



## “Picturing the Past”

By: Joanne Ryder

It's almost here! “What?” you ask. The 34th annual FSGS conference, of course! Yes... November 12th and 13th at the Sarasota Hyatt in Sarasota. It's just around the corner and preparations are in high gear. The best laid plans are now being implemented! We're in the home stretch. So what's happening? ... read on!

In this issue of *Florida Lines*, you'll find the Conference schedule. There are so many events! A difficult decision will be which class to attend (one out of three) in each class time segment. Will it be about a migration trail? ... The 1890 census? ... The Atlantic World Model? That's just the Friday morning schedule. When you review the choices, you'll find the options and decisions a real challenge. Start strategizing!

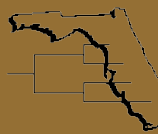
The Friday luncheon features *The Genealogy Guys Podcast!* Tickets must be purchased separately on your registration. No doubt... you don't want to miss popular genealogy speakers George Morgan and Drew Smith as they prepare for a live episode of their long-running, popular genealogy podcast.

Other special events? Of course! How about the very helpful, much requested, Ancestor Road Show! Members of the Florida Chapter or APG (Association of Professional Genealogists) will be available to assist you with recommendations about scaling your brick-wall. Get your questions and documents together. An appointment form will be in your syllabus as well as at the main registration desk.

Don't miss the opportunity to have a consultation with our Keynote Speaker whose forte is solving picture (photo) puzzles. Stumped by the time element of your picture? Professional consultant and

## Contents...

President's Letter	2
Conference Schedule	3
Conference Vendor Room	5
Autobiography	6
Deed Books Contain Treasures!	7
SkyDrive	8
Sorted by Name	9
More fun stuff	10
New Members	11



Visit us on the  
Web at  
[www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org)

expert “Photo Detective Maureen Taylor” will be available to help. An appointment form will be in your syllabus. Please note the special charge for this service.

Don't forget the Friday evening festivities... the Florida Pioneer Descendant Reception and the Florida Pioneer Program and FSGS Awards Banquet. Pride in our heritage is one reason we're genealogists. A pioneer descendant has a unique and elite membership in our Florida Pioneer program. Be there to honor our pioneers and FSGS award winners.

Need time to re-group? How about networking with other genealogists at the Saturday luncheon? It's a great opportunity to greet old friends and meet new ones. You can cheer with them on new family finds or give solace for a nasty brick wall. Enjoy time with your fellow genealogists.

And so much more! If you haven't sent in your registration yet, download the form from the website... [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org). Complete it, add your check and mail it in ASAP! The #1 registration spot has already been taken but you can definitely be among those who will attend the biggest genealogical event in Florida this year... the 34th Annual FSGS Conference!

---

## President's Letter

By: Jack Butler

When I walked out of the house yesterday morning, I couldn't help but feel the subtle change in the air that told me that fall is upon us. And for the FSGS, the beginning of autumn always means one thing - it is almost time for our annual conference. This year, for the first time in many years, we meet on Florida's southwest coast, at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota in the sea-side town of Sarasota.

Toward that end, FSGS Board members Cindy Davis (Conference Chair), Carol Weidlich (Vendors), Joanne Ryder (Publicity and Public Relations), Patricia Rand (Treasurer), and I recently met with Amin Gumermin, President of the Genealogical Society of Sarasota along with two of his key volunteers, Ron Feller and Bill Reynolds at the Hyatt Regency. We all toured the facility with hotel representative Adora Hayden before sitting down to coordinate some space assignments and tweak planning for conference events. I came away impressed with the venue and the confidence that we are well on our way to another successful conference.

In addition to our fine venue, we have a fantastic set of programs – your biggest problem is likely to be trying to figure out how to get to all of the presentations that you would like to attend. Maureen Taylor, our featured speaker, is an internationally known expert in assigning old photographs to the proper time in history. As for Vendors, one of the space issues that we had to solve in our meeting at the hotel was finding a place for all of the vendors that Carol Weidlich has been lining up. The FSGS website at [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org) has links to the hotel for reserving your room and links to both details about our program and to a registration form—check it out. I look forward to seeing all of you in November!

---

## Ted and Nancy's Anniversary



Eagle-eyed Ann Osisek spotted the announcement of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Ted and Nancy Williams in the Orlando Sentinel (2 Sep 2010). Be sure to say congratulations to Ted, a former FSGS Treasurer.

---

## Research in Sarasota

The Sarasota area has two libraries with substantial collections.

### The Selby Public Library



With a collection of approximately 10,000 books, maps, and CDs, the Selby Public Library is an excellent genealogical research facility. The genealogy desk is staffed by knowledgeable volunteers from the Genealogical Society of Sarasota. About 700 books circulate. The genealogy computer is exclusive to genealogy research and provides access to online databases.

Address: 1311 First Street, Sarasota, Florida

Phone: 941.861.1100

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

<http://suncat.co.sarasota.fl.us/libraries/selby.aspx>  
or [www.sclibs.net](http://www.sclibs.net)

### The Venice Public Library



The genealogical collection at the Venice Public Library numbers about 2,600. Trained volunteers are available for research assistance during the week and on weekends.

The genealogy computer provides access to a collection of genealogy CDs.

Address: 300 Nokomis Avenue South, Venice, Florida

Phone: 941.861.5000, ask for Ann Hall

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

<http://suncat.co.sarasota.fl.us/Libraries/venicelarge.aspx>  
or [www.sclibs.net](http://www.sclibs.net)

---

## Conference Schedule

### Thursday: 11 November 2010

3:00 p.m. to Midnight: Vendor Setup

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.: Volunteer Meeting

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.: Early Registration

### Friday: 12 November 2010

7:30 to 9:30 a.m.: Registration

8:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.: Vendor Hall is open to all attendees and the general public. Take the time to buy and learn!

#### Friday Morning Sessions

8:00 to 8:45 a.m.

Opening Session, including welcome, introductions, announcements, and recognition of attending societies.



9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

**Maureen Taylor**, The PhotoDetective, presents: Discovering Genealogical Clues in Family Photographs

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.: Breakout Sessions

- Michael John Neill: Establishing Your Own Migration Trail: Migrants rarely moved in complete isolation. This lecture will provide ways of finding your ancestor's migration trail and whether his movement was part of a larger chain of migration. Intermediate
- Pamela J. Cooper: Did Someone Say the 1890 Census Was Burned? What About...?: Lost your ancestor between 1880 and 1900? Learn about the many records available that can replace the burned 1890 Census in better ways than the census itself. Beginner/Intermediate
- Kim V. Garvey, MILS: We Are All Atlanticists Now! Immigration & The Atlantic World Model: Nearly all family histories have an immigration story. This lecture will discuss a new way to analyze the process of immigration through the Atlantic World Model. Advanced

#### Friday Lunch

12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

Luncheon featuring "The Genealogy Guys<sup>SM</sup> Podcast": Join popular genealogy authors and speakers George G. Morgan and Drew Smith and be a part of a live episode of the longest running, regularly produced genealogy podcast in the world! **Separately purchased tickets are required.**

#### Friday Afternoon Sessions

2:00 to 5:00 p.m.: APG-Florida Chapter Ancestor Roadshow Registration



2:00 to 3:00 p.m.: **Maureen Taylor**, The PhotoDetective presents: How to Find Family Photographs On and Off Line.

3:30 to 4:30 p.m.: Breakout Sessions

- Drew Smith, MLS: Beyond Database Programs: Technology Tools To Manage Your Research  
Genealogy database programs are only one part of the research process. Learn about software tools that can give you research suggestions, keep notes organized, synchronize your working files across multiple computers or provide automatic backups for peace of mind. Beginner
- Pauline Flewitt: English Parish Chest Records: These parish records are the Vestry Meeting Minutes, Accounts of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, Settlement & Removal papers, Bastardy Bonds & Examinations and Apprenticeship Records. They can give clues on disappearing ancestors and can help put meat on the bones of your family skeletons. Beginner
- Joanne Daerr Ryder: Finding Your German Ancestor; What Do I Need To Know to Cross the Pond: We learn we are of German heritage and immediately want to "cross the pond" to find the "who, when, and where" of our German ancestry. Four pieces of information are essential and this lecture identifies those pieces and how to acquire them. Beginning/Intermediate

4:45 to 5:30 p.m.

FSGS Annual Meeting/Open Forum

#### Friday Evening

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Florida Pioneer Descendant Reception Cash Bar and everyone is welcome!!



7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Florida Pioneer Program and FSGS Awards Banquet, including the presentation of FSGS Awards, Florida Pioneer Descendant Awards, and Entertainment.

**Two-day registration includes admission, or you may purchase tickets.**

## Saturday: 13 November 2010

8:00 to 9:30 a.m.: Registration

7:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Vendor Hall, open to all registered attendees and the general public.

### Saturday Morning Sessions

8:00 to 9:00 a.m.: Breakout Sessions

- Mark Middleton: Digital Archiving (An Overview): Many genealogists are creating large numbers of electronic documents, files and media, and family historical documents and photographs. This presentation is the why, when, how and with what computer technology one should use to save their documents, etc. A process to use is emphasized. All Levels
- Kim V. Garvey, MILS: Bring Out Your Dead: The Victorians, Funerals and Family History: Genealogists often spend more time with the dead than the living. This lecture offers a look at the funeral process as a source of evidence for family historians with an emphasis on the rise and decline of the Victorian Funeral. All Levels
- C. Ann Staley, CG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup> and Amy Larner Giroux, CG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup>: The Florida Pioneer Descendants Certification Program: The application process becomes easy to understand when explained by these knowledgeable speakers. The magic date is 3 March 1845, but the lessons learned here can apply to most lineage societies.



9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

**Maureen Taylor**, The PhotoDetective presents: The Last Muster: Photographs and Stories from the American Revolution. You may purchase autographed copies of this

newly published book by Ms. Taylor in the Vendor Hall!

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

APG-Florida Chapter Ancestor Roadshow Consultations

11:00 a.m. to Noon: Breakout Sessions

- Joanne Daerr Ryder: The Migration of the German Peoples, and the Genealogical Clues Along the Way: This lecture describes the migration patterns of Germans outside of Europe, specifically the U.S. Also discussed is why the Germans left their homeland, where they settled and concentrations of Germanic Settlements. A review of records that have been created both in Germany and the United States is also talked about. Beginner/Intermediate
- Pauline Flewett: Clues and Pitfalls of the British Census Records: Follow the British Census records from 1801

through 1911. There are clues to help you further your research but also pitfalls to be cautious of along the way. Beginner

- C. Ann Staley, CG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup>: The Twilight Zone...Strange Web Sites for Family History Research: There are many web pages devoted to subjects that we researchers do not even think of as possibilities to help us in our research. This presentation examines a variety of these sites and discusses their merits and relationship to Genealogical Research. All levels

### Saturday Lunch

12:15 to 1:30 p.m.

FSGS Lunch, including society announcements, attendance count by group, major door prizes, plus time to visit with your fellow conference attendees!!

Luncheon is included with your two-day registration. Advance purchase of additional seating is available at the Registration Booth.

1:15 to 1:45p.m.: APG-Florida Chapter Meeting



1:45 to 2:45 p.m.: **Maureen Taylor**, The PhotoDetective presents: Telling the Family Story-From DVD's to Self-Publishing

3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Vendors will close for business and tear down between. Therefore, this is your **LAST CHANCE** to visit the vendor hall!

3:00 to 4:00 p.m.: Breakout Sessions

- Pamela J. Cooper: Pensions of the Poor: Intermediate/Advanced
- Mark Middleton: The Art of Converting Media to Computer Files (Digitization): Every genealogist collects a large variety of media. Eventually this media may need to be returned, preserved or shared. Digitizing the content is an efficient way to accomplish these goals. This presentation reviews the hardware and software as well as the process needed to create a digital version of your media. All Levels
- Michael John Neill: Women, Inheritance and the Law—Some Examples: Do you know how women's property rights impacted your ancestors? Through several case studies, attendees will learn why knowledge of these rights makes all the difference in family history research. Intermediate/Advanced

4:15 to 4:45 p.m.: Banner Recession

Closing announcements and final door prizes, including a free 2011 FSGS Conference Registration.

---

## Come early! Stay an Extra Day!

By: Joanne Ryder

Sarasota has so many wonderful sights! Let me tell you about the top four.

**Ringling Museum Complex:** In the 1920s, John Ringling, of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus fame, and his wife Mable built a magnificent Venetian-style estate on Sarasota Bay named Cà d' Zan. With the relocation of the circus' winter quarters in 1927, Sarasota became the "Circus Capital of the World." The Ringlings then built an art museum to house their vast collection, including Rubens and other 17th-century artists. Visit the house and gardens, the art museum, two circus museums, and the Historic Asolo Theater, an 18th century Italian "theater-in-the-round" dismantled, moved piece by piece and reassembled on the Ringling estate.

**Selby Botanical Gardens:** The Marie Selby Botanical Gardens fosters understanding and appreciation of tropical plants, especially epiphytes (plants that grow on other plants), through programs of research, conservation, education, and display. Selby Gardens is perhaps best known for its living collection of more than 6,000 orchids. The open-air and under-glass museum houses more than 20,000 colorful plants, many collected in the wild on over 150 scientific expeditions to tropical rain forests. Seven greenhouses are the heart of botanical research and plant identification, for which Selby Gardens is internationally recognized.

**St. Armand's Circle:** An island shopping center removed from the bustle of the mainland by two bridges over magnificent Sarasota Bay, St. Armand's Circle is unique in concept, history, and beauty. Set amidst a tropical paradise, it is an enchanting circle of fine shops and gourmet restaurants. Renowned as a market place with a continental flavor, St. Armand's is a charming and graceful synthesis of past and present. Lush tropical plantings, courtyards and patios, antique statuary and contemporary architectural design contribute to an international atmosphere of friendly warmth, enduring elegance and timeless style.

**Siesta Key Beach:** Siesta Key has three wonderful beaches on the Gulf of Mexico. Among the finest in the world, they are breathtakingly beautiful with their powdery white sand stretching for miles. No matter which beach you choose, your time will be memorable...whether digging your toes into the white sand, walking along the shore enjoying the splendor of a glorious sunset or indulging in a refreshing dip in the warm tropical Gulf of Mexico.

For more information on what to do and where to eat, visit this website: [www.sarasotafl.org/](http://www.sarasotafl.org/).

---

## Conference Vendor Room

By: Joanne Ryder

Vendor registrations have been coming in... and isn't that one exciting area? The opportunity to see what's new is always fun. Did you know that your society can be a vendor? Member societies may have (or share) a table at no cost. It's a great place to show off your society, sell society products, and generally promote your society! If you're interested, contact Vendor Chair Carol Weidlich at [president@LCGSFL.org](mailto:president@LCGSFL.org).

At this writing, we have a number societies involved: Halifax Genealogical Society, Lee County Genealogical Society, Manatee County Historical Society, and Pinellas Genealogy Society.

In addition, The Godfrey Memorial Library will be there.

Confirmed vendors:

- EasyNetSites ([www.easynetsites.com](http://www.easynetsites.com))
- Everyday Genealogy and Technology Tamers ([www.everydaygenealogy.com](http://www.everydaygenealogy.com) and [www.technologytamers.com](http://www.technologytamers.com))
- Family Chronicle-Internet Genealogy Magazines ([www.familychronicle.com/](http://www.familychronicle.com/))
- Heritage Book Design Studio
- Maia's Books & Miscellaneous ([www.maiasbooks.com](http://www.maiasbooks.com))
- Wolf's Head Books ([www.wolfsheadbooks.com](http://www.wolfsheadbooks.com))

Another great area of the conference... and another great reason to be in Sarasota on 12 and 13 November 2010!

---

## Volunteers Needed For Next Year

As happens from time to time, we find ourselves needing to fill vacancies on the FSGS Board for next year:

- **Conference Chair:** Cindy Davis has organized two great Conferences in a row. Now she would like to simply attend one. We thank her for her service and will miss her. We need a new Conference Committee Chair.
- **Pioneer Chair:** Amy Giroux will soon be up to her elbows in her new PhD program, and Ann Staley swears that she is finally going to give her genealogy career the time that it deserves. It would be hard to offer adequate thanks for their effort, but we thank them. We need to find a new Pioneer Committee Chair to replace them.
- **Librarian:** Mary Toupin needs more time to look after her ailing mother. We thank her for her excellent efforts and seek a new society librarian.

---

## Autobiography...Get a Jump Start

By: Liz Courson

When I got back from my first book tour last year, I was excited and energized. As someone who has kept a diary since I was ten years old and who is known for sending friends nineteen-page-typed letters, I've always considered myself a "writer." Now I was a published author! I was thrilled.

However, I had been the loser in two editorial quarrels so important that I felt the need to apologize for my book, which was not a good feeling. (For the record: I wanted to shorten the title of a book I referenced repeatedly, *The Pocket Guide to Brunswick, Maine with two maps*, and refer to it as *The Pocket Guide* from time to time—no, said the publisher, so now it disappears as the pocket guide within the text. I also took umbrage at the publisher's decision to refer to an elderly [and deceased] man by his last name only. Additionally, I didn't see the sense in forcing me to go on a book tour—which I paid for—to Maine, in March. I lost my voice during the second of eleven events.) Plus, my book was available on Amazon before I saw a copy and at a cheaper price than I was being offered. This general unhappiness made me determined to take my editorial destiny into my own hands and keep it there.

Still, I was able to tap into my positive energy. I thought long and hard about the publisher's "template." I hadn't considered the template until my book was written, and then had to massage only a few details to conform to its structure, but the concept of the template had been comforting during my writing journey: I knew it was there if I stumbled. Other first-time authors, I was sure, felt the same.

At the same time—the book was about the history of my hometown—I had connected very deeply with my childhood. Remembering my past had made me think hard about my grandmother, now twenty years in her grave. I thought about her life and how much she'd influenced me. I realized how little I knew about her. Why hadn't I thought to encourage my grandmother to write down her stories?

That got me thinking about autobiography. Could a template be brought to bear on the teeming, untidy world of autobiography? Could a template be structured so "regular" people—people who aren't rich or famous but who have fascinating stories to tell and share—would try their hand at writing their life stories? Could I tell these people, regular people just like my grandmother, how to write an autobiography of such quality that their book would be indistinguishable from the work of a New York publisher?

As it turned out, the answer to those questions was, simply, yes. I published my second book fourteen months later. *The Complete Biography Workbook with two templates*, subtitled *The Fun and Easy Way to Write and Publish Your Autobiography*, is 524 pages long, weighs 3.5 pounds, and got a rave review on C-SPAN's BookTV. The book is in its fourth printing.

My 2010/2011 sixty-seven event book tour will take me across the south, spreading the gospel of autobiography writing and publishing. If your organization would like to host my sixty-eighth event, please write to me at [LizinSarasota@yahoo.com](mailto:LizinSarasota@yahoo.com) or call me at 941-706-2463.

My book, *The Complete Biography Workbook*, is available at [www.FirstPersonPublications.com](http://www.FirstPersonPublications.com).

---

## Editor's Note

### Reprinting Articles from this Newsletter

Each issue of the newsletter seems to produce requests for permission to reprint articles. When I received these requests, the first thing that happens is that I have to peel myself off of the ceiling. . . I'm floating on air because a request to reprint is such a compliment! The reprint requests tell me that I'm doing a good job of selecting material for this newsletter.

*Florida Lines* is copyrighted by FSGS, which means you are free to quote from it as long as you add the proper citation. It's easy to do. For example, at the beginning of an article (under the title), you can simply say:

Reprinted from *Florida Lines*, the Florida State Genealogical Society newsletter, Volume X, Issue X, Month Year, page X.

If an article includes the author's name, simply add the author's name as part of the citation. For example:

An article by **Jane Brown**, reprinted from *Florida Lines*, the Florida State Genealogical Society newsletter, Volume X, Issue X, Month Year, page X.

The citation tells the author, your fellow editors, and your readers that you're dealing in good faith.

As a practical matter, editors should still email me ([ptreme@hotmail.com](mailto:ptreme@hotmail.com)). I keep an archive of the newsletters, and I can send the text from an archived copy thus saving editors a bit of typing.

## Deed Books Contain Treasures!

By: George G. Morgan

I am a great fan of land and property records, and I often come across genealogical treasures in deed books. I know that many researchers eschew land and property records as being difficult to decipher. I wrote a three-part series titled, “Who’s Afraid of Land Records?” to encourage readers to take the plunge and begin to use these plentiful and informative records.

Having recently worked in some deed books in Hillsborough County, Florida, I thought I’d share some of the treasures I encountered in the ones I used. You will come across different items in the deed books you use, depending on the location for which the deeds are recorded and the historical background of the area. However, let me share some details with you.

### The Deed Index

Deed books are indexed in two sequences. The grantor index references entries by the name(s) of the person(s) who grants title of the property. The title may be transferred for a monetary consideration, as a gift, as the result of a death, of an auction or tax sale, or for other reasons. The grantee index references entries by the name(s) of the person(s) receiving the title to the property. Other names will appear in the text of a transcribed deed, including witnesses, surrounding property owners, and even the wife’s name. Unfortunately, these names are not indexed in the deed books. Instead, you may have to rely on printed abstract books prepared by genealogists and/or historians.

Any transfer of property title entered into a deed book is transcribed in its entirety and is alphabetically indexed. Don’t make the assumption that a deed book only contains deeds. I use the term “property” loosely because the documents that are indexed do not always refer to land. Let’s look at some examples.

### The Contents of a Deed Book

The materials you find in a deed book are not primary sources, i.e., the original documents created at or near the time of the event. The original documents were signed by and given to the grantor and grantee. The contents of the deed books are, in fact, transcriptions of the original documents, and therefore, qualify as secondary sources. Transcription errors by the recording clerk may exist.

A deed book may contain, among other things, the following types of records.

**Indentures**—These are documents that state the terms under which a security (or bond) is issued or secured. Consider the fact that an indenture may relate to land, as in a mortgage, to a term of servitude, to the purchase of slaves, to the purchase of livestock, or to some other commodity or produce. The property is described and priced, and the term of the arrangement is stated. Think of an indenture much the same as an “agreement of sale” that is used in the sale of real estate or other property today. You often will find another entry later that documents the satisfaction of the sale. That might include the issue of a deed, a statement of mortgage satisfaction, or a similar entry that records the completion of a transaction.

**Deeds**—A deed is a signed and usually sealed instrument detailing some legal transfer, bargain, or contract. If the grantee pays cash for property, the grantor releases the property via the use of a legal deed, and the transaction is recorded in the deed book. If the buyer purchases the property on credit or some other type of bond, an indenture may be created, signed, and filed with the recorder of deeds (or other land official) until such time as the debt is paid. At that time, a deed is issued and usually recorded at the courthouse.

*... A friend in Alachua County, Florida, noted that one deed he has indexed actually showed the passage of the property through five generations of owners. What a bonanza!*

You should note that, in earlier times, it might not have been convenient to travel to a courthouse to record a transaction. Some property transfers occurred privately between individuals and were not recorded. Others were recorded at a later date when it was convenient to travel to the nearest courthouse. Taxes were still due on the property, but the tax bill may have

simply been passed along.

**Deaths**—A deed may be an excellent indicator of the death date of the owner, representing the transfer of property to a surviving spouse and/or other heirs. This type of deed may well contain the name(s) of children and daughters’ married names. I have seen cases in which a parcel of property was passed through several generations without new ownerships having been recorded. When the property was to be sold or otherwise recorded, a deed had to be created that showed the proper chain of inheritance down through the county. A friend in Alachua County, Florida, noted that one deed he has indexed actually showed the passage of the property through five generations of owners. What a bonanza!

**Gifts**—It is not unusual to find a “deed of gift” recorded in deed books. This transaction documents a gift from one person to another. A father may give a son a parcel of land or some other commodity for a minor consideration. A common occasion for such a gift to a son was his arrival at

the age of majority. Similarly, a daughter or her husband may have been given property on the occasion of their marriage.

**Births**—In some places, the birth of a child was entered in the deed book by the recorder of deeds. This could have been a slave or a white child. The births of children of indentured servants were often recorded. Therefore, be sure to look at deed books for all possible names of births in the family.

**Slave Sales or Trades**—The sale or trade of slaves may also be recorded in deed books. Slaves were considered chattel, and entries of ownership in deed books helped document legal ownership. These records can be among the more important clues for African American researchers to help locate ancestors and family groups.

**Dower Release**—If either spouse or both own a piece of property, it may not be sold without the signed release of dower rights. This typically applied to wives who, prior to the sale of property, were interviewed by a judge apart from the husband, to confirm that they were not being threatened or coerced into selling the property. You will often find a dower release recorded at the bottom of the deed with a statement by the judge, and signatures by the judge and the wife. Dower law generally stated that a spouse who has not relinquished or been barred from it shall have a life estate in one-third (1/3) of the real property which the consort owned at any time during the marriage. This is why the spouse always needs to release dower on deeds and mortgages, even if he/she is not actually listed in the title. Dower right terminates, in all cases, upon the granting of a divorce. However, the divorce must be finalized.

**Cemetery Lot Sales**—The purchase of a cemetery lot (or plot) from a municipal government or from an individual may also be recorded in a deed book. However, many private cemeteries, cemetery associations, religious groups, corporations, morticians and others may have purchased a larger piece of property and then may have sold the lots or plots themselves. Crematory firms may have purchased a lot, built a columbarium (a structure of vaults lined with recesses for cinerary urns), and sold perpetual storage niches. It is not unusual to find interment lots/plots recorded in deed books.

## The List Goes On...

This list cannot possibly cover all the types of records found in deed books, but it will give you an idea of several types of records that may be found in these volumes.

I hope you will start using the deed books in the counties in which your ancestors lived. They certainly can tell you about your ancestors' movements and about their financial

status. The physical deed copies they provide may give you clues that you might not find elsewhere.

There really are untapped genealogical resources in land and property documents, and deed books can open new avenues of discovery.

Happy Hunting! George

Find George on the Web!

Website: <http://ahaseminars.com/cpage.php?pt=1>

Podcasts: [www.genealogyguys.com/](http://www.genealogyguys.com/)

---

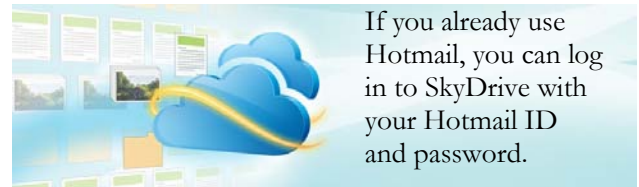
## Have you noticed...SkyDrive

By: **Pattie Schultz**

If you use Hotmail, you should be seeing a small change that has big potential. When you receive email with an attached Word document, you no longer need to have an installed copy of MS Word to open the document. Click the attachment and Hotmail opens the attachment as a Word Web App.

Do you need to edit the document? Just click the **Edit in Browser** link to open the document on SkyDrive. An abbreviated version of MS Word appears on your screen and you can edit and save the document.

SkyDrive is Microsoft's new online application that allows you to use Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote. You don't have to have an installed copy of MS Office to use the software.



If you already use Hotmail, you can log in to SkyDrive with your Hotmail ID and password.

SkyDrive is available for both PCs and Macs. When you sign up for SkyDrive (It's free!), you can store, access, and share thousands of documents, photos, and Microsoft Office files on SkyDrive. SkyDrive provides you with 25 GB of free online storage. In addition, SkyDrive offers password-protection for your documents.

The advantage of using a service like SkyDrive is that your documents are available to you regardless of where you might be. All you need is a PC or a MAC, a SkyDrive account, and Internet access to tap into all of your stored documents. In addition, you can share your work with others. All they need to have is a SkyDrive account and your permission.

If you want to see what's up with SkyDrive, visit the following website for more information:

<http://explore.live.com/windows-live-skydrive>.

## Sorted By Name

Or, *Data Mining for Genealogist...*

By: Pamela Tremé

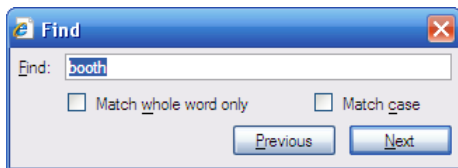
So many great sites that I find on the Web are a matter of luck, and so it was, when I found a name on the **Sorted By Name** website. This developing website—launched late 2008—is a compilation of millions of entries on other genealogy websites; that is, public databases. The twist is that you can look up entries based on a name, and just a name. The site lists every entry for a person with a particular name across all of the public databases that are indexed on the site. Searches like these are called deep web searches or data mining.

In my particular case, I was looking for information on a woman who had left the state in which I expected to find her. The entry I found at **Sorted By Name** led me on a known migration path to a new state and a new document. I was able to use the reference information to track down the document, which had enough information to confirm that I have the correct person in the new state.

**Sorted By Name** isn't a flashy website. In fact, it's downright plain when compared to many websites. However, using the site allows you to bypass search spam, a constant annoyance. Here's how to use the site:

1. Go to <http://sortedbyname.com/index.html>, and you are presented with an alphabet in a block.
2. Choose the first letter of the last name, and the site goes to that "letter" page. The page includes a list of name range links.
3. Use the Find function on your browser to search of a name range link.

For Windows users, type **Ctrl + F** to display a Find dialog box, enter a name, and click **Next**. The site scrolls to that entry.



4. Click a name range link; for example, *BOOTH, AGNES to BOOTH DARLENE*. The site opens the page with those entries. Here's a small sample of a list.

**BOOTH, - AGNES married 14 Feb 1837 in GALLATIN COUNTY, ILLINOIS, U.S.A. a groom named GEORGE W WREN. 1,329,001 [Here's why](#) you should check the [source file](#).**

**BOOTH, Agnes was born ABT 1844 in N. J.; was in the 1850 census in Sussex County, New Jersey. 1,329,002 [Here's why](#) you should check the [source file](#).**

**BOOTH, Agnes was born ABT 1855 in Virginia; was in the 1870 census in Surry County, Virginia. 1,329,003 [Here's why](#) you should check the [source file](#). ...**

5. Use the Find dialog again to find to a specific name. As you can see from the sample, you have enough information to track down documents.

The site offers search advice.

- When searching, remember that the material was extracted from websites that presented the information in a wide variety of formats. Try different name formats. For example, for the name *Williams, Josh Christopher*, check *Williams, J. C.*
- Always check the variations of the surname spellings. Remember that some names are captured incorrectly.
- For names written as more than one word, check under both names. For example, check Martin Van Buren under *Van* and *Buren*.

As you scroll through lists, you'll notice advertisements. One of the ads is sure to be one posted by the webmaster—Tom Alciere—asking that you send him suggestions for large public databases that might be suitable for his website. Don't hesitate to suggest a database. Since **Sorted By Name** simply tells you where you can find information, everybody wins.

- The database owners win because traffic at their website increases. If they charge a fee for providing actual documents, they stand to make money. If the site is maintained by a society, their database can become a recruitment tool for new members.
- The webmaster wins because he's fulfilled his website mission, which is to help genealogist search efficiently and with no search spam.
- The searchers win (big time!) because they don't have to look for site after site on their own, and then search database after database for a name that may or may not be there. If the name is on **Sorted By Name**, it's in the database.

As this website develops—you have to give these things time to build up—I can see myself restructuring my Favorites list in my Web browser. After all, with **Sorted By Name**, I can skip all that clicking and searching, and refer to one list. This website could develop easily into a major no fuss, no muss search site for which we are all looking.

---

## Everyday Genealogy

Get instant inspiration with a genealogy calendar. . .

Pattie Schultz, an FSGS member, has put together a desktop tear off calendar with a genealogy tip, idea, suggestion, or thought for each day of the year. When you find an interesting item, you can tear off the page for that day, add notes, and follow up on the idea when it's convenient for you.



If you're not a fan of paper, this calendar is for you, because it has also been replicated as application. You can view it on an iPad, iPhone, or iTunes. You still have the ability to make notes. However, because the calendar is electronic, the links are live. So viewing a website mentioned in a tip is just one click away.

Pattie has booked a table at the 2010 FSGS Conference at Sarasota. Be sure to stop by and get a look at the calendar.

If you like what you see, you can purchase your calendar—

paper or electronic—at the conference. The calendar is also available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and on [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com).

If you'd like more information, visit Pattie's website at [www.EverydayGenealogy.com](http://www.EverydayGenealogy.com) or email Pattie at [EverydayGenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:EverydayGenealogy@gmail.com).

---

## The Florida Genealogist

By: Cori Downing, Editor

*The Florida Genealogist* needs your help to continue bringing you high-quality articles and information pertaining to Florida history and genealogy. We're looking for the following types of information:

- Unpublished manuscripts
- Book reviews
- Source materials
- Resources and methodology
- Other topics that your fellow subscribers might find useful or interesting

If you have an article, please contact Cori Downing, Editor, at [ckd79duke@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ckd79duke@cfl.rr.com) for submission dates and guidelines.

---

## Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak



This year you have two chances to attend day-long seminars presented by Megan, an internationally known guest speaker.

Megan—a genealogist, researcher, and author—is also the recipient of a 2010 NGS Award of Merit. For more information on Megan, visit her website at: [www.honoringourancestors.com](http://www.honoringourancestors.com).

### 12 February 2011: The Pinellas Genealogy Society

Megan will be presenting on the following topics:

- Trace Your Roots with DNA
- Reverse Genealogy: Techniques for Finding Your Lost Loved Ones
- Find the Obituary! Online Newspaper Research
- Cold Cases: Genealogists, Corners and the FBI

In addition, this seminar offers three break-out group classes from which to choose. The seminar fee covers a continental breakfast, coffee/soft drinks, catered lunch, hand-outs, door prizes, and featured speaker in an all-for-one price. Reservations must be received by 2 February 2011. See the Pinellas Genealogy Society website for registration form, fee, hours, and more information plus driving instructions at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flpgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flpgs).

### 9 April 2011: The Imperial Polk Genealogical Society

Megan will be presenting on the following topics:

- Reverse Genealogy: Techniques for Finding Your Lost Loved Ones
- Neglected History
- Trace Your Roots with DNA
- Cases that Made my Brain Hurt

The seminar fee covers a continental breakfast, catered lunch, and hand-outs in an all-for-one price. The event is taking place in the Alumni Room of the Charles Thrift Building at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. See the Imperial Polk Genealogical Society website for registration form, fee, hours, and more information plus driving instructions at [www.ipgs.org](http://www.ipgs.org).

---

## FSGS Membership Application

Membership is open to individuals, institutions, libraries, and societies. The membership year is from January 1st through December 31st. If renewal dues are not received by February 15th, the member's name will be removed from the membership rolls. Genealogical societies of Florida receive honorary memberships.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ New Membership

\_\_\_\_ Renewal Membership

Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Additional Member(s) at same Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip + 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a SASE to receive a membership card.

Make check or money order payable to FSGS.

- Individual: \$25
- Each additional member, same address: \$5
- Institution, Library, out-of-state Society: \$25

Mail your completed form and payment to:

**FSGS Membership Chairman**

**P. O. Box 819**

**Apopka, FL 32704-0819**

---

## Address Corrections

Please send any corrections or address changes to:

**FSGS Membership Chairman**

**P. O. Box 819**

**Apopka, FL 32704-0819**

---

## New Members

Charles Nicholas Aderman, Palmer, Alaska  
Jennifer Arthur, Plantation, Florida  
James Stephen Bodiford, Tallahassee, Florida  
Jane Ferrell Bodiford, Tallahassee, Florida  
Joseph C. Bodiford, Lutz, Florida  
Nathan Broughton, Mayo, Florida  
Waldo W. Davis, Bartow, Florida  
Katherine G. Evans, Brandon, Florida  
Nancy K Evans, Brandon, Florida  
Mildred Amelia Ferrell, Panama City, Florida  
Dorothy May Hooker Finigan, Mineral, Virginia  
William H. Finigan, Mineral Virginia,  
Brianna Lyndsay Frye, Tampa, Florida  
Jeremy Gates Frye, Tampa, Florida  
Kevin Matthew Frye, Tampa, Florida  
Margaret Ann Royal Frye, Tampa, Florida  
Robert Jason Frye, Tampa, Florida  
Orbra W. Harrell, Jr., Ft. White, Florida  
Meghan E. Howell, Lake Worth, Florida  
Michael Jackson, Myakka City, Florida  
Susan Jackson, Sarasota, Florida  
Thomas Jackson, Myakka City, Florida  
Johanna K. Jones, Dumfries VA,  
Catherine P. Kain, Kissimmee, Florida  
Josephine S. King, Brandon, Florida  
Victoria Langston, Palmer, Alaska  
Amy Crabill Lay, Hillsborough, Florida  
David Scott Logan, Ft. White, Florida  
Kelly Loveall, Alachua, Florida  
Steven Pait, Palmer, Alaska  
Suellen Pait, Palmer, Alaska  
Tina Pait Pellitteri, Palmer, Alaska  
Emily Johanna Perkins, Titusville, Florida  
Virginia S. Powell, Kissimmee, Florida  
Aaron Matthew Royal, Tampa, Florida  
Cheryl Lynn Royal, St. Petersburg, Florida  
Daniel Lee Royal, Tampa, Florida  
Robert Lindsey Royal, Tampa, Florida  
Linda Ruth, West Palm Beach, Florida  
Betty Gordy Schulz, Lighthouse Point, Florida  
Mary Pauline Schuster, Titusville, Florida  
Mary Pritchard Schuster, Titusville, Florida  
Kim Klapman Sheintal, Sarasota, Florida  
Shiela Carlton Smith, Lake Placid, Florida  
Frances Landers Trotta, Cooper City, Florida  
Richard Trotta, Cooper City, Florida  
Derek Vildosola, Miami, Florida  
Jose I., Vildosola, Miami, Florida  
Kevin Vildosola, Miami, Florida  
Maria Mercedes Vildosola, Miami, Florida  
Margaret Wallace, Sarasota, Florida  
Wayne Wallace, Sarasota, Florida



---

## FSGS Calendar

1 November 2010	Deadline for articles for December issue of <i>The Florida Genealogist</i>
12-13 November 2010	FSGS Annual Conference, Sarasota, Florida
1 March 2011	Deadline for articles for April issue of <i>The Florida Genealogist</i>
30 June 2011	Deadline for working copy of Florida Pioneer Descendant applications and documentation
1 July 2011	Deadline for articles for August issue of <i>The Florida Genealogist</i>
15 September 2011	Deadline for applications for Florida Genealogy Outstanding Achievement Award, Genealogy Outstanding Achievement Award, and the Charlotte Duvall/FSGS Librarian Scholarship
30 September 2011	Deadline for final copies of application, forms, and any additional fees for Florida Pioneer Descendant certificates

Visit us on the Web at

[www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org)



*Florida Lines*

Florida State Genealogical Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 10249  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-2249

<b>Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID By Permit #9 FT WALTON BCH, FL 32548</b>
---

**DATED MATERIAL**

**DO NOT HOLD**