

# Ancient City Bulletin

Quarterly Newsletter of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society

ST. AUGUSTINE  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
PUBLICATIONS



January 2020

# **ANCIENT CITY BULLETIN**

January 2020

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## The Society Page

Do you have ancestors who served in World War I? The Southeast Branch Library and St. Augustine Genealogical Society are hosting a World War I Genealogy Research Group beginning Tuesday, January 7th. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from January to May from 12:30pm to 2:00pm in the library at the big table next to the genealogy section. Debra M. Dudek's *World War I Genealogy Research Guide* (PDF format) is our primary resource.

If you are interested in the study group, contact Denise Olson or Cheryl Bemiss at the library.

The society would like to offer more research resources like this one but we do not have the staff to make it happen. We need to fill a number of positions - Membership, Programs, Research, Communications and Facebook. If you are interested in filling one of these positions, contact Denise Olson or Pat Tanner.

Our weekly *Research Notes* newsletter has expanded to keep up with society meetings, upcoming events and webinars along with genealogy news, special offers and discounts. If you are not already a *Research Notes* subscriber, email us at [sags.publications@yahoo.com](mailto:sags.publications@yahoo.com) and we will get you set up.

Don't forget our Facebook page and research support group!

# When History Gets Personal

Editorial Notes

How I wish I could have asked Aunt Mary about the handsome Soldiers in this photograph . . .



Mary Barker and unknown Soldiers on the St. Augustine Bayfront

We all regret missed opportunities and unasked questions. Then, almost in the same breath, we complain about the lack of interest our young relatives have about their own history.

Why is it the younger generation's responsibility to know what questions to ask let alone ask them? Aren't the older generations responsible for their children's education? Family history should be a priority in that effort. By including family history, those extraordinary ordinary people who were our ancestors will make learning history a personal experience and encourage them to learn more.

My history books taught me that the Civil War battles at Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, were the death knell of the Confederacy. At the time my main interest was passing the test. Then I learned that my great grandfather fought and was captured at Franklin, spent the rest of the war as a POW at Camp Douglas, Illinois, and then walked home to Georgia. Once I had a family connection to the war, I wanted to know more and to understand how it affected their lives. It then became personal.

Although my mother, aunts and grandmother made sure we kids knew this great grandfather fought in the war, it would have been easy to expand our knowledge and interest. We spent many summers on the family farm in Georgia just a few miles from the Chickamauga battlefield. My great grandfather's unit fought there too. It would have been a great adventure to wander around the battlefield, discover the many monuments honoring his unit and learn about his unit's actions during the battle. With a little more encouragement, we may have gone on to learn about the other battles and his capture.

My point here is that it is our responsibility to share our family history and make history personal for the generations following us.

How can we do this? Here are some ideas.

Visit battlefields, home towns and places where your ancestors lived. During a recent visit to the Chickamauga battlefield, a ranger looked up my great grandfather's unit and then provided us with a map showing where each monument and marker for that unit was located. My husband and I spent a delightful afternoon tracking down those markers. It would have been even more fun if the grandkids had been with us.

We did have the grandkids with us on a day trip to Spaceport at Cape Canaveral. I told them about watching the Apollo 11 launch from the beach in St. Augustine and their mother told them about when we went to the Cape to watch a shuttle launch. Now the exhibits became even more real to them.

Do your kids like to read? Historical novels are even more fascinating when there's a connection to an ancestor. The same is true for movies. All it takes is a little comment mentioning the connection to spark an interest.

Blog the stories your research discovers. My nephew never met his paternal grandparents so he enjoys the photos and stories I've posted about them.

Use journal apps like Day One to create online photo albums and scrapbooks with lots of captions, ephemera and short stories. It's quite easy and affordable these days to "publish" small, customized histories as gifts.

Develop research challenges or contests to encourage your kids to learn on their own.

It doesn't have to be a momentous event to add a personal perspective. Something as simple as watching History Detectives and commenting on how you found one of your ancestors using similar research techniques could inspire them to discover how fascinating family history can be.

Isn't it time to generate some more genealogists in your family?

## Resources

### Tumblr

Tumblr is part blog, part scrapbook, part photo album and a great way to share the stories and artifacts your research discovers. It's easy to use and costs you nothing to create and publish your stories. (<https://www.tumblr.com>)

### History Detectives

History Detectives is a documentary television series on PBS that follows their research team as they search for the answers to specific questions brought to them - usually associated with a particular artifact. These shows are also available on demand at <https://www.pbs.org/show/history-detectives/>.

# Where Families Live Forever

## Research Toolbox

What will happen to your genealogy research once you are gone? Do you have a plan?

There is a simple and affordable way to protect your research and insure it will still be accessible after you are gone. Even better, this resource will help you grow your family tree and it costs you nothing! All you need to do is import your family tree into [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org).

The LDS Church has made family history a mission. For more than a century, they have collected, preserved and shared genealogy records and resources worldwide. We can thank the church members who have collected and digitized an amazing archive of records from around the world and made them available to all of us at no cost.

Their Family Tree component gives you a view of your family, but that's only a small part of it. Keep in mind that anyone can change the data in any tree on the FamilySearch website. Instead of creating a tree for each user, FamilySearch is building one amazing tree while sharing your part of it with you.

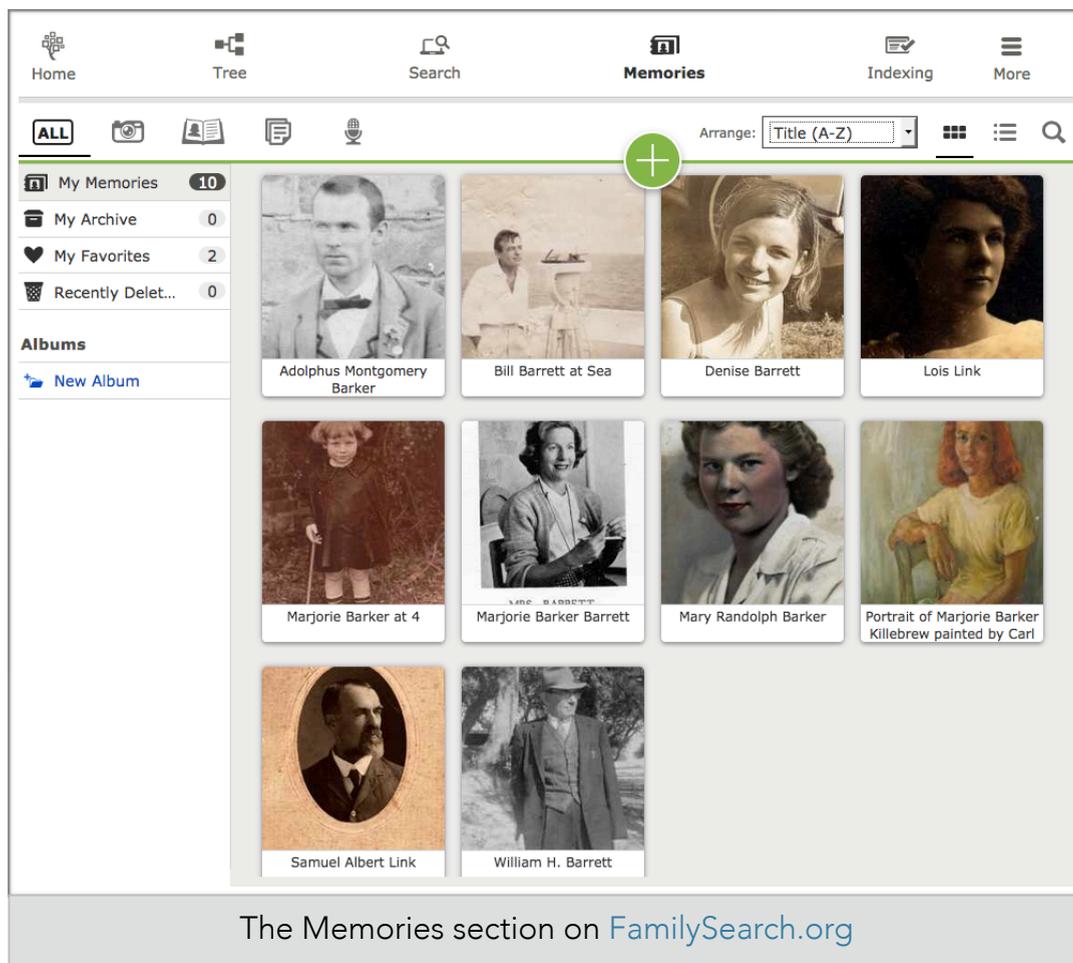
This has research advantages for you. You will meet cousins you never knew existed and often they have research to share. There are also elements which make it possible to add photos and memories to help bring your ancestors to life. If you choose to post photos, letters, diaries and other ephemera to an ancestor's Memories, those memories will be insured for a long and fruitful life.



FamilySearch

Along the way, your research cousins will have added their own memories which adds even more to your research too.

But that's just the beginning. FamilySearch offers free apps for desktop and mobile devices to build your trees. The Memories app can be used to record interviews, take photos, scan documents and include stories. In addition to documenting the information you have about your ancestors, FamilySearch continuously searches their massive archives and posts hints to records that look like they relate to one of your ancestors.



Put their collaborative elements to work to make connections with research cousins. Since your tree is part of a much larger tree, you can expect to find others working on the same ancestors you are. It may take time to get used to others adding information to your tree, but it can lead to amazing discoveries.

Along with that, there's also an impressive amount of research support. There's something for everyone – from beginner to experienced family historians. The

Help menu on the desktop apps includes the Help Center, Learning Center, Research Wiki and even consultants if you need them.

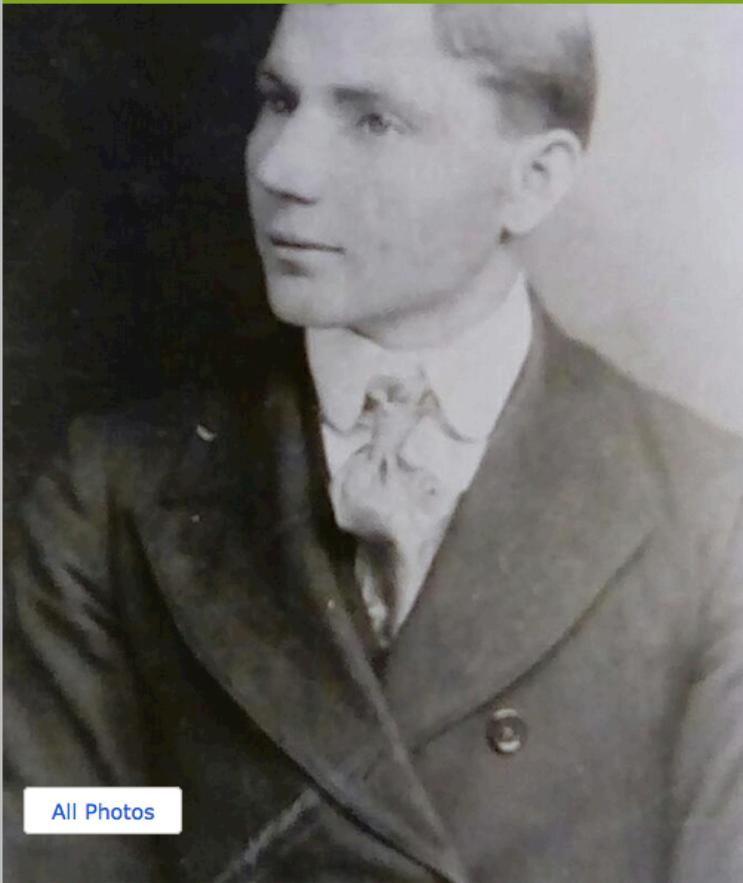
It's not unusual to open [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) and find a known or unknown relative waiting to make your acquaintance. Just as interesting as the new relative is the research cousin who posted the photo. Notice there's a link so you can connect to that cousin and share research.

There are even more advantages to using FamilySearch . . . It costs you nothing. There are no subscriptions or record purchases. The Family Tree, Help Center, Learning Center and Research Wiki are all freely accessible. The mobile apps - FamilySearch Tree and FamilySearch Memories - are also free and available for both iOS and Android devices. You can download them in your device's app store.

FamilySearch is an amazing service offering a broad range of tools to help you discover your family history while insuring that it is the place "where families live forever".



[John Tandy Duke](#)  
1877-1960 • LHJZ-V46  
[View My Relationship](#)  
was tagged in a photo



[All Photos](#)

5 months ago • added by [Mary Elizabeth Peterson](#)

[Comment](#) | [Share](#)

# Digital Public Library of America

In the Archives

The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) is totally free to use and open to everyone. You don't need a library card, subscription or even a sign-in to access it. It is also an impressive research resource for genealogists and family historians. This library is totally digital and isn't just limited to books. You can find photographs, audio and video files, manuscripts and even books from America's libraries, museums and archives. Florida's Sunshine State Digital Network (SSDN) has contributed more than 148,000 records to DPLA including a recent contribution of 62,000 new records from Florida Memory.

A good place to start is the [Family Research Guide](#). It offers information on what kind of data is available (photographs, family Bibles, maps, correspondence, oral histories and more) and has a search box to get you started. There are even links to several recorded webinars on using DPLA.

It is likely that the actual records, photos, etc. you find using DPLA don't actually reside in the DPLA. Your search results will send you to the institution that does hold the resource you want. Don't be surprised if a search delivers the same item at multiple locations.

You will also find "exhibits" like those shown here. Called topics, they pull together items from libraries, archives and museums across the country. This is a relatively new feature at DPLA but it has already become quite popular.

Using the Baseball topic as an example, selecting it will present another screen with interesting baseball-related articles. It may not help your research efforts, but you will find it quite fascinating.

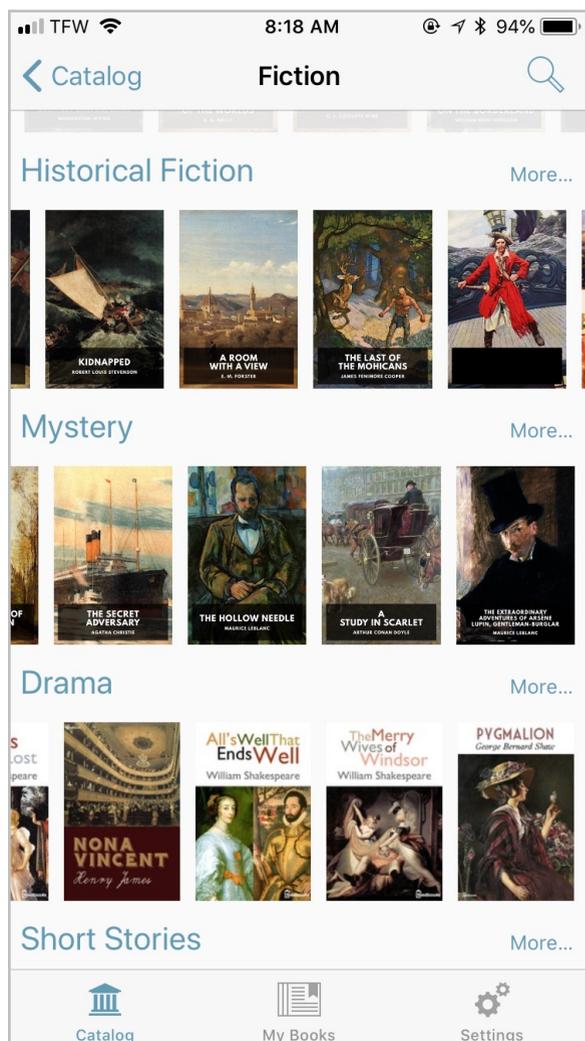


Make sure you visit The Family Research Guide to DPLA (<https://dp.la/guides/the-family-research-guide-to-dpla>). The search tips page is full of information on how to refine and narrow your searches to find what you are looking for. You will also find a number of collections - like family photographs, family Bibles and even family history/genealogy books.

On the Workshops page there is an hour-long webinar on using DPLA for genealogy and family history. It includes tips on searching for family names and exploring resources in your ancestor's hometown. The speakers also walk you through some of the collections that have family research potential. This is a saved workshop but it includes links to the collections discussed in the webinar.

Don't pass up Open Bookshelf, a digital library of popular books free to download. These are public domain books along with a number of Creative-Commons licensed publications and freely available textbooks. To get started, download the free SimplyE mobile app from either the iOS or Android App Store then add the Digital Public Library of America as an account. No library card is needed. You just start browsing. All books are free to download and keep. The reader app is deceptively simple. It includes features like font options, changing text size, screen background and brightness. You can highlight text, set bookmarks and even look up words or phrases.

The Digital Public Library of America is an impressive resource for family historians but it is also a lot more. Spend some time getting acquainted with the broad range of resources it provides. You will soon find it an important tool in your research toolbox.



# A Man of the Sea

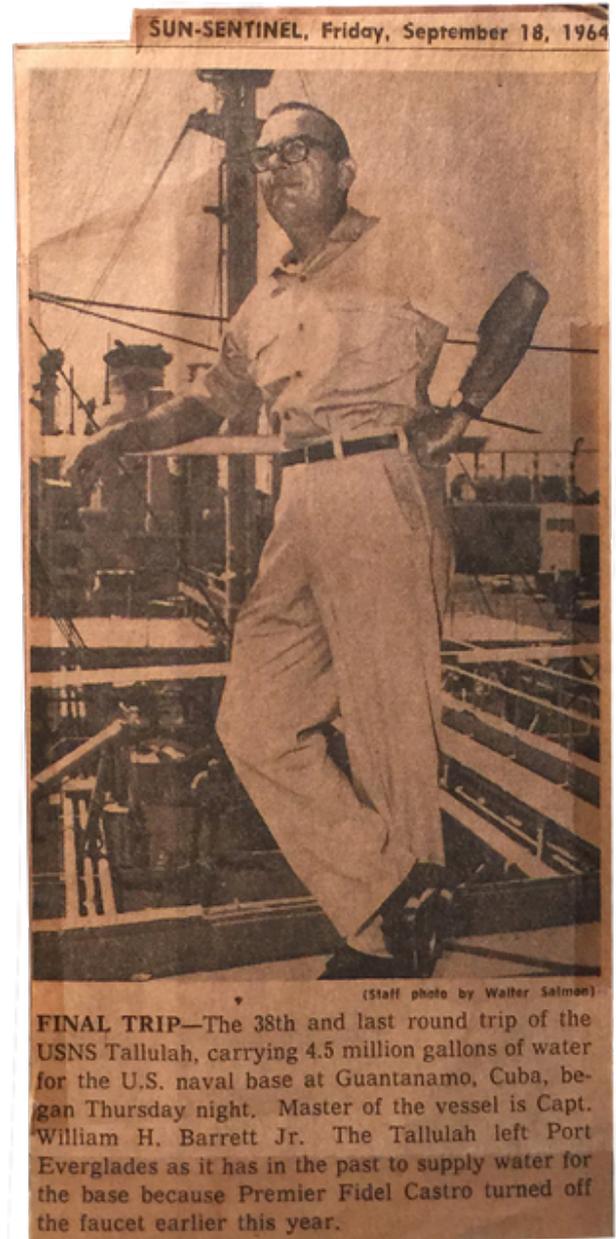
Denise Olson

Most people document their professional lives with the companies they worked for, the positions they held or the products they created. For mariners, their professional lives revolve around ships and ports.

My father spent most of his life at sea as a merchant mariner. He worked his way from deck hand on a small liner ferrying tourists to Havana to master of the largest tanker flying the American flag. Although eventually a graduate of the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, his studies were interrupted by World War II while he served on liberty ships in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. He was second mate on the first merchant ship to sail into Tokyo Bay after the surrender. He shuttled water to Guantanamo when Castro cut the water mains to the base in the 1960s. He carried wheat to the Soviet Union and oil to Cam Rahn Bay to support our efforts in Vietnam.

He moved from super tankers to fishing boats after he retired and always found being out on the water a relaxing experience. He died in 1991.

His brother also made the sea his profession, serving aboard liberty ships during the war. When it came time to settle down with a family, he chose a job piloting ships through the Panama Canal. As a canal pilot, he was in a unique



position to have access to almost every ship that sailed the seas for the many years he worked there. So, when I recently inherited my father's discharge books, I called my uncle to help me understand what these documents were and how I could use the information they contained as part of Dad's life history.

The terms of employment for a mariner are much different than onshore professions. Some of those traditions go back many centuries. A mariner signs on for a cruise to perform a specific job on that ship. A "cruise" may make several stops and may or may not return to the port of departure. At the end of the cruise all the crew members are paid off and become technically unemployed unless they are hired for the next cruise. The Continuous Discharge Book is a U.S. Coast Guard book issued to every mariner to log each cruise that individual is hired for, giving the ship's name, the mariner's assigned job and the dates and places of engagement and discharge. Unfortunately, it doesn't tell you all the places each cruise visits. You need access to the ship's log for that.

As my uncle is explaining all this to me and looking through the books, he starts commenting on several of the ships listed in Dad's logs. He was familiar with a number of them from his experiences as a Canal Zone pilot. Several times he mentioned that he had a sketch of a ship in his sketch book. I was delighted to learn details about Dad's career and the additional comments about the ships were icing on the cake.

I should mention that my uncle is an accomplished watercolorist and all his nieces and nephews have been the delighted recipients of pieces of his work. He always has a sketchbook nearby and has years of earlier sketches in his studio. So, when he stopped by several days later to show me a rough sketch of a project idea and wanted me to help, I was pleasantly surprised and delighted to participate.

He is fond of creating collage-style paintings for friends and family members that incorporate the person's interests, special events and places. His proposed project would be a painting celebrating Dad's maritime career that would include the memorable places he visited and the special ships he served aboard. My job was to help compare cruise dates in the discharge book with dates of significant events to determine which ships were involved with those events and to find photos online of the one or two ships he didn't already have in his sketchbooks.



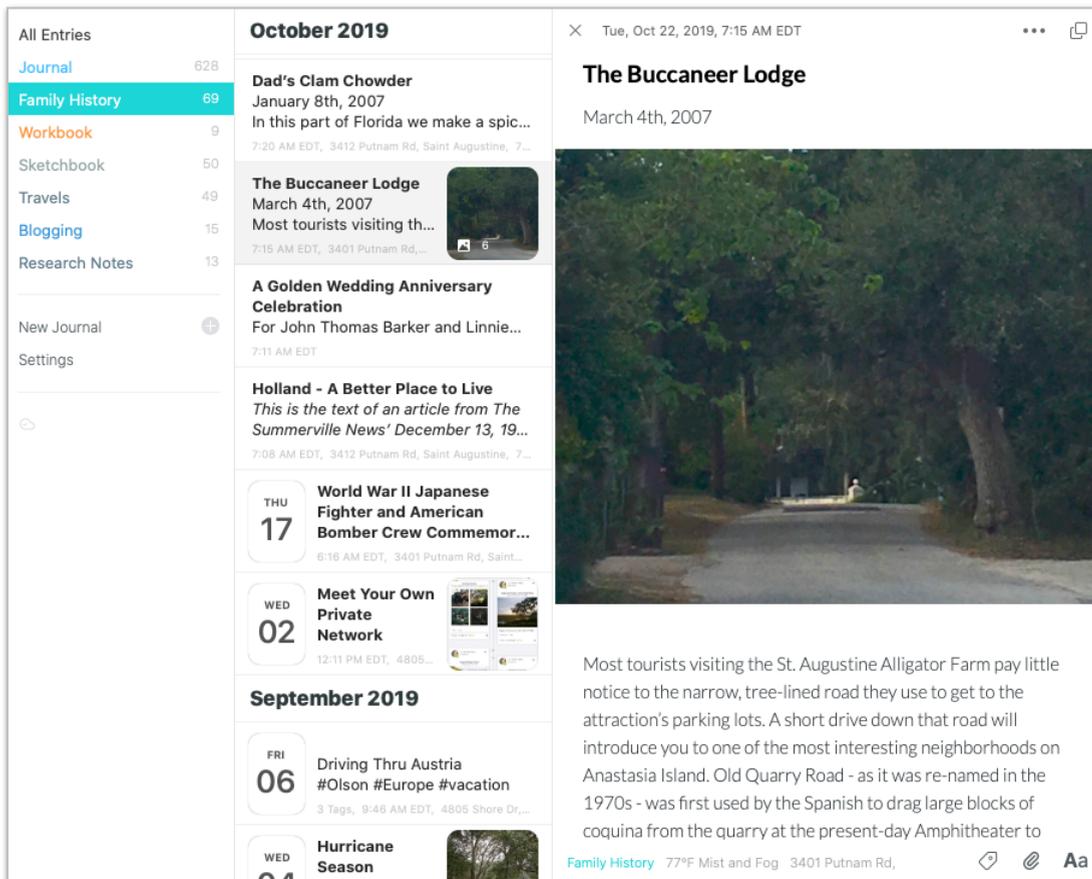
*A Seaman's Life* by C. O. Barrett

The finished painting is a treasure to each of Dad's children. His only son has the original and both of us daughters have high-quality prints. We have always known that Dad had an amazing career, but this painting beautifully documents just how amazing it truly was.

# Writing for the Future

Storytellers Studio

Those of us who have photographs, letters, journals and other writings from our ancestors are blessed with a view of their worlds that no amount of vital records can provide. These are precious treasures which we spend a lot of time, money and effort to preserve. But, what are we doing to document and preserve a personal record of our lives for those who come after us?



Journal entry in the DayOne app for Mac.

In today's digital world we have some amazing tools for capturing photographs, conversations and video clips, giving us the ability to document – and share – all kinds of special moments. The joys of digital media are tempered with some concerns. At the top of that list is how quickly things change. Anyone who's had a desktop computer for more than a couple of years knows the frustration of documents that can no longer be opened because the software application

used to create that document no longer exists. Yes, this is a concern, but it's a manageable one.

Data formats for the written word have come and gone, but one has been around since the very beginning of the digital age – plain text. It is just that – plain. There are no font changes, no bold or underline, no colors. It's just alpha, numeric and special characters.

Next up the chain of data formats is something relatively new – markdown. It is plain text with simple codes - created using plain text characters - to represent formatting commands. When viewed in its “plain” state, it's quite readable, but it's also very easy to develop programs that can process those simple codes to reformat the document into something very attractive. And, as technology changes, the original document is still quite readable and new conversion programs can be quickly created to jazz it up in the latest writing app.

Although you won't yet find markdown included as a “Save as” or “Export” option on most mainstream word processing applications, it's getting a lot of attention from journaling apps. For example, the Day One app [Mac – \$9.99, iOS – \$4.99] uses markdown as its standard format and offers export options to PDF and plain text.

The data format getting the most attention these days is HyperText Markup Language (HTML). This has been the format of the Web and is now also the format of ebooks. Like markdown, it is plain text with codes – known as tags. Unlike markdown it's not so simple. For a simple ebook novel that's all text, the HTML code should be very readable in its raw form. A web page full of graphics, charts and links is quite a different story. Fortunately for us, computers don't have a problem reading and processing the code to present us with a beautiful visual experience. And, because HTML is an industry standard format, it will travel from app to app – even platform to platform – with minimal effort.

How does all this impact the family historian?

One reason genea-blogging is getting so much attention is its longevity. Not only are blogs built with HTML, they have an organizational standard that means they are very search-engine friendly (which helps attract research cousins) and can be moved from one blog platform to another. There are services which will convert your blog posts into ebooks and even print books. Most blog platforms offer backup and export options so you can maintain multiple copies – both online and offline. A growing number of journaling and text-editing apps include publish to blog features – giving you an extra layer of archival protection.

I now have eighteen years of blogging. During that time I've documented a lot of family history – one little story at a time. While the thought of sitting down and writing a “family history” has always been quite intimidating, it didn't take long to blog enough stories for a book. Is it a complete family history? Not even close. But it doesn't have to be. Using simple tools, I was able to pull out and reorganize the stories I wanted into a simple ebook to share with my family. And, as the stories grow, so does the ebook. It's all digital so it's very easy to update and redistribute.

Nothing lasts forever and digital platforms come and go. My family's private blog site was on the Posterous platform which was bought by Twitter and later shut down. I was able to export our content and import it at another blog platform – actually to two different ones. Plus, I have a backup copy of the export file on my desktop. These other blog platforms saw the business potential Posterous' shut down represented and did everything they could to help make the migration as easy as possible.

Don't let technology concerns keep you from documenting your family history. Start with a blog on a reputable platform. You can get started with Tumblr.com in a matter of minutes – and at no cost. Posthaven, created as a replacement for the Posterous platform, will cost you \$5.00/month but promises it will be there as long as you want it. Posthaven is also one of the easiest blog platforms to use. All you need to do is create an email message and email it to your Posthaven blog.

Experiment with some of the new journaling apps – especially those that include companion mobile apps. The mobile journal apps take advantage of your device's camera and location services, giving you the ability to easily include photos in your entry, automatically date stamp and even geo tag each one if you wish. Not only is a journal more appropriate for your private thoughts, but often these apps also offer features to publish selected entries to your blog – saving you time and effort.

Today's technology makes it easy to capture and record our family's precious moments in ways that will insure they are accessible for many generations to come. Isn't it time you get started?

# ThruLines: Boom or Bust?

Margaret M. Nicholson, PhD

When Ancestry.com DNA Circles disappeared, replaced by ThruLines, I was sorely irritated. I had come to understand why a Circle would appear (or disappear) and, as a new Ancestry.com subscriber (paid subscription to see trees and records), benefitted from the well-developed trees of my DNA matches revealed by the Circles. Eventually overcoming my resistance to using ThruLines, I began to see how powerful this new feature could be in sorting out family relationships and in locating distant ancestors. On the other hand, this same power can contribute to faulty ancestral trees.

To generate a DNA Circle, three DNA matches had to ALREADY have the same common ancestor in their respective trees. The benefit of ThruLines is that the entire database of your DNA matches and all the trees these people have “constructed” are searched. In contrast to the Circles, even when a DNA match doesn’t have the ancestor in his/her tree, if a most recent common ancestor (MRCA) is thought to have been found, this MRCA is shown alongside the match’s tree. Clicking on the MRCA shows the path from you and your match back to the ancestor.

The behind-the-scenes work of ThruLines can be a boom, resulting in helpful information. Someone writing on Legacytree.com said: “...but was really surprised when it correctly identified some of my tested relatives with barely-existent family trees, or trees that were incorrect in really unusual ways. With a click of a button, ThruLines identified some of my matches that I had spent a LONG time studying. It also found some connections that I hadn’t.”

Now comes the bust. The accuracy of the paths (grandparent to great-grandparent, etc.) is totally dependent on the quality of research that went into the building of the trees. Ancestry.com Support warns: “Since ThruLines are based on the family trees of you and other members of Ancestry, they're as accurate as the trees they're based on.” Later on, they repeat the warning: “If there's inaccurate information in your tree, you may receive inaccurate ThruLines.”

The problem arises for two reasons: ThruLines (1) uses all the trees of your DNA matches which results in being shown ancestors from matches who do not have documented trees and/or share small amounts of DNA and (2) makes adding

ancestors to your tree without due diligence easy. With care, you can benefit from the power of ThruLines while avoiding the downside.

ThruLines™ for Daniel GORDNER

64 trees to suggest that you may be related to 64 DNA matches through Daniel GORDNER.

**Relationships** | List

**Daniel GORDNER**  
4th great-grandfather  
1772-1854

**Marine G Hartman**  
great-aunt  
1879  
0 DNA Matches

**George Henry Gordner**  
4th great-uncle  
1815-1892  
6 DNA Matches

**Sarah Effie Gordner**  
4th great-aunt  
1817-1888  
11 DNA Matches

**Sarah Effie Gordner**  
Sarah Effie Gordner may be the daughter of Daniel GORDNER. Below is some of the information used to suggest this relationship:

**Trees Linked to DNA Matches**

- MacIndoe\_Sones\_Ehrhardt Family** linked to mitziehrhardt (6 Records)
- Maietta Family Tree** linked to Sarah Maietta (0 Records)

**Ancestry Member Trees**

- MacIndoe/Sones/Ehrhardt Family Tree** by Kathryn Bethards (6 Records)
- Geiger Family Tree** by marysusan7 (4 Records)
- Hill Family Tree** by PhyllisHill99 (3 Records)
- Derk Family Tree** by DavidE1953 (2 Records)
- Evans Family Tree** by granteves (2 Records)
- Nicholson-Martin & Ikeler**

Select one of the member trees above to add Sarah Effie Gordner to your tree.

### THRULINES EXAMPLE

My DNA Match—lafay66—had only her mother and father in her tree, but ThruLines, by searching all the trees of lafay66's and my shared matches suggested a path from her father to our fourth-great-grandparents.

ThruLines shows which ancestors are not in your tree by a dotted line and the EVALUATE link. Before adding a new person, one should make sure there is sufficient documentation. That step is easily skipped, when the note at the bottom right of the page is followed: Select a member's tree to add Sarah Effie Gordner to your tree. Never trust a relationship in a tree when the only FACTS shown are other trees.

After ensuring adequate documentation, I connected my Sarah Effie to my tree. Cousins I never would have come across appeared in my ThruLines with well-documented trees and fabulous family stories which extended my research beyond Daniel Gordner.



**Daniel GORDNER**  
4th great-grandfather  
1772-1854



View ThruLines™



**John GORDNER**  
3rd great-grandfather  
1809-1893



**Sarah Effie Gordner**  
4th great-aunt  
1817-1888

EVALUATE



**George Henry GORDNER**  
2nd great-grandfather  
1838-1913



**Sarah Derrick**  
1st cousin 4x removed  
1847-1920

EVALUATE



**Mary Karschner**  
Great-grandmother  
1865-1916



**Russell F Conrad**  
2nd cousin 3x removed  
1873-1959

EVALUATE



**Elberta Burke**  
Paternal grandmother  
1901-1998



**William Lewis Conrad**  
3rd cousin 2x removed  
1900-1966

EVALUATE



**James B KOLLER**  
Father  
1923-1988



**Private**  
4th cousin 1x removed

EVALUATE



**Margaret Peggy Nicholson**



**lafay66**  
5th cousin  
38 cM | 2 segments

Provide feedback ?

# ThruLines™ for Daniel GORDNER

16 trees to suggest that you may be related to 64 DNA matches through Daniel GORDNER.

**Relationships** List

**Daniel GORDNER**  
4th great-grandfather  
1772-1854

**Marianne G Hartman**  
great-aunt  
1879

**George Henry Gordner** EVALUATE  
4th great-uncle  
1815-1892  
6 DNA Matches

**Sarah Effie Gordner** EVALUATE  
4th great-aunt  
1817-1888  
11 DNA Matches

**Sarah Effie Gordner**  
Sarah Effie Gordner may be the daughter of Daniel GORDNER. Below is some of the information used to suggest this relationship:

**Trees Linked to DNA Matches** 2

- MacIndoe\_Sones\_Ehrhardt Famil**  
linked to mitziehrardt  
6 Records
- Maietta Family Tree** linked to Sarah Maietta  
0 Records

**Ancestry Member Trees** 12

- MacIndoe/Sones/Ehrhardt Family Tree**  
by Kathryn Bethards  
6 Records
- Geiger Family Tree** by marysusan7  
4 Records
- Hill Family Tree** by PhyllisHill99  
3 Records
- Derk Family Tree** by DavidE1953  
2 Records
- Eves Family Tree** by granteves  
2 Records
- Nicholson, Martin & Kaler**

Select one of the member trees above to add Sarah Effie Gordner to your tree.

Home Map Gift Memberships Careers Visit our other sites: United States

on • **UPDATED** Privacy • Terms and Conditions

## THRULINES & TANGLED BRANCHES

In *My Surprise Family: Find Your Ancestry Story*, I explain how my half-aunt Susan (paternal side) discovered she and I are also fourth-cousins (maternal side). Susan was searching for my grandfather—my surprise birth-father was adopted—when she came across this relationship. The “Show how we’re related” link in a family tree only reveals the most recent common ancestor. (For more details, see the How To page from the book below.) Before ThruLines, to see or “prove” other relationships one had to manipulate the tree using the Edit Relationship tool. Now it is easy to view these other relationships (without the need for “disconnecting” the MRCA). Along with the fourth-cousin relationship, I see Susan’s second-cousin Diana and I also share a bit of DNA!

In my view, ThruLines is a boom, a worthwhile research feature. But then, I use it carefully.

## POSTSCRIPT

My mostly German ancestors who settled in Central Pennsylvania in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries had large families—one had to expect tangled relationships such as Susan’s and my aunt/niece and fourth-cousin situation. But I was amused the other day to see that my Aunt Doris and her ex-husband (both long dead) had been fourth-cousins! This means Uncle Gail was not only an “in-law,” but my fourth-cousin, once removed. Without ThruLines and the DNA from Aunt Doris’ grandson (my first-cousin, once removed) I wouldn’t have known this. I’ve yet to see if this will help with my pedigree tree.

***How To page from My Surprise Family: Find Your Ancestry***, a mystery, a memoir, and a manual, available as a print book from Amazon.

### A Note About Access to Family Trees for Subscribers and Non-Subscribers

Subscribers get the most benefit from ThruLines, because they are able to see all the people, along with documentation, in the trees of their DNA matches. However, non-subscribers are better off than before ThruLines was introduced—non-subscribers can now see up to five generations in the trees of their matches, as well as the path to the common ancestors. (If there is not a common ancestor, the situation is the same as before—non-subscribers cannot see others’ trees. Shared trees are the exception of course.)

Websites mentioned in article:

[legacytree.com](https://www.legacytree.com)

Free articles. Sells various services.

<https://www.legacytree.com/blog/ancestrydna-thrulines>

Ancestry.com HELP: Support Center

For ThruLines information.

<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/AncestryDNA-ThruLines>

# Society Services

The Research committee supports our members with research assistance either at meetings or via our Facebook group. At the moment that position is vacant. We are looking for a member willing to fill that position and provide research support for our members.

Members are encouraged to join our members-only Facebook group - [SAGS Community Research Center](#). This group makes it possible for members to stay connected between meetings. You are encouraged to ask questions, share tips or just chat. Society staff are also posting news items, deals and resources that can help us all improve our research efforts.

Additional ways SAGS members can connect online include:

- [SAGS Online](#) - The society's public web site and records archive.
- [SAGS Support](#) - The society's members-only site offers weekly news updates, research support, 24/7 access to our publications library along with social networking features making it easy for members to stay connected between meetings.
- [Research Notes](#) - Our weekly email update for genealogy news and deals along with links to useful resources and other articles. Research Notes arrives in your Inbox every Monday morning and past editions are available online at SAGS Support.
- In addition to the SAGS Community Research Center, the society also maintains a public Facebook page providing information about the society and upcoming meetings.