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Walt Bruetsch,
Journal Editor

Genealogy Journal

A quarterly publication of the
Martin County Genealogical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 275, Stuart, FL 34995 <http://mcgensociety.org>

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Something for us to Consider:

In grade school,
I use to have a ruler,
yellow in color.
Along with the
numbers 1 thru 12,
it said:

"Do unto others as you
would have
them do unto you."

To me, that is still
good advice,
some 60 years
later in life.

Walt Bruetsch

President's Comments

Reba E. Shepard, MCGS President

October is History Month, and at the risk of mixing up two organizations in which I am involved, I want to tell you about a project that is just about completed. It falls under Preservation: we are preserving the history of the Woman's Club of Stuart. They are celebrating their 100th anniversary on 11-12 October, 2013. They formed a 100th anniversary committee, and started to lay plans for the celebration. I was appointed Historian, and looked around to see what I could do to add to the events.

Their history was not a neat, well laid out library. It was 18 scrapbooks for their 98 years, books of minutes in no special order, and boxes of papers. Most of their yearbooks were intact, which was a blessing, because they told the story.

At the request of the president, I wrote a new short history for their yearbook. I was then asked to write a slightly longer one for their website. These led me to realize that an expanded history in the form of a book would be a great addition to their celebration. I had about a year and a half to do the work, so, I started. Within a month I was hospitalized for a week. Then I went back to work on the history. A year later, I again lost a week, but this time I took my computer to the facility with me and transcribed yearbooks.

Needless to say, I was behind on the project, but it is ongoing. The writing is done, and the material is being submitted to a self-publishing company. It may not be finished for the events, but at least, eventually, the Woman's Club of Stuart will have a book of stories and pictures depicting their 100 years if memories.

Yours in Genealogy,

Reba E. Shepard,
President, 2013

P.S.: Lessons learned: Have patience. Never give up.
The end result is definitely worth the effort.
And every organization should have an on-going history.

Calendar of Events

September 20, 2013, Friday • 1-3pm

MCGS Monthly Meeting

John F. Armstrong Wing of the Blake Library

The program is "Technology Applications to Genealogy Research" by Justin DeLaCruz of the Cummings Library, Idea Lab.

Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free, and light refreshments will be available.

Sept. 21, 2013, Saturday • 10:15am-12pm

MCGS Third Saturday Workshop

Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1).

The workshop is "Beginning Genealogy", given by MCGS member Walt Bruetsch. Send an E-mail to mcgsfl@gmail.com to sign up for this class.

Please put "Begin" in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is the large size community room. A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

Sept. 28, 2013, Saturday • 10:15am-12pm

MCGS Fourth Saturday Workshop

Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1)

The workshop is "Immigration, Naturalization and Overseas Research" given by MCGS member Walt Bruetsch. An opportunity to expand your knowledge of your ancestors' journey to America and how to find genealogical information overseas.

Send an E-mail to mcgsfl@gmail.com to sign up for this class. Please put OVERSEAS in the Subject Box.

Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is large. A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

October 3, 2013, Thursday • 5:45 pm-7:45 pm

First Thursday Evening Assistance

Blake Library Genealogy Room

A members from MCGS will be available to assist library patrons doing genealogical research. There is no charge.

October 5, 2013, Saturday • 10am-noon

First Saturday Assistance - MCGS/DAR

Blake Library Genealogy Room

Members from MCGS and the Daughters of the American Revolution-Halpatiokee Chapter will be available to assist library patrons researching ancestors: those from any time era and those who were American Revolutionary War patriots.

October 18, 2013, Friday • 1-3pm

MCGS Monthly Meeting

John F. Armstrong Wing of the Blake Library

The program is "Forgotten Patriots of the Revolution" by MCGS member Reba Shepard. Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free, and light refreshments will be available between the business meeting and the program.

October 19, 2013, Saturday • 10:15am-12pm

MCGS Third Saturday Workshop

Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1).

The workshop is "Organizing Your Genealogical Research", given by MCGS member Shirley Pizziferri. Send an E-mail to mcgsfl@gmail.com to sign up for this class. Please put ORGANIZE in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is the large size community room. A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

October 26, 2013, Saturday • 10:15am-12pm

MCGS Fourth Saturday Workshop

Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1).

The workshop is "DNA and Genealogy Research", given by MCGS member Walt Bruetsch. The presentation will cover the fundamentals of DNA data and give examples of setting up a project. Send an E-mail to mcgsfl@gmail.com to sign up for this class. Please put DNA in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is the large size community room.

A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

November 2, 2013, Saturday • 10am-noon
First Saturday Assistance - MCGS/DAR
Blake Library Genealogy Room

Members from MCGS and the Daughters of the American Revolution-Halpatiokee Chapter will be available to assist library patrons researching ancestors: those from any time era and those who were American Revolutionary War patriots.

November 7, 2013, Thursday • 5:45-7:45pm
First Thursday Evening Assistance
Blake Library Genealogy Room

A members from MCGS will be available to assist library patrons doing genealogical research. There is no charge.

November 15, 2013, Friday • 1-3pm
MCGS Monthly Meeting

John F. Armstrong Wing of the Blake Library
Election of 2014's Board of Directors: We need a quorum, so members PLEASE ATTEND! The program is "A Kaleidoscope of the Martin County community on the Treasure Coast of Florida" by Dr. W. Jay Thompson. A picture of early Stuart and the Martin County community by an early and well respected member of that community. Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free, and light refreshments will be available between the business meeting and the program.

November 16, 2013, Saturday • 10:15am-12pm
MCGS Third Saturday Workshop
Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1).

The workshop is "The New Family Search Web Site", given by MCGS member Reba Shepard. This web site has lots of new features and databases, so we'll be learning how to maximize our researching on this site. Send an E-mail to mcgsfl@gmail.com to sign up for this class. Please put SEARCH in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is the large size community room. A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

Nov. 23, 2013, Saturday • 10:15am-12pm
MCGS Fourth Saturday Workshop
Robert Morgade Library, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1).

The workshop is "Thinking Outside the Box or Using Your Genealogy Library Without the Computer", given by MCGS member Shirley Pizziferri. Shirley will point out the multitude of sources in our library that are under utilized and give examples of things researchers could use besides depending on the Internet.

Send an E-mail to mcgsfl@gmail.com to sign up for this class. Please put OUTSIDE in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is the large size community room.

A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

December 5, 2013, Thursday • 5:45 pm-7:45 pm
First Thursday Evening Assistance
Blake Library Genealogy Room

A members from MCGS will be available to assist library patrons doing genealogical research. There is no charge.

December 7, 2013, Saturday • 10am-noon
First Saturday Assistance - MCGS/DAR
Blake Library Genealogy Room

Members from MCGS and the Daughters of the American Revolution-Halpatiokee Chapter will be available to assist library patrons researching ancestors: those from any time era and those who were American Revolutionary War patriots.

December 20, 2013, Friday • 1-3pm
MCGS Monthly Meeting

John F. Armstrong Wing of the Blake Library
Come celebrate the Holiday Season with MCGS's Christmas Social, featuring our cookies and other treats, and the Holiday Raffle. Please bring a raffle gift, ~\$5, and join in the fun. This is a fund raising activity for the Society!

Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free. Light refreshments will be available after the business meeting.

Genealogy Room - Blake Library

Monday - Friday - 10 AM to 4 PM

MCGS volunteers are available for free assistance.

DNA SIG* and **Germanic SIG*** - Persons with a question can contact Walt Bruetsch, 772-220-1638 or waltbruetsch@usa.net. Help is on a one-on-one basis.

New England SIG* - Questions? Contact Lee Vought at eleevought@aol.com or Shirley Pizziferri - gypsygal2009@gmail.com.

Irish help - Persons with a question can contact Bob Scully in the Gen. Room on Fridays (2-4 PM) or 772-486-0549 or scl-lysr@yahoo.com

All these events are always **FREE** and **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. Everyone is welcome! Visit the MCGS Web site <http://mcgensociety.org> for more information.

* **SIG** - Special Interest Group made up of MCGS members and guests who meet to discuss ways of improving their personal genealogical search methods, and to find new helpful tools and resources. They also provide help to NON-MEMBERS who have an interest in learning how to research their genealogy.

This 'n That

If you care to be on a MCGS published list of "Researchers For Hire", contact Shirley Pizziferri.

Members, we invite you !

We need members to share their experiences in genealogy to come forward. We always are looking for speakers for meetings, and workshop leaders. If you need preparation help, it will be provided.

Our organization is only as good as we make it.
WE WANT YOU!

Bob Bishop, Director of Education

Upcoming TV Program

There is a new TV program starting on September 23rd. Genealogy Roadshow is starting on PBS stations, after the Antiques Roadshow program, so that puts the starting time at 9 PM for us in Florida. The show is apparently modeled after the success of the Antiques appraising system, except this time the experts will be solving, or suggesting ways to solve, your brickwalls. Maybe we'll pick up a few tips for our own research.

New Members This Summer

New members to MCGS between June and September, 2013 are:

A family membership of Loretta Parker Liljestrand and daughter Lauris Elizabeth Liljestrand (Ronman), living in Stuart,

Patricia Snyder Camper, living in Palm City, researching Snyder, Lipsett and Helmer,

Ruth M. Faust, living in Port St. Lucie, who is helping MCGS with digitizing an index to our Clipped Obituary Booklets, This involves transcribing the info from an printed obit into a computer spreadsheet.

Library News

We have a new book in the Genealogy Room. The book is titled "The Expansion of New England" by L. K. Mathews. The Spread of New England Settlements and Institutions to the Mississippi River, 1620 – 1865, 303 pages. Copyright New England Historic Genealogical Society. Dewey Decimal System # 974 ROS.

Tidbit

Consider establishing a forever E-mail address for your genealogy work. Then when an old message board posting is responded to, you will be notified of the new posting. And if you upload a GED file to World Connect Project on RootsWeb.com, people will also be able to contact you. A gmail.com address is appealing, because currently they don't have any ads, and you can use the new HangOut feature, which is like Skype.

Reflections on Volunteering

By Jerry Bloom Stephenson

Recently, I learned that another group I belong to has made the painful decision to disband. As it happens, it was another genealogical group, or family association. It was something that we all knew could happen one day, but were hopeful SOMEONE would come to the rescue and save the day. But, the savior was not to be found.

As happens with many small groups, a few eager and enthusiastic people gather to form a club, association, organization - whatever you want to call it. But, the common interest was formed to keep an idea going. These people created the structure of guidelines or bylaws from which to run the group, and then others (or probably the same individuals) created activities, programs, events, etc. to attract others to join the "fun".

If an effort is not made to attract volunteers within the group to take over some of the responsibilities, then the "core" group who are running things become aged, move away or lose interest because they get "burned out". So, fewer people are left to do more of the effort. A recipe for disaster!

Many hands make the task easier. If you have a talent, some time and a desire to "give back" to MCGS, now is the time to speak up. Write and article for the journal, volunteer to run the hospitality table at meetings, offer your time in the Gen. Room as a helper. It doesn't take much to make a difference!

Contact one of your board members and express your interest. We'd love to hear from you!

Tidbits

Don't forget to document your sources.

Janet Fazekas

MCGS member Janet Fazekas passed on August 2, 2013. Janet was observed to be most active in the Society, with her husband Frank, as the hostess of the hospitality table at MCGS' monthly meetings. This task also included making the coffee for the meeting. Janet was also active, with Frank, with serving a two hour shift in the Genealogy Room each week. The funeral was held in Brighton, Michigan. Frank's new address is: 7700 Nemco Way, Apt 309, Brighton, MI 48116. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Janet's extended family.

It should be mentioned that the Fazekas family has suggested donations to the Martin County Genealogical Society, in memory of Janet. Many donations have been received and totals \$1100. by the end of August. A thank you card was sent to each donor from the Society.

MCGS Projects

by Walt Bruetsch

One of our goals as a society is to provide databases for the researching genealogist. Going to our website, mcgensociety.org and clicking on PROJECTS, we find projects on:

1. Bible Records - transcribe copies.
2. Cemeteries - GPS coordinates.
3. Family History Books - transcribe surnames
4. Genealogy Room - two (2) hours once a weekday.
5. Obituaries - We are still creating databases to upload to the Internet. Volunteers are needed to enter death info from Clipped Obituaries onto a spreadsheet.

Cleaning Head Stones

by Walt Bruetsch

One of the best feelings a genealogist can experience is found by visiting a cemetery where a lot of your ancestors are buried. That's why the bumper sticker reads: *Caution: Genealogist on board. I brake for cemeteries.* And with our modern digital cameras, recording the information from the headstone is so easy. But we have to be able to read it first.

So the question often arises: How can I safely clean an old headstone? This question was answered via the FREE Standard Edition of Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter.

"I am not a headstone expert, but I do know that Jonathan Appell is such an expert and he also runs a great web site called Gravestone Preservation at <http://www.gravestonepreservation.info>. The site has a number of articles about cleaning, repairing, and preserving cemetery markers of all sorts.

Jonathan's article on proper cleaning methods may be found at <http://www.gravestonepreservation.info/articles/cleaning-gravestones-monuments-stone-sculptures>.

Pay close attention to rule # 1 in that article: If the stone shows signs of chipping, scaling, flaking or other forms of deterioration, do not clean. You will do more harm than good."

Cemeteries can be a wonderful source of genealogical information. Consider this tombstone picture found initially on the Internet on the Northern NY Tombstone Project website, Essex County, Haven Cemetery. This photo was recently retaken by the Westport town historian at my request.



It reads: Ann, wife of George H Andrews, died Jan 7, 1816, age 32 Yrs, 2 Mo & 11 Days. What was left out was her maiden name, which the adjacent tombstones reveals was McKenzie. **This was a great genealogical find!** From the death date and age, the birth date was determine to be 27 Oct 1783. This data can be used in conjunction with census data to help fill in family group records.

So, researchers can input to a computer search engine: *tombstones state county* (i.e. tombstone New York Essex) and perhaps find the tombstones to help solve your genealogical mysteries.

Advice for cemetery visits includes taking along sun tan lotion, bug spray (bees, etc.), mosquito repellent, grass clippers, wear long pants (high grass), camera, etc. More advice is not to clean a stone if it is wobbly or flaking, so as to not cause additional lost of material. And be alert to avoid wobbly stones, so they don't fall on a person.

An interesting way to find where cemeteries are located is to use a topographical map. Again, a computer search engine is used with: *topographical map*. Websites will display a US map, and the researcher just keeps zooming in

on the town of interest. Below is an example from my hometown of Masonville, NY.



The largest cemetery is located off Foster Road, below and across the road from "1323" at top center. This is where my brother, Ed, during his high school years, dug graves, assisting our neighbor, George Jones, a farmer. (I wonder if Ed put this on his college résumé?) Our house is the square below the 2 in 1323. We always knew who and where these neighbors were.

The oldest cemetery is located below and across the highway from "circled 206". Another topographical map names this the Pioneer Cemetery. [See how this cemetery looks today by going to Google maps and zooming in for a close-up look. The Chrome browser works well for this application.]

Now, most of the topographical map websites will not allow you to print a copy of what you are viewing. A way around that problem is to use your digital camera, take a picture of the computer screen, and then download the photo into your picture software.

Knowing where the cemeteries are located will help immensely when you take a research trip. Use the topo map locations in conjunction with surface computer maps and road maps when you are planning your next research trip. A vis-

it to the cemetery may result with a genealogical GEM!

In Martin County, at the Blake Library's Genealogy Room, there are two books on cemeteries.

1. "Your Guide to Cemetery Research", Dew.Dec.Sys. # 929.1 CAR
 2. "Gravestone Chronicles", DDS # 929.3 CHA
- And most of the How To Do section genealogy books, in their Death section will have some advice about cemeteries.

This just in from the Troy, New York Irish Genealogical Society on cleaning head stones.

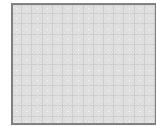
"THANK YOU DAVID ! I can tell you that the only acceptable method to clean historic (or any) monuments is with pure water ONLY and a [SOFT] nylon brush. D2 is also an effective biocide agent that will clean the monument, and inhibit the growth of lichen. It was specifically developed for use on historic marble and other outdoor stone architecture.

Marble and sandstone are porous and will absorb the oils and harsh chemicals from detergents and shaving cream. the stone may look fine for now, but will degrade significantly over time and another historic record is lost.

Many cemeteries, St Agnes included, offer cleaning workshops to learn proper methods, that follow best practices of the Association for Grave Stone Studies. Take the time to take a workshop. They are fun, entertaining, and you are helping future genealogist !"

One suggestion to reading and getting a better head stone photo is to use a mirror to cast a sun light beam across what you are trying to read. Creating a shadow on the carvings usually enhances readability. If you have a reflecting sun shade in your car, you can use that. Of course you'll need a second person with you to help with the reflecting sunlight, while you take the photo, or vice versa.

Martin County Genealogical Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 275
 Stuart, FL 34995

**WEB ADDRESS:**

<http://mcgensociety.org>

MCGS Board of Directors - 2013

President	Reba Shepard
Vice-President/Programs	Robert Bishop
Treasurer	Walter Bruetsch
Membership	Jeraldene Stephenson
Secretary	Shirley Pizziferri
Library Acquisitions	Shirley Pizziferri
Members-at-Large	Colleen Kimball and Debra Halacy

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Public Relations	Walter Bruetsch
Volunteer Coordinators	Shirley Pizziferri
Library Liaison	Shirley Pizziferri
Calling Tree	Pearl Dougherty
Hospitality	Shirley Pizziferri
Journal Editor	Walter Bruetsch
Website Administrator	Walter Bruetsch

Martin County Genealogical Society membership meetings are held the third Friday of each month at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome. There is a short business meeting preceding a program.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://mcgensociety.org>

Welcome New MCGS Members:

We hope you take the time to seek out our newest MCGS members the next time you are at a monthly meeting or see them in the Genealogy Room.

Warm welcomes to:

**Loretta Liljestrand with daughter Lauris Ronman,
 Patricia Camper
 and
 Ruth Faust**

Annual Membership Dues are \$20 for individuals and \$25 for a family or organization. The Genealogy Journal is usually printed four times a year and distributed at the March, June, September and December MCGS meetings. Suggestions and contributions are always welcomed.