



Roots and Branches Genealogy Society of West Volusia County

130 E. Howry Avenue, DeLand, Florida 32724

April, May, June 2008
www.rootsweb.com/~flrbgs/index.htm

Hello Spring!

Liz Whitaker On The Record (s)—Where They Are and How We Can Find Them! by Jim Pardee

Liz Whitaker, Records Management Liaison Office for Volusia County, opened her presentation with a list of the locations of the Clerk's Offices. Most of the archive records are stored at the 235 W New York Avenue, Deland, office.

Records such as: Chancery, Civil Actions, Criminal, Land, Incorporation, Marriage, Military Discharges, Taxes, Probate, Family Law/Divorce, Naturalization, Plats, Delayed Birth Certificates, and Traffic can be found as this office.

Mrs. Whitaker presented slides showing miscellaneous books including a document from 1855 showing a land grant

Please see **Whitaker, Page 11**



Roots & Branches Contributors to the SMGF Data Can Unlock mtDNA Results at GeneTree.com

If you contributed your DNA and pedigree to Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation DNA Database before December 31st, 2007 you may be able to unlock your mtDNA results through a simple 2-step process at GeneTree.com

SMGF and GeneTree have teamed together to provide personal results of your

MtDNA and allow use of the tools offered at GeneTree to understand how it all applies to your ancestral research. If you qualify, and wish to receive your mtDNA results, learn more about your haplogroup and utilize DNA discovery tools to find genetic maternal line cousins go to GeneTree.com to start the process.



Inside this issue:

<i>Calendar</i>	4
<i>Family History Center News</i>	5
<i>Risk of Using Credit Cards Online</i>	5
<i>Jerry's Tips</i>	6
<i>Jell-O & Goodby</i>	10
<i>South To Calitri</i>	10

Special points of interest:

- Don't miss the bus trip to the Orlando Library on May 18!*
- Researching just got easier at the Family History Center w/in house consultants*
- Jerry has lots of research tips for you to check out Online*
- Genealogy stories that will make you laugh and cry!*

Be a Genealogy Room Volunteer!

What Is Roots & Branches?

History & Mission:

Founded in 1986, the Roots & Branches Society of West Volusia County, serves the cities of DeLand, Deltona, DeBary, Enterprise, Osteen, Pierson, and Seville. The purpose of this Society is to stimulate and promote interest in genealogical and historical research; to provide instruction in the use of efficient mechanics and adherence to scientific principles of accuracy and thoroughness in research.

Society Projects & Lecture Subjects: Our meetings feature workshops and

speakers on such topics as early land, church, census and probate records; research documentation and organization; DNA testing and internet search. Society projects include staffing the Genealogy Room at the DeLand Public Library, digitizing the Brownell Collection for preservation and sharing with the Historical Society, maintaining the vertical files and an indexed collection of obituaries from the Beacon and News-Journal, and continuing the collection of pertinent information on West Volusia cities and pioneer families of the area.

With nearly 100 members from all over the United States, the Society is a diverse group of all ages. We meet the third Sunday of each month, September through June, in the Auditorium of the DeLand Public Library for a Program at 2:00 PM. A 45 minute beginner's lesson is offered at 1:00 PM prior to the meeting in the Conference Room behind the Audio/Visual desk. Guests are always welcome. The Society's Board meeting is held the Friday prior to the General Meeting at 3:00 PM in the Conference Room. Members are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Officers & Committees

President: Jim Pardee

1st Vice President of Programs: Carol Izzo

2nd Vice President of Membership: Mary Lois Kelley

Recording Secretary: Harriet Bolin

Treasurer: Judy Warensford

Corresponding Secretary: Jerry Hale

Past President ex officio: Rosemary Sutton

Publicity Chairman: Carol Izzo

Newsletter Distribution: Mary Lois Kelley

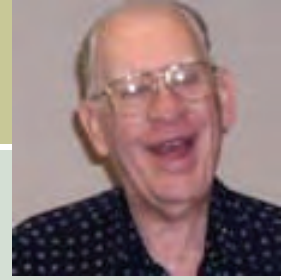
Newsletter Editor: Linda Williamson

Webmaster: John Woodard



PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR GENEALOGY ROOM DUTY; WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A Message From Our President—Jim Pardee



Dear Members,

Whenever one assumes the mantle of presiding officer of any group, there are certain anticipations to be expected. First, he would be expected to carry on the progress of the organization, but at the same time introduce unique changes that would create a different, if not better, group.

Fortunately, the excellent board of directors and the return of past members along with the addition of new members have given me the opportunity to see a bright future for Roots and Branches.

Already we are seeing some changes in the Genealogy Room at the library. The large collection of donated books has been perused and some have been found to be moldy and have to be removed from the library. Others will be cataloged and placed on the shelves.

The broken microfilm and microfiche readers have been removed along with the carrels that held them. They couldn't be repaired. The remaining reader has been moved outside of the genealogy room. In the soon to be empty space on the north wall, we will be seeing more shelves.

An addition to the room is the electronic magnifier that will replace our antique magnifying glass. The unused card catalog to which it is attached will be removed, also.

We have had a good variety of guests at the first two meetings of this year. We are looking forward to their membership.

If you missed the January and February meetings, you deprived yourself of choice speakers. Members who attended now know more about the Family History Center and its new internet partner and, also, how to use the Stetson Library.

The board of directors and I look forward to seeing you at the next meetings.

Jim

Our Spring Calendar—We're Planning a Bus Trip! — Carol Izzo



April 20 – General Meeting Elmer's Genealogical Library 2:00 PM- We are pleased to have Elmer and June Spear. Mr. Spear will give us insight into his great collection of genealogical resources from all over the United States, housed in Elmer's Genealogy Library in Madison, Florida. He has a large collection of resources for Ohio and over 20,000 books covering every state in the union and many overseas countries. Mr. Spear was selected Genealogist of the Year by the Florida State Genealogy Society in 1999 and the Federation of Genealogy Societies awarded him their Distinguished Service Award at their conference in Orlando in 2003.

April 20 – Beginner's Lesson 1:00 PM- "Documentation" by Jerry Hale

May 18 – Bus trip to Orlando Public Library 12:30 PM – On May 18, 2008 Roots

and Branches members and Volusia County Genealogical Society members (Daytona Beach) will be taking a bus down to the Orlando Public Library for a briefing and tour of their genealogy resources.

We will be getting a briefing and tour of the genealogical resources of the Orlando Library and hopefully have time for some individual research, browsing the library, or just some good old relaxation.

We will leave from the DeLand Public Library's parking lot at 12:30 p.m. and will leave the Orlando library at approximately 3:30 p.m.

If you are interested in joining us on this tour, you must sign up and pay for the trip at the March or April Roots & Branches general meeting in DeLand or mail your check to Roots & Branches by April 18, 2008.

The cost of the trip is \$15.00 per person and must be paid in advance. Checks can be mailed to Roots and Branches Genealogical Society of West

Volusia County,
130 E. Howry
Avenue, DeLand, Florida
32724. Space on the bus will be on a first come, first served basis. We look forward to seeing you on the bus.

May 18 – Beginner's Meeting 1:00 PM is cancelled because of the bus trip.

June 22—General Meeting "Problems & Solutions" – Members will discuss how they overcame their genealogical problems and how they reached a solution. Hopefully, by hearing how our members have solved their genealogical problems, we can help one another overcome problems encountered in our research.

June 22 Beginner's Lesson 1:00 PM Church history tied to genealogy and records by Rosemary Sutton—Carol Izzo

Welcome New Members

We are happy to welcome

David & Pat Atchley, 50 High Ridge Ave., DeLeon Springs, FL 32130
Shirley Y. Mullins, 350 Saint

Lawrence Ave., Orange City, FL 32763-2824

Ruth Ann Youmans Wood, 621 N. Stone St., DeLand, FL 32720 - ladygraver@yahoo.com

Return Members are:

Walter & Jennifer Houdeshell and Ivey McGrew—*Mary Lois Kelly, Membership*

Learn From the Experts—Family History Center Now Offering Personal Consultation Sessions

The world's best library for genealogical research just got better! The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, recently added personal consultation sessions as one of their services. Sessions last from 30-45 minutes, depending on the nature of the problem.

Consultation sessions are not limited to genealogical research problems. They also include document reading, newsletters, organization, pictures/videos, PowerPoint, scanning techniques, and using flash drives.

I've always been a big fan of learning from the experts. They have often spent decades learning research strategies. The experts at the Fam-

ily History Library now offer in-depth consultations, meaning, they will review what you know about your research problem and help you develop a solid research strategy.

Consultation sessions are scheduled at the reference desk on the appropriate floor, or call 801-240-2584 and ask to be connected to the library.

Other ways to get help:

Professional Consultation Services. If you are not in the Family History Library area, you can certainly request a consultation service from professional researchers. They will request that you send them everything you know and have already researched on the particular project. They will then review, ana-

lyze, and create a research plan for you. Two credentialing organizations that provide contact information for credentialed professionals include:

International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists

Board for Certification of Genealogists

GenSmarts. A highly rated software add-on program, GenSmarts works its magic by analyzing the genealogy information you've previously recorded, helping to find holes in your data. It can do automatic look-ups for you on free internet search sites, and it works in concert with all popular genealogy software programs. —Source (in part): Family Legacy News

Paying by Credit Card Online—Assessing the Risk

As to entering credit card & billing info, I NEVER worry about that. I spent three years working at a company whose sole service was processing online credit card transactions. What I learned was that most of the stories about using credit cards online are "old wives' tales." All credit card transactions are 100% protected against fraud and

misuse.

In fact, I have stopped sending checks through the mail because checks get stolen so often and cashed. Sending a check in the mail is too risky. Checks are not insured; if your check is stolen and cashed, you lose the money.

HOWEVER, using a credit card online is very safe as all transactions are 100% insured.

Should someone rip off your credit card number (which is very rare), you might suffer some inconvenience but you will never lose a dime.

Simply contact the credit card company (most cards have the phone number on the back, all cards include the phone number with your monthly statement).

*Please see **Risk** Page 12*

Jerry's Tips—Backing up Your Files Online, Finding People with Common Names, War Diaries, etc. by JerryHale



Web Based Genealogy Services

Do you want to provide yourself an automatic backup to your genealogy database even if your house (God forbid) burns down? Consider one of the web based genealogy services. In using these services your data is placed on the service's servers and not on your own hard drive. Your data can be accessed from any internet connected computer, such as those at libraries all over the country.

There are two web based sites you might consider. One is RelativelyMe which is an adjunct to FaceBook. One must have a FaceBook account, which is free, then sign up for RelativelyMe.

Here is some information posted by Rob Armstrong, the creator of the service, on the Dick Eastman blog:

Relatively Me is free. You can create a family tree by either entering data into the Relatively Me application or by launching Genealogy Browser™, a free powerful pc-based family tree program. You can also upload a GEDCOM file.

Once you have entered data, you can use the Cool Information About Your Tree tab to look at your family tree in new and unusual ways.

And you can always use the power of Genealogy Browser to explore your family tree. Many genealogists love the powerful ability to surf their tree. All of that can be done to your heart's content for free.

We do charge if our automated match and merge system adds data to your tree. You have to subscribe to OneGreatFamily to see those additions. But many genealogists are very content with the free services, and just ignore the offers to subscribe. I would argue that no one on the web offers more unique capability today for free. — *Posted by Rob Armstrong/ March 06, 2008 at 01:32 AM*

Another possibility is OneGreat Family. This service is not free. There is a 7 day free trial and then you can subscribe on a monthly, quarterly or yearly basis. Before you decide to subscribe please check out the comments on the Dick Eastman blog (www.eogn.com, then google for OneGreatFamily) as some aspects of this service are controversial.

From the OneGreat Family Web Site: <http://www.onegreatfamilytree.com/>

OneGreatFamily is a single, shared family tree built by people all over the world.

The OneGreatFamily Tree is a powerful genealogy database that is shared and built by people like you from all over the world. Everyone's genealogy ties into the OneGreatFamily Tree.

Adding names to your tree is simple and fast. Either manually enter them, or import a GedCom file.

Input or import as much of your family tree as you have. OneGreatFamily will store your data on our secure servers and regularly back it up. As a result, you don't have to worry about your computer getting a virus or having hardware failure. This is a great way to easily share your family tree free of charge.

Our system continuously searches every name in your family tree for new connections. OneGreatFamily's automated search engine continually looks for additional information and relatives for every one of your ancestors at the same time. You will be notified by email when new information is available for your family tree.

When new connections are found to your tree, you will be notified and able to access them immediately. Explore and discover your family heritage. OneGreatFamily lets you see your entire family tree at one

time. You can zoom in or out to view any portion in more detail. Your family tree will continue to grow over time because people like you, from over 170 countries, submit new names, pictures, biographies, and video clips every day.

Genealogy Browser allows you to quickly scan your entire pedigree or get detailed information.

Subscription Plans are available for annual, quarterly, and monthly subscriptions. —
Source Dick Eastman

Warning From "Dear Myrtle"

In a podcast (<http://podcasts.dearmyrtle.com/>), when asked which genealogy programs she recommends she listed Legacy Family Tree, Roots Magic, The Master Genealogist and Reunions (for the Mac). She then specifically RECOMMENDED AGAINST Family Tree Maker for Windows (FTW).

She said she had received many reports over many versions of FTW that there is a problem with FTW that causes loss of all NOTES. She said she had contacted the authors of the program several times and was always ignored. In that same podcast Myrtle "Your Friend in Genealogy" said that the LDS Church, author of the first computer program "Personal Ancestral File" (PAF) would no longer be updating their program, which

is now falling behind the other programs in features. The church feels that there are so many other programs in the market which have all of the features people need that their time, effort and money will be better spent on their many other projects.

Search War Diaries Online

Wouldn't it be fascinating to discover what your First World War ancestor's army unit actually did? War Diaries are official daily accounts kept by individual units. They give reports on operations, intelligence summaries and other material. They can help you piece together your ancestor's life in the army in the First World War. Search the diaries now. Searching is free and you only pay for downloads.

<https://ionmx.com/apps/display.aspx?t=d09-3a-3a-684-d897&h=e52b1a639a5d7fcd26d01819fff849e1>

GenealogyBank Adds Over 4 Million Records & Documents

GenealogyBank announced today that over 4 million historical newspapers records and documents from 24 States have been added to its database.

This constantly growing collection now features over 221 million family history records - I estimate that to contain over 1.3 Billion names.

You can search GenealogyBank for free and see a small slice of

every record for your ancestors but you must join GenealogyBank to view the complete documents – 30 day trial memberships are available for only \$9.95.

Here's a sampling of what's new on the site:

Alaska: Juneau. Daily Alaska Dispatch. 5/1/1917 to 8/31/1917

Alabama: Montgomery. Montgomery Advertiser. 10/1/1912 to 12/31/1912

California: Anderson Valley Post. 5/3/2006 to Current

Connecticut: Bridgeport. Republican Farmer. 1/5/1814 to 12/20/1815

Georgia: Cordele. Cordele Dispatch. 11/14/2007 to Current
Savannah. Savannah Tribune. 12/4/1875 to 12/27/1913

Illinois: Danville. Commercial News. 11/6/2007 to Current

Massachusetts: Boston. Boston Journal. 7/1/1880 to 10/6/1917

Boston. Daily Atlas. 7/1/1841 to 4/11/1857

Lowell. Lowell Daily Citizen and News. 3/21/1857 to 1/24/1879

Springfield. Springfield Republican. 5/17/1900 to 11/15/1910

Worcester. Worcester Daily Spy. 7/6/1903 to 9/22/1903

Maryland: Baltimore. Baltimore American. 9/1/1917 to 12/31/1922.

Space does not permit a full listing—check it out at the website.

Pennsylvania

Archives

My Grubb and Bailey families were across the river in Delaware before Penn came to what was to become Pennsylvania. They were soon in the new province and moving west. A high percentage of us have families who lived in Pennsylvania early on. If you have early Pennsylvania families then you are probably familiar with the Pennsylvania Archives. Our genealogy room has a partial set, (Series II-VII). We also have a copy of "A guide to using the published archives of Pennsylvania" (hereafter "The Guide" published in 1949) in a notebook on the Pennsylvania shelves. I have scanned that notebook and created a pdf file which is indexed and is to be found on the desktop of the off line computer.

Benjamin Franklin began the history of the state when he published, in 1754, "Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives of the Province of Pennsylvania" (1682-1776). Colonial Records" (16 volumes) and "Pennsylvania Archives" (12 volumes plus an index volume)" (1664-1790), the latter by Samuel Hazard, became known later as Series I. The effort continued in fits and starts until finally the IX Series was published between 1931 and

Bailey, William	B - 100 I	3 - 569
Enrolled:	2-22-64	At: Meadville, Pa.
M.I.	3-8-64 As:Pvt.	At: Harrisburg, Pa.
M.O.		
Discharged:	3-25-65	
Age at enrollment:	25	Complexion: Dark
Height:	5'11"	Eyes: Hazel
Hair:	Brown	Occupation: Laborer
Residence:	Crawford Co. Pa.	Born: Pa.
Remarks:	For Disability.	

On the State Archives site you will find **Archives Records Information Access System (ARIAS)** which you can use to find military records such as the one I found on one of my Bailey family members who served in the Civil War.

1935.

Indexes for the 138 volumes of the series are of variable quality and are often useless in finding exactly what a genealogist is looking for. Fortunately, modern technology has come to the rescue.

Footnote.com, launched in January 2007, has available, free of charge, the entire series. The database is entitled: "Pennsylvania Archives 1625-1880" and "contains images of Revolutionary War records, William Penn's records, Muster Rolls from various wars, and much, much more. This database is a showcase for Footnote.com, and full access free to everyone." *Source Dick Eastman*

From Footnotes.com you can search using keywords and specifying as a title "Pennsylvania Archives."

Another online resource for Pennsylvania research is the Pennsylvania State Archives web site at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/overview.html>. Note the tab for Research/Genealogy at the top of their page.

Of course the PA GenWeb Project site at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~pagenweb/> has links to these and much much more.

Latest Secret Files Released —Hitler's Horoscope Secrets

Secret files just released by The National Archives reveal that Britain hired an astrologer, Louis de Wohl, to counter Nazi stargazing. Uncover the story. Listen to Professor Christopher Andrew's Podcast to find out more about these latest files opened by the Security Service, better known as MI5. *Dick Eastman*

Finding People with Common Names On GenealogyBank

Finding people with unusual names can be very difficult but it is easy to find them on GenealogyBank.

Today I was looking for Henry B. Platter and his good wife, Rachel (Bittinger) Platter. The Bittingers are my cousins and many of them are from Garrett County, Maryland.

Now, Platter is an unusual name. It would be easy for a search online to bring back every record that spoke about cooking, kitchens, plates or platters.

On GenealogyBank, I was able to instantly zero in on records about them. With just a few clicks I was able to find a dozen documents about the Platter family. I began opening them one by one.

The first hit came from the historical documents and was a pension request by Henry's wife, Rachel Platter. I quickly discovered Henry had served in the Civil War, a private in Company A, Second Regiment, P.H.B. Maryland Infantry and received a pension of \$72 a month (certificate No. 1045070).

(This is from: Pensions and increase of pensions for certain soldiers and sailors of the Civil War. Feb 5, 1925: Serial Set Vol. No. 8392, Session Vol. No. A68th Congress, 2nd Session H.Rpt. 1385).

This is a terrific document – it



gave me a lot of details about the family. The record showed that he and Rachel had married on March 12, 1867. That would have been hard to find anywhere else.

It also states that he died on October 4, 1923 leaving her in need of assistance; how long he had served in the Civil War and that his disability was caused during the war.

This document showed that she owned her own home, the value was \$500. Perhaps her house looked like this one. It is a picture of her nephew Charles "Wooly" Henry & Sarah (Hoover) Bittinger and their family in front of the family home in New Jerusalem, Garrett County, MD.

It was taken in 1937 just a few years after Rachel Platter had requested a pension. Perhaps Rachel had a similar home.

Wow. It's great that GenealogyBank has been digitizing so many documents. I never would have found this one on my own. It was easy to find it online at GenealogyBank. Their names, marriage and death dates, military service; details about their house, their income – bingo, there it was – all

this family history in one document.

GenealogyBank added over 42.5 Million family history records last year and added another 2 million just this week. It now has over 216 million historical newspaper articles, obituaries, government and historical documents online. records and documents online.

I found documents that gave me the details I needed for my cousins in the back hills of Maryland what will you find?

Posted by Tom Kemp at 10:29 AM

**Please
volunteer for
Genealogy
Room duty—
we need your
help!**

Genealogy Stories in the News



JELL-O & G'BYE TO HEIR—ZIP FOR ADOPTED-OUT KIN— UNJUST DESSERTS: Elizabeth McNabb, born to the Jell-O heiress was given up for adoption by Dareh Gregorian

Elizabeth McNabb

March 14,
2008—

There's no room in a Jell-O family trust fund for a descendant who was given up for adoption, the state's highest court ruled yesterday.

In a unanimous decision, the Court of Appeals struck down a Washington state woman's bid to wiggle her way into a \$10 million family trust for the descendants of gelatin giant Francis Woodward.

The decision doesn't dispute that Elizabeth McNabb is a descendant of Woodward's, but says allowing her to stake a claim in the trust would set bad public policy for many trust and estate cases.

The court said it could pave the way for people trying to unearth adoption decrees dating back to the 1800s, and that cases would be difficult to draw to a close.

"There would always lurk the possibility, no matter how remote, that a secret, out-of-

wedlock child had been adopted out of the family by a biological parent or ancestor of a class of beneficiaries," the court said. McNabb's lawyer, Paul Boylan, said his client was "disappointed" and "upset" by the ruling, which reversed a lower court's decision finding she was entitled to a third of the trust.

"Her main point throughout this whole thing is that she felt as though she was a member of family," he said of his client, who's a married mother of two working in a mental-health clinic.

McNabb's life could have been much different - she was born near upstate Rochester in 1955 to Barbara Woodward, the granddaughter of Francis, who had turned Jell-O into an international success after buying the company for \$450 in 1899.

Barbara had been involved with

a married man, and had gone to Oregon to give birth. Elizabeth was put up for adoption a few days later, and grew up in Oregon "as a member of the Jones family," the decision says.

Barbara went back East, where she married a man named Michael Piel and gave birth to two more daughters.

At age 19, Elizabeth began trying to find out who her real parents were, although she said she was scared of what she might learn. "When you're adopted, you've got to be ready to meet a bag lady," McNabb told the New York Law Journal last year.

She finally tracked down her birth certificate in 1988, and a Rochester phone book led her to one of Barbara's relatives, who helped her track down her mom. They spent four days together in an emotional reunion, and she became close with her half-sisters.—Dareh Gregorian

FOOD AND TRAVEL: SOUTH TO CALITRI— by Angela Paolantonio

October, 2006— A few autumns ago I boarded a regional bus in rural Campania on a wistful journey to the village of Calitri, the birthplace of my emigrant ancestors.

For years I had conjured images of the place, a hilltop town rich in Etruscan history, but had no idea what the town might look or feel like. Nor did I expect to find any-

one who knew me or my family. Barely awake, I boarded a big blue bus on a quiet side street in suburban Avellino. The driver peered down from his perch like a stern but benevolent uncle, took the ticket from my hand. I was his lone passenger. Gazing blankly out the window, I settled in for the two-hour ride. The last person in my family to make the

journey was my grandfather Nicola, a former sergeant in the Italian cavalry, sometime in the early 1950s. Two generations later, I followed in his footsteps. Climbing through Apennine passes covered in forests of chestnut and acacia, the driver made slow progress pausing to pick up school children and commuting workers

I really didn't know I was searching for anything till I got here, then I realized what I was missing and what it meant. —Angela Paolantonio*

Read more of Angela's story on the R & B Website:

http://www.rootsweb.com/~flrbgs/Journey_home.htm



Angela Paolantonio

beginning their day. One by one they glanced at me, l'Americana, traveling on a route unfamiliar to her. "Signora, this is your stop..." Morning sun shone through mountain mist as the driver deposited me at Incroce 'Cola in the Calitri town center. Pensionati in dark suit jackets and 1940s fedoras stood in twos and threes as if tethered under a wide stone portico. A fruit and vegetable store owner wearing his cap and apron swept the clean sidewalk out front. The fruttivendolo, Signore DeMaio, noticed the bewildered young woman before him and sprang into action.

Within minutes, I was ceremoniously ushered around the

village sharing memories with a small band of distant relatives, some of whom were contemporaries of my paternal grandparents.

Since that first journey I have returned in summer, when the mountain village is bathed in light, and winter, when black-clad women and stray cats populate the centro storico. I have wandered foggy slate-grey streets, camera in hand.

Last spring I purchased one of Calitri's characteristic medieval stone houses — the house where my grandmother was born.

Carved into the keystone above the chestnut-wood doors of Via Fontana 21 are the initials "V.C. 1900" — Vincenzo Cicoira, my great-grandfather. In 1900, my grandmother Angela Maria was

five years old.

Twenty years later she would marry Nicola Paolantonio and travel from Calitri to the teaming ethnic neighborhoods of lower Manhattan and Brooklyn, where I was born.

Below the doors across the threshold is a well-worn slab of softly marbled stone, worn down for over a century by the boots of my grandmother's family. One hundred years later I cross the threshold wearing my own.—Angela Paolantonio *America Online*

*From "The Journey Home Making A New Life in the Old Country" by Joyce Wadler about Angela Paolantonio's search for her Italian roots — from the New York Times.

Whitaker From Page 1

signed and dated in London, England. She also showed us a scan of a deed book index of 1856 and a hand written deed record from February 1874, signed by the Justice of the Peace.

One of the Records index books that Mrs. Whitaker displayed was a reverse index to official records of corporations and firms showing the transactions listed by the buyer. Another example available would be the reverse of this showing the seller in the first column.

An extremely interesting slide

showed the hand written marriage records from the 1880's compared with a typewritten marriage index from 1945.

There was a slide showing the actual marriage license of 1888, on February 27th of that year between Bartola J Pacetti and Bertha E Roulenski, and a slide showing the military discharges of 1971. Mrs. Whitaker pointed out that some of those documents can be redacted at the request of the serviceman.

The probate record of wills and estates included one of John D.

Rockefeller, who died in Ormand Beach on August 27, 1937.

It should be pointed out that all of the slides that we were shown were of the indexes to the actual records and the records can be viewed at the W New York Avenue address by just ringing the door bell and having one of the clerks show you what you have asked for ;so it's important to go to the web site (www.clerk.org) and find the book and page number of the record before you go there.



We're on the Web!

www.rootsweb.com/~flrbgs

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

We have a new site on the Web!

[http://www.flgenhisonline.com/
counties/flagvol/volusia/
volusia.html](http://www.flgenhisonline.com/counties/flagvol/volusia/volusia.html)

See archived newsletters and
other tips & tricks!

Risk From Page 5

For details about credit card safety, go to VISA's Web site at http://www.usa.visa.com/personal/secure_with_visa/index.html?it=h1_/index.html and to MasterCard's Web site at http://www.mastercard.com/general/zero_liability.html and to American Express' Web site at <http://www10.americanexpress.com/sif/cda/page/0,1641,5962,00.asp>

I use credit cards online a lot because of the safety of that insurance. I would never do that with a check, however, ei-

ther online or offline.

There was a genealogy experience a few years ago that proves the point: a two-person company announced they would sponsor a major genealogy conference in the Detroit suburbs and they sold advance registrations at a discount. The company accepted tens of thousands of dollars for registrations and then folded up and declared bankruptcy. Every person who paid by credit card received a 100% reimbursement from the

credit card companies. Everyone who paid by check or by cash lost every penny.

As a result of that and other experiences, I always pay as many things as possible by credit card, either online or in person. I would not hesitate to give my credit card number to this company or any other company, as I know the transaction is fully insured, even if the company later turns out to be crooked. —*Posted by Dick Eastman / September 07, 2007 at 3:11PM.*