



The Geneline

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

Amelia Island Genealogical Society

JUNE 2009 - ISSUE 6

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Coming Up! AIGS General Meeting 7:00 pm Tuesday June 16

HELD: FERNANDINA BEACH POLICE DEPT. COMMUNITY ROOM

Lesson Learned: Confessions of a Professional Genealogist



In this light-hearted interview format, Kathy will trace her path as a beginner professional genealogist, where she discovers some of the research pitfalls and business mistakes that commonly plague a “newbie”.

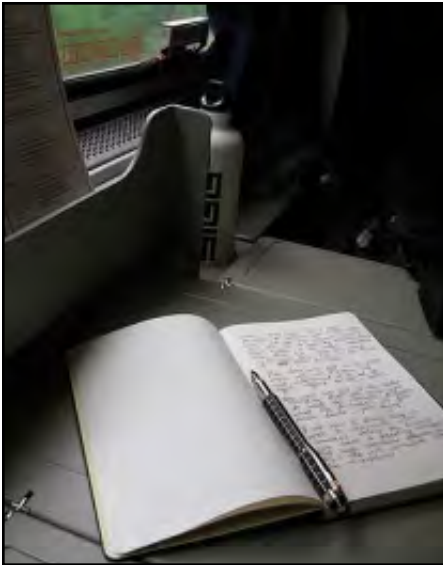
About Kathy Nemaric

Kathy is a technical editor for a military contractor and also is a part-time professional genealogist. She has been conducting family research for

more than 10 years and has been working for clients for the past year and a half.

She specializes in United Kingdom research, with an emphasis on 19th-century military records. She works with a partner in England who runs a popular British Light Infantry web site, which draws inquiries from all over the world.

Kathy is a former board member of the Central Florida Genealogical Society and currently serves on the board of the Amelia Island Genealogical Society as Research Coordinator. She has a bachelor's degree in technical communication and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists.



Message from AIGS President MARIE SANTRY

Why should you take the time to write an article for one of the AIGS publications?

We all have our excuses. “I’m too busy and there aren’t enough hours in the day.” Or, “my family research isn’t complete – I’ll write a whole book when I’m done.” But the fact is there are many advantages to putting our stories and thoughts on paper. Let’s look at a few of them.

First, let me remind you that both of our AIGS publications, the Geneline (monthly) and The Nassau County Genealogist (quarterly journal), are sent to the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. They are responsible for assembling and maintaining the largest subject index to genealogical and historical periodical articles in the world. It is the Periodical Source Index, commonly known as PERSI. This means that any article you write for either of our publications is indexed in PERSI. And PERSI is searchable on the Heritage Quest website. That gets your family story, family genealogy, or article out there, visible (by subject) to genealogists all over the world. I have written about various ancestors in any number of genealogical publications and some have resulted in contacts with heretofore unknown cousins or others researching branches of the family.

And what about that book that you’re going to write when your research is done. If you haven’t figured it out by now, I’m here to tell you that your research will never be done. Besides, it’s a monumental task to write the BIG book and we’re often at a loss as to where to begin. So, why not start with a smaller writing project. Many years ago, I started writing short stories for my siblings and cousins about our ancestors – one family at a time. I bought notebooks for each, so that future stories and pictures could be added. They all now expect a new installment at Christmas-time. It’s been a big hit with some of my couldn’t-care-less cousins. In fact, several have submitted their applications for Florida’s Descendant of Pioneers program. I have also submitted my short family stories for publication in genealogical society journals. Again, it gets my surnames out to the public and often results in contacts.

Finally, in preparing to write a short story or article for publication, you must gather and organize the facts as the basis for your article. It forces you to review what you have; and you may find some information is missing. This may give you the impetus and focus to continue your research. And there is not problem in acknowledging in an article that there is missing information. Our monthly newsletter, Geneline, is on our website for all to read. Wouldn’t it be nice if someone read your article, and contacted you with the missing information. That’s not so farfetched - it’s happened to me.

Please consider submitting an article for one of our publications.

We need your help in keeping our publications helpful and informative. We announced the AIGS Writing Contest last month. We are looking for articles of 500 words or so for the Geneline and 1000 words or less for The Nassau County Genealogist. You may submit your article at any time by emailing it to me at mcsantry@comcast.net. You may submit any number of articles. A panel of judges will determine the 2009 winner for the best submitted article. The contest ends October 24 and the winner will receive a free 2010 AIGS membership.

Wishing you success in your family history search!

Vital Records Now Available Online

BY MICHAEL TOOMEY - AIGS WEB MASTER

There is a growing trend to make Vital Records (birth, death and marriage) available as online searchable images which can viewed on your computer then either printed, or saved directly to your computer genealogy files. These can be a great help in your genealogy search, as you can see the certificate as soon as you locate the image. Death certificates, I have found, are particularly valuable as they provide parent and spouse names, where they were born, and generally burial information and potential health information. Sixteen states (or sometime large cities like Chicago and Philadelphia) are either providing these images themselves, or more commonly they have been indexed and digitized by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and are available through their new database site at www.pilot.familysearch.org Some of these, particularly Cook County Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, and the Wisconsin History Society provide the image only after payment of a fee, which, is generally identical to that charged if you wrote to the local courthouse for the certificate. Note that these images are generally excellent, they are scanned to a white background and could never be used for anything but genealogy work, but, that is just fine with us. The images you get are about 8 inches square, but once on your computer they can be expanded with your browser magnification tools and even re-sized or enhanced with Photoshop (or any of a dozen similar tools) for better readability. Following is a list of websites which provide the online vital images. A list of website addresses is listed below.

WEBSITES FOR ONLINE BIRTH/DEATH/MARRIAGE SITES.

Familysearch Pilot data site - <http://pilot.familysearch.org>

Cook County Illinois Online - <http://www.cookcountygenealogy.com>

Wisconsin History /Genealogy - <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/vitalrecords>

Louisiana Death Records - <http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/tabid/640/Default.aspx>

Arizona Genealogy - <http://genealogy.az.gov>

RETURN OF A BIRTH.

The Physician, Attendant, or person in attendance, should immediately return this Certificate, accurately filled out, to County Clerk, Penalty \$10.00, if not so certified and returned within thirty days.

State of Illinois, } COOK COUNTY. } STATE BOARD OF HEALTH. 896

1. *Full Name of Child (if any) _____

2. Sex Male Race or Color (if not of the white race) _____

3. Number of Child of this Mother 8 of Eight

4. Date of this Birth Nov 16th 1880

5. Place of Birth No. 602 Archer Ave Street _____ Ward _____

6. Residence of Mother " " " " " "

7. Nationality: Place of Birth: Age of:

a. Father Irish Ireland 37 years

b. Mother " " " 30

8. Full Name of Mother Mrs. Rosa Toomey

9. Maiden Name of Mother Miss " Kibbiff

10. Full Name of Father Charles Toomey

11. Occupation of " Sk. Lab. Drugg.

12. Name and address of other Attendants, if any _____

Dated March 6th 1880. Returned by G. M. Dodge } M. D.
Residence 416 Tremont } Midwife.

*The given name of Child should be certified, if possible, when this Certificate is made, and should, in any case, be certified and registered within a year.
†City, number, street and ward; same in towns that have them; township or precinct.

Michael Francis Toomey Birth Certificate 1880

State/ Locality	Website	Certificate Type	Years Available	Image Available	Searchable	Payment
Arizona	Family Search	Death	1870-1951	Yes	Yes	No
Arizona	State of Arizona	Birth Death	1855-1933 1844-1958	Yes	Yes	No
California	Family Search	Funeral Home Records	1835-1931	Yes	Yes	No
Georgia	Family Search	Death	1914-1927	Yes	Yes	Yes
Illinois	State of Illinois	Birth Death Marriage	1878-1922 1871-1915 1871-1920	Yes	Yes	No
Cook County Illinois	Cook County Online	Birth Death Marriage	To 1934 To 1989 To 1959	Yes	Yes	\$15.00
Louisiana	Louisiana State	Death		Yes	Yes	\$5.00
Michigan	Family Search	Birth Death Marriage	1867-1902 1867-1897	Yes	Yes	No
Minnesota	Family Search	Death	1868-1925	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ohio	Family Search	Death	1908-1953	Yes	Yes	No
Philadephia Penna	Family Search	Death	1803-1915	Yes	Yes	No
Texas	Family Search	Death	1890-1976	Yes	Yes	No
Utah	Family Search	Death	1904-1956	Yes	Yes	No
Washington	Family Search	Death	1907-1960	Not Yet	Yes	No
West Virginia	Family Search	Birth Death Marriage	1853-1930 1853-1970 1853-1970	Yes	Yes	No
Wisconsin	Wisconsin History & Genealogy	Birth Death Marriage	All Before 1907	By Mail	Yes	\$15.00

InterNET NEWS

In an effort to keep you up-to-date on the latest genealogical information on the Internet,

AIGS brings you NET NEWS.

The following information has been generated by investigating websites featured in Dick Eastman's Newsletter, various Genealogical Society periodicals, and genealogical magazines.

If you want to suggest a website that you have used, please send the website information to:

Marie Santry at mcsantry@comcast.net.

Historical British Newspapers On-Line: <http://newspapers.bl.uk/blcs>

This site contains digitized and searchable articles from forty-nine local and national newspapers from the British Isles dating from 1800 to 1900. The issues cover England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. Cities/Towns include London, Brighton, Leeds, Bristol, Manchester, Liverpool, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Dublin, Belfast, and many other locations. This is a fee-based site, with several affordable fee structures. It's worth a look.

Rome, GA Public Cemetery Data: www.rome.ga.us/cemetery

The information covers burial records, lot number and plot location. The site can also generate clickable maps of the cemeteries that allow the user to navigate and find the exact placement of the plot. FREE

FamilySearch Pilot Website: <http://pilot.familysearch.org>

You need to check this site at least once a month. New data is added weekly. Select a region of the map, click it, and look at all of the databases available for searching or browsing. Some of the new content includes:

Massachusetts State Censuses 1855 and 1865

North Carolina Deaths 1906 - 1930

South Carolina Deaths 1915 - 1943

Vermont Probate Files 1791 - 1919

Czech, North & South Bohemia Archived Church Books 1552 - 1905

Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes 1845 - 1958

Many, Many more

Databases cover North America, Central & South America, Europe, Russia, etc. Be advised that not all databases are complete. Even if you've searched it before, search it again. FREE

NEW at ancestry.com

Since the 1940 US Census won't be available until 2012, Ancestry has digitized and indexed a large collection of city directories from about 1935 to 1945. The collection contains over 100 million names and covers most of the US. This is a subscription site, but it is accessible in a library edition FREE at the Fernandina Beach Library.

Visit our Website: <http://www.aigensoc.org/>

Find Information about Amelia Island Genealogical Society

Access old and new GENELINES.

A special reminder to our members: GENELINE is your Society's publication.

Each member is encouraged to contribute material to it

All GENELINE articles are indexed by PERSI

Send GENELINE comments & submissions to Frances Bartelt - Francesbartelt@gmail.com

The Amelia Island Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 6005

Fernandina Beach, FL 32035-6005

The Society's Library Collection is housed in the Fernandina Beach Library

The membership packet includes AIGS information and all current year issues of Society's quarterly

The Nassau County Genealogist, and the GENELINE, AIGS's monthly newsletter.

Family history research training is offered through classes, workshops and ongoing programs

Membership dues are \$20.00 per person and \$25.00 per two-person family.

The membership year is January 1st through December 31st

To join, send application form, along with the appropriate fee to:

The Amelia Island Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 6005

Fernandina Beach, FL 32035-6005

To print an membership application or for more information check our web site:

<http://www.aigensoc.org/aigs/meetings.asp/>