldier
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1682 - 1726
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1726 - 1747
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1748 - 1763
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1763 - 1784
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1777 - 1790
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1790 - 1802
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1802 - 1809
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1810 - 1815
- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1815 - 1819

- 6,11 Pennsylvania RG 929.3748 Wri Wright, F. Edward
Abstracts of Philadelphia County Pennsylvania Wills 1820 - 1825
- 6,11 Ohio RG 929.3771 Fai Fairfield County chapter Ohio Genealogical Society
Cemeteries of Berne Township
- 6,11 How - to RG 929.1 Kir Kirkham, E. Kay
A handy guide to record-searching in the larger cities of the United States
- 6,11 Family History RG 929.2 Mol Molyneux, Nellie Zada Rice
History Genealogical and Biographical of the Molyneux Families
- 6,11 Connecticut RG 929.3746 Maj Majdalany, Jeanne
The Early Settlement of Stamford, Connecticut 1641 - 1700
- 6,11 New York RG 929.3747 Jor Jordan, Mable L. and Natalie M. Seth
Tombstone Records of Eighteen Cemeteries Pound Ridge Westchester County, New York
- 6,11 Ohio RG 929.3771 Chi Chillicothe High School Year book
The 1944 Arrow Chillicothe yearbook
- 6,11 Indiana RG 929.3772 Bal Ball, T. H. Rev.
Encyclopedia of Genealogy and Biography of Lake County, Indiana
- 6,11 Family History RG 929.2 Swo Swope, Gilbert Ernest
History of the Swope Family and their connections 1678 – 1896
- 6,11 Family History RG 929.2 Bou Burkhardt, Franklin A.
The Boucher Family (Bowsher, Bauscher, Bausher, Bouusher)

Help Fix The Data !!

by Scott Shenton

Do you periodically find – and complain about – errors in some of the on-line genealogical databases ? Then take the time to fix them yourself, for your own satisfaction and the benefit of others. If many people do this, we all gain.

Example #1, Ancestry.com Census records. In the 1901 England Census I found an entry for a family transcribed as SHINTON, headed by William SHINTON aged 77. I had information supporting a William SHENTON, with family members that matched the Census record. At the summary page for the particular Census record, I clicked on “View/Add Alternate Info” and was prompted to identify which field I wanted to comment on, and (optionally) remarks or rationale. I always enter my rationale so the Ancestry reviewer can determine the validity; in this case I entered “Original record is ambiguous (SHENTON or SHINTON) but William tracks from IGI Christening through 1861-1891 Censuses and marriage to Caroline RUBERY as SHENTON.” After Ancestry reviewed my

suggestion, the entry now shows on the summary page with both SHINTON and SHENTON surnames, and the page shows up in searches for either name. Additionally, my remarks/rationale are shown, along with my Ancestry log-on name as submitter. This later is very useful as I have found other changes for entries that turned out to be by “mine”, and I have been able to contact the submitters to follow up and compare notes.

Example #2. UK FreeBMD site. I was reviewing an entry of a death registration for Isaac Shenton, Jul-Sep quarter of 1888, in Tamworth, ENG. The transcribed entry noted he was 14 at date of death. Fortunately, Isaac (for Shentons, anyway) is a fairly unusual name and the assumed year of birth of 1874 (age 14 at death in 1888) just didn't track with any Isaac I had, and I had some Isaacs I couldn't track. So I clicked to chase down the source record used for the transcription (something I rarely think to do, since the transcriptions are usually quite accurate) and found the actual age entry was very obviously 44, not 14 – a simple transcription error. With this info, Isaac fit right into my other family information. FreeBMD has a process to report errors that is a bit laborious (to screen out all the “But his doesn't agree with what my grandmother said ...” remarks) and I received a response back that the change had been made and accepted. So anyone looking for Isaac Shenton will find his correct age, and estimated year of birth, from now on.

So do your part to fix errors like this and help everyone out – take a few minutes and submit those corrections !

A Father's Letter to His Daughter

submitted by Lucy Gunthorpe

This letter was written by a father to his daughter on her twenty-first birthday. She was his first child. The letter belongs to one of the branches of my husband's family and has been passed on to other members of the family. I was reading it, again, recently and thought it might be something worth putting in our Bulletin. I am sure it will bring back lots memories for my generation.

Mobile, Alabama

December 4, 1950

Dearest Daughter:

Twenty-one years past, you were born at the old Alabama Maternity Hospital, which was located at the intersection of Broad and Springhill Avenue. As you know your mother stayed in bed several months before you were born, after three previous mishaps. Of course I was very proud of my first born and I remember so well how your blue eyes looked as you lay in the crib a few minutes after birth. I recall your babyhood, childhood, adolescence and the events that have brought you to your majority with a great deal of pleasure, although along the way I had many anxious moments.

I have accumulated little material wealth and you have no great expectations. But I can give you a legacy of experience on your coming of legal majority that may be helpful in your future life.

Religion:

My family has been Catholic to my knowledge for several generations and likely kept the faith thru the Reformation, since both of my grandfathers were born in England, my fraternal grandmother in Ireland and my maternal grandmother in Mobile County of pure French stock. The Catholic religion is not an easy religion but we believe the reward comes in the hereafter. Some of the teachings are hard to take, and I have not always been able to accept it, "in toto." You have had a Catholic education for twelve years and I hope the example I have tried to set at home has been good. I have every respect for another's religion, if he is really conscientious. We have to live with all faiths, creeds and colors, and we have to depend on them all. You can't sell your merchandise and service to Catholics alone or vice versa. I hope you marry a Catholic, however, if you don't - respect your husband's religion.

Ethics:

"Do unto others, as you would have them do unto you." This is a subject that has been oft discussed and which really means following the Golden Rule. Some people, business men in particular have two codes, business and personal. This is wrong, ipso facto. The best way to solve a doubtful ethical problem, is to put yourself in the other fellow's shoes.

Morals:

You have been well grounded in this subject. I do not believe in the so-called "Double Standard" and I sincerely believe that a girl has the same right to expect purity in a boy, as he has to expect purity in a girl. Unfortunately, this is not usually the case. The world will forgive a man any sin of the flesh, but condemn a woman for the slightest indiscretion. None-the-less, a woman by her very nature, is expected to show the way in chastity. It is her only real protection against slavery and debasement.

Marriage:

Remember that marriage is a 50-50 proposition, you must give and take. No two people can really make a successful marriage unless they love each other with an abiding love that can withstand pitfalls and stumbling blocks. You will have difficulties and differences which must be compromised. You as a wife, must always stay just a little in the background. Man is a vain creature and does not like to be outshone by his wife. By custom and nature, the wife is the home-maker, the husband the bread-winner. Here too, the husband must always be vitally interest in the home, and the wife must always be vitally interested in her husband's work. You must encourage him to reach greater heights - spark his ambition to get ahead by honorable means. Since you are a so-called "career" woman, and conceivable could be better educated, you must HEED this paragraph. When you marry, remember it is for life, which can be a long time.

In-laws:

This subject has caused much difficulty. Try to understand your in-laws, be agreeable with them, as long as you are not compromised. Respect their feelings, every mother feels her boy has been stolen. Use your best psychology to put her at ease and don't take umbrage at every chance remark. You can make it plain in a dignified way, that you expect to run your home and affairs as you deem best. Your first duty is to your husband, just as his first duty is to you.

Friends:

Any kind of friend is better than no friend at all. This does not mean that you should seek bad friends. Be a good mixer and be genuinely interested in other peoples' successes and failures. People

appreciate others taking an interest in them. You must study everyone from a psychological standpoint and find out what makes them tick. Make fast and lifetime friendships but don't get too friendly.

Politics:

I want you to register during the holidays. The poll tax in Alabama is \$1.50 per year, payable thru your 45th year. I have usually voted the Democratic ticket, however there are many good Republicans. Usually I vote for the loser and underdog, because I can't stomach the crooked politicians, who are in control of the city and county for the most part. My political leanings are liberal, probably a little left of center. I believe in capitalism, and in free, enlightened workers, with a fair profit for business and a living, saving wage for labor, with true collective bargaining.

Insurance:

I have several policies, Knights of Columbus, Louisville Relief Assn, etc., which have no paid-up value. The best insurance in the long run, the more costly, is that issued by the old line companies, such as Metropolitan, Equitable, New York Life, Prudential. Usually the 20 year pay policy is the best, however all policies should be tailored to meet your immediate and future needs. The Blue Cross Hospital and Medical Insurance is the best of that type at present. Many of the other companies do not operate in the public interest.

Education:

I am a firm believer in education and I think the day will surely come when everyone who wants an education can get it. By education, I mean at college level, which of course is of no value to many people who lack the necessary intelligence. Obviously, there are many occupations, not requiring a college education. Since you were very young, I have always held out the possibility of a college education and encouraged you in the idea of preparing for a career. Whether or not you ever practice or work in your profession, you have acquired something that no mortal man can take away. "A little learning is a dangerous thing." But when you have drunk deeply, it is yours forever. Many still think it is unwise to give a girl a real college education, since her career, after all, is marriage. I do not hold to this theory, it has no logic. A girl is entitled to all the education she can get or take. It is possible to combine, under certain circumstances, a professional and marital career, provided the professional does not submerge the marital. It will be wise to plan the education of your children from birth. If possible, take out an education insurance policy, so that the strain on your finances will not be too heavy.

Your mother and father are in the afternoon of life. Since 1929 our life has been intertwined with yours, we have lived every moment - first step - first word and so on thru the years. As you celebrate you 21st birthday, we salute you. You have always been a good, obedient daughter and have always honored your parents and I hope your children do you. I do not feel you are under any particular obligation to us, since after all, you were brought into this world without your consent and we have only fulfilled our natural obligations to the best of our ability and means. We have not always been able to give you the material things we would have liked to, however it may react to your benefit that you were not raised in the lap of luxury.

You will never realize the depth of a parent's love, until you are a mother, for a mother's love is a deep and sacred thing, which can turn the course of history. A father's love is somewhat different and rather difficult to define.

I hope in this letter, which is written from the heart, you may find some inspirations which will benefit you as you go down life's path.

May the Lord keep you and the Virgin Mary give you a good, full and fruitful live.

Your loving father,

LOISELLE MARRIAGE INDEX

by Helen Begin

In my ongoing attempts to verify the French-Canadian ancestry of my husband's family, I discovered a treasure at the Indian River Library in Vero Beach. This treasure is the Loiselles Marriage Index.

In the early 1900's, the French ministry in Quebec ordered all townships to send their parish records to a central repository, to assure they would be preserved. This centralization resulted in the Loiselles Marriage Index available today.

The Loiselles Marriage Index consists of more than 1500 pages of records - 10 marriage records per page. There are two cards for each marriage—one in the "hommes" section, sorted by the last name of the groom, and one in the "femmes" section, sorted by the last name of the bride. The data were compiled from over 500 Catholic churches in Quebec plus records from nearby areas where there were large French Catholic parishes.

The data included in each record:

Name of groom	Groom's parents
Name of bride	Bride's parents
Parish where marriage took place	Date of marriage (year/day/month)

Here's an example of one of the marriage records:

The following is the marriage record of my husband's great grandparents, Antoine Begin and Appoline Thibodeau:

Begin Antoine:	Antoine M. Poulin
Thibodeau Appoline:	Augustin Lucie Roy

BEAUCEVILLE: M. 1872-23-1

From this record, I learned that the marriage took place January 23, 1872 in Beauceville. I also saw that the groom's parents were Antoine Begin and Marie Poulin, and the bride's parents were Augustin Thibodeau and Lucy Roy.

My next searches were for the marriage of the groom's parents, Antoine Begin and Marie Poulin, and for the marriage of the bride's parents, Augustin Thibodeau and Lucie Roy. As I continued my searches for marriages of the parents of the brides and grooms, I was ultimately able to fill in empty spaces and confirm names and dates for 5 generations of ancestors – thanks to Loiselle. Now if I could only find that someone compiled records like these for my other family lines!!

I encourage anyone who knows or suspects that part of his ancestry involves Quebec from the 1600's through the mid 20th century to search this amazing repository.

Headaches, Explosives and Hamsters

by Garrett Meier

1st Place Winner GSSB Family History Essay Contest

I had seen the advertisements for ancestry.com promising a quick log on which would connect me to a “magic” leaf. The promise of clicking on that leaf icon and opening a door to reveal the roots of my heritage was exciting. I wondered if I could be a descendent from a royal family. I entered the information that my maternal grandfather had provided me and clicked. No leaf. No matches. No ties to royalty. Rumor in the family was that Aunt Ellen had done some genealogy research. After thanking God for the internet, I sent her a quick email.

She immediately responded with files of documents, pictures -including some of kin in caskets, and an extensive narrative of what she believed the family facts were. I soon learned that genealogy is not as quick and easy as I had imagined. My great grandfather had different spellings of his first AND last name on his immigration papers, military records, his marriage license, and even his obituary. Military records from Austria listed his name as Maxim Serbaj. Ellis Island records when he arrived in the United States around 1911 spelled his name Maxi Serbai. His marriage certificate is for Max Syrbaj. Not to mention the three different birthdays that Aunt Ellen had discovered on each document. Apparently record keeping before computers was similar to the game of telephone- with lots of small changes happening as the information was passed along. The final translation of his name shows up on my grandfather's birth certificate from 1923. The name had morphed into Sereby which sounds like the original Austrian pronunciation of Serbaj. I knew the genealogy of everyone from my grandpa down because most of them are still alive and personally known to me. I was convinced that the only thing remotely royal coming out of that gene pool could be my cousin Erin who thinks she is a princess!

I quickly implemented plan “B” and phoned my paternal grandma in Maine. Her side of the family actually had a website devoted to their genealogy. I accessed the website which could be called “the never ending ancestors site” and learned two things. The first thing was that someone had way too much time on their hands, and the second thing was disappointing, no royalty on that end either. Ancestors seemed to be swirling around in my brain. I started wishing I was still back on Christmas vacation. My head was aching. Suddenly it came to me!

Last September, my Dad wanted to take a family trip to places that he had explored with his father while growing up in Bar Harbor, Maine. We visited his childhood home. He and I climbed the same mountains in Acadia National Park that he had climbed with his Dad. My Dad and I bonded while I had a near death experience atop a mountain called "The Precipice." I am saving that story for another time. We also had a private tour of the Jackson Laboratory, one the finest genetic research facilities in the world. My grandfather was a senior staff scientist there until his death in 1981. My paternal grandfather, Hans Meier in 1964 made the discovery of hereditary diabetes mellitus in the Chinese hamster. This became the foundation of all current diabetic research and genetic research for other diseases. The person giving us the tour explained that his discovery allowed for rapid study of generations of diseases because of the short life cycle of hamsters. The discovery of this gene in overweight hamsters allowed scientists to breed and study the genetic transmission of diabetes and test new drugs. His studies were the first to show diabetes is linked to obesity.

Hans was born July 21, 1929 in Zurich Switzerland to Hanny Fankhauser and Hans Meier. His father was a businessman who brought the potato chip to Switzerland. He was their only child. After he received his Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine and Doctorate of Pathology from the University of Zurich in 1957 he moved from Switzerland to the United States. Next, he attended Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he obtained additional degrees in biophysical and biochemical cytology. His major interests were in experimental pathology and cancer. Eventually he became a senior staff scientist at the Jackson Laboratory. My grandfather was one of the first scientists to suggest that cancer could be caused by viruses. A grant from the Tobacco Research Institute allowed him to do research showing effects of cigarette smoking on embryos. He lectured around the world about the field of genetics. His research also involved work with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) doing breast cancer research.

On February 16, 1957 he married Nancy Davis of Nashua, New Hampshire. They had two children, Hans Robert, born August 23, 1958 and Rolf Joerg, born February 10, 1960. Hans and Nancy divorced in 1963. Around 1965 he married Dorothy Gail Hysom. He remained married to her until his death on May 15, 1981. Hans died of complications from repair of a ruptured aortic aneurysm. At the time of his death he was survived by both his sons and a granddaughter, Jillian Leigh Meier. Her parents were Hans Robert Meier and Laurie A. Palmero, who married on May 16, 1981. Jillian was born December 22, 1983. Hans and Laurie divorced in 1985. Hans Robert later remarried to Karyn Gray on the 21st of November 1987. Karyn and Hans Robert also divorced. Their only child was a son, Hans Randall Meier, born July 23, 1994. Nancy Davis later married Jack Lee Libby of Kennebunk, Maine. He was a local realtor and served in Maine House of Representatives. Together they had one daughter, Wendy Tomlinson Libby born September 1, 1965. Wendy Tomlinson Libby wed Loren Steven Kessel of Ipswich, Massachusetts on August 4, 1991. Their child Emily was born on June 12, 1993.

It seems that after I decided to use my paternal grandfather as the focus of my paper, it sparked some competition in my paternal grandma. Apparently she knew of another famous scientist buried within her endless family genealogy website. She sent me copies of his book and information on his writings. The other scientist in my family tree is my paternal great uncle. He was Tenney Lombard Davis, a pioneer in chemistry specializing in explosives made of nitrogen compounds. Tenney was born January 7, 1890 in Somerville, Massachusetts. Tenney showed an early interest in chemistry. Around age 7, his mother forced him to take dance lessons. He made a "stink bomb" from sulfur and threw it

into the dance studio which caused the class to be cancelled. At age 59 on January 25, 1949 he died of a heart attack. He had a particular interest in Chinese alchemy, gunpowder and explosives. His book, The Chemistry of Black Powder and Explosives is still considered to be one of the best resources on powder pyrotechnics. He also published over 208 articles on scientific and academic subjects as well as authoring many chemistry books. Additionally, he was a founding editor of Chymia, a journal that explored the historical side of chemistry. Professor Tenney was a world traveler who was proficient in Chinese. He broke a cultural barrier in the 1930's through his research and collaboration with the Chinese while researching fireworks. He corresponded widely with other scientists around the world. Tenney obtained books and research from his friends that had never been seen in this country—particularly from Russian chemist Boris N. Menshutkin.

He graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Harvard University from which he received his PhD in chemistry in 1917. In 1915 he married Dorothy Munch. They had an unnamed son who was stillborn. Most of his professional life was spent as a professor of chemistry at M.I.T. An article I found that was written in the Yale student newspaper said that when he lectured to his chemistry class, he put various types of exploding powders on different parts of his body that would “periodically ignite filling the room with sulfur gases.” That may pass for royalty with me. He also acted as the Director of Research for the National Fireworks Company which has gone out of business. He was consulted on most major fireworks productions that occurred in the United States until his death.

I guess I can truly say that science is in my genes. Who knew that my family tree would contain major explosives and hamsters! I plan to wait until Auntie Ellen completes all the research to see who else turns up on the other half of the family...



Helen Begin and Garrett Meier

You Don't Pick Your Family

by Baylee Whitley

2nd Place Winner GSSB Family History Essay Contest

Family is something you inherit. Having a family is different from going shopping, and picking out what you want. Family is something that you get, and you are stuck with them forever. A great part of being in my family is hearing stories from both sides of the family, both my mother's and my father's sides. To me some stories are good, some okay, and just plain boring. The most dreaded stories when you are growing up are the "Well, when I was your age...." However the more stories I heard the more I learn to, appreciate my family. The people on my father's side of the family give me a sense of pride, and appreciation. The people on my mother's side give me a sense of adventure and civic duty.

My dad, Ross is the oldest of three children. His siblings are Rhonda, and Rita, and his parents Kenneth and Judy. My great grandparents are Vern, Dorothy, Mona, and James Ross. I never got to meet any of my great grandparents, but I have learned a lot about James Ross. It was a disappointment that I did not get to have him in my life. From this story, he sounds like a great role model, and a wise person. The story of my great grandfather, James Ross, begins when he is a youngster in the 1920's. His life was fairly normal until he decided to drop out of school in sixth grade. He left school to work in the oil fields in southern Texas. He worked at Halliburton. Halliburton was founded in 1919; Halliburton is one of the world's largest providers of products, and services for the oil, and gas industry. It employs more than 50,000 people in nearly 70 countries. In the 1930's they established their first laboratories, where they tested cement mixes. In 1926 they took their first big steps towards becoming a worldwide company. In 1951, they first entered the European market. Today, Halliburton has some of the world's largest selection of products. They now offer many services, such as cementing, drilling and consulting. My great grandfather's decision to leave school at such a young age was a decision that changed his life forever. He worked there is whole life. When he started working at Halliburton he worked with a boy, who dropped out of school in eighth grade. They had a lot of things in common, and became close friends. In the future that man, James Ross's good friend, became president of Halliburton.

From this story, I can't believe, that a decision my great grandfather made in sixth grade, turned out to shape his life forever. This short story alone has taught me a tremendous amount. Whether about my ancestors, or that even though I am young now that does not mean I can't think ahead. I still need to enjoy being a kid while it lasts. I think if my great grandfather were alive he would have given me that advice. This is because; he did not get to enjoy it to the fullest. So this story, however dreaded it may have been has taught me a great deal about myself, and to recognize my goals in life. After I heard this story, I was interested to learn more, so I decided to go through with the process, and yes that means I actually asked for more.

My mothers name is Cathy, and she is the oldest of five children. Her siblings are Margi, Kem, William, and Marlana. Her parent's names are Ronnie, and Carole. My great grandparent's names are Cleat, Corrine, Virginia, and George. They are all special people, but George has a special story, I believe George's story is one of a kind. In the early 1900's there lived a boy named George. He was a good child, and just enjoying life. When you are a kid you always dream about being famous, or just being known for something amazing that you did. Well, my great grandfather did just that. Actually, I think he did more. He became well known and featured in magazines for his creation that remains

today. My great grandfather help build, and design Florida's first interstates. He was an engineer, not a movie star -- an engineer. It makes me so proud to think that there are thousands of people who use something he helped create. He really was part of something amazing! He may not have been famous, but, I am proud to say that what he did, to me, is astonishing. I might not have presidents, queens, or kings in my family, but I have amazing people like him, that I call family.

Stories yes, I know they take a while, but I get hooked on them. Once I hear a story I want to hear more. A circus is one of the coolest things ever. Well, my Great Uncle Frank was in a circus. No, I am sorry to say he was not a lion tamer, or a sword swallower. He was a motorcyclist that road his inside a round cage. Yes, he got to ride his motorcycle around in a circle, and go around, and around. Even though he was in the circus he was also an honorably decorated discharged United States Marine. We live in Florida therefore; we have all the theme parks that every kid in the world would love to visit. It is a momentous time, that kids and their parents have the time of their lives together. They love to go on rides at Disney World. The famous ride the Haunted House, always has a line, and people wait just to experience riding it. I was excited to learn that my Uncle Frank helped design it. Later, he became a professor of aeronautics at Florida Institute of Technology, for many years. After this part of his amazing life, he is now a treasure hunter, where he looks for sunken treasure left by Spanish ships from the past. It is weird to think if one day he was looking for gold, and he came across some that he could be a millionaire, or close to that. Now I know where I get all my energy! He has done so many amazing things! I have yet to meet him but I wish to someday.

Another story occurred in 1973, when my mom was twelve years old. My mom, her sister and my grandmother were living in Japan. After the Vietnam War, my grandfather Braden was still a Green Beret for the United States Army. He was stationed in Okinawa Japan. After my grandparents divorced, my mom, aunt and grand mother were out on a yacht over the weekend with her new boyfriend. My mom and my aunt went for a swim. They were getting out of the water. My mom just started to climb the ladder to get back on the boat, when she got stung by a sea wasp. A sea wasp is one of the deadliest animals in the ocean most people who are stung by them die. They are almost invisible, because they are a kind of jellyfish. The sea wasp attacked her on her left shoulder right by the heart. She screamed, and fell back into the water. At this time my grandmother happened to be dating a doctor. He reached into the water, and grabbed my mom. After carrying her up the ladder, he ran downstairs and grabbed his doctor's bag and gave my mom a shot of the antidote. Her whole left arm and shoulder were blistered. The area eventually cleared, and she is alive to tell about. If he did not have the antidote, she would have died, and I would not be here. He might have been on a date at the time, but he saved my mom's life. I can never express how happy and grateful I am toward someone I have never met. He shall always stay a hero in my heart forever.

These stories have taught me so much about people in my family. I would never have guessed that my great grandfather help build, and design Florida's first interstate. Or that my great uncle help build the Haunted House. That my mom survived a tragic animal attack! Even how much I was against hearing one story let alone four. I enjoyed every minute of it. My dad always tells me that "you do things you have to do, to do things you want to do." This turned into both. Family, you either get lucky, or you do not. I got lucky, I am so blessed to have such a loving, and caring family. I would never think about trading them for a moment. Even though we get in fights, and argue. In the end we are family and that's what matters in my life.



Helen Begin and Baylee Whitley

How to Demolish a Brick Wall by Yolanda Lifter

A definition of a brick wall is a solid structure that defines and sometimes protects an area. In genealogy, the area that is being protected is information that we want to know.

Almost everyone who does genealogy has encountered at least one brick wall in their research. Some have found a way around, over, under, or through it. For others, there seems to be no way to get through it.

Some have broken through their brick walls by doing cluster genealogy, creating a timeline of the person in question (to help you see where and when life events occurred), and having a genealogy friend review their information.

There are a few good books available that may give you ideas to use with your brick wall(s).

Family Tree Case Study: Break Down Your Genealogy Brick Wall in 5 Steps by Nancy Hendrickson

101 Brick Wall Busters by the Editors of *Family Tree Magazine*

The Family Tree Problem Solver: Proven Methods for Scaling the Inevitable Brick Wall by Marsha Hoffman Rising

Scaling brick walls: Genealogical problem solving by Thomas Fetters

500 Brickwall Solutions to Genealogy Problems by Family Chronicle

More Brickwall Solutions to Genealogy Problems by Family Chronicle

Research Help by Yolanda Lifter

There is a phrase that states good things come in small packages. This is the case for the book *101 Best Genealogy Research Tips* published by Moorhead Magazine (permission to reprint obtained by *Family Chronicle* magazine 11 Jun 2011).

I have chosen some tips that you may want to use in your own research.

#5. Ignore Surnames. Sometimes fixating on surnames just limits our ability to find our ancestors, especially when using digital databases. Entering only given names and other criteria in search forms will frequently result in success when the surname was illegible, oddly spelled or incorrectly indexed. And occasionally, you can even find married daughters and remarried widows this way.

#32. Investigate “Visitors” and “Lodgers.” In census records, our ancestors’ households frequently include people who aren’t listed as kin, but as visitors or lodgers. It’s wise not to assume that these people are complete strangers. It’s not uncommon for a “visitor” to turn out to be a cousin and a “lodger” an in-law. So always make note of all the members of a household and keep on the look-out for their names as you continue your research.

#34. Keep Track of Your Objective. Random research may be fun, but eventually you’ll look back on your pile of research notes and wonder where you’ve gotten and how you got there, and whether you’ll have to do it all over again to figure it out. So try to focus from the start and keep careful records of your objectives for each research session, and for each record you searched. This way you’ll make more noticeable progress and when you review your work, you’ll be able to tell what you searched for and why, and what you might have missed. This will help you determine whether or not you need to re-examine the same records once new information comes to light or whether you can safely say you’ve covered that base and move on.

#63. Contact Chambers of Commerce. Chambers of Commerce are quick, cheap sources of local information about a town. The next time you find yourself researching ancestors in a new town, try writing to them asking for an information package (or visiting their website). These can include such items as mini-histories, maps, tourist information, brochures on historic sites and calendars of local events. It’s a great way to start your orientation process.

#81. Get Google Alerts. If you find yourself searching Google for the same terms over and over to see what’s new, you might want to sign-up for “Google Alerts.” This is a service that sends you an e-mail notification each time a new listing for your search terms is added, with a link to the relevant page/site.

#97. Follow the Preacher. Ministers, priests, and rabbis were leaders in their communities far more in the past than they are today. So much so, that when a clergyman moved from one location to another, even across the ocean, members of his congregation often followed him. So if you're stuck trying to figure out where your ancestor lived before he showed up in the town you know about, try investigating his preacher. He might lead you just where you need to go, just as he led your ancestors!

Volunteer Schedule					
Day	Week#	Time Slot			
		9AM-12:30PM	12:30PM-4PM	4PM-6:30PM	6:30PM-8PM
Monday	1	Bill Palmer		Larry Cassel	
	2	Bill Palmer	Ann Goodwill	Larry Cassel	
	3	Bill Palmer		Larry Cassel	
	4	Bill Palmer	Ann Goodwill	Larry Cassel	
	5	Bill Palmer		Larry Cassel	
Tuesday	1	Jim Perkins	David Low	Library Closes at 5PM	
	2	Jim Perkins			
	3	Jim Perkins	David Low		
	4	Jim Perkins			
	5	Jim Perkins			
Wednesday	1		Annette Clark		
	2		Annette Clark		
	3		Annette Clark		
	4		Annette Clark		
	5		Annette Clark		
Thursday	1	Jim Sheldon		Library Closes at 5PM	
	2	Jim Sheldon			
	3	Jim Sheldon			
	4	Jim Sheldon			
	5	Jim Sheldon			
Friday	1		Ellen Pitts-Miller	Library Closes at 5PM	
	2		Ellen Pitts-Miller		
	3		Ellen Pitts-Miller		
	4		Ellen Pitts-Miller		
	5		Ellen Pitts-Miller		
Saturday	1			Library Closes at 5PM	
	2	Jean Godwin			
	3				
	4	Jean Godwin			
	5				

Genealogy Room Researchers:

Volunteers of the Genealogical Society of South Brevard, Inc. staff the schedule posted above. Occasionally, things do happen to prevent the scheduled volunteer from showing up for their shift. Please know that our volunteers are very dedicated and make every effort to be here for you and your research.

Genealogical Society of South Brevard

Officers for 2012

President	Ann Williams
Vice President	Diane Young
Recording Secretary	Joyce Riley
Treasurer	Scott Shenton
Corresponding Secretary	Sue van Vonno

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<i>Bulletin</i> editor, review Education Exchange Newsletters French and Canadian Society Liaison Historian Hostess Library Development Library Operations Library Volunteer Coordinator Look-ups Meeting Flyers* Membership Newsletter Editor Program Reviews Programs Programs Chairman Publicity Web Site	Yolanda Lifter Marian Harrison Pat Payne Anne Trabold Betty Los Peggy O’Steen Lucy Gunthorpe Jim Sheldon Annette Clark Ellen Miller Peg Pappelardo Helen Begin Yolanda Lifter Larry Cassel Lisa McRoberts Jim Perkins Doug Burnett Jack Schweikert
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*Non-Board Position

Board of Directors

2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013
Doug Burnett	Larry Cassel	Helen Begin
Marian Harrison	Ellen Miller	Annette Clark
Jim Sheldon	Pat Payne	Lucy Gunthorpe
Anne Trabol	Jack Schweikert	Yolanda Lifter
Diane Young	Sue van Vonno	Jim Perkins
	Ann Williams	Joyce Riley

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Lowell Barker	Rhoda Burgoon	Beth Griswold
Joanne Kirchman	Marguerite Lee	Maggie MacNeill
Billie Webb	Helen Wilder	