



Buried Treasures
Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc.
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The Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc. meets monthly, September through May. Meetings are held at the **BEARDALL SENIOR CENTER** on the third **Tuesday** of each month at 7:30 pm. Beardall Senior Center is located at 800 S. Delaney Ave. (corner of Orange Ave and Gore St.) near downtown Orlando. The Daytime Group meets year-round at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday afternoons bi-monthly (odd numbered months.) The Board meets year-round on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the **ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY**. All are welcome to attend.

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President's Message

As my final column in this publication, I would like to leave you with an intellectual challenge. Over the past 2 years I have tried to have you look at genealogy in different ways -- not as a collection of dates but to understand who your ancestors were. Your task for the rest of your life is to plan a reunion of your direct ancestors at one of the local theme park hotels. I have chosen this location because of the current world situation where, due to Home Land Security, you will need a background check on the people attending.

I would like for you to take the following into consideration for your party. First you will need to have a seating chart. Who will you have seated next to whom and which people will need to be seated at different tables? You will want your guests to be conversing with each other and not to be in cliques, so be sure to provide diversity in the seating while preventing conflicts. At all times have husbands and wives at different tables. Will you have any invitees who will be unable to pass the Home Land Security requirements? How many will you be inviting?

You will need a keynote speaker. Which guest will provide this function? You will need to provide prizes for the guest who comes the longest distance, as well as the one that travels the longest in time. Can your guests provide the entertainment or will you need to hire entertainment? If so, what type of entertainment will you hire? As only guests that can pass a Home Land Security check will be admitted, will it still be necessary to hire off-duty police officers to maintain order among your diverse group? It would be nice to provide a directory of all attending. It should contain much more than birth, marriage and death dates. There should be, at a minimum, a page devoted to each of the guests, describing their life and accomplishments.

As each guest is obligated to attend -- a final question to ask yourself is "are there any that would not wish to attend because of who you are?" Would they be ashamed to have you as a descendant?

This project will help you to understand who your ancestors were and learn more about them. I try to make my ancestors friends rather than a database or spreadsheet. They did not know what either document was so, why confine them to one?

I hope each of you receive as much enjoyment from genealogy as I do. Now you have until you become an ancestor to study yours.

Genealogy gives us old ancestors, new relatives, and friends in a like pursuit. I hope to see each of you soon;

Sim Seckbach

Thoughts from your editor...

The recent tornados in Oklahoma City hit my brother's house. He's OK, the house is repairable, but everything in the yard - including a good sized boat - is missing. He was lucky — his next door neighbor's house simply isn't there anymore. All of the family records and photos are safe because they are at my house. But what if the tornado had hit here?

I do have backups of all my data and most of my good photos. Where? Right here in my house! If anything wiped out the house, the backups would be gone too. How about yours?

I have literally thousands of snapshots of family beginning from the late 1880s. I have photo collections from my parents, both sets of grandparents, a great aunt and a number of cousins. Many are duplicates; some of them aren't very good and probably should not have been kept in the first place, but I'm not going to be the one who throws them away. So I have stacks of photos in boxes. I've scanned the best of them, but that is probably less than 5%.

So, beginning immediately after the call from Oklahoma, I began pulling the better snapshots for scanning. I'm simply laying them on the scanner - as many as I can get on at a time. Then I'm scanning and saving the scanned image to both hard drive and writeable CD. I'm printing out a "proof sheet" for each scanned composite, then typing out a list of the photos with whatever detail I can add as to subject, date, place, etc. I'm storing the list on the CD as well as in hard copy. When I'm finished, I plan to store one copy of the CD, index sheet and proof sheet at someone else's house and possibly another in the safe deposit box. I've experimented and found that I can use a photo editing program to pull one photo from the composite sheet to make a print if needed.

So, my question for you readers, is — is this the best way to handle backups of photographs and documents? If you have a better suggestion, I - and our other readers - would like to hear of it.

continued on p. 28

Central Florida Memory Project <http://cfm.lib.ucf.edu>

On Wednesday, 22 May, a group of local historians, genealogists and academics gathered at the Orlando Public Library for a long-awaited announcement. The Central Florida Memory Project is a joint effort of the Orange County Public Library, Orange County Regional History Center and the University of Central Florida.



The project is to digitize Central Florida's historical documents, post cards and photographs and make them available to the public online. The initial site includes over 2000 images and 65 documents from the 1880 to 1920 era.

The goal is to tell what life was like -- before air conditioning, I-4 and Disney World®. Built on a variety of themes, the site features a story line for cohesion, with three "tracks" to begin with: "Dreams & Schemes"; "Roads, Rivers & Rails" and "Critters, Crackers & Cottages." There is also a strong educational component to support the Florida history curriculum in the schools.

Some of the materials included in this first phase are city directories, diaries, post cards, photographs, letters and books. Future materials will include those from other collections as well those from individuals. Plans include "Road Shows" -- where computers and scanners will be taken to a variety of locations. Individuals with historic documents, photos or postcards will be invited to bring them to be scanned and added to the project. This will allow those with wonderful materials to share them without giving up possession.

This is only the beginning of what is planned to be a long-term project. The next phase will include the addition of materials from the 1920-1950 time period as well as additions to the materials already available.

The presentation on the project was given by Gregg Gronlund of the Orange County Public Library, Meg Scharf and Barry Baker of the University of Central Florida Library and Joe Gillette of the Orange County Regional History Center. The program was introduced by library director, Mary Anne Hodel.

Cards were distributed asking for comments and suggestions for possible additions to the project. If you have a suggestion -- or material you'd like to share or organizations to contact -- contact Gregg Gronlund or other members of the project.

Check out Central Florida Memory site at <http://cfm.lib.ucf.edu> or <http://centralfloridamemory.lib.ucf.edu>. You are sure to find something of interest.



Continued next page...

What is in the Central Florida Memory Project?

From the Orange County Regional History Center:

- Airmail Envelope 1929 - Post marked airmail envelope from the first airmail flight from Orlando.
- Letters - 1892-1893 - from Arthur W. C. Smyth to his fiancée, Beatrice, describing life in Central Florida. (From the *Akpan Papers*)
- Angebilt Addition. Map of the planned Angebilt Addition subdivision in 1923.
- Road Map of Florida*, 1929
- Beautiful Florida Scenes along the East Coast Railway*, abt 1920. (A guide book to the East Coast Railway containing introduction, photographs and descriptions.)
- Birds Eye view of Orlando, FL 1884* (picture map showing man-made features, including local businesses)
- 1926 Street Map of Orlando*
- 1900 Map of the Florida Peninsula* published by the Florida East Coast Railway (FECR) showing the route of the railroad and associated steamship routes
- Post Card - San Juan Hotel - undated
- Chamber of Commerce *1925 Map of Orlando*
- 1895 Map of the Plant System of Railway, Steamer and Steamship Lines and Connections*
- Photographs of Central Florida Orange Groves 1884-1921 (30 pages)
- Orlando Booklet 1905* (promotional book about Orlando)
- Orlando, Florida 1890 Map* (bird's eye view showing streets, rail lines, buildings and lakes)
- Variety of Early Postcards
- 1894 Schedule of the Ocklawaha Navigation Company, a steamer line that ran the rivers North of Orlando
- Scott Family Scrapbook* (1885-) photographs around Orange County
- Southern Railway System map - 1915
- Tickets to travel aboard a riverboat of the Ocklawaha Navigation Company (abt 1880)
- Photograph of African-American Tom Shepard
- Warner Correspondence 1885 - 1887* (letters from Helen Warner to her mother in England, describing life in Central Florida)
- Way-Bill 1858 (Ocala to Tampa)

From the University of Central Florida Library Collection:

- Diary of young man's winter vacation in Florida - Dec. 20, 1895 - Feb. 21, 1896
- Alligator hunter in the making September, 1909 (Four page article from an outdoor magazine about the author's experiences on an alligator hunt in the Everglades.)
- Business Card - R. M. Carroll - Auto Livery
- Code of the City of Orlando*, 1927 - (300+ page document)
- Florida Federation of Garden Clubs: Yearbook Number One, 1927 - 1928* (directory and history)
- Golden Anniversary advertisement for Curtis and O'Neal Company (1937)
- Article in *Youth's Companion Magazine* on "Orange hummock" November 4, 1886 by Harriet Prescott Spofford
- Orlando Chautauqua News and the Community Builder* [March 17 - 22, 1921]
- Variety of Early Post Cards
- Orlando Florida 1910* by H.B Oden (30 page book of photographs)
- Social Register of Orlando* 1925

From the Orange County Library System:

- Burtz' Orlando Directory 1909-1910*
- Redding, Ernest. *Honest Facts Regarding Florida: Her Tropical and Semi-Tropical Productions*. [1880] (35 page informational pamphlet)
- Miller's 1907 Orlando City Directory* [1907]
- Orange County Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1887]
- Abercromby, H. A. *Orlando, Florida - Indelible Photographs* [1809] (26 page book of photographs)
- Souvenir of Orlando Florida, The City Beautiful* [1922] (16 page pamphlet)

Bible Records

WHITELAW, LOOBY, LUBY, WIRTZ, REES, CHAPMAN, GUNN, MCLEAN, AND MARTIN
Glamorgan County, Wales and St. Louis, Missouri
by Elaine Powell

I have been given an Irish Catholic family Bible with the following information:

The intro page has an inscription: To Tom & Hannah from Their Mother Elizabeth Xmas 1895, written in very beautiful calligraphy.

[Tom is Thomas David WHITELAW, born in 1862 in Neath, Glamorgan Co., Wales. Hannah is Johanna LOOBY. She was also called Jo, or Hannah. Her father changed his name to LUBY and some documents show her name spelled LUBY also.]

Births listed in the Bible are:

Jane Elizabeth Whitelaw, born Sept 8th, 1884
Thomas Rees Whitelaw, born Dec. 2, 1885
James Alexander Whitelaw, born Feby. 26, 1887
Agnes Maud Whitelaw, born March 12, 1891
Jessie Louisa Whitelaw, born Sept. 13, 1896
Jane Matilda Whitelaw, born July 8, 1899
[All the above births took place in St. Louis, Missouri.]

There is only one marriage listed:

Thomas Rees Whitelaw
Martha [Sometimes called Maud] Wirtz
Married January 8th 1908 Nuptial Mass By the Rev Father Michael McCabe At St. Michael's Catholic
Church N. Ebn 11th & Clinton, St., St. Louis Mo

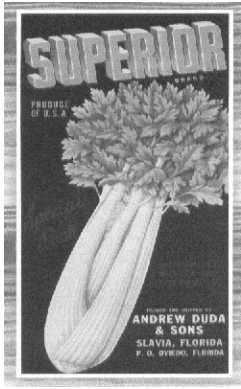
Deaths listed:

Jane Elizabeth Whitelaw, died 1971
Thomas David Whitelaw died Oct. 21, 1933, age 71
Thomas Rees Whitelaw Aug. 25, 1947, age 61
Mother - Johanna [Looby/Luby] Whitelaw Nov. 8, 1954, age 90

I have the genealogy of this WHITELAW family documented back to Scotland in the late 1700s. From Scotland some family members moved on to Glamorgan County, Wales where William WHITELAW was the mayor of Aberavon in Glamorgan County, Wales in 1866. Some family members sailed on to the U.S. by the mid 1870s. Other family members sailed to Australia. Other surnames in this family are REES, CHAPMAN, GUNN, MCLEAN, and MARTIN.

If you have any information on this WHITELAW family or would like to learn more, please contact Elaine Powell, 4620 Saddleworth Circle, Orlando, FL 32826 (407) 282-5171, email: CMElaine@aol.com.

New at the Museum of Seminole County History



A recent announcement from the Museum tells of the Grand Opening of the Agricultural Exhibit building at the Museum. There is also a new exhibit of Central Florida's Era of Big Circuses and Carnivals, A Special Exhibit of Midway Nostalgia. Since so much of the early history of Central Florida revolved around

agricultural endeavors, this may be a great way to discover more about your ancestors and their lives. The museum is at 300 Bush Blvd, Sanford. For more information, call (407) 665-2480.

Thoughts from your Editor - continued from p. 24

I have already handled the possible loss of data by posting it to the RootsWeb WorldConnect website. On it, you can submit your whole database, but put restrictions on how much is placed online.

I specified that anyone born after 1900 is to be considered still living — since my family tends to be long-lived and I don't want personal information in cyberspace. No data is posted on these folks, even though it is stored at the RootsWeb site. When I lost my hard drive in February, I simply went to the RootsWeb site and, using my password, downloaded my whole file, complete with notes and documentation. I could have dug through backup disks to do the same thing, but this was much easier and quicker.

Now, it's back to work... I have about 5000 more photos to scan.

Betty Jo

Success on Ebay!

What a find!! Recently a member of the Greene Co. Illinois Rootsweb mailing list that I belong to advised us that a book, entitled "Genealogy of the Swallow Family, 1666-1910" published in 1910, was being sold on Ebay and all members were advised to check it out because the index of all names in the book were scanned onto that Ebay site and there was also a list of the names of every photo shown in the book, and there were **many photos!** My scrapbooking mind went crazy!!

I went to the site and was determined to win this auction! I ended up winning the bid with a bid of \$102.00, even though I put in a proxy bid for up to \$150.00. I received the book last week. What a **treasure!** The SWALLOW family is one of my husband's ancestral names. The book is absolutely loaded with wonderful genealogical information on many early residents of Greene Co., Illinois. (My husband's cousin once told me that when they have a SWALLOW family reunion in Greene County the whole county attends!) His ancestor's photos are in the book, none of which we had seen before. Other surnames in the book are: CLEMENT, GRISWOLD, LANGDON, NORTH, WOODS and YOUNG. I am planning to put this family data on a website so that all interested family members can have this information. Also in the front of the book is an original letter written in 1864 during the Civil War telling of the death of Henry Swallow of typhoid fever aboard the Steamer Mariner in the Yazoo Pass, on the Mississippi River.

If you have any information on this SWALLOW family or would like to learn more, please contact Elaine Powell, 4620 Saddleworth Circle, Orlando, FL 32826 (407) 282-5171, email: CMElaine@aol.com.

My suggestion would be to check Ebay often by putting your family names in the search box on Ebay. The seller of the Swallow book told me she acquires hundreds of family books of this type at estate sales and sells them on Ebay. Also check for family Bibles for sale that contain family information.

Happy Retirement to Don Brant

by Julie R. Naditz

Don Brant says that he has lived a very exciting life...all 79 years that is.

Don will be 80 years old this year, and after almost 19 years of service, he will be leaving his Orange County Government family in June to enjoy retired life. Don was born on September 4, 1923 in Somerset, Pennsylvania and is one of eleven children. He likes to say he was born when Warren Harding was President. When Don was 12 his family moved to Orlando from Pittsburgh. Don remembers his first taste of making money when he was 14 years old: making, selling and installing house numbers. Everyday after school, Don would pick up scrap plywood from what is still called Thomas Lumber Company, and using a coping saw, he would make numbers. Then on Saturdays, he would ride his bike to sell his wares door to door for 25 cents and even offer to install the numbers. This was during the Depression days when times were tough, especially for a large family. In fact, Don says there were months when he made more money than his father and it was his job that brought food to the table. And Don is told there are some homes in Orlando that still have these house numbers intact.

It is this determination that has stayed with Don for the past 65 years, where he has held various positions. Don started out as a surveyor with the U.S. Corps of Engineers in Sarasota laying out airport runways for Air Force training bases. He came back to Orlando in 1944 to work as a base statistician for one year at the old Orlando Air Force Base and then joined the City of Orlando where he stayed for 37 years. He was the first Surveyor the City ever had on staff but Don soon moved on to become the Chief of Inspection and Construction where he supervised 22 inspectors, 3 survey crews and 10 office staff. In fact, Don said his group occupied the whole third floor of the old City Hall, before it was imploded to make way for the new one. Don says the first vehicle he used for surveying at the City was a Model B Ford. The survey crew would sit on a packing crate in the back and Don would drive them to their job sites. He soon graduated to a 1937 Studebaker that he says was a slight improvement.

Don didn't let retirement from the City keep him at home. He soon started work with a private Engineering firm, Bowyer Singleton and Associates, doing a special project for them for a little over a year. In 1984, Don joined the Orange County Public Works family as an Engineering Inspector with the Highway Construction Division. Don says he has always looked forward to going to work and feels that Highway Construction has the nicest and most professional people (thanks Don!).

After 30 years of a happy marriage, Don's wife passed away. This was 30 years ago. Throughout this time, Don has remained very active in his church and has fun spending time with his family. Don has 4 adopted children (one is deceased), 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. All are located in Florida or Kentucky, and Don is planning a visit to Kentucky soon after retirement.

When I asked Don the secret to his long and healthy life, he said "life is an attitude. When you are down, you pick yourself up by your bootstraps and move on. And make the best of the situation. Don't complain. This only deteriorates your attitude". It appears that this advice has certainly worked for Don. We would like to extend our warm wishes to Don and say thank you for his dedicated service. And don't forget to come back to visit.

This tribute was written by Julie R. Naditz, Chief Engineer in the Highway Construction Division of the Orange County Public Works Department regarding an employee of her Division who will be retiring in June, 2003.

Sent to CFGS by Ralyne Westenhofer. Used with permission.

Will of Andrew Porter, Prince Edward County, VA - 1821

In the Name of God Amen I **Andrew Porter** of Prince Edward County being weak but of sound mind and memory and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make & ordain this my last will & testament. first I desire to give my soul to God of whom I received it and my body to the dust to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named. I wish all my stock of every description to be sold with the crop now growing Household and kitchen furniture &c and pay all my Lawfull debts, I then give to my son **Robert Porter** six shillings. I order the hundred and two acres of land a part of Mills' tract more or less to be rented out, and the money collected & pay the taxes and the balance to go to my son **Samuel Porter** during his life. I then leave to my Great Grandson **James Porter** of Wythe cty. Va. Fifteen pounds current money, I give to my Daughter **Jane Ea Trabue** Twenty pounds current money; now I believe that I owe **Robert James Trabue** twenty two Dollars which I order to be paid; then I give to my Daughter **Elizabeth Hamilton** one shilling & six pence; To my Daughter **Peggy Woodrum** all the property lent her by me when she went to house keeping Accounting to Forty pounds or there abouts; with one shilling and six pence, to my Daughter **Sarah Mitchell**; my will is that my Two slaves **Tom & Cate** receive their freedom and that my Executor pay them thirty Dollars each for the purpose of paying their expenses to a free state if they choose to go, if they do not think proper to go to a free state they may choose their master or mistress & Continue in this state; I give to my Grand son **Wm. Williams** one shilling & six pence & also to my Grand Daughter **Sarah Williams** one shilling & six pence; I wish my Executor to rent out the land whereon I now live & after paying the taxes of said land to divide the balance of the money between my Great Grandson **james Porter & Jane E. Trabue**. I do appoint **William McKinney & Charles McKinney** his brother both of Charlotte County my Executors to this my last will & testament Witness my hand & seal this 23rd day of June 1820 Witness: **B. S. Pryor**

Andrew Porter (x his mark) (seal) **Rebekah? Pryor Obediah Childress** (X his mark)

Side note on will: Saw two other original wills, filed with the original will and the order of Court refusing to admit one of them a record, the other bears date before this will

At a Court held for Prince Edward County the 19th day of November 1821 This last will & testament of **Andrew Porter** decd. was presented in Court and proved by the oaths of **B. S. Pryor & Obediah Childress** two witnesses thereto. Ordered that the same be Recorded, On the motion of **William & Charles McKinney** Executors in said will ordained **Wheywith J. Marshall & Saml. Branch** their securities entered into & acknowledged their bond for the purpose in the penalty of one thousand Dollars Conditioned according to Law and took the oath required by Law Certificate for obtaining a probat thereof in due form is granted them.

Teste

B. Worsham D. C.

Recorded in Prince Edward County, Virginia - Will Book 5, Page 571

Oba(e)diah Childress, one of the witnesses to the will, was my great-great-great-great-grandfather.

Peggy Woodrum (who received a bequest from her father) was the sister-in-law of one of my great-great-great-grandmothers.

I found this interesting for at least two reasons:

1. There is mention of both pounds/shillings/pence and dollars.
2. I suspect that giving two slaves their freedom and money was very unusual. I like the fact that if they decided to stay in Virginia, they got to choose their master or mistress.

Sent to CFGS by Sallie Belperche

Bond between **Peter Legrand & Edward Braithwait, Jr** - Prince Edward Co, VA - 1758

Know all men by these Presents that we **Peter Legrand & Edward Braithwait Junr.** are held and firmly bound unto **Edward Braithwait** in the Just and full Sum of Sixty Pounds Current money of Virginia to be paid unto the said **Edward Braithwait** his Certain Attorney his Executors. Administrators or Assigns. To which payment well and Truly to be made, we bind ourselves and each of Our heirs Executors and Administrators. Joyntly and severally firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seals and dated this Eleventh day of April One Thousand Seven hundred and fifty Eight

The Condition of the above Obligation is such that whereas the above mentioned **Edward Braith** and his wife **Brichet Braithwait** has Parted by Consent with each Other and doth agree to never have anything to say with each Others dealings; therefore the said **Edward Braithwait** hath given and left unto **Briget Braithwait** his wife in the hands of **Peter Legrand & Edward Braithwait Junr.** the sum of Sixty Pounds Current Money to maintain and Support the said **Briget Braithwait** upon during her life, Therefore if the above mentioned **Peter Legrand** and **Edward Braithwait Junr.** doth keep maintain and Support the said **Briget Braithwait** from being any further Charge to the above mentioned **Edward Braithwait** Then the above Obligation to be void or else to remain in full force and Virtue

Peter Legrand (seal)

Signed Seal'd and deliver'd

In presence of - - -

John Bigger

Elisabeth White (X her mark)

Mary Bigger (M her mark)

G. Neve

At a Court held for Prince Edward County the Eleventh day of April 1758 **Peter LeGrand** Acknowledged the within Bond to **Edward Braithwate** which was Ordered to be Recorded by

G. Neve C Ct.

(extracted from Will Book 1 of Prince Edward County, Virginia)

Sent to CFGS by Sallie Belperche, who says "This doesn't involve any of my ancestors' surnames; I just found it interesting. No wonder we have problems with spelling - Bridget is spelled several ways; Braithwait is spelled 2 ways (and the one place it's listed as Braith is as recorded)!"

Don't Forget!

The Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Florida State Genealogical Society
will hold a combined National Conference
"A World of Hidden Treasures"

In Orlando at the Renaissance Resort (opposite SeaWorld)
September 3-6, 2003

If you have not received registration materials, they can be picked up at the Orlando Public Library, Par St
Family History Center, online at <www.fgs.org/2003conf/conf-order.asp> or phone 1-888-FGS-1500.
The deadline for the early registration discount is July 15th.

**ABSTRACTS OF PRE-CIVIL WAR CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

abstracted by William Morgan. Used with permission

19 April 1860

The Grand Jury returned an indictment on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon in the case of *State of Florida v. George W. Terrell*.

David Mizell filed suit against William M. and Martha Tyler for trespass.

In the case of *State of Florida v. John Wofford*, the accused pled guilty to a charge of carrying a concealed weapon. He was fined \$25.00.

In the case of *State of Florida v. Henry H. Hodges* on charges of assault and battery, the following Petit Jury was empanelled to hear arguments:

Andrew J. Simmons	Elliot Dann	Richard Pelham
Benjamin Atwood	William J. Bryan	Richard P. Ellerbe
William W. Barber	William A. Patrick	Isaac Powell
Reuben Long	William Powell	Robert Roberson

The jury found the defendant guilty as charged, and fined him \$30.00 plus court costs. He was ordered to be held in the Marion County Jail in Ocala until he paid his fine and costs.

In the case of *State of Florida v. Henry H. Hodges and Richard Palmer*, the following Petit Jury was empanelled to hear arguments on the charge of assault:

Elliot S. Dann	Alfred D. Tompkins	John R. Worthington
Richard P. Ellerbe	John R. Johnson	William Powell
William P. Hooker	Alpheus M. Caudle	Isaac Powell
Robert Roberson	Benjamin Griffin	Benjamin Atwood

The jury found the defendants guilty as charged, and fined them each \$50.00 plus court costs. They were ordered to be held in the Marion County Jail in Ocala until fines and costs were paid.

In the murder case of *State of Florida v. Jernigan et al*, William M. Tyler ordered to be held in the Marion County Jail in Ocala until he pays the fine for his conviction for involuntary manslaughter.

In the case of *John Wofford v. John Turner*, the following Petit Jury was empanelled to hear arguments:

Richard P. Ellerbe	Robert Roberson	William Powell
William W. Barber	Isaac Powell	William J. Bryan
Elliot S. Dann	Benjamin Atwood	William A. Patrick
Reuben Long	Andrew J. Simmons	Richard Pelham

The jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff.

The following cases were continued to the next term:

John Patrick v. William Riley Lee, for trespass.
John Patrick v. John T. Jenkins.
Augustus J. Vaughn v. Constant Potter.
Teasdale and Reid v. John Wofford.
Teasdale and Reid v. James Yates.
Benjamin Rawlins v. John Patrick and William Minshew.
George W. Self v. John Wofford.
William B. Hull v. James Yates.

Attachment dissolved in the case of *Thomas Hughey v. Aaron Jernigan*.

In the murder case of *State of Florida v. Jernigan et al*, Solicitor requests a “plessis cassis” against all defendants except for William M. Tyler.

The case of *State of Florida v. Aaron Jernigan* with charges of carrying a concealed weapon, transferred to Absentee Docket.

Clerk assessed damages of \$105.54 in the case of *James P. Hughey, Administrator of the Estate of George M. Hughey v. Samuel Y. Cook*.

20 April 1860

Attachment dissolved in the case of *Thomas Hughey v. Aaron Jernigan*.

This completes the abstracts of Pre-civil War Circuit Court Records for Orange County, Florida abstracted by William Morgan. We thank him for his excellent work and offering it to CFGS for this publication.

More Florida History on the Web...

Floridiana on the Web <<http://www.lib.usf.edu/virtual/lcd/floridiana-palmm/index.html>>

“The University of South Florida Libraries’ ‘Floridiana on the Web’ is a unique and dynamic website devoted to the history and culture of Florida. “Floridiana” will provide resources for Florida students ranging from kindergarten to the university level, as well as for scholars of any age, anywhere, who have an interest in the history of Florida. It will include documents, images, and audio & video recordings drawn from collections held throughout the USF Libraries.” Of special interest to Central Florida researchers is:

Blackman, William Fremont, *History of Orange County, Florida; narrative and biographical*. 1927

The **Florida Heritage Collection** <<http://palmm.fcla.edu/fh/>> is an “ongoing cooperative project of the libraries of the state universities of Florida to digitize and provide online access to materials broadly representing Florida’s history, culture, arts, literature, sciences and social sciences. Thematic areas in this growing collection include Native American and minority populations, exploration and development, tourism, the natural environment, and regional interests. Materials are taken from archives, special collections, and libraries of the ten state universities.”

Reviews:

It's About Time: Reflections from Central Florida



There is a new publication on Central Florida and its history. *It's About Time* is a new semi-annual publication of the Orange County Regional History Center and the Historical Society of Central Florida, Inc. This, its premier issue, includes articles and poetry on a variety of subjects relating to Central Florida. Editor (and CFGS member) Pat Birkhead says "this journal has been a dream for a number of years of the staff at the History Center. As asphalt replaces historic buildings and memories fade and eventually evaporate, Central Florida's history loses valuable resources." Articles range from a remembrance of Theodore Mead (of Mead Gardens fame) to Model A's to herbs to model rocketry. There are historic photos accompanying the articles -- giving a glimpse back into the Orlando of the past.

The 24 page publication is sent free to members of the Historical Society and is also free (but quantities are limited) at the History Center or Downtown Library. It's a very nice magazine and an additional incentive to join the Historical Society.

For all you aspiring writers — or long-time Floridians — Pat adds "Please encourage the members of our genealogical society to write something. Please mention, too, that I am also the volunteer coordinator and we need volunteers, especially tour guides." Pat can be reached at Pat.Birkhead@ocfl.net or (407) 836-8583 for more information.

Osceola County Marriages - 1887-1909

This first publication of The Genealogy Club of Osceola County is a valuable resource for those with Osceola County ancestors. *Marriages 1887-1909, Osceola County, Florida* is an index of all the marriages during that time period, listed alphabetically by both brides' and grooms' surnames.

It consists of 88 pages of names, and is followed by an interesting and helpful Appendix which lists quite a few of the churches active and mentioned during that time as well as the names of some of the pastors or officiating clergy. The book was compiled by Anza Bast, using the original marriage certificates from the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court (with the permission of the present officeholder). There is an opportunity also to obtain a copy of the original record for those who find a marriage of interest.

Ann Bergelt, President of the Genealogy Club of Osceola County, says, "This was the first publication for the Genealogy Club of Osceola County, but with Anza's energy and aptitude, it will certainly not be the last! We have many ideas and already have another in the mill."

Order from The Genealogy Club of Osceola County, PO Box 701295, St Cloud, FL 34770-1295. Cost is \$18.00 and includes sales tax. Add \$3.00 for mailing.

Ask An Expert:

On what Date was the Census Taken?

Bruce Barmby asked:

I've hunted through my folder on Census Data and can't find the dates /days/months of the various census enumerations over the years. Do you have such a listing? Or know someplace or someone I can get the info from?

Expert Ann Mohr Osisek replied:

Each census has an "official date" that should always be noted. The census taker, regardless of what day he or she recorded the information, was to list the occupants of any given household on the official date of that year's census. The official dates for each year up to 1930 are listed below:

- * 1790--August 2 (first Monday in August)
- * 1800--August 4 (first Monday in August)
- * 1810--August 6 (first Monday in August)
- * 1820--August 7 (first Monday in August)
- * 1830-1880--June 1
- * 1890--June 2 (first Monday in June)
- * 1900--June 1
- * 1910--April 15
- * 1920--January 1
- * 1930--April 1

In the early census years (1790 to 1840), the enumerators were allowed anywhere from nine to 18 months to complete their tasks. In 1850, 1860 and 1870, they were allowed only five months to record all of the residents and from 1880 to 1920, only one month. Some enumerators followed the rules strictly, while others did not. Excerpted from *The Genealogist's Question and Answer Book* by Marcia Yannizze Melnyk, \$18.99. Reprinted here with permission from the publisher, Betterway Books.

About our Expert: Ann is a member of Association of Professional Genealogists, Past President of CFGS & Secretary for FSGS. She has been an instructor for the Orange County Adult Education Program for the past 12 years, giving both Beginning and Advanced classes in Family History. She has also been a genealogical instructor for the Elderhostel Program and conducts an annual class at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC.

100 years ago...

- The average life expectancy in the United States was 47 years.
- Only 14% of homes in the U.S. had a bath tub.
- Only 8% of the homes had a telephone. A 3 minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11.00.
- There were only 8,000 cars in the United States and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 MPH.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average wage in the US was 22¢ an hour; the average US worker made between \$200-\$400 per year.

First seen on the bulletin board of the Par St FHC. Found on a number of websites; attributed to Ralph Burns on the America's Seniors site at: <http://todaysseniorsnetwork.com/>

Determining Which Ancestor was the Immigrant

The Question - from Sallie Belperche:

How do we determine which of our early American ancestors was the immigrant? I have at least one who thus far seems to have dropped from the sky. Other researchers have also been unable to find his parents/siblings. The surname is fairly unusual. Should I now check ships' records? (This ancestor died late 1813/early 1814 in VA.)

The Answer - from Gladys Friedman Paulin

This is an intriguing question. Unless we have Native American ancestors, all of our lines can theoretically be traced to one or more immigrants. The question does not provide much detail concerning research done to date. All that is given is that the ancestor died in Virginia circa 1813/1814 and that researchers have been unable to locate parents and siblings. Our questioner does not say if he/she has done any personal research, or what records have been searched. We do not know where in Virginia he died, how old he was or how the date was determined. In 1813 Virginia included all of what is now West Virginia.

Is there a death record available? Where is he buried; are cemetery/church records available? Is there a probate file? What newspapers were published in the area at the time; is there an obituary? Have military records been sought for Revolution or other service? Have land records been traced back to a first purchase to determine an arrival date? Did the ancestor live in a town? Is he listed in the pertinent census records? Have land, tax and census records been checked for other persons in the area with the same surname. Who did he marry? Where was his wife's family from; did relatives of his wife live in the area? Have records been obtained for all of his children; for his spouse? Answers would help us better respond to the question.

The questioner asked about ships' records. There were no official federal records kept of passenger arrivals before 1820. All that is known about earlier passengers is based on published records of private diaries, logs and newspaper listings. There are some published indexes available but they are incomplete.

Without clues to the time and port of arrival, any search may be difficult. *They Came in Ships*, by John Colletta is an excellent reference for more information.

This ancestor is said to have had a "fairly unusual" name, but we do not know if that is today, in 1800, or in that location. The more one learns about an individual (age, nationality, family composition), the better one can evaluate whether a name on a list could be that of the person sought. Passenger lists from before the late nineteenth century have little personal information.

Lists from before 1820 contain the name of the ship, port and date of arrival, passenger names, ages, and country of origin. Sometimes only the male head of household is listed with "wife" or "wife and children". There is no way of being certain a name is your ancestor without corroborating the list with other information obtained in a thorough search of available records.

If the person who submitted the question can provide more specific information, it may be possible to give some more specific direction.

About our expert: Gladys Friedman Paulin, CGRS*, a professional genealogist specializing in immigration, naturalization and Jewish genealogy, may be reached at: <gp21603@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu> She has served as CFGS Treasurer for the past two years and will be a Director for the upcoming year. She is also active in the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando.

*CGRS, *Certified Genealogical Record Specialist*, is a Service Mark of the Board for Certification of Genealogists and used under license by Board-certified persons who meet program standards and periodic competency evaluations.

State Census - 1885 Orange County, Florida
(Film M845 Roll #10 at Orlando Library & Archives; #088971 at Family History Center.)

Page	House hold	Name	Race	Age/ Sex	Relation to head of household	Marital status	Birthplace of self / father/ mother	Occupation
29	258	Reiney, Leonard	Mu	34 M	Head	M	SC/SC/SC	Carpenter
29	258	Reiney, Matilda	Mu	33 F	Wife	M	SC/SC/SC	-
29	258	Reiney, James	Mu	10 M	Son	S	SC/SC/SC	-
29	259	Higgins, Moses	Mu	38 M	Head	M	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
29	259	Higgins, Anna	Mu	34 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	-
29	260	Gelry, T. G.	Mu	35 M	Head	M	SC/SC/SC	Laborer
29	260	Gelry, Tina	Mu	38 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	-
29	260	Adams, Col.	Mu	20 M	Son	M	FL/GA/FL	Laborer
29	260	Adams, Eliza	Mu	17 F	Dau-in-law	M	GA/GA/GA	-
29	260	Williams, Wm	B	20 M	Nephew	S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
29	260	Gelry, Taylor	Mu	8 M	Son	S	GA/SC/FL	-
29	260	McLane, Sim?	B	25 M	Boarder	M	GA/NC/FL	Laborer
29	260	McLane, Ellen	B	25 M	Boarder	M	GA/NC/FL	-
29	261	Coleman, David	B	56 M	Head	M	VA/VA/VA	Laborer
29	261	Coleman, Julia	B	50 F	Wife	M	VA/VA/VA	-
29	261	Coleman, Esse?	B	30 M	Son	S	GA/VA/VA	Laborer
29	262	Scott, J. H. L ____	W	76 M	Head	M	KY/PA/IN	M.D.
29	262	Scott, B. W.	W	64 F	Wife	M	TN/VA/VA	-
29	262	Scott, Mary P.	W	42 F	Dau	M	TN/KY/TN	-
29	262	Scott, Rob C.	W	26 M	Son	S	TN/KY/TN	-
29	263	Shattuck, Chas H.	W	56 M	Head	M	MA/MA/MA	Tailor
29	263	Shattuck, Ruen?	W	60 F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-
29	263	Shattuck, Chas. A.	W	26 M	Son	S	MN/MA/NY	Tailor
29	263	Green, Charles	W	25 M	Boarder	S	Eng/Eng/Eng	Tailor
29	264	Munn, H. W.	W	45 M	Head	W	VT/VT/MA	Carpenter
29	264	Farrington, Hene?	W	35 F	Niece	W	VT/VT/VT	-
29	265	Pain, E. D.	W	33 M	Head	M	VT/VT/VT	Harness Maker
29	265	Pain, Julia A.	W	32 F	Wife	M	VT/VT/VT	-
29	265	Pain, O. D.	W	9 M	Son	S	VT/VT/VT	-
29	265	Pain, L. M.	W	6 F	Dau	S	VT/VT/VT	-
29	266	Smith, S. D	W	39 M	Head	M	MO/MO/MO	Minister
29	266	Smith, L. A.	W	28 F	Wife	M	OH/OH/OH	-
29	266	Smith, G. L.	W	8 F	Dau	S	OH/MO/OH	-
29	266	Smith, Chas. S	W	6 M	Son	S	IA/MO/OH	-
29	266	Smith, Mabel	W	1 F	Dau	S	Dakota/MO/OH	-
29	266	Chase, Harriet	B	30 F	Servant	W	GA/GA/GA	-
29	267	Dorsey, T. A.	W	58 M	Head	M	KY/MD/KY	Merchant
29	267	Dorsey, M. B.	W	23 F	Dau	M	KY/KY/KY	-

Page	House hold	Name	Race	Age/ Sex	Relation to head of household	Marital status	Birthplace of self / father/ mother	Occupation
29	267	Dorsey, Margt.	W	47 F	Wife	M	KY/KY/KY	-
29	268	Joehansen, E. G.	W	37 M	Head	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	Saw Mill
29	268	Joehansen, A. C.	W	35 F	Wife	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
29	268	Joehansen, Agnes	W	12 F	Dau	S	FL/Swe/Swe	-
29	268	Joehansen, Julia?	W	10 F	Dau	S	FL/Swe/Swe	-
29	268	Joehansen, Herman	W	7 M	Son	S	FL/Swe/Swe	-
Page 30								
30	268 cont.	Joehansen, M.	W	5 M	Son	S	FL/Swe/Swe	-
30	268	Wirin, A.	W	42 M	Head	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	Minister
30	268	Wirin, A.A.	W	28 F	Wife	M	ME/VT/ME	-
30	268	Wirin, Washington	W	9 M	Son	S	ME/Swe/ME	-
30	268	Wirin, Estel	W	7 F	Dau	S	ME/Swe/ME	-
30	268	Wirin, Alice	W	4 F	Dau	S	ME/Swe/ME	-
30	268	Wirin, Ralph	W	1 M	Son	S	ME/Swe/ME	-
30	268	Linkholm, Hannah	W	19 F	Servant	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Mechanic
30	269	Isgren, C.	W	32 M	Head	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
30	269	Isgren, Ulrica	W	21 F	Wife	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
30	269	Isgren, Hattie	W	4 F	Dau	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
30	269	Isgren, Minnie	W	2 F	Dau	S	FL/Swe/Swe	-
30	269	Isgren, Leo	W	7/12 M	Son	S	FL/Swe/Swe	-
30	269	Hall, Matilda	W	15 F	Servant	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
30	270	Doling, W. S.	W	29 M	Head	M	NY/NY/NY	Painter
30	270	Doling, H. P.	W	25 F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-
30	270	Birkill, H.	W	27 M	Boarder	S	Eng/Eng/Eng	Painter
30	271	Hill, W. R.	B	33 M	Head	M	GA/GA/GA	Clerk
30	271	Hill, Rebecca	B	25 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/GA	-
30	271	Hill, Sam	B	3 F	Son	S	MD/MD/MD	-
30	274	Shipe, M. E.	W	31 M	Head	M	PA/PA/PA	Carpenter
30	274	Shipe, M. A.	W	42? F	Wife	M	DC/DC/DC	-
30	274	Haden, Ed	W	30 M	Boarder	W	NJ/NJ/NJ	Carpenter
30	275	Mobley, N. C.	W	50 M	Head	M	VA/VA/VA	Merchant
30	275	Mobley, F. C.	W	47 F	Wife	M	VA/VA/VA	-
30	275	Bowman, D. R.	W	27 M	Head	M	MO/KY/KY	Merchant
30	275	Bowman, T. M.	W	23 F	Wife	M	NC/MO/VA	-
30	275	Bowman, Dallas	W	2 M	Son	S	MO/MO/NC	-
30	275	Jeffress, E. A.	W	46 F	Mo-in-law	W	VA/VA/VA	-
30	275	Jeffress, Fanny	W	17 F	Sis-in-law	S	VA/MO/VA	-
30	275	Jeffress, Alberta	W	14 F	Sis-in-law	S	VA/MO/VA	-
30	275	Jeffress, Wm.	W	8 M	Bro-in-law	S	VA/MO/VA	-

to be continued...

Why is our flag folded like that?



Have you ever noticed on TV or at military funerals that the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times?



I've known how the 21-gun salute was determined (adding the digits of 1776), but only recently learned why the flag was folded 13 times when it is lowered or when it is folded and handed to the widow at the burial of a veteran.

Here it is:

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country at attain peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for his divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stand, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all he enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty, and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The tenth fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of Christian citizens, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nation's motto, "In God We Trust."

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things which have a deep meaning.

With thanks to Lauren Boyd; Sent to CFGS by Norris Reynolds

The Ultimate Genealogical Experience - The National Conference

At my first genealogy meeting, I was very impressed. Here was a hobby where everyone was willing to share facts, ideas, locations, surnames and the like with fellow genies. They had read an article or received a letter and were willing to share their findings. I guarantee you that I never took a reading course where you could read fast and retain all of the information. But for some reason, **ALL** genealogists have a sponge for a brain. We tend to absorb anything and everything in our observation.

The first genealogy workshop I attended was hosted by the Central Florida Genealogical & Historical Society (now CFGS) in 1978. I take shorthand so nearly everything I heard was taken down verbatim. Since that time, I've attended more than 60 classes, workshops, seminars and conferences throughout the United States and Canada. And I'm still amazed at every little tidbit.

My first experience attending a national conference was the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference *Crossroads of America* in Kansas City, Missouri, August 15 – 17, 1985. I not only wanted to find out what a conference was like but I was trying to prepare myself for the conference the following year to be held in Orlando, Florida. Under the guidance of Eileen Willis, Charter Member of CFGS, who was also a Board member of the Federation, I was introduced to all of the Federation Board members, past conference chairman from Colorado, FGS newsletter editor and prominent speakers of the time. I also met a couple from England who were speakers in 1985 and 1986 as well as a couple from Australia who conducted genealogy cruises. Finally I met a speaker from Canada that I had only read about and was now going to be able to meet in person. A large part of my research is in Canada. I attended so many sessions, signed up for every meal, and sat with a different group of people at every turn. Leave the hotel? Never! Everything I needed or expected to learn was right there in one facility. Yes, I guess I was a tad bit overwhelmed, but mostly in awe.

First of all, your name tag is your window on the world. I was impressed. My name was spelled correctly. If your name doesn't open doors to other observers, your home town surely will. Yes, we're the home of 'Disney World'. There were about 400 people (in 1985) who were all interested in the same hobby — genealogy. A goodie bag with all kinds of informational brochures about our hobby would ultimately lead you to the vendor area to purchase books. Then there was the syllabus (about 1" thick) on all of the topics that would be presented during my stay. At other workshop/seminars/conferences, I was used to receiving a program a few pages long . . . PERIOD. The syllabus noted the program, speakers, speaker's bios and outline of their respective talks. If I had a difficult time selecting what to hear, just remember, most of the topics were to be taped. This was my first time seeing and hearing Dr. George K. Schweitzer, and Gladys Hopper . . . the oldest woman in the U. S. Navy.

At a conference in Salt Lake City, UT, many years ago I was in the copy room as I had found something exciting on microfilm I wanted to copy. Out loud, I commented, 'I forgot my money at my desk' when the FGS newsletter editor called me by name and said she would loan me some money. At a conference in Texas I met someone from Michigan who happened to be the CPA for my father's boss. Last year in Ontario, CA, I met a couple from Sweden who happened to know one of our members, Dr. Nils Olsson (the Swedish genealogist) from Winter Park, FL.

Remember to bring good walking shoes and a sweater or jacket as the lecture rooms are sometimes quite cool. Also bring address labels to place on your syllabus, program or any other personal materials that may go astray. Mechanical pencil (bring extra lead), writing tablet, business cards to exchange with other avid genealogists and a list of surnames you're researching, as well pedigree charts, etc. should also be handy.

Did I have a good time? Was I impressed? My mother's comment to me afterwards, "You've been home for two weeks and you haven't stopped talking." I became a Federation Delegate after that conference. For some reason, I remembered all of the people I met and they remembered me, by name, the following year. Take advantage of all the sessions you can handle. Read everything you can get your hands on. Visit the vendor area many times. Listen intently and speak distinctly. A genealogist never meets a stranger . . . we're all family at heart. To date, I'm still in awe.

by Ralyne E. Westenhofer, #197

**Children of Montgomery Thompson & Laura L. Blakeney
of Jefferson Co, VA/WV, Berkeley & Wood County, WV and Montgomery Co, OH**

by Ann Mohn Osisek

Montgomery Thompson (Aug 1840-14 Apr 1903)
& Laura L. Blakeney (Jun 1842 - 31 Dec 1913)

Enoch Harrison "Harry" Thompson
(20 Mar 1867 - 16 Dec 1943)
& Florence May Thompson
(1 Jan 1874 - 13 May 1962)
m. 1895

Infant Daughter Thompson
(8 Sep 1868 - 8 Sep 1868)

Robert Andrew "Bob" Thompson
(8 Sep 1868 - 25 Mar 1940)
& Lottie May Zepp
(16 May 1874 - 28 Jan 1923)

Robert Andrew "Bob" Thompson
& Alverta Schleuss
(4 May 1878 - 31 Mar 1950)
m. 8 Apr 1928

Joseph Raymond "Ray" Thompson
(1 Jul 1880 - 17 Jun 1937)
& Emma Susan Snyder
(15 Oct 1887 - 19 Mar 1954)
m. 25 Feb 1916

Elizabeth Gertrude "Bess" Thompson
(8 Oct 1882 - 15 Dec 1967)
& James David "Jim" Bowers, Sr.
(20 Mar 1889 - 2 May 1957)
m. 23 Aug 1909

Biographical Information:

Montgomery Thompson, born in Middleway, Jefferson Co., VA (now WV) was the son of Robert Thompson and Elizabeth (Dalgarn) Thompson, both born in VA. Early records indicate the Dalgarn family to be from Prince William Co., VA and Robert Thompson's parents both born in Ireland. Oral family history states that Robert Thompson's family was from County Antrim, Ireland.

Montgomery's father Robert Thompson was a clockmaker/ repairer by trade. Montgomery's wife Laura (Blakeney) Thompson was the daughter of Andrew Blakeney and Elizabeth "Betsy" (Shoafstall) Blakeney, both born in VA. The Blakeney's were also an early VA family with probable ties to the South Carolina Blakeney's. Elizabeth's family, the Shoafstalls of Berkeley Co., VA came to that area having previously been in Washington Co., MD and initially in Lancaster Co., PA.

Robert and Elizabeth Dalgarn Thompson moved to Johnsville (Perry Township) Montgomery Co., OH area by 1870 along with children Samuel, Robert, William and "unconfirmed" son Joseph. Montgomery was married and living in Martinsburg, Berkeley Co., WV at that time.

The following obituaries for Montgomery and his three sons are from the *Martinsburg (WV) Journal*; the obituary of Elizabeth Thompson Bowers is from the Parkersburg (WV) *Daily News*.

TRAGEDY ON THE RAILROAD - LIFE BLOTTED OUT IN INSTANT

Montgomery Thompson, of This City,
Hurled to a Violent Death

Stepped in Front of the New York and St. Louis Flier
& was Instantly Killed

One of the most distressing accidents of recent years occurred on the B. & O. Railroad at 7:45 o'clock last night when Montgomery Thompson, the well known freight conductor of that road, whose family resides on East Martin street in this city, met a sudden and violent death.

Mr. Thompson was in charge of an eastbound extra freight pulled by engine No. 1889, and his train had proceeded as far as Sir John's Run, about 28 miles west of this place when it parted. The disconnected train ran some distance, but both sections were finally brought to a standstill, with the cab in the rear, which was occupied by the conductor and his brakeman, standing on a curve.

When the sections of the freight were stopped, Mr. Thompson and the brakeman immediately alighted to ascertain the damage and get the train in condition to resume its eastward course. The conductor stepped over to the westbound track to better see the result of the slight mishap, and was standing there without a premonition of his sudden and tragic end, when No. 1, the westbound New York and St. Louis express, drawn by engine No. 1321, with Engineer Carls at the throttle came tearing through the gloom of the night, rounding the curve at the rate of 50 miles an hour. Without warning, and with no time to realize the terrible danger of his position or make an attempt to escape, Mr. Thompson was borne down by the onward rush of the locomotive, and hurled, in an instant, into the oblivion of eternity. The impact of the flying engine threw the mangled form of the conductor against the brakeman, who was knocked unconscious under his train by the force of the body.

The news of the fatality came by wire to this city at 8 o'clock and was communicated to the stricken family immediately. Expressions of regret and sympathy were freely given on all sides by the many friends of the dead conductor who was one of the most popular men in the railroad's service. The remains were brought to this city last night at 10:30 on No. 46, and conveyed to the undertaking establishment of W. H. Wilen where they were prepared for burial. An examination of the remains

Obituary of Elizabeth Gertrude Thompson:

Mrs. Bowers' Services Set For Thursday

Mrs. James D. (Elizabeth G.) Bowers, 85, of 1112 Charles St., died Friday evening in St. Mary's Hospital, Clarksburg. Born in Martinsburg, Berkeley County, she was a daughter of the late Montgomery and Laura Thompson. She was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church and Rosary Altar Society, and the Auxiliary of the International Typographical Union. Survivors include three daughters, Mother Mary Amabilis of the P. C. J. Convent in Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Arthur R. Mohr of Pottstown, Pa. and Mrs. William McGivern of Clarksburg; two sons, James D. Bowers, Jr. of Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Samuel R. Bowers of Fairborn, Ohio; and 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at the St. Francis Xavier Catholic church with the Rt. Rev. Msgr. R. S. Weiskircher as celebrant. Burial will be in Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Rosary services will be conducted at 8 p.m. Monday at the Burdette and Lindsey Funeral Home, where friends may call after noon today.

(Parkersburg, Wood Co., WV)

showed that both legs were broken, one arm and the chest crushed and the back of the head mashed.

Mr. Thompson was aged 68 years. He had been an employee of the B. & O. for 39 years and was one of the oldest, most painstaking and popular men in the employ of the road. For 35 years he had been a conductor, having risen to that position from the lowest step of the service. He was a native of Middleway, Jefferson county, W. Va., but removed when a very young man to this place, where he has resided continuously since. He married Miss Laura L. Blakeney, who survives him, together with the following children: E. Harry, Robert A., Joseph Raymond and Elizabeth M. all residing in Martinsburg.

The funeral will occur Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the late residence. Rev. Father Donahue officiating. Interment in St. Joseph Cemetery. Martinsburg, W. Va., April 16, 1903

Obituary of Joseph Raymond Thompson:

Thompson Funeral

The funeral of J. Raymond Thompson, 56, member of the firm of Thompson Brothers, local printers and binders, who died early Thursday afternoon, will be held Saturday at 2 from the home, 112 North High Street. The Rev. Dr. A. M. Gluck, pastor of Christ Reformed Church, of which he was a member, will conduct the services, and burial will be made in Rosedale. A son of the late Montgomery and Laura Thompson, he was born here on July 1st, 1881. He was an accomplished musician, and for nearly 20 years traveled extensively, occasionally visiting foreign countries, while connected with musical groups, circuses and minstrels. He was a member of a concert orchestra at Sumter, S.C. for a time, and played with the National Cash Register Band in Dayton, Ohio, an Army and Naval Band, and for a while was connected with the Sells Floto Circus. He returned to Martinsburg about 23 years ago and had since been associated with his brothers, E. Harry and Robert S. Thompson, in the printing and bookbinding business. Surviving are his widow, who was formerly Miss Emma Snyder, of Martinsburg; three children, Edgar and Misses Rebecca and Lottie Thompson at home; the two brothers previously mentioned, and one sister, Mrs. James D. Bowers, of Parkersburg.

(Martinsburg, Berkeley Co., WV)

Obituary of Robert A. Thompson:

Robert Andrew Thompson, 71, one of Martinsburg's most widely known citizens, died Monday morning at 9:45 in King's Daughters Hospital where he had been a patient the past eight days. The deceased had suffered all winter with a severe cold and was taken seriously ill nearly two weeks ago. Death was attributed to a growth on his lungs, caused by cold infection. He was a partner in Thompson Brothers, printers, 119 South College street, a business formed nearly 48 years ago by the deceased and his brother E. Harry Thompson. Prior to that time he was employed in the local shops of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and later as a caller. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Surviving are one brother - E. Harry, 411 West Burke street; a sister - Mrs. James D. Bowers, Parkersburg; his widow - Mrs. Alverta Thompson, at home; a son - Albert M. Thompson by a former marriage; and a number of nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements have not yet been completed.

(Martinsburg, Berkeley Co., WV)

Obituary of Enoch Harrison Thompson:

E. Harry Thompson - Died Local Hospital

Taken ill suddenly a week ago, E. Harry Thompson, 76, well-known printer and musician, of 411 West Burke street, died Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Kings' Daughters Hospital of complications. The "dean" of the old school hand-typesetting printers, he was born in this city, the son of the late Montgomery and Laura Blakeney Thompson. Thompson Brothers Printing Company - the other member of the partnership, Robert A. Thompson, dying four years ago - started in 1892 first in the old Blondel Building, corner of Queen and Martin streets, and later at a building on West Martin street. For 24 years they were located here and in the last 20 years until, all the equipment was sold to the vocational division of the local high school, at the Fulk property on South College street. He started his printing career when about 16 or 17 on a weekly published here by John T. Riley and A. S. Golden. After learning his trade, he worked for a time in Washington and New York. He was recalled here to begin work on The World, first daily in Martinsburg, but remained with that paper only a short time before going into business for himself. As a musician, he organized the "Thompson Orchestra" which played for social functions in surrounding towns. He was also a member of the orchestra at the old "Opera House". The family orchestra was made up of himself, who played the violin; two brothers, Robert and Raymond, both now deceased, and his wife, who played the piano. He had not been active in the music field for the past 20 years, however. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Surviving are the widow - formerly Miss Florence May Thompson; one sister - Mrs. James Bowers, of Parkersburg; and a number of nephews and nieces. No announcement has been made as to services.

(Martinsburg, Berkeley Co., WV)

Note: All of these are the family of Ann Mohr Osisek.

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We're not stuck,
 Just ancestrally challenged