March 2015
Volume XXIII No. 1

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

# Highlights this issue: President's Comments 1 Calendar of Events 2 Photo, Book Reviews 3 Ireland Database 4 Migration, Blogs 5 Civil War, FL Settlers 6

#### A Superstition

Polish Research Aids 7

8

New Members

"A clap of thunder after a burial indicates the soul has reached heaven."

By Sharon Carmack,

Source:
"A Guide to
Cemetery
Research"
(2002)

#### **President's Comments**

Colleen Kimball, MCGS President

Dear Members & Friends,

Spring has sprung and while many of us are doing Spring cleaning at home, our Genealogy Room is undergoing a "clean up" and "clean out" thanks to the hard work of John & Cindy Sheppard. The file cabinets have all been reorganized, the volunteer drawer in the small desk has new files for charts and other papers to assist patrons, the shelves are being put in order, and the large collection of CD's has been alphabetized, cataloged and have nice new cases built by John, making them more user friendly and accessible. The "readers" for the CD's will be installed on the Gen Room computers in the next week or two, and I hope members will take advantage of the valuable resources and information on these CD's, much of which is not online. Thank you, John & Cindy!

The Society has many opportunities for you to help - Telephone callers, Education Programs, Hospitality, Obituary or cemetery indexing, assisting with the Journal/Newsletter, Publicity or being a photographer and keeping a scrapbook of our activities. Volunteers to assist patrons with research in the genealogy room are always welcomed, especially as the summer months approach an many of our members begin to head north. If this is your forte, please see Jean Gray, our Volunteer Chairman. Walt Bruetsch is looking for someone to assist [or take-over] with the Journal and Publicity.

Please take a few minutes to complete the yellow tri-fold brochure in the Gen Room which lists all the various ways in which you can take an active part in our Society.

Your suggestions for projects or programs are always encouraged and welcomed.

MCGS Board of Directors

Colleen A .Brown Kimball, President John Sheppard, Vice President Donna DuBois, Secretary Cindy Sheppard, Treasurer Karen Peterson, Asst. Treasurer Jean Gray, Membership Chair Margaret Gray, Program Committee

#### Calendar of Events for the Next Three Months

During June, MCGS activities will be reduced, as we start our summer season break.

#### FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

And on Every Thursday of the Month.

On April 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 5:45 PM to 7:45 PM in the Blake Library Genealogy Room, 2351 SE Monterey Road, Stuart.

A members from MCGS will be available to assist persons doing genealogical research. There is no charge. Please contact MCGS if you intend to be there, so MCGS can ensure that a member will be present.

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH ASSISTANCE - MCGS/DAR and regular assistance on Other Saturdays of the Month in the PM.

April 4<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 10 AM to 12 Noon, in the Blake Library Genealogy Room, 2351 SE Monterey Road, Stuart. The PM time is from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

Members from MCGS and the Daughters of the American Revolution - Halpatiokee Chapter will be available to assist the public doing research about their ancestors: those from any time era and those who were American Revolutionary War patriots. Free. Please contact MCGS if you intend to be there, so MCGS can ensure that a member will be present.

#### **MEETINGS: 3rd Friday of Every Month**

Please go to MCGS' website, mcgensociety.org, and click on EVENTS, to find the latest info about the program for a particular meeting.

During the first half of 2015, MCGS' Friday meetings will be in various libraries around Stuart. So "pay" particular attention to which library is being used.

Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free, and light refreshments will be available between the business meeting and the program. Ages 12+.

#### April 17, 2015, Friday, 1 to 3 PM

At the CUMMINGS LIBRARY, 2551 SW Matheson Avenue, Palm City.

The program is "Matthew Family Photos", presented by Sandy Thurlow. Sandy is a historian who has written extensively about the history of the local Stuart area. MCGS welcomes her pictorial presentation.

May 15, 2015, Friday, 1 to 3 PM

At the MORGADE LIBRARY, 5851 SE Community Drive, Stuart. (West of US 1, south of Salerno Road.)

The program is "A Scotsman finds Native American Ancestry" by Pat McAllister.

There is no meeting in June. Enjoy your summer break.

#### **Board of Director Meetings:**

MCGS Board of Directors meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 10:15 AM at the Cummings Library in Palm City. MCGS members are welcomed to attend.

A big THANK YOU goes out to all those who have contributed articles for this issue. Ed.

#### Meet the Newest Bd. of Dir. members



L-R: Cindy Sheppard, Jean Gray, Donna Du-Bois, Karen Peterson and Margaret Gray. They will be joining current BofD members: Colleen Kimball and John Sheppard.

## The Lost Ancestor (The Forensic Genealogist) (Volume 2) Paperback – Sept., 2014

by Mr. Nathan Dylan Goodwin (Author)

From acclaimed author, Nathan Dylan Goodwin comes this exciting new genealogical crime mystery, featuring the redoubtable forensic genealogist, Morton Farrier. When Morton is called upon by Ray Mercer to investigate the 1911 disappearance of his great aunt, a housemaid working in a large Edwardian country house, he has no idea of the perilous journey into the past that he is about to make. Morton must use his not inconsiderable genealogical skills to solve the mystery of Mary Mercer's disappearance, in the face of the dangers posed by those others who are determined to end his investigation at any cost. This is the second book in the Morton Farrier genealogical crime mystery series, although it can be enjoyed as a stand-alone story.

Hiding the Past (The Forensic Genealogist) (Volume 1) by Nathan Dylan Goodwin Paperback \$11.69

#### **New Books in the Genealogy Room**

By Shirley Pizziferri

Soldiers of Florida in the Seminole, Indian, Civil and Spanish-American Wars (Robertson, 1903)

Florida in the Spanish-American War (Knetch & Wynne, 2011)

<u>Courthouse Research for Family Historians</u> (Christine Rose, 2004)

<u>Courthouse Indexes Illustrated</u> (Christine Rose, 2004)

Samuel Fuller, Mayflower Families
Through Five Generations, Vol. 10

<u>Isaac Allerton, Mayflower Families</u> <u>Through Five Generations</u>, Vol. 17.

These last two books were purchased to add to our Mayflower Collection found in Stack #12, on which our speaker will be discussing at the March 20, 2015 meeting.

Also, replacement copies of <u>Turbo Genealogy</u> and <u>U. S. Catholic Sources</u> were purchased to replace those that had received water damage.

Elements of Genealogical Analysis (Robert C. Anderson, 2014). This book, by the author of The Great Migration series, is a scholarly look at researching and analyzing genealogical material. It is not a book for beginners, but one that should be studied by anyone interested in doing and/or publishing quality genealogical work. It is a must-have for any good genealogical library.

#### **In Memoriam**

Pearl V. Dougherty

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-onone basis.

**Jewish Genealogy SIG\*-** Questions? Contact Linda Epstein at JewishSIG@yahoo.com 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 scllysr@yahoo.com

All of 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!

Colleen Kimball, President

#### **County Carlow's Roman Catholic** baptisms and marriages are now available online

The Catholic parish records of Co. Carlow are now searchable online at www.rootsireland; the database includes 146,000 baptisms and 58,000 marriages. The parishes covered are listed below.

Parish	Baptisms	Marriages
Bagenalstown	1820 - 1899	1820 - 1899
Ballon	1781 - 1899	
Borris	1782 - 1899	
Cathedral of The Assumption	1744 - 1899	
Clonegal	1831 - 1899	
Clonmore	1819 - 1899	
Graiguecullen/Killeshin	1808 -	
Hacketstown	1823 - 1899	
Leighlinbridge	1783 - 1899	
Myshall	1846 - 1899	1812 - 1899
Rathvilly	1797 - 1899	1804 - 1899
St. Mullins	1796 - 1899	1804 - 1899
Tinryland	1806 - 1899	1813 - 1899
Tullow	1739 - 1899	1748 - 1899

Please find a list of County Carlow sources that are currently online at www.carlow.rootsireland.ie

#### **Early Migration Patterns**

By Shirley Pizziferri

If you have traced any of your ancestors into New York State and found a dead end there, this may help you.



The first clue, if your ancestor lived in New York before ships began coming into New York City in droves, is that your ancestor probably came from New England. Although some New Englanders traveled north, most migration out of the New England states was west and south, the most popular pattern being into New York, then west into Ohio, etc., the frontier being pushed westward, mainly along the rivers and Indian trails. Patterns of law, order and civilization increased travel, making it safer from Indian raids.

In the 1790s they passed right through western Massachusetts and on through the Hudson and Mohawk valleys in favor of unclaimed The period between the lands further west. Revolution and the Civil War, reaching its peak in the 1870s and 1880s, was when most of the migration westward out of New England occurred, but it is the most difficult period to research. The 1850 Census is the place to start, moving back into the 1790-1840 censuses to see where the family settled, and then to search church and county records for those locations for more information. If they can be found in 1850 as coming from one of the New England states, the search becomes easier, as most New England states kept good records. Ancestry.com and American Ancestors.org (NEHGS) should provide you with nearly any vital records you need.

If this is the pattern your ancestors took, we also have several books that may help, for instance, Western Massachusetts Families in 1790; Maine and New Hampshire Settlers 1600s-1900s (CD #35, Massachusetts Corbin Collection (CD #88), and others in the New England section of the Genealogy Room.

If your ancestors were part of the 18th century settlement of the Beekman Patent, you're in luck. Frank Doherty Sr's 11-volume set focuses on Dutchess County land holdings granted to Henry Beekman in 1697, with the first European settlers arriving around 1710. We have Vol. 1. Check our Holdings Binder.

If the family name appears Dutch or German, History of Ancient Families of New Amsterdam and New York by Edwin R. Purple is an excellent source, covering records from the Dutch Reformed Church.

A book that comes highly recommended but which we have not yet purchased for our library is New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer. If you think this book would help you in your research, contact Library Chairman, Shirley Pizziferri at <a href="mailto:gypsy-gal2009@gmail.com">gypsy-gal2009@gmail.com</a>.

#### **About Blogs**

By Shirley Pizziferri

Everyone should subscribe, not only to Eastman's Genealogy Newsletter Online, but also to Genealogy in Time Magazine.

It lists recently added genealogical sources, including some Canadian sources for instance that I don't get with my Ancestry U.S. edition. Check it out.

I found on "Genealogy in Time Magazine Newsletter", a listing of Canadian records that had recently been added, supposedly to FamilySearch. Since I have a dead end in my Robinson Nova Scotia Line, I searched the birth records (1864-) for all the Robinsons born in Nova Scotia and found the original records of a

couple of births. Then I went to FamilySearch and did a search for the same names. I found the listings, which had a description but not an image of the originals found on "Genealogy in Time."

#### **Civil War Letters**

By Karen Peterson



So you found your Civil War ancestor. Perhaps you have his military record or pension papers from Ancestry or Fold3 websites. Did he or anyone in his regiment write home? The letters might contain accounts of life in camp,

marches and battles. They might describe every day experiences such as shelter, clothing, food and general morale. Many were homesick and their letters describe what they thought of while they were away from home. Soldiers eagerly waited for letters from home and nothing was better than a package from loved ones, containing a favorite food, writing supplies, or warm clothing. Were your Civil War ancestor's letters saved and submitted to an archive? One way to find out is to Google "Civil War letters". The results are many. Some repositories include but are not limited to:

Virginia Tech: http://spec.lib.vt.edu/civwar/

Virginia Military Institute: http://www.vmi.edu/archives.aspx?id=3945

Civil War Archive: http://www.civilwararchive.com/LETTERS/letters.htm

Civil War.net http://www.civil-war.net/

You can also search Civil War Archive.com for regimental histories. Civil War books that contain collections of civil war letters or regimental histories can be found at:

http://www.civilwarmall.com/bookseller/main.htm OR

http://www.camppope.com/ourbks.html



Duty Honor and Country is a book with transcripts of the 119 letters written by Captain William P. Black. Also included is a roster of the 37<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry (about 300 men). Information on soldiers and their rank, birth date,

whether mustered out, court martialed, wounded or died, and if a veteran is listed.

### "Settlers & Builders of Florida" Certificate

PRESS RELEASE December 2014

Florida State Genealogical Society's Pioneer Descendant Certification Program is excited to announce the launch of a new certificate! The Settlers & Builders of Florida certificate is now available to any individual or family who can prove lineage from an ancestor(s) living in Florida at any time beginning on 3 March 1845 to 31 December 1900. If your ancestor was one of those individuals who contributed to the growth of the new State of Florida then this program is for you!

To learn more about this new certificate and all the certificates offered by the FSGS Pioneer Descendant Certification Program go to the Florida Pioneer page at www.flsgs.org or email at pioneer@flsgs.org In order to qualify for a Florida Pioneer Descendant's Certificate, you will need to prove:

□ Residency of the Pioneer Ancestor□ Your Direct Line of Descent from the Pioneer Ancestor

The web site already has a searchable data base of those pioneers and their ancestors that have already been proven. [Ask MCGS member Donna DuBois about her project.]

#### **Polish Research**

Handout: Beginning Polish Genealogical Research; Feb. 2015

By Aggie Dorchy (Email: aadorchy@gmail.com)

Write down what you already know about your family. Starting with yourself, then your parents, grandparents, etc., fill out a Family Group Work Sheet for each couple. Your first step is to fill in as many blanks with help from family records. The next step will be to locate accurate information and fill in the blanks for the time each ancestor lived here in the U.S.

There are many online resources that will make your job much easier, than ever before. My family is from Galicia ... I am Polish and Ukrainian. Between 1889-1914, 2 million immigrants or 2% of the population left that country. The 1910 census indicated 50% were Polish and 50% were Ukrainian. WWI broke up Galicia. I offer the following info for any families who came from the same country.

#### Recommended Reading:

- Dunn, Michael A beginner's Guide to Online Genealogy
- Cormley, Myra The Official Guide of Roots Web
- Otterson, Michael Finding Your Family on the Internet
- Shea, Jonathan Going Home: A Guide to Polish American Family History Research
- Lenius, Brian Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia
- Jensen, Cecile Wendt Sto Lat: A Modern Guide to Polish Research (sold on the internet)

#### Websites:

- www.rootsweb.ancestry.com
- www.halgal.com Genealogy of Galicia
- www.pgsm.org Polish Genealogy Society of Michigan

- www.pgsa.org Polish Genealogy Society of America (Chicago)
- www.genealogyblog.com
- www.pgsa.org/US/orchard.php Polish American Archives at Orchard Lake St. Mary's
- Burton Historical Collection—Detroit Public Library. Many of you know that Detroit recently went through bankruptcy, and this affected the library system. The last I've heard, the library charges for any research done there.
- Google Polish Genealogy

European Priests were required by law to maintain birth/death/marriage records. To access these you must know:

- Village name of ancestor
- Parish name of ancestor
- Religion of ancestor

Martin County (FL) has wonderful resources for genealogy research ... the Genealogy Room at Blake Library, Ancestry Library Edition on their computer system and the Family History Center (LDS) in Palm City. Seriously consider joining your local genealogical society, too. Happy hunting !!

#### Asides by Aggie:

Basically, I'm of the opinion that I should complete my tree as best I can with info from the time my family came to America. When that body of research is complete, then take it to another level and search overseas. Because Galicia (Poland/Ukraine) was behind the Iron Curtain, the churches hold the vital records that are so important. I've been seeking out info on the churches both of my families belonged to, and hope to begin the process of contacting the Priests in those parishes. I've heard some interesting stories from researchers up north about how they are slooow to release those records ... and some will only do so for a price and with a few trusted Polish contacts. I didn't include any of this info, since that would be for a more advanced researcher, and vary from person to person.

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

**WEB ADDRESS:** 

http://mcgensociety.org

#### MCGS Board of Directors - 2015

President Colleen Kimball
Vice-President John Sheppard
Treasurer Cindy Sheppard
Asst. Treasurer Karen Peterson
Membership Jean Gray
Secretary Donna DuBois
Programs Margaret Gray

Committees:

Sunshine Chair
Public Relations
Volunteer Coordinators
Library Liaison
Volunteer Coordinators
Volunteer Coordinators
Volunteer Coordinators
Jean Gray
Value Bruetsch
Volunteer Coordinators
Volunteer Coordinators
Volunteer Coordinators
Value Bruetsch
Va

Library Liaison Shirley Pizziferri / Richard Ri
Library Acquisitions Shirley Pizziferri
Calling Tree Jean Gray
Hospitality Lynne Jensen
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. [E-mail: mcgsfl@gmail.com]

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:

Annie Crowther,
Debbie Glasgow, and
Virginia Streader.
(Virginia Is now living in Tennessee and
wants to read about her friends.)

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.