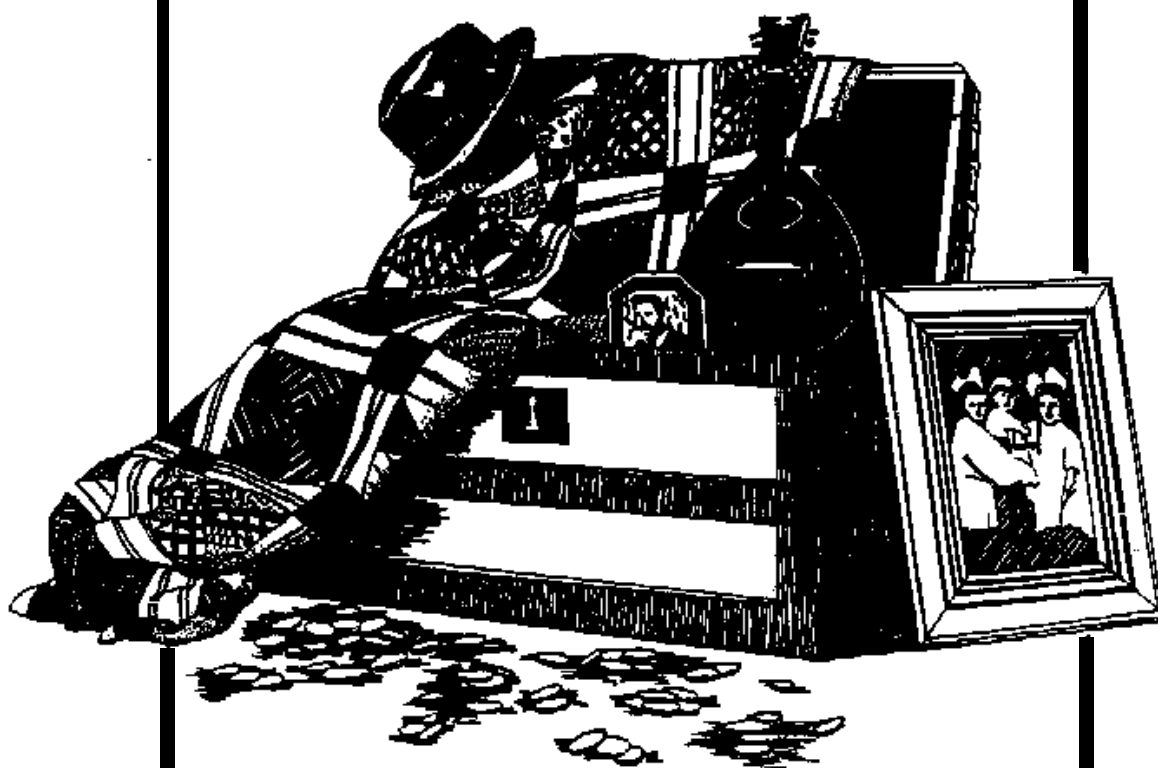


Buried Treasures



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October - December 2015

Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc.

Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc
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The Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc. (formerly known as the Central Florida Genealogical & Historical Society) was formed in 1969 and incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1981. The Society welcomes everyone with an interest in genealogy, the history of Florida and the United States as well as our ancestral nations, to further our objectives through education and publications.

Meetings - Regular monthly meetings are held September through May at the **LDS CULTURAL HALL** on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. at 45 E. Par St (the corner of Par and Formosa). A Daytime Group meets bi-monthly on the fourth Thursday afternoon of odd-numbered months. A Computer Special Interest Group meets monthly on Saturday morning. The Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the LDS Cultural Center. The President designates exceptions to the date and place for meetings. All meetings are open to the public. Visitors are welcome and members are encouraged to bring guests.

Membership:

Individual - Year \$20

Family - Year \$25

Membership begins the first day of September, extends for one full year and includes a subscription to the following Society publications.

Buried Treasures, a quarterly publication, features 24 pages of articles, book reviews, Bible records, old letters, wills, etc. submitted by members. Gina Simmons Herbert designed the cover for **Buried Treasures** in 1989.

Treasure Chest News, a newsletter published nine times a year features 10-12 pages of Society news, library acquisitions, genealogy tips, announcements of workshops, conferences, meetings, etc. *Note: Beginning with the Aug/Sept 2010, the newsletter will be delivered electronically to those who have an email address.*

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Publications of the Central Florida Genealogical Society Unless otherwise noted, books are soft cover, 8 1/2 x 11" and include an every-name index. #Available through Amazon.com

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A reprint of the 1887 directory with added index. Orange County included parts of Lake, Seminole & Osceola Counties in 1887 [300 p. directory; 66 p. index.] \$25

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World War I Discharge Papers - Orange County, Florida, [indexed, 97 p]..... \$14

To order any of these publications, send check or money order to the
 Society address (above)

Please add \$2.50 per book for shipping plus applicable taxes.



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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 Cultural Hall, Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints
on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The LDS Cultural Hall is located at 45 E. Par, Orlando, FL (at the corner of Par St & Formosa Ave)

The Daytime Group meets bi-monthly on the fourth Thursday afternoon of odd-numbered months at the Winter Park University Club. The Computer Special Interest Group and the Family Tree Maker Interest Group each meets monthly on Saturday morning. The Board meets year-round on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the LDS Cultural Hall. All are welcome to attend.

October - December 2015

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Thoughts from your editor...

The last few months have been satisfying for me - genealogically speaking. I know that many of you are reluctant to put your research online for privacy or other reasons. My feelings are just the opposite. My data is on every site I can find. I'm careful to remove anyone still living or recently deceased, but feel that the more people who see my information, the more likely I am to hear from others researching the same lines.

That philosophy paid off in December when I had an email which began, "I found your name as a SCOTT/CHENOWETH researcher on RootsWeb World Connect". I, like most folks, have moved my data to Ancestry or FamilySearch Family Tree, but I keep mine on RootsWeb as well. This man had found a manuscript in the Ohio Historical Society Library written by Judge Thomas SCOTT. This was a 35 page letter to his children, explaining all his family relationships - parents, grandparents, aunts & uncles, siblings, children and other assorted kin. Judge SCOTT was the brother of my 3rd great grandmother, Hannah SCOTT, who married John LEVI. Hannah's brother, John, married John's sister, Jemima LEVI, so we're twice related. Since Judge SCOTT's ancestors are also the ancestors of his siblings, this was a find for me. Admittedly, the letter rambles and has very few dates, but since it documents folks and places I'd never known, it's worth the effort to find the information. If my data hadn't been online, I'd probably never have known about this document.

This is the family of my 3rd great grandparents, Hannah SCOTT and John LEVI. They're proof of the rule that you must check **every** piece of evidence. I had the death certificate of my 2nd great grandfather, Willis LEVI, stating that his father was Elias LEVI, with mother unknown. This was signed by his son, John, in 1915, so that is what I believed. Many years later, I discovered the marriage license for Willis's third marriage - a document for which he'd given the information himself in 1904. He stated that his parents were John LEVI and Hannah SCOTT. This was obviously a better source than his death certificate. His pension files had given the names & dates of his marriages. Since this was his 3rd marriage - and my line was from his first, I'd been too cheap to order that document. Luckily, it's now on FamilySearch.org. Incidentally, he stated his age as 62, when he was actually 82; his bride was 52. So guys lie about their ages too...

I've often said that when you get bogged down in your research, work on someone else's. I've been working on just such a project. One of my biking group mentioned that she and her husband would be taking a trip to Germany this year and her husband would like to find the village his family had immigrated from. He had only a few names - and the story that the family was German, but had immigrated from Russia. A search of Ellis Island files showed his grandparents, Julius & Theresa GRUENDLER, arriving in New York in 1902, with 4 children. All were listed as born in Russia. Their destination was to a brother-in-law, Herman KRENTZ, Clearfield Co, PA. Their last residence was Michelsdorf - now in Poland but part of Germany pre-1945. Using online resources, I was able to document the family back to Russia and Germany. The older children of the family were born in Prussia, Germany, in towns that are now in Poland; the younger children were born in Volhynian, Russia. So the family stories were substantiated. If I read Polish and Russian - and this was my family - I'd be ordering films for the original documents.

As I was digging for records, I received a Christmas letter from a former neighbor in Virginia, telling of their year's experiences. They've gotten really deeply into family research especially Germans from Russia. A quick query to them gave me some resources that I hadn't found. They recommend the website Odessa 3 <<http://www.odessa3.org/search.html>>. Tom explained "Odessa3 is an on-line German-Russian data site which was developed and is still maintained by Dr. Roger EHRICH, a retired computer science professor at VATEch."

Remember - we are continuing with our "my most famous ancestor" series. If you have a famous or infamous ancestor (even a big frog in a small pond), send us the story and how you're related. If you don't feel comfortable writing, send the info and we'll put it together.

We'll also be running a page or two in each issue of "who we're researching". This will let other members of our group know what your family names are and hopefully find some matches. Send your names via email, to the CFGS website - or by mail.

Betty Jo

My most famous ancestor: Rev. Obadiah Holmes (c1606 – 1682)

by Linda DEAN

Obadiah HOLMES was born in Lancashire, England about 1606 and he died in 1682 in the Rhode Island Colony. He and his brothers were educated at Oxford University. Obadiah did not graduate because it is said he was a little “wild” and did not concentrate on his studies as he should. After his mother died, Obadiah vowed to do better.

In 1638 Obadiah, his wife, Catherine HYDE, and their son Jonathan sailed to the new world. It was a very rough voyage and it took over six weeks to reach Boston Harbor. They settled at Salem, Massachusetts Bay Colony. Obadiah joined the church at Salem and he started what might have been the first glassworks in America. They made glass for windows. Some of the employees were Quakers.

Obadiah HOLMES did not find the religious freedom which he sought in the New World. It seemed to him that the religious ceremonies and rules were set by law and individuals had no say in them. Sometimes there were harsh consequences if one disagreed with the set rules. Obadiah was not one to quietly accept these rules. He felt that the individual should have the most say in religion and that only adults should be baptized. As a result, Obadiah was excommunicated from the church in Salem.

The Holmes family moved to Rehoboth, Plymouth Colony and joined Rev. Samuel NEWMAN’s church. Again Obadiah’s religious beliefs did not match those of the church and the minister. Obadiah left the church and a small segment of the congregation went with him. They started the first Baptist church in the Plymouth Colony.

Obadiah and his followers “were indicted By the Grand Jury at New Plymouth for holding meetings on the Lord’s Day from house to house contrary to the order of the court.” (A-p.17) Gov. William BRADFORD, Miles STANDISH and John ALDEN were some of the men on the Grand Jury.

“Obadiah HOLMES and some of his followers left Rehoboth and went to New Port, Rhode Island Colony. First they were baptized and became Baptists in doctrine and practice. Obadiah became their pastor. They found friendship with Roger WILLIAMS, Dr. John CLARKE, Gov. ARNOLD, Samuel GORTON and Gov. CODDINGTON.” (A-p.18)

In July 1651 Dr. John CLARKE, Obadiah HOLMES and John CRANDALL left New Port to visit some of their former neighbors in Massachusetts. “On Sunday, July 20, they were holding religious services in the home of a blind and invalid friend, William WITTER. One of the men read scriptures. Two constables with a warrant broke in and arrested all three men. They were charged with worshiping God according to the dictates of their own consciences and not in the places and according to the prescriptions and forms of the Civil Law regulating the worship in what was called the established church, and they were declaring doctrines on the subject of baptism which it regarded as heretical in a high degree”.(A-p.19)

One of the constables took the three men to the church (civil law required them to attend). When they did not remove their hats they were knocked off their heads by the constable. HOLMES and his friends asked to be heard to explain their beliefs but they were denied a chance to speak. HOLMES, CLARKE and CRANDALL were taken to Boston and put in jail. The trial was held a week later. Members of the court included the Governor John INDICOTT and the Deputy Governor Thomas DUDLEY.

It appeared by the questions that were put to the men that the court had already decided they were guilty. Rev. John COTTON (of witch trial fame) came into the court and denounced Obadiah, CLARKE and CRANDALL.

The Judgments:

“Obadiah HOLMES pay a fine of 30 pounds or be well whipped.

John CLARKE pay a fine of 20 pounds or be well whipped.



Holmes being defiant prior to being publicly whipped in Boston, 1651 (from an 1881 engraving by Charles Reinhart)

John CLARKE pay a fine of 5 pounds or be well whipped". (A-p 20)

After the sentence they were sent back to jail. Friends of CLARKE and CRANDALL quickly raised the amounts of their fines and paid them.

"Obadiah forbade the payment of his fine, making it a matter of conscience and his scruples" (A-p.21) and his friends respected his wish. "The principle was religious freedom, the right of every man, woman and child to worship God according to the dictates of his or her conscience" (A-p. 22)

Friends tried to get Obadiah to recant, but he refused.

On September 5, 1651 Obadiah HOLMES was taken from the jail to the Boston whipping post. He was stripped of his shirt as he refused to take it off, tied to a post and publicly whipped. There were thirty strokes with a three cord whip (ninety strikes in all). The man with the whip paused between each strike to regain his strength.

At the time forty strokes usually meant death.

It was reported that blood ran down Obadiah's clothing and filled his shoes. Not once did Obadiah utter a cry. When they were done, Obadiah said, "You have struck me as with Roses." (A-p.25)

A new warrant was issued to re-arrest Obadiah, try him and sentence him to be whipped again. His friends quickly and quietly rushed him out of town. For weeks, Obadiah could only rest while on his hands and knees because of his injuries.

Obadiah returned to New Port. In 1652, he succeeded Dr. John CLARKE and became the second minister of the first Baptist church in America.

There were ten children in the Holmes family. One died in infancy. I am descended from Jonathan. Obadiah had a daughter, Lydia, and the most famous descendant comes from that line - Abraham LINCOLN. (See attached ancestry chart).

Abraham LINCOLN is my sixth cousin four times removed. (per Ancestry.com.) We both descend from Obadiah HOLMES and his wife Catherine HYDE.

Reference:

A. *The American Family of Obadiah HOLMES* (1915) by Col. James Taylor HOLMES, Columbus Ohio 1915 Kessinger Legacy Reprints

United States President Abraham LINCOLN is a lineal descendant of Obadiah HOLMES.

Line of descent:

- *Obadiah HOLMES (1606? – 1682) married Catherine HYDE (1606-1682)
- *Lydia HOLMES (1637-after 1693) married Capt. John BOWNE (c.1630-1684)
- *Sarah BOWNE (1669-after 1714) married Richard SALTER, Esq. (1669-after 1728)
- *Hannah SALTER (1692-c.1727) married Mordecai LINCOLN (1686-1736)
- *John "Virginia John" LINCOLN (1716-1788) married Rebecca FLOWERS (1720-1806)
- *Captain Abraham LINCOLN (1744-1786) married Bathsheba HERRING (c.1750-c. 1836)
- *Thomas LINCOLN (1778-1851) married Nancy HANKS (1784-1818)
- *President Abraham LINCOLN (1809-1865)

This is supported by the book by Col. James Taylor HOLMES (A-p. 165) and by *Ancestors of American Presidents*, compiled by Gary Boyd ROBERTS and published by Carl BOYER 3rd, Santa Clarity, CA. in 1989.

Note: *I will not claim any bragging rights to these men (Obadiah and Abraham), as my most "infamous" relative is just as close in relationship as they are. But that is another story.....*

Brief History of Klaus Hans Friedrich PETERS (1924-2015, Stolpmünde, Germany)

Compiled by Kim and Oliver PETERS from military service notes, two brief memoirs,
along with anecdotes related to and recorded by family members.

Notations added to direct quotes for clarity.

Klaus Hans Friedrich PETERS was born in Stolpmünde, Germany on March 24, 1924, son of Eduard Hermann PETERS and Erna Mina THOM. Stolpmünde was a seaside harbor and resort town on the Baltic Sea, part of the land taken from Germany after World War II, and is now known as Ustka, Poland.

In 1951, Klaus wrote: "The ancestors on my father's side were seafarers, whereas my mother, Erna PETERS (born THOM), stemmed from trade and farm families. Eduard PETERS [was] a municipal employee of Ostseebad Stolpmünde in Pomerania."



Klaus and his mother Erna Mina THOM -
1924

Eduard was a masseuse and managed the medical spa identified as "Warm Bad" on brochures and maps of Stolpmünde from that period. Klaus mentions his home town and the spa in his 2006 memoirs:

Our town had many connections to the United States. My father was in charge of a medical spa in our town. The lobby of the spa displayed large advertising pictures of the Hamburg America Line (steamer ship). Looking at those pictures, I imagined going on a steamer to America. But it took many years until that happened.

Klaus' father, Eduard, was also the leader of the DRK - Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (German Red Cross) in Stolpmünde and had been active in the DRK since before the first World War. The DRK was taken over and made part of the NAZI party in 1938. He participated in a leadership seminar with others from Pomerania (now Poland) in May 1940 in the town of Falkenwalde.



DRK seminar in Falkenwalde May 10, 1940.

Eduard 4th from left middle row.

The NAZI influence is evident in their uniforms.

Eduard created an Ahnentafel (family lineage chart) in 1937 for Klaus as was required by the NAZI party to verify Aryan blood lines. In addition, he collected baptismal and marriage certificates and created a history of the seafarers in the family dating back over 300 years that was published in the local Stolpmünde newspaper on September 18, 1937.

Klaus dearly loved growing up on the sea in Stolpmünde and often spoke of the sea, the beach, and the fun he had with his friends. He and Dorothea returned several times after the dissolution of the U.S.S.R. made travel to Poland less challenging.

Klaus shared some of his memories of his childhood in his 1950 and 2006 memoirs:

I was born in 1924 in the beautiful seaside town and fishing harbor of Stolpmünde, 200 meters from the Baltic sea. Recalling my youth, it was good and I was happy. When I was 6 years old, my mother's lady friend and her son from the United States, visited us in our Baltic harbor town Stolpmünde, Pomerania. For my birthday they gave me a little American gramophone with the record: Stars and Stripes Forever, which I played over and over again. I can still hear it in my mind as clear as ever. I really did like that march, and I always will.

My mother's lady friend and her son Christian visited several times from New York until 1938. Christian and I were school friends before they left Stolpmünde. Sadly the year 1938 was the last visit of our friends, because a year later WWII started.

From my sixth year on, I attended elementary school in Stolpmünde. After five years of attendance at the elementary school, I continued at the secondary school for boys in Stolp. After completion of the secondary school, I received the diploma [equivalent to High School diploma in the United States]."

When I was 12 years old [March 24, 1936] I wanted to join the youth organization called the Jungsturm [Young Storm], which was like the Pathfinders or Boy Scouts. The year 1934 changed all that and all youth organizations were taken over by the Hitlerjugend [Hitler Youth] 1. That was a big disappointment to me, because I had to give up my nice light blue uniform shirt. But after a while I got used to it.



Stolpmünde Jungsturm (Young Storm) troop circa 1936. We believe Klaus is the last boy on the right. Translation note on back of photo: "In memory of our last Youth Storm service, Stolpmünde. Klaus Peters"

A photograph of the Thanksgiving

Day parade in Stolpmünde on Sunday, October 3, 1937, shows Klaus marching down Hitlerstrasse - formerly Hauptstrasse. Klaus, now a member of Hitler Youth, can be seen on the first row far left carrying his bugle and the Hitler Youth banner with a single lightning bolt.



Klaus elaborated on his training in the Hitler Youth in the memoirs he penned in 2006:

The training was similar to the Boy Scouts; later with more military training. I sure did like the glider training. Flying in a small open cockpit glider from huge sand dune in

Leba at the Baltic Sea [Germany now Poland] was fun, even if the first flights only lasted a minute or two. And no matter what, I knew then that I wanted to be a pilot in the Luftwaffe.

I finished A, B and C Exams in Hitlerjugend. The B Exam is done by a motor winch pulled up by a steel wire. Looks a little scary the first time. The C Exam is done by being pulled up by a small plane. It is done in a larger glider with a closed cockpit that could seat two persons. There are more Exams, but when I was 17 years I volunteered for the Luftwaffe and was called up in 1942.



Circa 1941 - Klaus in Hitler Youth glider training; probably for B Exam.

In his 1950 memoir, Klaus said it was because of his glider training that he was taken into the flying corps in 1942. Klaus' Luftwaffe flight training started with proficiency in gliders and then moved on to motorized flight. His basic aviator training was in Oschatz, Germany, Antwerp, Belgium and Eindhoven, Netherlands from March 20, 1942 to July 9, 1942.

Klaus recalled his Luftwaffe training in personal histories he wrote in 1951 and 2006.

On March 20, 1942, I had to report at a Luftwaffen testing facility in the town of Oschatz in Saxony. The day after I arrived by train, soldiers were checked by doctors and physicians and selected for basic training. The same day that I became 18 years old [March 24, 1924], the day sergeant ordered me to buy beer for the whole room. I was happy to do it.

Right away testing of medical and physical and all sorts of sports followed. I was selected to be fit for the Luftwaffe as flying personnel. The next day our train transport went to Antwerp, Belgium, where a very strict training began. Later a train took us to Eindhoven, Netherlands. Still marching or crawling, etc. But it also got a little easier because we had to do shift watches at the airfield where German bombers were parked in camouflaged hangers to be ready for flying to England.

I recall one incident during our early morning watch. We saw a person in a beige flight suit walking around in one hanger and touching the side of a JU 88 [Junker 88]. At that time we knew the man was an Englishman. We fired one shot with the rifle in the air. The man had his hands up and shouted "Don't shoot!"

Now we made him understand in our school English to slowly walk toward us with hands still up. He was unarmed but looked scary. We watched with an unlocked pistol while we let him sit down crossing his legs. Our English went along a little better, so we found out he was a British paratrooper who got lost. Exchanging cigarettes made the whole situation more pleasant, which to us in a way was funny. Anyway our man understood that he was a prisoner of war. We saw him days later working in the kitchen.

As we could not leave our post, we had to wait for the next shift to arrive. It came shortly, like always with a sergeant who was astonished about what had happened, but said we did a great thing. He searched the prisoner one more time and took him along.

To be continued in next issue....

Preserving Your Family's Story - Software to Make the Process Easier

by Betty Jo STOCKTON

"When an old man dies, a library burns to the ground." African Proverb

We all know that we should be recording our family stories - our own and those of our older family members and neighbors. How many of us are actually doing it, though?

Several new avenues for preserving those stories have recently made news. A *Wall Street Journal* article recently featured StoryCorps and its "Great Thanksgiving Listen". The Georgia Genealogical Society just presented a webinar on the StoryWorth program. And the smartphone app, Saving Memories Forever, was the winner of the RootsTech 2014 Developer Challenge. Each works a bit differently, but all have the same goal - saving those family stories.

StoryCorp, a project of National Public Radio, has been around since 2003, offering more than 100,000 Americans the opportunity to record and share interview about their lives. In the past, interviewers set up a time and place and interviewed volunteers around the country (they were here in Orlando in 2008). These interviews are preserved in the American Folklife

StoryCorps' mission is to provide people of all backgrounds and beliefs with the opportunity to record, share and preserve the stories of our lives.

Collection of the Library of Congress. This year, StoryCorps released a mobile app to make it more convenient for folks to record conversations and interviews to create "a global archive of the wisdom of humanity". The free app, available for both Android and Apple tablets and smartphones, provides an easy way to record an interview. The app uses the built-in microphone of your mobile device to record the interview. It also provides potential questions and interview tips. The interview is oral only, but provides means to include a photo of the "interviewee". Some editing can be done after you've completed the interview, but once it is submitted, no more editing is allowed. You do have the option to remove it at any time. Interviews will be stored in the Library of Congress. The "Great Thanksgiving Listen" worked "with teachers and high school students across the country to preserve the voices and stories of an entire generation of Americans over a single holiday weekend." More than 50,000 conversations were recorded as part of this event.

Website: www.storycorp.org; Cost: free; app available from Google Play Store or Apple App Store. Interviews are public.

A new way to bring the family together

Get weekly stories from your brother

StoryWorth was developed to encourage family members to share their stories. It was the winner of the 2014 Innovator's Showdown. Their "Story teller plan" is \$39

per year and is designed for you to tell your own stories and have them recorded. The \$79 per year family plan subscription allows up to six family member to be involved. Each person is sent a question once a week - which you select from a list they provide or you can write your own. The family member can answer on the web or via email, complete with pictures - or by leaving a voice message. It also allows you to upload photos and audio files. They will also preserve the stories and photos in book form for a reasonable price. The stories remain private - or you can choose to share them with other family members. A free 30 day trial is available. Website: www.storyworth.com. Cost: \$39 per year single; \$79 family (up to 6 people); \$119 Deluxe - includes book & up to 15 storytellers; stories are private but can be shared with unlimited number of people

Saving Memories Forever is a system that consists of an app (both Android & Apple) and a website. It was the winner of the RootsTech 2014 Developer Challenge. The app provides mobility for interviewing and easy uploading to a secure and private storage on the website. The app also offers the opportunity to announce your newly recorded story thru Facebook. Listen to your recorded and uploaded stories on the website. They use the website to share and “manage” your stories. There is a free limited version (with a limit of two story tellers but it does not allow photos). The premium version at \$3.99 per month (or \$40 per year) allows unlimited story tellers, photos, the ability to attach Word documents and free backup service. Website: www.savingmemoriesforever.com; app available at Apple App store or Google Play; \$3.99 per month or \$40 per year.



Our Family Past Create. Share. Preserve.

Our Family Past has just come on the market. Produced by a British company, it allows private or public stories as well as

the ability to share a private story with those you choose. You start by typing in your story - which can be added to or edited. It also allows the addition of photos and both audio and video recordings. You can also have others add to your stories. A free trial subscription allows the creating of one story. A one-year subscription is \$79.00. Website: www.ourfamilypast.com; free trial; \$79 per year.

Personal Historian is software for those who would rather use a computer to record written stories. It helps you write the story of your life and of other individuals. “Overwhelmed with the thought of writing a personal history? It breaks this seemingly monumental task into small, manageable pieces and then reconstructs it into a complete, publishable document.” Personal Historian, comes with an extensive library of LifeCapsules—timelines, historical events, cultural fads, and memory triggers covering a wide-variety of subjects. LifeCapsules add color and context to your history, giving you insights into what was happening in the world at any point in your history. There is a free version - Personal Historian Essentials, which has the core features of Personal Historian. This is software from the makers of RootsMagic.

Website: www.RootsMagic.com. One time purchase. Personal Historian Essentials: free; Personal Historian software: \$29 - sometimes on sale for \$20. PC & Mac versions.

Locally - If you want a class to encourage you to record your stories, check into Patricia CHARPENTIER’s *Writing your Life* class. Patricia offers regular classes both in person and as tele-seminars. For more information, see her website at: <http://writingyourlife.org/>. A number of our members have attended these classes and recommend them highly.

There are probably a number of other apps, software packages or local classes for recording family stories that I don’t know about. How about sharing your favorite with our readers?

Kings Mountain: The Turning Point of the American Revolution

Patricia Patterson ALLEN

On October 7, 1930 - the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain in the American Revolution - President Herbert HOOVER said: "This is a place of inspiring memories. Here less than a thousand men, inspired by the urge of freedom, defended a superior force entrenched in this strategic position. This small band of Patriots turned back a dangerous invasion well designed to separate and dismember the united Colonies."

It was a little army and a little battle, but it was of mighty portent. History has done scant justice to its significance, which rightly should place it beside Lexington, Bunker Hill, Trenton and Yorktown."



Two hundred thirty five years' ago this month, Lord CORNWALLIS' army in the South had a string of overwhelming victories and was riding the momentum out of South Carolina and into North Carolina. His plan was to defeat Washington's army by surrounding them in the North. However, at 3:00 p.m. on October 7, 1780, an untrained militia of 910 frontiersmen from South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and Pennsylvania delivered the most unsung deathblow in American history.



Tombstone of Col Patrick Ferguson 1744-1780 at Kings Mountain State Park..

"Killed in action at Kings Mountain while in command of the British Troops". "From the citizens of the United States of America in token of the appreciation of the bonds of friendship and peace between them and the citizens of the British Empire

In just over an hour, the frontiersmen decimated the left flank of CORNWALLIS' army at the Battle of Kings Mountain. They were protecting their homes from newly recruited Tory militia led by Colonel Patrick FERGUSON. Twelve days earlier, Colonel FERGUSON had threatened the destruction of their homes and families if they did not furnish supplies and men to support the British army. These frontiersmen who had been protecting their families from Indian raids rallied in a spirit of patriotism. They crossed three mountains going 110 miles with their own bare supplies to fight the British armed with guns and bayonets. The battle ended with the Tory's surrender and the death in battle of Colonel FERGUSON. Kings Mountain was a crucial turning point in the war. Lord CORNWALLIS was too stunned to go through with his master plan, giving the Patriots time to reorganize in the South. One year and twelve days later, Lord CORNWALLIS surrendered at Yorktown.

In 1931, the Congress of the United States created the Kings Mountain National Military Park at the site of the battle. The park headquarters is in Blacksburg, South Carolina, and hosts hundreds of thousands of people each year.

Removal of Cornerstone and Monumental Records - Orlando Public School 1906¹

Turn back the clock

The day is April 12, 1906 The time - 9:30 a.m.

The place - 1 West Jackson Street

The event - the laying of a cornerstone for a brand new public schoolhouse.

In charge of the ceremonies are members of Orlando Masonic Lodge #69,
and into the cornerstone they are placing a box, a time-capsule containing: what? pictures? student signatures?
A Bible? historical information???

Reset your watches...

The day - February 28, 1972 The time - 11 :00 a.m.

The place - 1 West Jackson Street

The event - The removal of the cornerstone and its monumental records. (with the assistance of members of Orlando Masonic Lodge #69.)

Many of those in attendance here today were students at the Orlando Public School at the time of its opening.

In between time... The structure at 1 West Jackson Street has served a lustily growing city, and served it well, for 66 years. It was built to replace Orlando's only public schoolhouse which burned on this site in 1905. At the time of its construction, the facility was projected to serve the City's school needs for the following 20 years; but little Orlando just kept growing, and in five short years an additional schoolhouse was necessary.

This building continued to serve as a school until 1924, at which time bigger and better quarters were made available. So, the Orlando Public School building became Orlando City Hall and Police Department.

The City Beautiful was not meant to be stunted in its growth. In a few years it became obvious that the aging structure was not adequate to serve both governmental and police functions, and in 1958 the new City Hall was completed. At that time, this structure, in its entirety, was relegated to the Police Department.

Now, only 14 years later, Orlando is on its way to becoming a giant among cities. The Police Department moved into its huge, new facility on February 19th, and this antiquated building (which, if buildings could talk, could tell so much of life and living) soon will be no more. But the old schoolhouse still will live- deep in the hearts of those who treasure its memory.

This is an exact transcription of the first page of the document. Clips from the document and a list of those signing, by grade level, follows. The original signatures are in the History Center file #1980.049.0001.

The signatures were on lined notebooks paper and in some cases, the names were badly faded or under ink blots. Those are transcribed in a "best guess" and marked as ?xxxx?.

Orlando Public School Cornerstone Papers; Orange County Regional History Center ID 1980.049.0001; Documents 1906 to 1972. Scope & Content: Contents of cornerstone of Orlando Public School building that burned in 1905. Included were signatures of students in 2nd-8th grade and high school. All material is from 1906.

Students in the Orlando Public School - 1906

Apr 12 1906

Orlando Public School - 2nd grade

Mrs W. G. JOHNSON Teacher

Fitzhugh DADE

Joe MUSSELWHITE

Horace MERELE

Sophia LOCKHART

Irene JOHNSON

Lily Bell STEVENS

Edwin MCDOWELL

Ira COX

Orlyn LOBEAN

Lillie BARBER

Maude PUGH

Elizabeth MILLER

Lula THOMPSON

Jane PATTERSON

Amery RINALDI

Ethel BRUNNER

Olive BARBER

Grace HODGES

Alvin DANN

Sallie THOMPSON

Thelma HAMMOND

Helen WAY

Dorene MCDOWELL

Alvin THURMAN

Donald EVANS

Daniel DOYLE

Paul HOLT

Richard Southgate YOWELL

Tassie KEEN

Lucille MCALISTER MLM

Frena FREY

Norman ?BUNCH?

Ruby DIMOND

Richard BURNS

Mary SMITH

George HEARD

James PORTER

Donald HELMS

Cassius JERNIGAN

Clarence GILES

Horace HARRIS

William OLIVER

Genevieve THORPE

Dorothy HOLOWAY

Myrtle LOWE

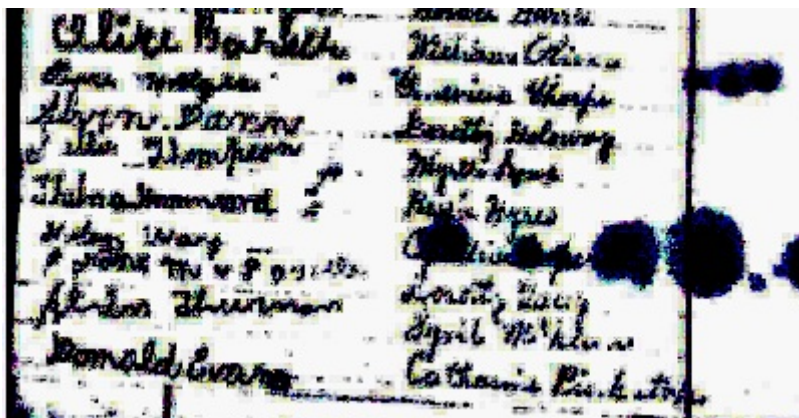
Bessie HYRES

Dorothy GALEY

Ophelia COOPER

Syril MCKEUN

Catherine PINKSTAFF



Portion of 2nd grade page.

Images are digitally enhanced for legibility.

List of Pupils Third Grade

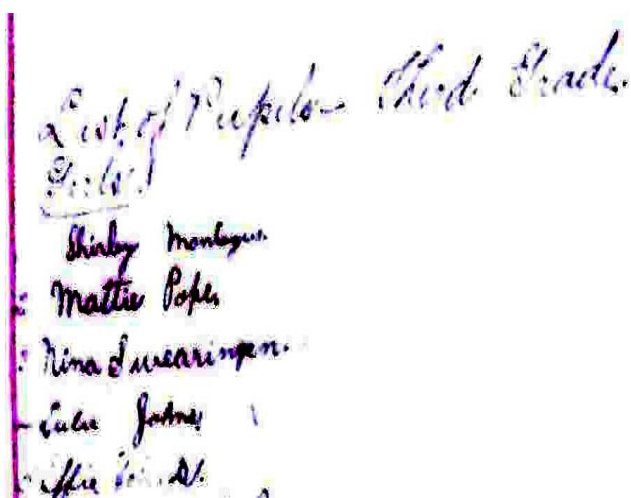
Girls

Shirley MONTAGUE
 Mattie POPE
 Nina SWEARINGEN
 Lulu JOHNS
 Effie JOHNS
 Frances MCCAMY
 Gertrude ANDERSON
 Rosa M. ROSS
 Lucile HALL
 Muriel KENNARD
 Emma KENNARD
 Ruth MCCULLOUGH
 Lena LARSON
 Ella Taylor SLEMONS
 Norine EVANS
 Dora LEWTER
 Jessie BEAMAN
 Annie Cornelia WALKER
 Beulah Nannine WALKER
 Edna ARNOLD

Boys

Francis Marion LEMANS
 John Thomas BRANHAM
 Eldridge BARLOW
 Guy BRADFORD
 Loyal PINKERTON
 Carl DAWSON
 Fred KUHN
 Stephen HEFFIELD
 Isaac POPE
 Maynard POPE
 Robert LEWTER
 Edward Pringle HYER
 Love BANKS
 Sidney Philip NEWELL

 Kate MADDOX



Grade 3 - Orlando Public school 1906. Portion of page - digitally enhanced

DNA Research Does Work!

Blanche M. WALLACE

I am only a novice and do not understand the intricacies of dna results interpretation. Even so, I have had major brick wall breakthroughs using it. My first success was in distinguishing between two WALLACE lines from Rutherford County, North Carolina. I wrote a detailed description of my conclusion with sources that was published in Cobb County (Georgia) Genealogical Society, 2011 Family Tree Quarterly, Volume 21, Issues 1 & 2, pp. 10-15. Briefly, my paper trail ancestor, James WALLACE, born about 1784, has and still is erroneously connected as a son to Revolutionary War soldier, Lt. William WALLACE and his wife, Ruth PORTER. I wanted very much to be a descendant of William but could not find any direct or indirect evidence to support the relationship. I searched online records, microfilmed records, and local courthouse and genealogical library records. Since my brother had tested with familytreedna.com and was firmly placed within the WALLACE Y-dna project, I decided to look for a documented descendant of Lt. William WALLACE. This took a good bit of paper trail work and phone calling, but finally I satisfied myself that the man I found was indeed related to Lt. WALLACE and he agreed to be tested, at my expense. The results showed he was a WALLACE, but in a totally different haplogroup than my brother. So, they both could not be descended from Lt. WALLACE.

The second and third successes were just as momentous for me. I am, unfortunately, descended from obscure sons of obscure fathers and the paper trails go cold quickly. I do not confine myself to online records and never use undocumented ancestry.com or other website family trees for anything other than hints. There are so many errors among just my ancestors and kin on these trees that I suspect every diligent researcher will find the same problem. DNA testing offers a way to verify or disprove many of these relationships.

In March of 2014 I was contacted by a man researching his POWELL ancestry. He saw from my tree at familytreedna.com that I had a POWELL ancestor and that I had strong matches to four other testers with documented POWELL ancestry and he knew they matched each other. He coordinated collaboration among us and I was able to prove that I was, with the others, descended from a couple in Orange County, North Carolina, dating back to the early 1700s. It worked like this: five of us matched on a long segment of Chromosome 1 and all but one (me) could document their POWELL ancestry back to the Orange County couple. After conducting additional research to evaluate all POWELL men with the same name and born about the same time as my POWELL ancestor, I was able to eliminate the other candidates, leading me to conclude that my POWELL ancestor was also a descendant of the Orange County couple. Now, since that was proven, I could begin to research the family names of the women who married into my direct POWELL line.

My POWELL ancestor had married a woman with the surname MCCREARY. Using similar dna matching techniques with testers at familytreedna.com, I was able to prove her parents - and, I found a document along the way that supports this conclusion. Again, more surnames will be discovered as I research the women who married into my MCCREARY line.

So, dna research not only solves problems, it can open up more ancestral lines that were never known or suspected. Sure wish I had started this effort a lot earlier!

If dna testing is desired, I strongly recommend familytreedna.com because many useful tools are provided to evaluate your matches. Also, you can upload your results to other databases with even more opportunities for matching and data evaluation: GedMatch.com, Ysearch.org, and mtDNA haplogroup projects are just three of those available. With ancestry.com testing, your results are connected to the public member trees (most, you will recall, are undocumented and often dead wrong) in "Circles". This is going to lead to many lost hours of valuable research time chasing erroneous connections. I believe you can upload Ancestry dna results to the same databases, which may be a more accurate way to look for matches. I've found that most of the gedcoms uploaded by dna testers are well sourced; however, those sources are not available until you contact the tester.

My most family ancestor: Alonzo Erastus HORTON 1813-1909

by Jowan HEARN

extracted in part by Betty Jo STOCKTON from an article in the *Jefferson Co, [WI] Union*, 12 Feb 1998²

How many of you have ancestors who founded not one, but two, cities? Alonzo Erastus HORTON, born in 1813 in Union, Tolland Co., CT, was the father of the town of Hortonville in Wisconsin and also of San Diego, California. The article, written by William Ward, for the *Jefferson County [WI] Union* newspaper in 1998 as part of the county's 150th anniversary, describes HORTON as "an ambitious, hard-working man, good at trading but bad at investments for most of his life". Alonzo seemed to be a wanderer - having lived in Connecticut, Madison & Oswego Counties in New York, Jefferson and Outagamie Counties in Wisconsin - and had moved to California by 1851.



Alonzo Erastus HORTON was born October 24, 1813, in Union, Connecticut, one of seven children of Erastus and Typhena BURLEIGH HORTON. Both descended from old New England families. His brothers and sisters were Minerva, Emily, Ezra, Nelson, Thomas LaFayette and Lucy.³

Alonzo's family moved to New York state when he was young. He remained there until his 21st birthday. Then, believing he had consumption, he headed west for his health. He was in Milwaukee by 1836 and married his first wife, Sally Millington WRIGHT, there in 1841. She died of consumption a few years later. In 1847, Alonzo went to St Louis and purchased land warrants from returning Mexican War veterans. This gave him 1500 acres in east central Wisconsin, which was wilderness at that time.

HORTON's first town was the town of Hortonville, Wisconsin. He filed his first warrant in 1848 for 150 acres, in the area which is now downtown Hortonville. He created a dam across Black Otter Creek to form a lake, then developed lots to form a community, then gave away a number of the plats of land to promote settlement. He also built a mill on the creek. That town remained small, having a population of just over 2000 now. It is about 20 miles from Oshkosh.

In 1849, the California Gold Rush beckoned, so he sold off his Wisconsin holdings and headed west. While in San Francisco, he was a miner, an express rider, sold used furniture and had an ice plant - his most successful venture.

While attending a literary meeting, he heard someone talk about a beautiful site for a city 500 miles south. "It had a great harbor and a wonderful climate. It was the site of a presidio, built in 1769 by Spanish soldiers. That was also the site of California's first Franciscan mission, called San Diego, by the priest who founded it."

HORTON sold off his limited San Francisco holdings and boarded the next southbound vessel. He arrived in San Diego in April 1867, finding a quiet, small community. He purchased 960 acres for \$265 (27¢ an acre; another article says 36¢ per acre - but a steal, nonetheless). Then he returned to San Francisco and started selling lots - unsuccessfully at the start. The arrival of the railroad in San Diego in 1885 brought new settlers and HORTON's Addition to San Diego became the center of downtown San Diego. Headlines on the 95th birthday of HORTON proclaimed "Founder of City Celebrates Hits 95th Birthday - A. E. HORTON Who Purchased Site 40 Years Ago Still Hale and Hearty". Alonzo HORTON died in 1909 at the age of 96 in San Diego.

²Ward, William. "HORTON 'Father of San Diego'. *Daily Jefferson County [WI] Union*, 12 Feb 1998

³ Alonzo HORTON : The Man. <www.HORTONvillelibrary.org/history/ah/alonzoHORTONtheman>

On one of his trips east, he married Sally Wilson BABE on June 25, 1860, at Jersey City. She accompanied him to San Diego and lived there until her death in 1889. An article on Wikipedia⁴ states “HORTON is known to have married at least thrice, but relatives claimed he married about five times”. Two of his wives - Sarah Wilson BABE HORTON (1820 - 1889) and Lydia Maria KNAPP HORTON (1843 - 1926) - share his monument in Mt Hope Cemetery in San Diego, CA.

His third wife - married when he was 77 and she was 47 - was Lydia SMITH, the widow of William KNAPP. The two couples had been friends through the Unitarian Church, which HORTON had founded. Lydia remained active in San Diego’s community and cultural affairs and was instrumental in obtaining funds for the San Diego Library⁵.

By 1903, HORTON’s money had run out, so Lydia went to work to support the family. He had conveyed title to their home to Lydia earlier, but her only support was her teaching salary. When Alonzo died in 1909, he was penniless.



HORTON monument
Mt Hope Cemetery, San
Diego, CA

Alonzo Erastus HORTON is Jowan’s 1st cousin, 5 times removed. Her 4th great grandfather, Gurdon HORTON, was a brother to Erastus HORTON, Alonzo’s father. Both were sons of Deacon Ezra HORTON.

Deacon Ezra HORTON (1761-1848) m. Olive May (1761-1833)

2-Erastus HORTON (1787-1875)

m. Tryphena BURLEIGH (1788-)

3-Alonzo Erastus HORTON (1813-1909)

m1 - Sally Millington WRIGHT (1822-1846)

m2 - Sarah BABE (1824-1889)

m3 - Lydia M. SMITH (1843 -1926)

2-Gurdon HORTON (1791-1877)

m. Lucy DAVIDSON (1790-1869)

3-Theodore Dwight HORTON (1821-1863)

m. Mariah Polly WHITFORD (1825-1903)

4-George Riley HORTON (1847-1908)

m. Ada Adelaide Miram Wilcox CONKLIN (1853-1945)

5-Frank Wilcox HORTON (1878-1949)

m. Edith Safronia OSBORN (1878-1921)

6-Charles Osbourne HORTON (1898-1977)

m. Leona CRAWFORD (1899-1961)

7-Frank Harold HORTON (1919-2000)

m. Marion Elizabeth BASS (1923-1991)

8-Jowan

⁴ Alonzo HORTON - article on Wikipedia <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alonzo_HORTON>

⁵ San Diego History <www.sandiegohistory.org/bio/HORTON/HORTON.htm>

Names we're researching
by Betty Jo STOCKTON

I've read that in any room full of people, there will be at least two who are related. That may be true (I can't find the statistics), but it's never been the case for me. Perhaps our president, Sandy CARUTHERS SHEARER, has all my possibilities - she seems to be related to everyone except me.

We'll be running the family names we're researching in this and future issues of *Buried Treasures*. Hopefully, you'll find someone researching the same names you are. We'll start off with family names from some of our board members. The format is Stockton >1794-present >NC/ MO/ SC/ FL or any other format that lets others know who, where and when your folks were.

Please send your family names so others can find you. Include how you'd prefer to be contacted. If you make a contact through this project, please let us know so we can share your news.

WOOD	c1735-1799 PA, 1800-1875 OH, 1875-1900 KY, 1900-1918 IA, 1918- present FL	Contact: Walter Wood < walterwood44@gmail.com >
DOWLING	1700-1920 SC, 1920- present FL	
MCCORD	Left PA in 1845 to go to IA	
MCDANIEL	1795- present SC/GA (Augusta area)	
VENTURA	immig from Palermo, Sicily 1905-1915, 1915-present OH	
ZOZ	immigrated from Germany bet. 1849-1872 to OH	
DURHAM	>1660 - present >VA/NC/WV	Contact: Byron Durham
TILLER	> 1750 - present > VA/WV	< Byrondurham50@yahoo.com >
PAULEY	> 1700 -present > VA/WV	
TURLEY	> 1750. -present > VA/WV	
RICE	>1700-present >GA/TN/AL	Contact: Lisa Utsey
HENDERSON	>1700-present >TN/SCOTLAND	< lisa.utsey@gmail.com >
LAMB	>1700-present >GA/TN/AL	
ANGLE	>1700-present >GA/TN/AL	
MCMURRAIN	>1700-present >GA/AL/AK/NC/VA/TX	
LYONS	>1700-present >TN	
UTSEY	>1700-present >SC/NC/FL	
MCIVER	>1700-present >NC/SC/FL/SCOTLAND	
HOLMES	>1700-present >FL/ME/SWEDEN	
PALMER	>1700-present >FL/CT	
OPPENHEIM	>1874- present >Germany/Tennessee	Contact: Lea Collins
BOOTH	>1870-present >IL/TN	< leacol@cfl.rr.com >
GEORGE	>1825-present >SC/AK/OK/TN	
DARBY	> 1700-present >Eng/OH/KS/OK/AK/TN	
CALLIANOS (COLLINS)	> 1850-present >Skopoles, Greece /FL /MS/TN	
MORROW	> 1859-present >TX-MS/TN	
PERRYMAN	>1850-present >Mississippi	
CHERRY	>1850- present >Florida	

Immigrants from Italy to America in the Early 1900s⁶

by Walter WOOD

Italians have been immigrating to the United States for centuries, settling near their family and friends from their home villages, who helped the newcomers find work. Enormous numbers lived in the Italian communities formed in their main port of entry: New York City's Greenwich Village, East Harlem, the Bronx, Brooklyn, and eventually Queens, Staten Island, and beyond. Depending on their village of origin, others moved on, as they could afford it, to similar clusters of Italian immigrants in South Philadelphia, Boston's North End, Bridgeport and New Haven in Connecticut, Providence, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, St. Louis, Denver, San Francisco, and every large city in between. They worked as pick and shovel men building roads, railroads, sewers, and the New York City subway. They labored as garment workers, bricklayers, concrete finishers, and garbage men (known in the West as "scavengers"). The more skilled among them found jobs or opened businesses as barbers, tailors, hairdressers, undertakers, butchers, or as importers of traditional foods. Some found work as truck farmers or fishermen. During the peak years of 1900 through 1914, nearly three million persons of Italian ancestry left their homeland. Some also faced deep prejudice - a hostility toward and fear of immigrants. This contributed to the passage of the Immigration Act of 1924 which set quotas for each country of origin. (Source: *Report to the Congress of the United States, A Review of the Restrictions on Persons of Italian Ancestry During World War II*, pages 1-2)

Giovanni (John) VENTURA on the Napolitan Prince in 1904

On April 10, 1904, 24 year old Giovanni VENTURA left his wife and family in Termini Italy to seek a better life in America. He departed on the ship the Napolitan Prince from Palermo to join his brother Vincenzo VENTURA who had already sailed to New York City in 1901. Vincenzo's nine year old daughter Margherita VENTURA was traveling with Giovanni. (Vincenzo was living at 243 Elizabeth Street in New York City.) Giovanni and Margherita arrived in New York on April 25. Giovanni's wife Giovanna and their two children, Rosario and Rosa would follow him a year later.



Napolitan Prince

The Napolitan Prince (on left) was built in 1889 as an order for the Portuguese Government. Constructed at Scott's Shipyard in Greenock, Scotland, she was originally named Rei de Portugal. It was 2900 gross tons; 363 feet long; 42 feet wide with compound engines and twin screw. The service speed was 12 knots (about 15 miles per hour). It carried 1175 passengers: 25 first class, 1150 third class. She was acquired in 1902 by the Prince Line, one of the less well-known companies that made a fortune carrying immigrants to America before the Golden Door was slammed shut by quotas in 1920. Prince Line re-named her Napolitan Prince, and ran her for 9 years on the Mediterranean-New York run. Worn out by service in the Atlantic, she was re-sold in 1911 and renamed

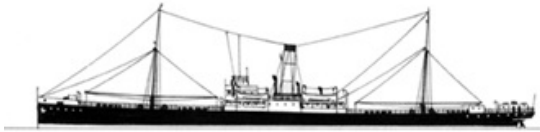
Manouba, plying the calmer waters between Marseilles and North African ports until 1929, when she was scrapped. She grossed 2900 tons, which means she wasn't much of a ship; that's about a third the gross tonnage of a modern destroyer.

On this particular voyage which started in Naples in April 1904 she carried 975 passengers in "steerage," i.e., they were crammed into this little vessel like cattle. Since immigrants paid low fares, creature comforts were not a high priority. Imagine the 15-days it took to cross the North Atlantic in such a ship; and, if you can, what discomfort it entailed. (Those who boarded in Naples had an additional day of misery.) During the trip they were stacked up on multi-tiered bunks, few sanitary facilities, dealing with seasick babies (and adults) and eating whatever slop the steamship line could get away with serving them. It has also been stated that most women were molested during the trips due to close quarters and lack of stewards to police steerage. Napolitan Prince embarked immigrant passengers at Naples and then Palermo. (Some of the above material was adapted from <http://www.nrvoutdoors.com/GENEALOGY/GENEALOGY.htm>

From *Walter D. Woods's Family Pages* <<http://mywoodfamily.us/immigration.htm>>. Used with permission

Giovanna (Jennie) VENTURA on the SS Giulia in 1906

The S.S. Giulia was an Italian passenger and cargo Vessel of 4,337 tons built for the Unione Austriaca di Nav SA, in Trieste, Italy, by Russell & Co, Port Glasgow, Scotland, Yard No 520. She was launched on May 16, 1904. She was powered by a steam triple expansion engines, twin screw, and had a service speed of 12 knots. Engines were built by Kincaid & Co, Greenock. Her length was 346 feet and breadth was 45 feet. It could carry 1,460 passengers: 30 first class, 30 second class and 1,400 third class.



SS Giulia

The Giulia's (on left) maiden voyage was on July 11, 1904 when she left Trieste Italy for Messina, Naples, Palermo and New York. On 9th Nov. 1908 she started her 21st and last passenger voyage, departing from Trieste for Patras Greece and New York and was subsequently used as a cargo ship. On 3rd May 1918 she was damaged by a mine in the Adriatic, but salvaged and repaired. In 1919 she was transferred from the Austrian to the Italian flag under the ownership of Cosulich.

On March 22, 1923 she was abandoned after a cargo of grain shifted during a voyage. She sank and lies at the bottom of the North Atlantic off Nova Scotia.

Giovanni's wife Giovanna (Jennie), age 23, son Rosario (Sam), age 5, and daughter Rosa, age 1, followed him to New York a year later on the Giulia. They sailed from Palermo on April 5, 1905. According to the passenger manifest, Jennie and her children were to join Giovanni (John) at 243 Elizabeth Street in New York City. The manifest reports they only had \$10 in funds with them and that the three of them spent whole voyage in sick bay. The cause of their sickness was not listed but it must not have been serious otherwise they would not have been admitted into the United States.

They did not arrive in New York City until May 22. It is not known why this trip took so long or what other ports the ship may have stopped at. Once they arrived, they were processed through Ellis Island and joined John in the new world.

The VENTURAS were found in the 1910 US Census in New York City. Apparently life in the new world was short lived for Rosa since she was not enumerated in this census and there was a Rosina VENTURA age 2 that died in June 1906. The census record also shows that Giovanni and Giovanna had assumed the American names of John, Jennie. (Rosaria would later take the name Sam.) John and Jennie also had new sons, Ben age 4, Jimmie age 2 and Joe age 6 months. Also living with the family were Jennie's sisters, Mary (age 18) and Josephine (age 16). Living in an adjacent apartment was Jimmie VENTURA and wife Angeline and four children. It is believed that Jimmie is John's brother Vincenzo or Vince since daughter Maggie (Margherita) was shown and the 1915 and 1920 New York State Censuses show this same family. By the 1920 US Census, John and Jennie were found in Cincinnati, Ohio. Jennie VENTURA applied for naturalization in December 1949 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The movie Golden Door or Nuovomondo (in Italian) depicted a family emigrating from Sicily around 1905. This movie portrays the conditions they endured to reach the New World. The movie is available on DVD in Italian with English subtitles. More information on the travels of immigrants can be found in a 1911 report to the US Senate <<http://pds.lib.harvard.edu/pds/view/4989261?n=27&imagesize=1200&jp2Res=.25&printThumbnails=no>>

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Buried Treasures

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Current Resident or

The Year Is 1915 - What a Difference a Century Makes!

The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores only.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub; only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower .

The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour; the average US worker made \$200 and \$400 per year

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year; a dentist \$2,500 per year.

A veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year; a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at home ...

Ninety percent of all doctors had no college education! - (Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and the government as "substandard.")

Sugar cost four cents a pound; eggs were fourteen cents a dozen; coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month (and, used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.)

Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

The five leading causes of death were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza 2. Tuberculosis 3. Diarrhea 4. Heart disease 5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars. The population of Las Vegas , Nevada, was only 30.

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.

There was neither a Mother's Day nor a Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write (only 6 % of all Americans had graduated from high school).

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at local corner drugstores.

Back then pharmacists said, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach (bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health!"--shocking)!

Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.

There were about 230 'reported' murders in the entire U.S.A. !