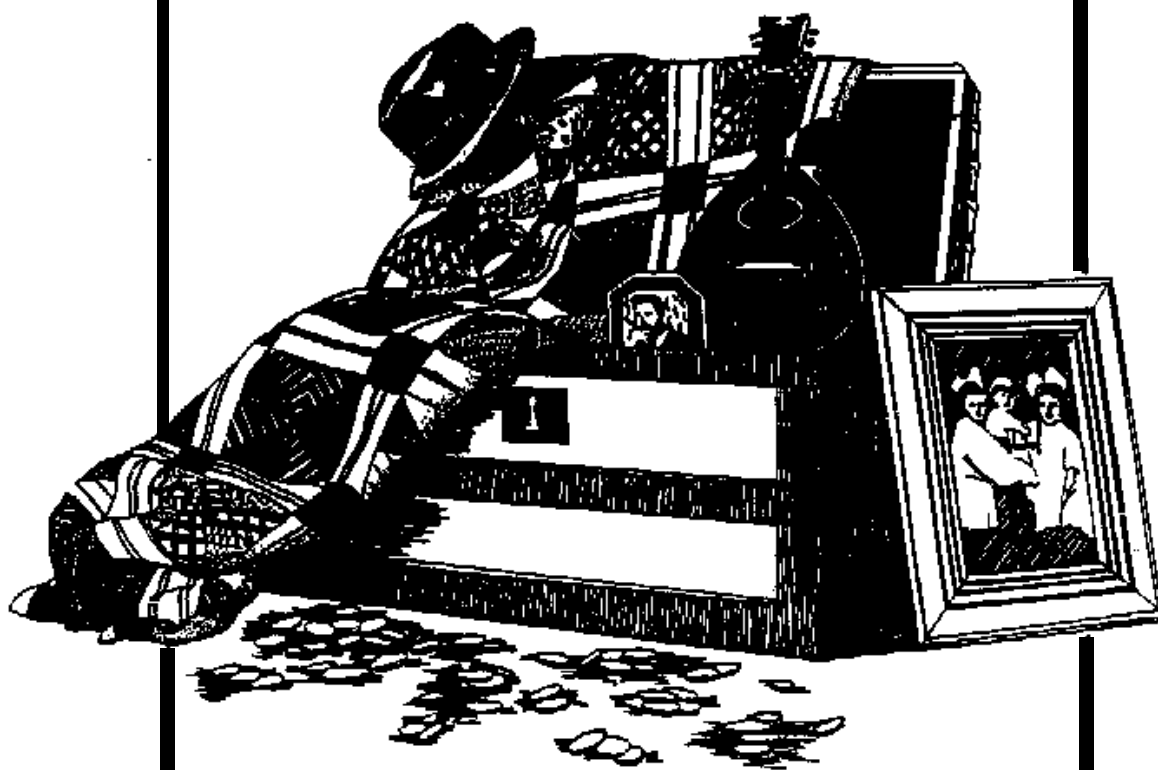


# Buried Treasures



Vol. 48, No. 2  
April - June 2016

Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc.

**Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc**  
 PO Box 533958, Orlando, FL 32853-3958  
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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 L.S. 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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# Buried Treasures

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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 bimonthly 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 meet 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.

## January-March 2016

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David AMOS	Betty Jo STOCKTON
James BRADLEY	Mark SWICK
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## German Migration to Colonial North America 1600-1783

By Mark SWICK

In the colonial period of our history, which runs from around 1600 through 1783, seven European powers – Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Spain, France, England, the Dutch Netherlands, and Sweden – planted colonies on the North American continent. How then did 120,000+ ethnic Germans end up migrating to these colonies in that period and becoming the third largest demographic of Europeans found in North America at the end of this period?



### Why Recruit Germans?

The answer for Denmark, Spain, Sweden, and Russia is easy. They recruited no or virtually no Germans. France did recruit Germans for various imperial purposes, but only settled a relatively tiny number of German colonists in North America

On the other hand, the Dutch were forced to recruit large numbers of Low Germans and a smaller number of High Germans (and Frisians and non-German Walloons and others) in its efforts to colonize New Netherlands (New York and New Jersey) because it lacked sufficient ethnic Dutchmen willing to undertake emigration to such a backwater colony. Most Dutchmen willing to go abroad to the colonies preferred migrating to Dutch colonies in the Indian Ocean or Caribbean basins where they perceived that one was more likely to strike it rich.

But Britain became the primary importer of German colonists to its North American colonies. Around 1707, the British government had lost enthusiasm for allowing a large, swelling outmigration of Englishmen to its colonies. The government feared, rightly or wrongly, that it caused or helped cause a 3% decline in English population over that period. Consequently, it haltingly and gradually began fostering the practice of importing "foreign Protestants"-namely Germans-plus transporting potentially troublesome Scots and Scots-Irish, all on a large scale, to help populate its North American colonies. This policy was adopted under Queen Anne, who viewed German Protestants very favorably and was beloved by them. Her successors, the various Kings Georges, who were, in fact, ethnic German themselves, enthusiastically continued this policy.

### What Were Germany and Its Inhabitants Like?

Germany was not a single country, like today, but a language zone (like Latin America). This zone was much larger than today. It comprised four major river valley basins-the Rhine, the Elbe, the Oder, and the upper Danube. Six major German tribal stems and two additional "Germanic" ones that the British and British-Americans kept lumping in with them populated this Germany.

Franconian Germans and Alemannic Germans inhabited the more densely populated Rhine River basin. Saxon Germans inhabited the Elbe and Oder river basins. Alemannic Germans and Austro-Bavarian Germans resided in the Alps, its foothills and along the Upper Danube river basin. The "Germanic" Dutch and Frisians lived in the Rhine River delta and along the North Sea shore, respectively. The Franconian, Saxon, Alemannic, and Austro-Bavarian Germans, the Dutch and the Frisians all saw themselves as distinct from each other.

Language differences further divided the both Franconians and Saxons into Upper and Lower Franconians and Saxons. The Lower Franconians and Saxons lived close to the sea and the Upper Franconians and Saxons lived upriver, effectively uphill from them.

This linguistic difference distinguished the speakers of Low Franconian and Low Saxon languages and dialects and led to them being called Low Germans-because they lived closer to the sea and hence at lower elevations. The speakers of Middle and Upper Franconian, Middle and Upper Saxon, Alemannic, and Austro-Bavarian languages and dialects are called High Germans.

The British and British Americans, who couldn't tell the Low Germans, Dutch, and Frisians apart, lumped them all together and called them the Low Dutch. They called the High Germans as High Dutch. "Dutch" was an

English corruption of the words "Deutsch" and "Deistch", which were the names by which Germans and Dutch called themselves.

Saxon Germans tended to be Lutheran. Alemannic Germans tended towards the Reform Church, except those populating the French province of Alsace. The Austro-Bavarians tended to be Roman Catholic. The Franconians and Alsatian Alemannics were divided among all three of these churches. Of course, all of the groups included some adherents that belonged to Christian minority churches such as the Baptists, Mennonites, etc.

The most important characteristic of Germany was its political fragmentation. This language zone contained over 1,000-some say, 2,000-separate sovereign political entities-kingdoms, principalities, sovereign lordships, and free cities. Other than the free cities, a king, prince, or minor lord governed each of these entities-what we would call countries. Some of these principalities could be quite large and powerful like Austria, Prussia, Saxony, or Bavaria, but most were small, often tiny, postage stamp-sized places that were basically tin-pot dictatorships-many so small they were governed just by a sovereign knight.

### **Why Did the German States Allow Emigration?**

The answer to why various German princes consented to letting foreign governments recruit colonists from among their peasant taxbase and military draftbase is a little more difficult to understand.

Most of the various petty German princes lived or tried to live luxurious princely lives that were primarily funded by heavily taxing peasant farmers or renting out their peasant soldiers. In southwest Germany (the drainage basin of the middle and upper Rhine River) and, to a lesser extent, in northwest Germany (the lower Rhine River basin and territories near the North Sea), these princes had been accustomed to exporting peasants for decades, even centuries to the eastern frontiers of this German zone. They made windfall tax revenues on this export from manumission, emigration, and property sale taxes, and then promptly were able to replace those losses with a robust birth rate among the peasants and a steady flow of immigrants generated from the always overpopulated Switzerland and Dutch and Spanish Netherlands, religious refugees from Roman Catholic Europe, and war refugees from wherever war was happening.

Republican Switzerland proved a special case here. Blessed with industrious farmers and a very healthy climate, but cursed with little arable land, the Swiss (German and non-German) always suffered from overpopulation and consequently developed consistent political policies that encouraged the emigration of excess population and the deportation of those designated undesirable.

### **Why Did these Germans Migrate to North America?**

The essential truth is that most German emigrants did not migrate to North America. For every German, French Huguenot, Protestant Walloon, Non-German Swiss, or Waldensian heading across the Atlantic, somewhere between 9 and 19 of their fellows instead chose to accept the often generous bounties of free land and/or capital (farm animals, seed stock, tools, etc.) offered by the Prussian King, Austrian emperor, or Russian Tsar to settle the underpopulated and frontier regions of their respective realms.

Furthermore, large numbers of Low Germans and Dutch Germans hired out to settle in the more lucrative parts of the vast Dutch trading empire – that is, not North America. And France sent several thousand Swiss mercenaries to other parts of its developing global empire.

Nonetheless, some 122,000 Germans did ultimately come to North America before 1783. The reasons for this choice are complex. Demographers break down the factors in any migration to push factors, pull factors, lubricative factors and frictive factors.

For these Germans, the push factors variously were ongoing war or fear of war, heavy taxation, a military draft, religious intolerance, overpopulation, harvest and/or credit failures, and flight from servitude. The pull factors were religious toleration, high wages, political liberty, and plenty of cheap, high-quality land. The lubricative factors that eased emigration were favorable Swiss emigration policies, tax windfalls to German sovereigns for

allowing emigration, an efficient transatlantic transportation structure in the 1700's, and a pronounced history of family migration among southwest Germans. The only frictive factor was the occasional imposition of travel restrictions by this or that German prince.

Using these factors for analysis, we can often reconstruct the reasons for the choice to cross the Atlantic made by a particular migrant or migrant cohort, but sometimes it can be obscure.

### **How Did Migrants Afford the Long Journey?**

About half of the migrants could afford to make the transatlantic trip. They were able to finance it out of family savings and/or the sale of their homestead. Others – like the Peace Germans, Foreign Protestants, and military discharges noted below, had patrons or governments that financed the journey.

Everybody else was forced to arrange financing with some shipper or other lender to advance the funds needed for booking passage. As manufactured and finished goods and luxuries were dear and highly sought by those in the colonies, every migrant who could afford it loaded their baggage with as much of these goods as they could muster. Upon arrival, they would sell these goods to local merchants for a nice profit and were able to pay off or reduce the debt owed for the trip.

Additionally, relatives, who had already settled in America, would often meet the arriving vessels with funds sufficient to cover what was owed. German relief societies in Philadelphia would occasionally pay these bills, especially to keep families or children out of servitude. The immigrants would be allowed to repay the societies on generous terms.

For those who still owed or had to rely entirely on credit, they had to resort to indentured servitude to pay for the passage. A broker would sell the immigrant; or, if it was a family, one or more members of the immigrant family would be sold into indentured servitude to a farmer or businessman who needed labor. The length of the indenture, or the contract of servitude, would only be long enough to cover the amount of the debt.

These indentures had a redemptioner feature. At any given time, payment in full of the value of the contract, less a reduction for the value of the indentured work already provided, would terminate indentured obligation. Often servants, who could make money on the side moonlighting, or fellow family members, often doing the same, raised the required funds by working hard. Sometimes, an already-settled relative, who might have needed several month's travel time to find the indentured person, would show up with the payoff monies.

Migrants, who came singly or as young-marrieds and not in some larger family group, were less likely to have sufficient funds on hand to migrate, and were more likely to rely on indentured servitude to finance their journey across the ocean. When a family was short of funds, they often indentured one or more of the older children or one of the spouses, and then redeemed them early if it was feasible.

The earlier in the colonial period that German migrants came, the more likely they came with money and property in hand and the more likely they were to travel in a family group. The later in the colonial period that they came, the more likely they came with little or no money or without family, and the more likely they had to do some service as an indentured servant.

As labor was perennially dear in North America, wages were customarily high. In a year or two, an immigrant family could often raise enough capital to purchase the wherewithal to start a farm. It would take longer to buy land, but many started as renters or squatters and worked to raise the capital to own.

To be continued in next issue...

Note: This series of articles are an expansion of the excellent talk Mark gave at the May 2016 CFGS meeting.

## Facebook Family Genealogy Groups (Resurrecting the past Through the Living)

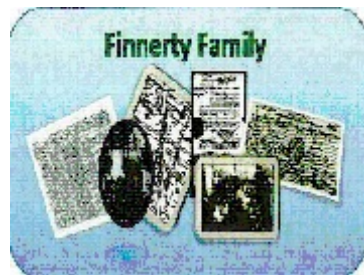
by Deborah FINNERTY HARRIS

Creating and maintaining a successful family genealogy group page on Facebook can seem a daunting task. Happily, it's easier than you might think and very rewarding. I hope the tips and suggestions outlined below will be helpful to you on your quest.

### GETTING STARTED

**Create a "Closed Group".** Family members need to know you will protect the information they share with you. The "Closed" setting allows anyone to find your group, but only members can read what is posted.

**Create a Different Group for Each Branch of Your Tree.** By creating a group for your four branches, more members will be able to relate (no pun intended) to the ancestors you are discussing.



History



Gneeveguilla O'Rourke Descendants

**Personally Contact a Core Group of Your Family. Tell Them about the Group You Just Started and Ask Them If You Can Add Their Name.** I tried sending invitations through Facebook to join the group. No one responded. When I personally emailed, messaged, texted, or called, they were very excited and couldn't wait to have their names added to the group.

**Growing the Group: Encourage Members of the Group to Add Family with Whom They Are in Contact.** This is especially helpful in expanding the group knowledge, as each person will know both living and deceased family of which others are not aware.

**Let the Group Know You Are Trying to Connect a Particular Branch of the Family.** I have found specific requests are more likely to get a response and even offers to make contact.

#### **Descendants Search:**

I am trying to find the Maxwell/McElroy (Kate Finnerty's descendants) branch to invite them to join our group and for permission to add their special events to our Dates to Remember. If any of you have contact with them, please share this with them. Thank you.



## TOPICS

Creating topics is an easy way to encourage participation, maintain interest, and organize information. They can be posted at regular intervals, seasonally, or when the need or desire arises. Listed below are just a few ideas.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

This is a good way to share, learn, and verify births, marriages, and deaths (BMD). It's also a place to share photos. Mostly, it's a way to remember and honor our ancestors and celebrate each other. Prior to posting the BMD, I send out the following notice for the specific month:

#### Dates to Remember

Hello, Family.

I'm in the process of preparing the MARCH Dates to Remember. If you have any births, marriages, deaths or other events and photos that you would like added to the list, please send them in a private message or my email [hharris6@cfl.rr.com](mailto:hharris6@cfl.rr.com). Thank you.

Of course, some of the family will post the information instead of private messaging or emailing. Feedback is more important than its arrival method, so I always respond with a thank you and smiley face. I just appreciate their participation and take mercy on those who are going out of their way in a venue that is not comfortable for them. A day or two before the end of each month, I post the Dates to Remember. I also include one photo of each person (if I have any). Many times, after reviewing this, someone will send other information to be added and/or photos to use.

Note: I have blacked out the names of living people in the following example. On our site, all members would be able to see the names.

#### JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

(Please let us know if you see any mistakes, want to add someone, or have a better photo. Thank you)

2 January 1963 - STEPHEN JOSEPH FINNERTY died

(son of Arthur & Kathleen Cofino Finnerty, grandson of James & Nora O'Rourke Cofino, great grandson of Luigi & Anna Gaudiello Cofino, 2nd great grandson of Domenico Cuofono & Serafina Giudice)

7 January 1955 - EDWARD THOMAS COFINO was born

(son of Anthony & Maria Faillace Cofino, grandson of Luigi & Anna Gaudiello Cofino, great grandson of Domenico Cuofono & Serafina Giudice)

9 January 1998 - JAMES JOHN COFINO died

(son of Luigi & Anna Gaudiello Cofino, grandson of Domenico Cuofono & Serafina Giudice)

16 January 1889 - ANNA AURIELLE GAUDIELLO was born

(wife of Luigi Cofino, daughter-in-law of Domenico Cuofono & Serafina Giudice)

16 January 2009 - LOCHLEN PEZET was born

(son of Amanda Davis Pezet, grandson of Richard & Christina Brant Davis, great grandson of Ralph & Norene Cofino Brant, 2nd great grandson of James & Nora O'Rourke Cofino, 3rd great grandson of Luigi & Anna Gaudiello Cofino, 4th great grandson of Domenico Cuofono & Serafina Giudice)

In addition to this monthly posting, each day, I post the relevant information for that day. This gives us the opportunity to express memories or salutations and add more photos.



March 14 Remembering LUIGI COFINO and ANNA GAUDIELLO on their wedding anniversary. Their courage and determination paved the way for the lives of their descendants.



January 26

Happy Birthday, MATTHEW.

Wishing you a day as happy as you make all of us



November 15

Remembering LILLIAN AUGUSTA FELDMETH on the anniversary of her death. May she rest in peace and live forever in our hearts and through the stories we share.



Family members are also encouraged to post other life events, such as graduations, engagements, First Communion, and so on.

### HISTORY OF AN ANCESTOR

The History of an Ancestor has evolved into a mini biography and/or tribute to a specific ancestor. If an immediate family member is still living, I give them the option of writing the biography of their direct ancestor. So far, only one person has taken me up on it. Prior to posting, I always share it with the immediate family for editing and additional information. After it is posted, everyone is invited to share their memories of the ancestor.

This is one of my favorite topics, but takes several months to prepare. Accuracy and verified documentation is critical and provided. Photos from various stages of life (when available) are added to the post. When needed, I include a paragraph of "Conflicting Information/Speculations/ Deductions" and "Name Variations". Sometimes, someone in the group is able to clarify or provide an explanation.

### HISTORY OF AN ANCESTOR: **THOMAS O'ROURKE** **Please Share Memories, Family Stories, and Photos**

Family Connection: son of Timothy and Catherine Sheehan O'Rourke, grandson of Thomas and Catherine Flynn O'Rourke



Thomas O'Rourke was born on Sunday, April 24, 1898 to the loving family of Timothy and Catherine (parents), Katie (sister), and Thomas (grandfather), in the one room farm house where his father had been born. As was the custom of the time, Thomas' baptism on April 27, 1898 was a celebration of his arrival in the family and the community of Gullaun East, Gneeveguilla, County Kerry, Ireland.

It wasn't long before Tom would be welcoming a little sister, Hanoria, to the family. Followed by his brothers Jeremiah and John. The siblings were fortunate to grow up in a home filled with music, hard work, humor, and love. They learned the art of hospitality and goodwill to their neighbors and the skills of farming and tailoring.

When Tom was about eleven years old, he had to say good-bye to Katie. She would be the first of his siblings to leave the family home to make her own way. Not long after his brother Pat was born and in 1915, Denis arrived.

Tom's years as a young adult were marred by war that splintered through County Kerry. During the Irish War of Independence (1919 to 1921) fighting between the Irish Republican Army and the Royal Irish Constabulary and British military dominated the area. In November 1920, less than 45 minutes from their home, the Black and Tans burned homes and killed many civilians in the Siege of Tralee. While working on an estate in Tipperary with his brother-in-law, Jack Murphy, Tom witnessed the same when Jack and Katie's house was burned to the ground.

Closer to home and where family lived in Castleisland, killing even continued on the day of the July 1921 Truce. Violence was practically delivered to their own back door when only 8 miles away the Headford Junction Ambush occurred, leaving many local families grieving. The worst for County Kerry and the O'Rourke's was unavoidable during the Irish Civil War (1922-1923) when ambushes and massacres were a constant threat.

For Tom, a gentle and quiet man, emigration from Ireland was the best option to help his family and avoid the possible fate of so many of his friends and neighbors. On December 16, 1924, Tom applied for a visa and arrangements were made by his Aunt Mary O'Rourke to pay his passage to America. Tom would have only a few weeks to prepare for his journey and say his farewells to his family and friends. On Sunday, February 22, 1925, Tom boarded the SS Baltic in Cobh and sailed from his Irish home forever. One week later, 5'8", slender, dark haired, blue-eyed Tom disembarked with \$25 dollars in his pocket onto Ellis Island and into the care of his Aunt Mary. Tom would begin his new life in Brooklyn in the shared home of his two aunts (sisters Mary and Honoria Hickey) and his cousins Mary and Hannah Hickey at 366 46th Street.

Shortly after arriving in New York, Tom found a job at the National Biscuit Company (Nabisco) on 15th and 16th Street. Doing his best to help his family through tough times, Tom mailed money and packages home to Gneeveguilla. One winter, he mailed a wind-up toy airplane to the sons of Denis. His nephew Jerry remembers watching in mesmerized awe as it moved on the floor while snow blew in through the keyhole. It was a treasure they would remember all their lives.

On Sunday, August 25, 1929, Tom's sister, Nora, joined him in America. His joy at their reunion must have been overwhelming. Like Tom, she would be staying with their aunts until she could get on her feet and start a life in America. Tom and Nora had a close bond. They knew they were there for each other and visited each other often.

Twenty-eight year old Tom was anxious to become a citizen of his adopted country. On March 2, 1927 he went to the US Department of Labor Naturalization Service and filed the paperwork indicating his intent. Six years later, on February 21, 1933, Tom left his home at 515 74th Street and entered the District Court in Brooklyn, New York.

Standing before the judge, Tom pledged his allegiance to the United States. At last he was an American citizen. How pleased Tom must have been to have his sister near as he took this final step in his immigration journey.

That summer, he would be the best man at Nora's wedding. Tom remained an important part of Nora's life. His niece, Katie, remembers him well and has many fond memories of him. "We lived in Port Chester and he lived in New York City, Brooklyn I think. A short commute by train when he visited. His visits were always a happy occasion, we loved having him spend a day or two, as he could.

He always helped our Mom with things around the house and her garden too. Uncle Tom was always kind and soft-spoken and seemed a happy man. He was employed and earned a good living, so was comfortably well off.

Eventually Uncle Tom married. His bride Regina was very pretty and seemed so glamorous to us. Uncle Tom and Aunt Regina took me on the train to the city to visit them for a few days. What a thrill that was! Uncle Tom

came all the way by train to visit us for a few days in Florida. I remember fondly hearing the Irish brogue in Uncle Tom's voice when he mentioned the "pam" trees at Lake Eola. Those were the last pictures ever taken of Uncle Tom."

The next few years would prove to be mixed with emotion. Painfully, on May 7, 1939, Kate O'Rourke (Tom and Nora's mother) passed away. The last time they saw their mother was before they sailed for America. Not long after, Tom met Regina, they dated, and married. Tom was excited to be starting his family. They were elated at the birth of their daughter, Diane, on December 11, 1947.

Following the birth of Diane and the death of his sister, Katie on June 13, 1954, Tom was anxious to move back to Ireland. He wanted Diane to have the loving and joyous family he remembered. Tom began to save his money for passage and anticipated life for his family in Gneeveguilla. Sadly, Tom would never realize that dream. One month after his brother, Pat married, Tom died. It was June 1955. His sister, with a heavy heart, took the train from Florida to New York to wish her brother a final farewell.

Tom is remembered for his love of family, his sense of humor, and his kindness. He was a good man and is missed.

Note: It took nearly 40 years, but Tom's dream for Diane to know her family finally came true.

SOURCES: Baptism Record, 1901 Irish Census, 1911 Irish Census, Passenger List, Declaration of Intent, Petition for Naturalization, 1930 Census, Kathleen Murphy, Kathleen Cofino Finnerty, Norene Cofino Brant, Eileen O'Rourke

Documents Have Been Added to Our "Files"



## TRADITIONS

We all have family traditions that have continued through our branches or have evolved over time. They are fun to reminisce about and provide shared connections to our ancestors. Traditions don't have to be limited to holidays. They can center on recipes, summer vacations, or even visits to Grandma's house (Did she have a special bedtime song just for your visit?).

### FAMILY TRADITIONS: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Many of our German family are also Irish or just enjoy a fun holiday. Leprechauns, four leaf clovers, parades, corned beef, and wearing green – what does St. Patrick's Day mean to you? Share a favorite memory or story of one of your favorite St. Patrick's Days.



## MYSTERY PHOTOS

How often have you found a photo of a relative with other family members, but have no idea who they are? This is a fun way to glean a little light on those mysterious folks and maybe even find out the "where" and "when". With luck, you might get the story behind the photo. Some are quite entertaining.

### Mystery Photo



Please help us identify the person in this photo, the date & where it was taken, and any event that surrounds it. Thank you for your help.

The caption reads: 1935 cousin Bernard.

Note: This photo was among the belongings of Nora O'Rourke Cofino (daughter of Timothy and Kate Sheehan O'Rourke). Since this would be one of Nora's cousins, it seems this would be the child of one of Timothy or Kate's siblings. Since the name "Bernard" doesn't show up in the O'Rourkes (at least not that I've found), it is most likely that Bernard is a Sheehan descendant. Of course, this is all just guess work on my part. I'm hoping one of you may have more information about Bernard or the Sheehan clan. Thank you.

### LEARNING TOGETHER

All of us get excited when we find something interesting on the internet or learn new techniques for furthering our research. Encourage your members to share that information (genealogy information, articles about places your ancestors lived, pertinent historical events, etc.). Include links as they apply. Learning together is a lot of fun.

### RECORDING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

The amount of information gained from Facebook Groups is astounding and can be overwhelmingly impossible to retain. For that reason, it is helpful to record new information into a family tree program. I also keep "Memories" documents to use when writing biographies for our family.

### Memories of Catherine BUSWEILER

*"I remember Kitty, always smiling and laughing. I still remember Ice box cookies, Ox tail stew, and round mouse-EE Jim." K\_\_\_\_\_ Hayes*

*"I remember going to Aunt Kitty's & having tea & toast. I remember Aunt Kitty's toast it opened up on both sides." L\_\_\_\_\_ McCallum*

*"Aunt Kitty was the best. She always made Jimmy give me whatever I wanted. I got to read his books. play with his toys, eat his food and he couldn't do a thing about it. Yes, she was the Best." M\_\_\_\_\_ Petrosino*

*"Me too, she always let me play with his stuff. Then Jimmy would get mad because Kitty made him put the toys away. Ha ha!" K\_\_\_\_\_ Hayes*

*"I also remember Aunt Kitty smiling and laughing. She was the closest in age to my mother who was the baby. It was so sad when she passed away at such a young age. I remember my mother being so sad." \_\_\_\_\_ Cavanaugh*

*"Died from a bad heart." K\_\_\_\_\_ Hayes*

### BENEFITS AND SUCCESSES

I began my family Face Book groups less than a year ago and have been amazed by the many cousins (more than 150) that I have met. Together, we are discovering our past history and documenting the history of tomorrow. We have broken through, gone around, over, and under brick walls. We have developed lasting friendships. But our most surprising and gratifying outcome was connecting with a long ago adopted cousin. She once said, "I wanted to know I had a family". She has found one.

***REMEMBER TO STAY POSITIVE AND FOCUSED AS YOU  
TRANSFORM YOUR FAMILY TREE FROM ANCESTRAL TO LIVING***

## Colonel Edwin Eugene ALDRIN Sr. (1896-1974) Pioneer Aviator

Patricia Patterson ALLEN

As my father, George Beatty PATTERSON, of Orlando, was a test pilot in World War I, I later got to know many of his aviator friends. One of them, Eddie ALDRIN, of Worcester, Massachusetts, served with my dad at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio. Among their friends were Orville WRIGHT and Jimmy DOOLITTLE. (My dad said Doolittle demanded that time clocks no longer be used for the officers, because "We're on duty 24 hours a day.") Lt. ALDRIN'S early assignment was Chief of the School Section of the Engineering Division. My father was Assistant Chief of the Flight Test Branch. They were both performance test pilots.

In 1917, ALDRIN Sr. had been commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery, but transferred to the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps where he learned how to fly. My dad learned to fly in a 1913 seaplane. He described the experience as "flying with the engine on the back of your neck."

While Buzz ALDRIN earned a headline in history for being the second man to walk on the moon, ALDRIN Sr. made flying records when the notion of being airborne was still a novelty. In those early years, pioneer pilots flight-testing Jennys were considered daredevils. In 1929, "Shrimp" (Aldrin's nickname for his diminutive size) set a cross-country record flying from Glendale, California to Newark, New Jersey in 15 hours and 45 minutes, surpassing the old mark by 3 hours. This trip was one of several of his cross-country speed records. He later was a passenger in the first transatlantic round trip aboard the Hindenburg.

Captains ALDRIN and PATTERSON were sent to the Philippines after the war where Eddie was aide to General Billy MITCHELL. It was here that he met his future wife, Marion MOON (ironically), the daughter of an Army chaplain. Their son, Buzz, was born in 1930. The nickname "Buzz" originated in childhood; the younger of his two sisters mispronounced brother as "buzzer," which was shortened to Buzz. ALDRIN made it his legal name in 1988.

After graduating from Clark University in 1915 where he worked under Robert GODDARD, founder of modern rocketry, Eddie ALDRIN received a PhD in aeronautical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Decades later, Buzz also enrolled at MIT, becoming the first astronaut to hold a doctorate. In one of his books, Buzz noted that his advanced education did not endear him to the other astronauts who called him an "egghead without test pilot training."

ALDRIN Sr. was the founder of the Aeronautical Engineering School which later became the Air Force Institute of Technology in Dayton, Ohio. He was in the first graduating class in 1920 and became the first Vice Commandant and first officer in charge of instruction. He taught such subjects as propeller design and basic aeronautical theory.

In 1928, Captain ALDRIN accepted a position with Standard Oil, heading the fledgling Aviation Division. As one of our country's first flying executives, he flew all over the United States and Europe preaching the virtues of commercial air travel. In Europe, he flew a 6,000 mile tour of twelve European capitals, setting several city to city speed records.

My father entered the same business in 1930. The ALDRINs lived in Montclair, New Jersey and we lived on Long Island but both pilots worked in New York so they kept in touch and Eddie was a frequent visitor to our home.

When World War II started, both my dad and Eddie ALDRIN returned to active military duty. ALDRIN served



Edwin Eugene Aldrin, Sr., In Flying Suit, Date & Location Unknown from the Delta Mike Air Field Register [http://dmairfield.com/people/aldrin\\_ee/](http://dmairfield.com/people/aldrin_ee/)



with an anti-submarine unit and, later, with the 8th and 13th Air Corps. Both officers retired as full Colonels.

According to Buzz ALDRIN's book, *Return to Earth*, his father always demanded excellence from his son in every endeavor from academics to athletics. They clashed over Buzz's decision to go to West Point as his dad preferred the Naval Academy but this time Buzz got his way. According to Buzz, his father planted his own goals and aspirations in his son and "I strove mightily for his approval."

The ALDRINs were first thrust into the national spotlight when Buzz went into orbit in 1966 aboard Gemini 12, the last mission featuring a 2-man spacecraft. The notoriety was not like the national obsession greeting the moon landing, but Buzz attributes his mother's 1968 suicide to the relentless public scrutiny.

Although Eddie never reached the moon, as a pioneer test pilot, he had brushed the fringes of fame by his speed records and establishing the Air Force Institute of Technology. In many ways, these two aerospace pioneers had parallel careers. Eddie suffered a fatal heart attack in 1974 but died knowing that his son had earned his place in history by being the second man to walk on the moon (although he was disappointed that Buzz wasn't the first!)

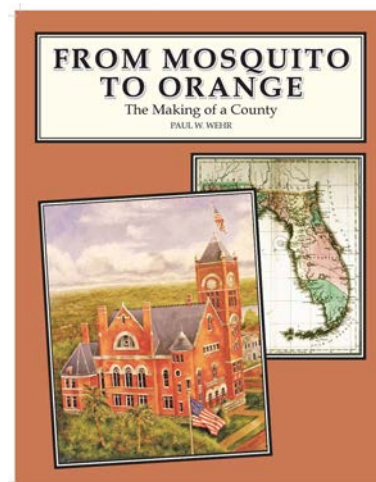
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New book,  
*FROM MOSQUITO TO ORANGE: THE MAKING OF A COUNTY*  
by Paul W. Weber

*"The earliest history of Orange County has been swallowed in oblivion, and we must be content to begin the story with the year 1869."* William Fremont BLACKMAN, *History of Orange County Florida*, 1927

*Not so!* Through extensive research, Dr. Paul W. WEHR has reconstructed most of the early records of Mosquito County, now Orange County, and has woven them into a narrative filled with people, places, documents, and events covering our important, and *action filled*, pioneer past . . .

- Seminole Indian Wars . . .
- Cracker Cowboys, Cattle Kings, Cattle Rustlers and Range Wars . .
- Local consequences of the "War Between the States" and Reconstruction . . .
- The Barber/Mizell Feud . . .
- Farmers, Town Builders, Surveyors, Shop Keepers and Entrepreneurs . . .
- County Commissioners, Mayors, Sheriffs and Judges . . .
- Railroads and the Growth of the Citrus Industry . .<sup>1</sup>



More details will be forthcoming... but we know now that the author will be signing the book at the June meeting of the Pine Castle Historical Society. Sun, June 26, 3–5pm; Pine Castle Woman's Club, 5901 S Orange Ave, Orlando, FL 32809. All are welcome and there will be root beer floats. More information on this and other publications of the Pine Castle Historical Society, check the website at:

<http://pinecastlehistory.org/publications.html>

Editor's note: *I haven't seen the completed book, but read the draft version - it looks really interesting and useful!*

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<sup>1</sup> From the back cover of the book

## **Digitizing Photos with a Digital Camera** as relayed to Betty Jo STOCKTON by David AMOS

At the May CFGS meeting, I overheard a conversation on using a camera for digitizing photographs, so my ears perked up. I'd been using my camera and smartphone for document scanning, but my attempts to use them for photo scanning were not up to my expectations. So, I asked David AMOS for more information.

Dave replied:

I am certainly no expert at it and have really benefitted from significant internet searching and perhaps may have been only enjoying some beginners luck, but here from my experience so far, are what I believe are the essentials and which seem to be working for me:

1. Stand & Tripod
2. Camera Equipment
3. Software

### **Stand and Tripod:**

I built a stand roughly 15" x 15" from two pieces of heavier formica-covered flakeboard from Home Depot which I hinged at the top with two small hinges and connected at the bottom with a string to make a 45 deg teepee-like structure. When not in use, the string permits folding for storage. By the way, I got the idea from a similar but lighter stand at Michael's which was billed as something like a menu-stand. On the working face, I glued a piece of thin (~1/16" thick) piece of ferritic (steel) metal, also from Michael's. I also got some small magnets from Michael's which are about 1" in diameter and about 1/8" thick. After the metal piece was glued onto the one face, I spray painted that face and the rough flakeboard edges with a light gray satin (low luster) paint and then drew a series of rectangles centered on the working face in the shape of common photo prints I have, such as 4x6 from 35mm and 4x4 from Instamatic all the way up to 8x10 to quickly position the photos.

I have a nice tripod for my camera so that part was available at the start.

### **Camera Equipment:**

I am using a DSLR from Nikon, model 3300 which has about a 23MP sensor and has a number of automatic exposure features which seem to be useful so far. I also bought an infrared remote shutter release so that there is no induced vibration from a finger depressing the shutter release during each exposure. The lens I am using is an 18-200mm zoom (f3.5 to 6.5) with included auto focus and internal vibration stabilizer. The lens is not technically a macro lens but it will automatically focus down to about 11-12" from the working surface. When taking the picture, I set the camera for automatic exposure (that is the camera selects the shutter speed, aperture setting and ISO setting) but with the flash set to the No Flash position. I place my stand on a table which is lighted by natural light from three surrounding windows and I generally only work there in the afternoons when the sunlight is directly behind the windows. After every few shots I check the ISO settings to make sure the camera is not setting it too high (such as greater than about 3200) which may occur in weaker light such as if lots of clouds were to come by. I have been noticing the camera seems to be selecting about f4.5 (good sharpness) and shutter speed no slower than about 1/60th sec (also good) and ISO generally no higher than about 1600 or so. The zoom feature is nice to accommodate varying print sizes without having to move the tripod. We do the photos individually and try to allow a small border around the larger photos (about 4x4 and larger) so as to permit some clean-up cropping and to avoid getting the magnets into the picture. For the very tiny ones, like wallet size, there is inevitably some cropping to fill the screen during post-processing. So far the photos have been coming out with resolutions in the 300 dpi range which seems reasonable. For all rectangular photos, I place them on the stand in the landscape horizontal position even though some require 90 degree rotation later in the software phase. This keeps them oriented in the normal 35mm traditional film position and fills the sensor properly. Before each session, I use a 45-45-90 triangle and a small bubble level to align both the stand and camera on the tripod to assure the camera is normal to the photo plane.



**Software:**

Currently, I am working with two software post-processing programs on my Windows 7 computer:

- MS Windows Live Photo Gallery
- Photoshop Elements 14

The MS Live Photo Gallery came with the Windows 7 package and it has a lot of very nice features to do things like adding meta data, cropping and straightening images. It also has a nice organizer with facial recognition as well as some limited editing functions. I understand it was originally developed a long time ago for the MS VISTA software package and I am a bit leery that

- a) MS may not keep supporting it and
- b) it does not have a very powerful editing feature to do things like correcting well for color shifts that seems to have crept into several of my prints and slides. (I also have a PanaVue slide scanner which is very handy for the many slides I am also digitizing).

I got the Photoshop Elements 14 software recently based on its reviews and other users' opinions. Fortunately, the MS Live Photo Gallery work that I had previously done downloaded mostly OK to the Elements package. The Elements does do a better job on color corrections and seems to have many, many more features that I am just now beginning to study and comprehend.

Lorraine and I have been teaming up on the digitizing and metadata process because of the sheer number of images we want to digitize, integrate with our current digital photos and then catalog. We may have something of the order of 20K images and doing about one hundred or so in a one session with the camera or slide scanner adds up to substantial time requirements. I feel the camera approach is significantly faster than using a flat-bed scanner even if you place multiple prints on the glass at one time. Interestingly, that is probably the smaller part of the overall task, as the definition and application of the metadata (who, what where, when, etc) should possibly be measured in man-years not man-weeks.

In response to my further questions, Dave added:

I would hasten to add that there is a wealth of info on the internet regarding camera scanning of photos. I also found some YouTube articles on making a copy stand very useful. That's where the 45 deg orientation for both the stand and camera angle came from and it seems to work well.

As I recall, I was in Michael's in Oviedo and found the steel piece pretty close to the area of the menu stands I mentioned. Probably any Michael's or JoAnn's would carry similar things for crafting. That metal piece had some decorative curlicues on the edges which I squared up with my Dremel cut-off tool. (Not essential, but it seemed to make the edges easier to glue down without them sticking up to catch on photos. Home Depot may also have very thin steel pieces and they could probably cut the piece to any size someone wanted) I used a spray adhesive such as from 3M or Loctite plus some clamps to make sure the metal was tight and very flat against the copy stand surface without bumps. I believe that is very important. When assembled, I spray painted the copy stand with a light gray color. Don't know much about the theory, but some internet sources indicated that a light gray background is somehow related to the reference 'white balance' photo background used to calibrate colors in accurate photo reproduction. Cropping would of course cut off the background gray, but I didn't want any harsh color reflections coming back at the camera lens for the photo scans.

As you can surmise, the project so far has included quite a bit of experimentation and cut and try so I make no claims of expertise. As in many projects, the initial concept and set up did not occur in a speedy manner, but the pace accelerated pretty quickly after the first few shots.

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How about you? Are you using your camera and/or phone as a scanner?

If so, how about some details? What have you found that works - or doesn't work?

What hardware and/or software are you using?

## Indian Wars Pension Files

by Betty Jo STOCKTON

One of our old-time Florida members, Nickey NEEL, passed away recently. She had been collecting records on her early Central Florida ancestors for years and had a fantastic collection. Among these were a large number of Indian Wars Pension Files that she had ordered from the National Archives (at one point she estimated that she had spent more than \$5000 on copies from the Archives). She graciously allowed your editor to copy those files to be used in future publications. Because of the oversized pages, I used my camera as a scanner. Since I was learning as I went, the copies aren't always perfect, but I believe all are usable. If you would like to have a copy of any of these files, make a donation of \$20 or more to the Society and I'll send you the copy (ordering them from the archives would be at least \$65 per file.) Contact your editor at [bjstock@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bjstock@cfl.rr.com) or 407-876-1688 for more information or to have a digital copy sent to you.

How much information there is in any file varies, but there is sure to be something useful. As an example, the file of Rebecca, widow of Cornelius JOHNS, (one of the larger files) contains 80 pages. One set is a long statement given by Rebecca, in which she gives her full name, information on her first husband, from whom she was divorced after the Civil War. She gives the name of Cornelius JOHNS' first wife, and names some of the children by that marriage. One statement gives a third marriage - which she rebukes in another statement. Her statements and those of others give names of many early Orange County residents. Cross referencing those with the files of others gives an interesting picture of life in early Central Florida, where everyone seems to be related. One of these images and a transcription of that document follow.

The files, in alphabetical order, are:

ALMAN, William	LANIER, Isaac	SULLIVAN, A J
BARBER, Andrew	LANIER, James	SULLIVAN, Henry
BARBER, John	LANIER, John	SWEAT, Henry
BARBER, William	LANIER, Robert H	SWEAT, James
BARBOUR, James	LEE, Wm Riley	SWEAT, Samuel
BASS, Charles	LEWIS, Isham	SYLVESTER, John
BASS, Crawford	MCCLELLAND, Jesse	THOMPSON, Abner
BASS, QUINN	MIZELL, David W	WHIDDEN, Benj
CREWS, Asberry	MIZELL, David	WHIDDEN, Bennett
FEWOX, Robert	PADGETT, James	WILLIAMS, Isaiah
GODWIN, Solomon	PADGETT, Jeremiah	WILLIAMS, John
HANCOCK, James	PADGETT, John	WILLIAMS, John D
HANCOCK, Littleton	PATRICK, James J	WILLIAMS, Rowland
IVEY, Francis	PATRICK, John	WILLIAMS, Thomas
IVEY, Robert	PATRICK, Wright	WILLIAMS, Wm A
IVEY, Robt L.	PRESCOTT, John W	WILLIARNS, Wm H
JERNIGAN, Aaron Jr	PRESCOTT, Samuel	WILLINGHAM, Wm H
JEMIGAN, Aaron M	RAULERSON, David	YATES, Henry
JERNIGAN, Eiias	RAULERSON, Wm	YATES, James
JOHNS, Comelius	ROWLAND, Wm	YATES, Needham
KEEN, James	SCOTT, Wm E	YATES, Wm
KEEN, Joseph	SULLIVAN, A Jackson	YATES, Wm Burrell

If you need more information on any of these, contact your editor at [bjstock@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bjstock@cfl.rr.com)

DEPOSITION

Case of Rebecca Johns, No. 11218

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 1913, at Pine Castle County of Orange State of Florida, before me, C. M. Lane

a special examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Rebecca Johns, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says: I am 79 years of age; my post-office address is Pine Castle Fla.

1 Occupation housekeeper, I am the widow  
 2 of Cornelius Johns who was a pensioner  
 3 of the Indian wars in this state  
 4 and then of the Confederate war.  
 5 This is all the service he has <sup>and</sup>  
 6 he drew a pension from Florida  
 7 on account of his Confederate  
 8 service, and I draw \$10 per month  
 9 from Florida on account of his  
 10 Confederate service as my claim  
 11 a pension on account of his Indian  
 12 war service for which he has a pension.  
 13 I was married to the said Cornelius  
 14 Johns in this County, 1869, 21<sup>st</sup> of Nov.,  
 15 and I lived with him without  
 16 divorce or legal separation from that  
 17 date until the date of his death which  
 18 was 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1912. My full maiden  
 19 name was Rebecca Margaret Harwell  
 20 Sylvester, but I never use any given  
 21 name except Rebecca. I had two children  
 22 born by Cornelius Johns, undertaken for  
 23 Mr. Johns came from Orlando Fla.  
 24 but I do not know his name.  
 25 Joe Johns son of soldier by his first wife.

Page 1 Deposition A

## Deposition - Case of Rebecca JOHNS, No #11218

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 1913, at Pine Castle, county of Orange, State of Fla, before me, C. M. LANE, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Rebecca JOHNS, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogations propounded to her during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

*I am 79 years of age, my post office address is Pine Castle Fla. Occupation housekeeper.*

*I am the widow of Cornelius JOHNS who was a pensioner of the Indian Wars in this state and then of the Confederate War. This is all the service he had and he drew a pension from Florida on account of his Confederate Service and I draw \$10 per month from Florida on account of his Confederate Service and am claiming a pension on account of his Indian War service for which he has a pension.*

*I was married to the said Cornelius JOHNS in this county 1869 21<sup>st</sup> of Nov and I lived with him without divorce or legal separation from that date until the date of his death which was 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1912. My full maiden name was Rebecca Margaret Harvell SYLVESTER, but I never use any given name except Rebecca. I had two children, boys, by Cornelius JOHNS. Undertaker for Mr. JOHNS came from Orlando Fla but I do not know his name. Joe JOHNS, son of soldier by his first wife; Marzilla JOHNS, widow of soldier's brother; and Wm PATRICK, all of this place know that I lived with soldier until he died. We lived in this county all the time after we were married to each other.*

*The soldier, Cornelius JOHNS, was married once only before he was married to me and that was to Maria ALOIS whom I never knew, but of whom husband spoke lovingly many a time and who died at Welaka,, Putnam Co, FL about 1856 having lived with the soldier, Cornelius JOHNS until she died so I am informed and she had some 6 or 7 children by soldier, four of whom I have seen and two of whom are living, Joe and Isaac of Ft Ogden Fla. latter being the oldest one of all. I know of no one living who knows of the death of soldier's first wife except her two boys mentioned and Isaac remembering his mother, I suppose, but Joe says he cannot remember his mother. I know however that the soldier always said he lived a widower 13 years then married me.*

*I met soldier about a month before I was married to him. He lived at Welaka a while after he lost his wife, Maria, then he brought the children to his county to Isaac POWELL, his brother in law's where his mother was, then he got a house and took his mother and children to it. He went to the Confederate War leaving his mother and his children together. I saw them. Soldier hasn't a brother or sister or brotherinlaw or sisterinlaw, except ones herein mentioned living. I was born in Georgia but came to Alachua Fla, when a child but I got over into Orange Co. long before the Civil War and have been in said county ever since.*

*I was married once only before being married to Cornelius JOHNS and that was near Ft Dade, Fla. when I was 19 years old to Wm. W. BARBER but I cannot give the date. That was in Hernando Co. Fla but I know father went to Tampa, Hillsboro Co. to get the license for us and that was 32 miles they said. I lived with said BARBER nine years, which was up until he enlisted in the Confederate War. We had moved from Hernando Co to Conway this county. He came home to see me once while he was a Confederate soldier, but that was before he got out of Fla. I went to my mothers in Polk Co, FL. 10 miles from Cook [Cork?].*

*It was in the papers that W. W. BARBER died in the War. I don't know what his regiment was but he was in some Florida regiment. My husband W. W. BARBER came back home at the end of the War and came to Polk Co to get me and the children. I gave him up the three children but wouldn't go with him myself as he was a drinking man. I did not keep much track of BARBER after this but when my oldest son by BARBER viz Wm H. BARBER was 16 years old he said Wm W BARBER, said son and Wm W.'s brother Jack now of Orlando, Fla all went to Texas somewhere and my son remains out there. I don't know the place. Before going to Texas however the said Wm W BARBER divorced me at Orlando Fla so I heard.*

*He lived around about 3 or 4 miles from Orlando all time except time in Texas short time, until he and his second wife separated when he just lived about in Orange Co Fla at the brother Jack's, at other also and with his daughter Susan HALL my daughter also and he died at her house near Orlando Fla P.O. Formosa. This last Feb. Don't know date but Susan can tell you. I was actually married to W. W. BARBER by ceremony performed by Alexander TYNDALL, a Baptist minister. There is not a person living that I know of witness the ceremony.*

*Just after close of war, about 1866, I think, one Jake TYRE dead traveling through the county came to me in Polk Co, Fla and said to me that I was a free woman that BARBER had divorced me.*

*He did not say where the divorce was obtained but I know it was not secured until after BARBER got home from the Confederate Army and if he got the divorce, he must have got it at Orlando Fla because BARBER lived close to said place. That is all I heard about that divorce. I did not even get notice of the divorce proceedings therefore did not appear at court at all and remarried without looking at the record to see but BARBER must have divorced me for I certainly did not divorce him and he remarried right near Orlando Fla and to Maria JOHNS (dead) daughter of soldier's brother Berb. W. W. BARBER was in Florida Indian War of 1856 Sparkman Co. and he had a pension on account of said service.*

*I was acquainted with BARBER's brothers and sisters and his mother All dead except Jack who saw me married to Wm W BARBER and Cornelius JOHNS. Do not know who could testify to such fact except my brother Robert H. SYLVESTER of Kathleen, Fla.*

*Well Jack BARBER, knows fairly well I was married only twice.*

*I wanted to see my children by BARBER, so came to Orange Co from Polk, was staying at Frank GILL's house. GILL's wife is my cousin but she had not seen me until I went there. Her name is Jude and they live at Loughman Fla. I know of my own personal knowledge that the courthouse at Orlando Fla it was a little log house was burned but it sure burned a little after I was married to Cornelius JOHNS. They say everything or about everything in the Courthouse was burned but I do not know how record of my marriage to JOHNS the soldier escaped the fire. Maybe Judge MIZELL did not return license until after the fire. I do not know date of fire.*

*Old John PRICE was Judge of Circuit Court at time BARBER is supposed to have secured the divorce from me and he probably had a Mr LONG an Atty. to represent him at court but I do not know just who represented him.*

*I do not know who knows this divorce was secured. Jack BARBER might know, but I doubt it. Wm. PATRICK knew BARBER. John ?DAY? and Hiram BEASLY of Orlando are old men who knew BARBER and they were about the courthouse a good deal, but I do not know what they may know.*

*I can name no more witnesses who would know of my and Mr JOHNS marriage and dissolution of same. I have no atty in this pension case of mine. Mr TILDEN of Orlando Fla was doing my writing and looking after the case but he has quit.*

*I have made no contract with him nor anyone else as to fees except that my son Madison told TILDEN that if he got the claim through we would pay him \$10, if not nothing. I have paid no other to anyone. I shall not be present in person or represented by atty. at any examination of witnesses which may be conducted in my claim either here or elsewhere.*

*I know how to wright but my eyes and nerves are so bad now that I cannot write my name. I sign my ste pension papers by mare.*

*I have heard this deposition read, understood questions and asked my answers are correctly recorded.*

*Rebecca X JOHNS [her mark]*

Witnesses by mark: Charlie YOUNG; Ralph MACY

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 1913 and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing

C M LANE, Special Examiner

Affidavit in Indian Wars Pension file #11218 of Rebecca JOHNS, widow of Cornelius JOHNS. Obtained from National Archives by Nickey NEEL, date unknown. Digital copies in possession of Betty Jo STOCKTON.

**My Most Famous Ancestor**  
**Paschal BRADLEY - An Interesting Life**  
by James W. BRADLEY

His name was Paschal --- a somewhat common first name in the 1800s, particularly for children born during the Easter time frame. Paschal was my 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather and it appears that he was born in Culpepper County, Virginia in 1825, the oldest son of Absolem and Rebecca RAMSBOTTOM BRADLEY. Because many of the Virginia vital records were lost during the 1800's (War of 1812 and Civil War), I do not have any actual proof of Paschal's existence until a marriage license was issued for Paschal BRADLEY and Eliza Jane LAMAY on May 18, 1849 in Champaign County, Ohio. The "marriage book" also verifies that the marriage took place on May 19, 1849. A number of family trees found in searching the Internet show Paschal's birth to be in 1825 (with no evidence of sources), and I believe that this must be true because the 1850 Ohio census indicates that he was born in Virginia with a calculated birthdate of 1825. I have thus far not been able to determine whether he was born during the Easter season.

How did Paschal get to Ohio? I have found records that indicate that my original immigrant to America, Lawrence BRADLEY, arrived from Brosley, Shropshire, England sometime after 1730. He married and produced progeny that included a son, Augustine. The BRADLEYS settled in the Ragged Mountain vicinity – land that is now part of the Old Ragged Mountain recreation area of the Shenandoah Mountain National Park. Augustine married and produced a son named Absolem who in turn married Rebecca RAMSBOTTOM. The RAMSBOTTOM family also lived on Ragged Mountain.

Within RAMSBOTTOM family lore, there is information that in the early 1830's, some of the RAMSBOTTOM clan fled from Virginia to Ohio after the settlement of an assault charge. There are several criminal incidents recorded in the Virginia Order Book. Absolem BRADLEY and his wife accompanied the RAMSBOTTOMS. The RAMSBOTTOMS and the BRADLEYS settled as farmers near Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio. Paschal BRADLEY and Robert RAMSBOTTOM (Paschal's uncle born in 1821 or 1822 in Culpepper County, Virginia – my 4<sup>th</sup> great-uncle) became close friends and, along with other members of the Ramsbottom family, continued the criminal activity in Ohio.

In searching digital on-line Urbana and Cincinnati, Ohio newspapers, I found that Paschal and his Uncle Robert were arrested for burglary and horse stealing very shortly after Paschal's wedding to Eliza Jane. They escaped from jail a first time and then, on July 7th, 1849, they escaped from jail for the second time. The two young men had converted a Case knife into a sort of saw by hacking it with a butcher knife. With this hand-made tool, they sawed off the grates in the cell, soaped their bodies, and escaped through a tiny window. The outer wall was penetrated with the aid of a large file. A reward of \$50.00 was offered for their apprehension.

After the escape, Paschal and Robert headed to Cincinnati (about 90 miles south). While in Cincinnati, the country boys told the story that they met up with strangers at a couple of "coffee shops", where they all became "slightly intoxicated". They were invited by the strangers to go to the theatre, but on the way, the so-called new friends forced them into an alley, beat them, and robbed them of \$16.00. The newspaper further reported that the robbers were apprehended along with Paschal and Robert who were returned to jail in Urbana. On November 23, 1849, both 24-year old Paschal BRADLEY and his uncle, 27-year old Robert RAMSBOTTOM, were sentenced to 3 years in the Ohio State Penitentiary. On May 14, 1851, Paschal was pardoned by Governor Rueben WOOD; Robert was not pardoned until four months later. The penitentiary records are on microfilm at the Ohio Historical Society. In the mid-1800's, pictures were not taken of prisoners, but descriptions were handwritten. Notations for Paschal were: "Common complexion. This man has a low forehead, good features, small mouth, thin lips, appearance good. A long scar on right side of jaw - also a long scar on left side of throat".

In 1953, when I was 14 and living in Marysville, Ohio, I sold subscriptions to the *Columbus Dispatch* newspaper; the prize was a tour of the Ohio Penitentiary, a meeting with Governor Frank LAUSCHE and a free

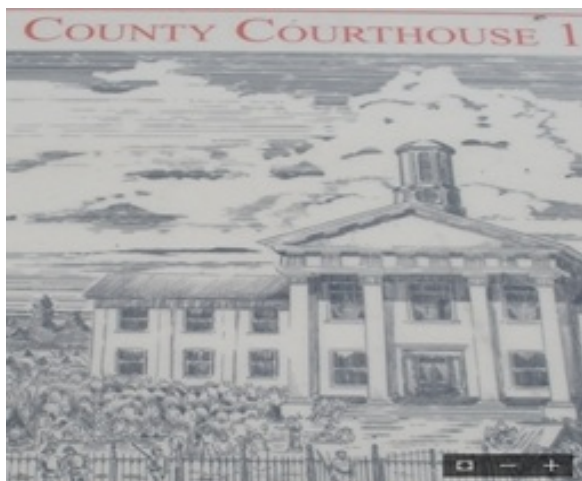
pass to the Ohio State Fair. Little did I know that my 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather had been a prisoner inside those walls. I'm not sure how I would have reacted had I been aware of that information!

After prison, Paschal returned to Urbana, Ohio; he and Eliza Jane had a son, John (my great-grandfather), who was born July 25th, 1852. In the 1860 census, Paschal was living and working as a laborer on a large farm in Champaign County. Although I have found no records, he and his wife must have been estranged for Eliza Jane was recorded to be living with her mother, while his son, John, was recorded to be living with Paschal's parents.

During the 1850's, Paschal may have transformed his life. In May, 1861, one month after Fort Sumter, he enlisted as a private in the Indiana 16th Regiment, Company H, at Richmond, Indiana for a one-year tour of duty. I do not know whether he was still living in Ohio or if, at that time, he was living just across the border near Richmond, Indiana. Paschal would have still had several older sisters with families living in Culpeper County, Virginia (one of the major battle areas of the Civil War in Virginia) but he made a choice to serve with the northern infantry. During his one year of service, Company H saw action in several states including the Shenandoah mountains of Virginia (the place of his birth). On May 14, 1862, Paschal was mustered out of Company H and he immediately joined the Indiana 16th Regiment, Company K, for three years. Interestingly, his uncle, Robert RAMSBOTTOM, also enlisted in the 16th Regiment and brought his 10-year-old son with him to act as a bugler (quite a common occurrence).

The Regiment was immediately marched to Kentucky. The majority of the Union soldiers in the 16th did not have time to receive any combat training. They joined with other forces to fight the battles that took place at Richmond, Kentucky on August 29-30, 1862. The battle resulted in nearly all of the Federal soldiers being killed, wounded, or captured; nearly all weapons of war and supplies were confiscated by the Confederates. It was one of the worst routs for the Union in the entire Civil War and opened a road through northern Kentucky into the North.

During the battles, Paschal was one of the 4,303 Union captured, Robert was one of the 844 Union wounded (lost a thumb), and little William was one of the 206 Union killed! They were overpowered by a 16,000-man force of Confederate infantry and cavalry. The Richmond, Kentucky Court House had a wrought iron fence that encircled the building with grounds between the court house and the street. The some 5000-captured and wounded prisoners were kept inside the fence until they were exchanged on November 1, 1862. Dysentery and other common communicable ailments of the time were rampant. The remaining members of the 16th Regiment returned to Indiana. Today, the fence has been moved from the Court House grounds and now surrounds the Richmond Cemetery.







Jim Bradley  
on Richmond, KY Golf Course

In 1977, I moved to Tampa, Florida, and at Christmas every year, I drove to Ohio. Interstate 75 north passed right by the Richmond, Kentucky battlefield. I did not stop, because for all those years, I was unaware of the relationship between the battlefield and my BRADLEY history; I knew nothing of my ancestry before my grandfather. In 2009, my wife and I decided to try to find the answers to some of my questions. We did the majority of our initial research on Family Search and Google.

In 2011, we took several months and visited Richmond, Kentucky, the environs around Richmond, Indiana, the Urbana, Ohio area and the Ohio State Historical Society. Several Shenandoah Valley/Ragged Mountain/Culpepper, Virginia locations, and finally the Library of Virginia in Richmond, Virginia rounded out our trip. Three Richmonds in three states in search of Paschal and others, became a regular Genealogical Roadshow of our own making. When we stopped at the Richmond Battlefield, we found that a part of the battlefield site has been preserved as a respectfully-converted golf course. At the tee boxes, historical signs detailed the parts of the battle that had taken place there. It was more than a unique experience to read, tee off, walk, and meditate on the same grounds where my newly-discovered 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather had fought and eventually been captured.



Paschal's Grave

We were also able to find and visit Paschal's grave in Jacksonburg, Indiana (located in Wayne County 15 miles west of Richmond). Paschal died of unknown causes on February 17, 1869 at the age of 43 or 44. The monument was provided by a donation from a couple in Lee, Massachusetts in 1884 (gifts were made for headstones for deceased Union veterans from 1879-1903). Paschal's parents, Absolem and Rebecca BRADLEY, are buried in the same plot. Robert returned to his criminal ways. The 1870 census shows that he was a prisoner in Indiana State Prison. He died in 1876 at the age of 54 or 55. He is buried in nearby Centreville, Indiana with his son, William. No monuments mark their graves.

### My Family Tree

Absolem BRADLEY (1803 - 1885) b. Madison, Virginia; d. Jacksonburg, Indiana

Paschal BRADLEY (1825 - 1869) b. Culpepper County, Virginia; d. Jacksonburg, Indiana

John H. BRADLEY (1852 - 1921) b. Champaign County, Ohio; d. Urbana, Ohio

Oliver Cromwell BRADLEY (1877 - 1963) b. Kings Creek, Ohio; d. West Liberty, Ohio

Willard BRADLEY (1908 - 1995) b. Hardin, Ohio; d. Marysville, Ohio

James W. BRADLEY b. Marysville, Ohio

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For the week ending Saturday, February 23, 1884.  
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*Orange County Reporter*, 28 Feb 1884, unpaginated.

Tourism was alive and well in Orlando, even back in 1884. The *Orange County Reporter* listed hotel guests and where they were from. Perhaps your ancestors were early tourists - even before they settled in Orlando.



Charleston House, Orlando. ca 1885

Photo credit: Charleston House - Orlando, Florida. ca 1885.  
Black & white photoprint, 5 x 7 in. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.  
<<https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/118292>>, accessed 4 June 2016.