

# THE CITRUS TREE

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**Our Website:**

[www.citrusgenealogy.com](http://www.citrusgenealogy.com)

- Meeting dates and programs
- Lookup contacts for out of town Genealogists
- Links to leading websites

**IT'S TIME TO  
RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP!**

Our fiscal year begins October 1. Membership fees are due in October for 2021-2022.

*See page 3 of the Newsletter.*

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

We will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month. **There will NOT be a meeting at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints.** You will receive a link to the Zoom meeting the Saturday before the meeting. There will be **no** meeting in December.

**October 12 – “Finding Your WWI & WWII Ancestors Online”**- Kristen Barcomb is a retired Army officer and the daughter of WWII veterans. There is an ever-growing number of WWI and WWII records and documents available online. Learn what they are, where they are, and how to use them. More importantly, learn effective strategies for finding and managing online content related to your WWI & WWII ancestors. This presentation is designed to benefit both experienced genealogists and those fairly new to family history research.

**November 9 – “Is Grandpa Buried There”** – presented by Wesley Brockway who is a member of Citrus County Genealogical Society, Florida State Genealogy Society of Tampa, and the New England Historic Genealogy Society. Genealogy will keep us researching all kinds of vital records for hours. In the end we want to know where generations of grand parents lived, procreated, and died. One of the great tools of the last 25 years for finding and recording their final resting place, and pointers to other research, is the worldwide database Find-a-Grave. This presentation will provide history, insight to content, and search techniques to help you expand your family history information. You will learn how to find cemeteries and how to add and manage family virtual memorials. You will be able to search for and suggest additions to memorials shared by others; create your family related memorials and have those started by others transferred to you. You will leave virtual bouquets to track memorials you visit and build a virtual cemetery for your family resting places. Finally, you will be able to share photos of your ancestors and their tombstones.

You may also enjoy some interesting tombstones and visit the resting place of some famous people.

**December – NO MEETING - *Happy Holidays***



## Notes from the President

*Mary Ann Machonkin*

Covid continues to be on our minds. Because of the covid epidemic, Zoom continues to be the item of interest. We will continue to use Zoom at 10:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the Month. **We will not be meeting at the church until January.** I want to thank Tom Moore for opening the door of the Church for me at 9:00 a.m. to set up for the membership meeting of the genealogy society. It is much appreciated.

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## Genealogy Webinars and Conferences

### The Florida State Genealogical Society Webinars

Go to [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org) Then FSGS Webinars, then Upcoming Webinars to see the webinar programs. All webinars start at 8:00 p.m. on the date indicated, the third Thursday. You must have joined the Society at \$25 per year to get the handout sheets, but anyone can view the webinar without the handout sheets.

### 21 Oct 2021 – Sharon Cook MacInnes, PhD, CG, Migration Patterns of Germans within America

**Webinar Abstract:** We'll explore how historical events channeled Germans **into** certain areas and how chain migration drew allied families together. Many migrated from NY/MD/PA down the Shenandoah Valley into VA, NC and SC. Accessible rivers and railroads led to the establishment of the German Triangle between Cincinnati, Milwaukee and St. Louis. The National Road and German-language advertisements channeled them to Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin and points west. The 1848 Revolution led them to the Texas German Belt. Knowing where your ancestors settled in the mid-1800s can often lead you backwards by considering the migration routes of other Germans, particularly allied families.

### 18 Nov 2021 – Judy Nimer Muhn Native, First Nations, Indian: Researching Indigenous Peoples

**Webinar Abstract:** Researching tribal peoples can be difficult without basic history and records information. While this session will review and provide guidance on basic methods of the rich resources of information for Native/First Nations peoples, this session will focus on the variety of records that will document Indigenous peoples as well as share content about the culture, spiritual traditions and aspects of Indigenous societies that can impact how and where records can be found.

### 16 Dec 2021 – Nancy E. Loe, MA, MLS Organize Like an Archivist

**Webinar Abstract:** Organizing genealogy research is essential to preserve your hard work. This presentation helps you put your family history research in order. Learn simple and effective strategies to organize and link your digital files and paper records, using the same principles as professional archivists. No need for color codes, numbering systems, or other complicated schemes with this archives-based system. And when your records are organized, you can spend more time on research

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**Suncoast Genealogy Society** will have a mini-seminar on 23 October with James M. Beidler speaking on "German Research Online" and "Zigzagging Through German Church Records." It is virtual and costs \$20 for non-members. Register by going to Suncoast Genealogy Society, [www.sgsfl.com](http://www.sgsfl.com)

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**National Archives** has webinars available for watching anytime. [www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-fair](http://www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-fair) and at [www.archives.gov/calendar/know-your-records](http://www.archives.gov/calendar/know-your-records)

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**Geneawebinars:** Calendar has scheduled webinars. <http://blog.geneawebinars.com/p/calendar.html>

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**Pastfinders** has a free webinar on October 14 at 5:30 p.m. "Navigating US IS/INS Naturalization Records" by Keith Breedlove. [www.PastfindersSLC.Org](http://www.PastfindersSLC.Org) to register.

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## Membership Renewal in October

Please use the Membership Renewal Form found on page 7 of this newsletter or online at our website [www.citrusgenealogy.com](http://www.citrusgenealogy.com) Make checks out to Citrus County Genealogical Society or CCGS and mail them to Wesley Brockway, 17 Jungleplum Ct. S, Homosassa, FL 34446

## Family History Libraries

### Salt Lake City Family History Library Reopens

The Family History Library of Salt Lake City reopened July 6.

### Our Family History Library is Open

The hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 a.m. to 2. p.m They have Find My Past, Ancestry.com, My Heritage, and Fold 3 that you can use for free.

## Familysearch.org and Ancestry.com

Both of these databases keep adding new material, so go to them often to see if they have anything new for you.

## American Ancestors

The genealogy society subscribes to American Ancestors at the Lakes Region Library in Inverness. This database has a lot of information about New England ancestors as well as people from other areas.

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST



### Almshouse Ledgers

The collection contains records for individuals admitted to almshouses between 1758 and 1952 in New York City. "Guide to the Almshouse Ledgers, 1758-1952." New York City Municipal Archives. [www.ancestry.co.uk/search/collections/62048/](http://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/collections/62048/).

For more on almshouse records go to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) and select catalogue from the drop-down menu, then subject. Type in almshouse, United States. You will find a lot of records but go to the state of interest. This is by no means all of the records. There are still records at the state and local level.

## Grand Army of the Republic Records for Civil War Research

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was an organization for honorably discharged Union veterans founded in 1866 by B.F. Stephenson and William J. Rutledge, both veterans of the 14th Illinois Infantry. At its peak in 1890, the GAR had more than 400,000 members across the United States. There are two sources of information. To find more of their records go to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) and select catalogue from the dropdown menu. Select subjects and write in Grand Army of the Republic. To get more information go to <https://archive.org> and write in Grand Army of the Republic in the search box at the top of the page.

To read more about this topic go to [www.AmyJohnsonCrow.com](http://www.AmyJohnsonCrow.com)

**BibleRescue** <https://Biblerescue.org> They acquire family bibles (through donation or purchase) and reunite them with living family members.

### You can also search bible records at

[http://yanceyfamilygenealogy.org/family\\_bible\\_index.htm](http://yanceyfamilygenealogy.org/family_bible_index.htm)

### Faces of the Civil War

<https://picryl.com/collections/portrait-photographs-of-the-american-civil-war>

**American Ancestors** has Massachusetts Catholic cemeteries with over 1 million names. [www.americanancestors.org](http://www.americanancestors.org)

## Eastman's Newsletter

The Standard Edition of Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter is published weekdays and is free at [eogn.com](http://eogn.com). There is a fee for the Plus Edition but it has additional information and no advertising.

Thank you to Dick Eastman for permitting us to use the following articles from his newsletter:

### **People Born and Adopted in Connecticut can now Obtain their Own Birth Records for the First Time in Decades can help steer you in the right direction!**

Dick Eastman August 10, 2021

People who were born and adopted in Connecticut prior to 1983 can now legally and easily obtain their own birth records for the first time in decades.

The passage of Public Act 21-21 gives town and city clerks the authority to provide adult adoptees access to their original birth documents, a right that was barred in 1974.

The Hospital of Central CT (formerly New Britain General) is one about 12 birthing hospitals across the state. Individuals born there can download an application to receive their birth records within 30 days at [www.newbritainct.gov/services/town\\_clerk/vital\\_records.htm](http://www.newbritainct.gov/services/town_clerk/vital_records.htm)

As chairman of the CT Town Clerks Association (CTCA) Legislative & Elections Committee, New Britain City Clerk Mark Bernacki worked alongside Access Connecticut, Inc. and other advocacy groups to testify in support of this legislation. While Bernacki said there is no way to count exactly how many birth records are newly available in New Britain, it was estimated this new provision will impact about 38,000 adoptees currently living in the state.

### **Using the Social Security Death Records**

Dick Eastman July 22, 2021

The Social Security Administration's Death Index (SSDI) can be a boon to beginning genealogists. The Social Security number is the most valuable piece of

information when seeking a number of other documents. It is essential for ordering paper copies of original death records, obituaries, and more. The SSDI is the first step in obtaining this information.

The Social Security Death Records information has not been updated for several years. However, the majority of genealogists are looking for information about people who passed away several years ago so that lack of current entries is usually not a huge drawback

The Social Security Administration was created by an act of law in 1935 as part of President Roosevelt's New Deal program. The act laid out a retirement system for many Americans, although not all. The act also created a new governmental agency to manage the program. The Social Security Administration has since become one of the largest agencies in the U.S. Federal Government.

The Social Security Administration's Death Index (SSDI) originally was a database of deceased persons who received Social Security Benefits. The Social Security Administration started computerizing records in 1962. This made it possible to produce an index of people who had Social Security numbers and are deceased. Most death records prior to 1962 were never computerized and therefore do not appear in the SSDI although a few exceptions do exist. Some online Web sites advertise that the data they possess will contain information about deaths "as early as 1937," but that claim is a bit misleading; 99.9% of the information is for 1962 and later.

Initially, the Social Security Administration only recorded the deaths of individuals who were receiving retirement benefits from the Administration. Those who died before reaching retirement age were not listed. Neither were those who had different retirement systems, such as railroad workers, schoolteachers, and other municipal, state, and federal employees. In the 1970s the railroad and many other retirement systems were merged into the Social Security system. Deaths of those retirees then started appearing in the SSDI.

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### **Eastman's Newsletter** (Cont.)

In the late 1980s and after, all deaths in the U.S. were reported to the Social Security Administration and recorded in the SSDI. You can find deaths of children and non-retired adults listed for the 1990s and later, but not for earlier years.

Because legal aliens in the U.S. can obtain a Social Security card, their names may appear in the SSDI if their deaths were reported, even if the death occurred overseas.

The online SSDI databases contain the following information fields:

Social Security number, Surname, Given Name, Date of Death, Date of Birth, Last Known Residence, Location of Last Benefit Date, and Place of Issuance

You can access the Social Security Death Index at no charge on a number of Web sites, including the following:

Ancestry.com:

[www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3693/](http://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3693/)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons) offer the Social Security Death Index on their popular Family Search site at

[www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1202535](http://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1202535)

Keep in mind, however, that the online SSDI database is only an index -- an abbreviated listing. The Social Security Administration holds additional information that can be a genealogical jackpot. The index listing of an ancestor is merely your ticket to this jackpot.

From 1936 on, anyone who has applied for a Social Security Card filled out an application form (SS-5) that the U.S. Government keeps on file. This application form (SS-5) contains the following information:

Full name, \*Full name at birth (including maiden name), \*Present mailing address, Age at last birthday, Date of birth, \*Place of birth (city, county, state), \*Father's full name "regardless of whether living or dead," \*Mother's full name, including

maiden name "regardless of whether living or dead," \*Sex and race, \*Ever applied for SS number/Railroad Retirement before? Yes/No, \*Current employer's name and address, \*Date signed, \*Applicant's signature

The items marked with an asterisk are not available in the online SSDI database but are available in the original SS-5 applications.

The SS-5 form is obviously much more valuable to the genealogist than the limited information shown in the online death index. The Social Security Administration can supply photocopies of the original Social Security application form (the SS-5) to anyone who requests information on a deceased individual. You can obtain a photocopy of the SS-5 form by writing to the Social Security Administration.

The SSA charges \$21 for each individual SS-5 copy if you can provide the Social Security number of the deceased person, \$29 if you cannot provide the number. The SSA is not in the business of doing genealogical research and cannot, by law, expend Social Security Trust Fund money for purposes not related to the operation of the Social Security program. The \$21 fee is intended to offset the cost to the government whenever SSA provides information from its files for non-program purposes.

To obtain the photocopy of the original SS-5, you must fill out Form SSA-711, the "Request for Deceased Individual's Social Security Record," available at [www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-711.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-711.pdf)

There is a fee of \$21.00 U.S. for most records requests. Send your request and check to Social Security Administration, OEO DEBS FOIA, P.O. Box 33022, Baltimore, Maryland 21290-3022

If you want to obtain the SS-5 forms for more than one person, it is suggested that you mail multiple forms individually (in different envelopes) and include separate checks. Be patient. You may have to wait several months for the response to your request(s).

*Continued on page 6*

## Eastman's Newsletter (Cont.)

### Social Security Numbers

It is interesting to note that you can tell where a Social Security Number was issued simply by looking at the first few digits of the number. This does not tell where the person was born, only where he or she was living when the number was issued. Nonetheless, it can be a valuable clue as to where to look for additional information.

The Social Security Account Number (SSAN) is divided into three sets of digits. For example, let's take 123-45-6789. The 3 digits in the first group indicate the state or territory in which the number was originally issued. The second group of 2 numbers is used to define the people within the state. The third group of 4 digits is simply issued in numerical sequence.

Whether you're just getting started on your family research or picking up on details of lines of descent, Social Security Death records can provide you with information and leads that speed and validate your findings.



### Genealogy Magazines in the Lakes Region Library, Inverness

The genealogy society subscribes to the following genealogy magazines and donates them to the Lakes Region Library in Inverness to make them available for your use. The *Internet Genealogy*, *American Ancestors* and *Your Genealogy Today* magazines are located behind the reference desk.

If you can't find them, just ask one of the librarians. The following are descriptions of interesting articles from recent magazines.

#### *Internet Genealogy* September 2021

##### **"Beneath the Surface: Mining Ancestors"**

Sue Lisk looks at websites to help you understand the lives of your ancestors who worked the mines. [www.hinton-gen.com/index.html](http://www.hinton-gen.com/index.html) for a list of safety awards. pp 31-34

##### **"Sorting out Smiths and Keeping up with the Joneses" Ancestors with the Same Names**

David A. Norris looks at ways to overcome the hurdles of researching ancestors with the same name. pp 10-12.

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#### *American Ancestors* Summer 2021, Vol. 22, No. 2

##### **"Jeremiah Barker and Diseases in the District of Maine, 1772 to 1820"**

Richard Kahn and Patricia Kahn discuss his book of the same name.

"International Classification of Diseases for Genealogists" by Hallie J. Borstel

On death certificates there is a code written in a different handwriting that describes the reason for the death of the individual. Codes are between one and three digits starting with 1 while other codes consist of either three or four characters starting with at 001, some contain decimal points. Some codes are alphanumeric such as 48c.

[www.wolfbane.com/icd/index.html](http://www.wolfbane.com/icd/index.html)

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#### *Your Genealogy Today* August 2021

##### **"Tuberculosis: From Maine Cornfields to California Across Groves"**

Marylyn Sawyer looks at the Tuberculosis outbreak of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in the U.S. pp 10-13

##### **"Shhh! I'll let you in on a Secret, our Female Ancestors are Found in Ledgers\_ Part I**

Diane L. Richards Look for "general store," "mercantile" or attorney ledgers, physician ledgers or druggist ledgers. pp 14 – 19

**"Bastardy Bonds"** David A. Norris says family secrets may be reason for genealogical brick walls.

<https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/collection/p15012coll1/id/69413/> pp 23-26

FamilySearch.org has some for Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and West Virginia.

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**CCGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

RENEWAL \_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_

Individual (\$20.00 \_\_\_ Family ((\$25.00) \_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(our year runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following year)

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

First Name for Tag: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Local address (if different): Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

CCGS newsletters are mailed out in October, January and April. If you are part-time residents of Citrus County, please indicate which of the above addresses (P or L) to use for each mailing. (We have discovered that some post offices are not forwarding the newsletters.)

Oct. \_\_\_\_\_ Jan. \_\_\_\_\_ April \_\_\_\_\_

Because we will not be meeting in person for some time, we are unable to collect donations for the purchase of genealogy books for the Lakes Region Library. Please consider adding a donation for the purchase of books to your membership renewal.

OPTIONAL BOOK DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount of membership plus book donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We would welcome your help on any of our various committees listed below. Please indicate your willingness to assist the Board of Directors by checking off the committee(s) that interest you. Thank you for whatever support you can give.

Membership \_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_ Library \_\_\_ Scrapbook \_\_\_

Newsletter \_\_\_ Computer \_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_ Website \_\_\_

Special Events \_\_\_ Meeting Room Setup \_\_\_

Volunteer Where Needed \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with your check payable to: Citrus County Genealogical Society and mail to:  
Wesley Brockway, 17 Jungleplum Ct. S, Homosassa, FL 34446

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**Citrus County Genealogical Society**

P. O. Box 2211

Inverness, Florida 34451-2211

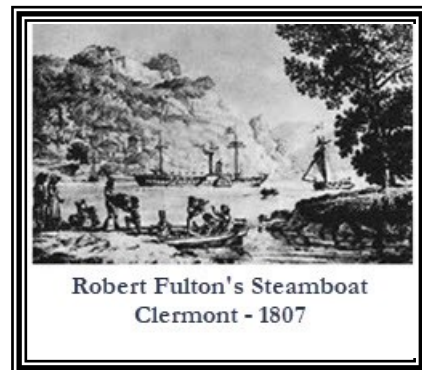


**OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Mary Ann Machonkin
<b>Vice President</b>	Phyllis Ables
<b>Secretary</b>	Shirley Hartley
<b>Treasurer</b>	Wesley Brockway

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

<b>Hospitality</b>	Vicki Brown
<b>Library</b>	Rosemarie Coyle
<b>Membership</b>	Pauline Flewett
<b>Newsletter and Website</b>	Terry Vaught
<b>Publicity</b>	Cynthia Taylor
<b>Room Setup</b>	Thomas MoOre



October  
2021