

# *Ancient City Bulletin*

Monthly Newsletter of the  
St. Augustine Genealogical Society

January 2019



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# The Society Page

Happy New Year! We are kicking off the new year with lots of research goodness. First of all, Miles Meyer will be our speaker for the January member meeting. He will take us on a tour of online European archives. The European countries have been putting many of their archives online and Miles will discuss how to find various regional and national archives along with the steps needed to find the records most important to your research. His focus is on central European archives (France, Germany, etc.) and larger archives such as the Europeana website.

In February Marie Santry will present *Who's Your Daddy: When Original Records Lead You Astray* and in March Connie Bradshaw will give us a look at Genetic Genealogy.

The logo consists of the lowercase letters 'fyi' in a stylized, rounded, blue font. The 'f' and 'y' are connected at the top, and the 'i' has a small dot above it.

The new year is also the time to renew your society membership. Unless you are a lifetime member, it's time to pay your dues. Your dues will insure the society can continue to bring you great programs from people like Miles, Marie and Connie.

## Reminder . . . Dues are due!

As you can see in the box on the right, we still have several open positions in the society board. We are looking for volunteers to take charge of the Research committee and the 1st VP/Programs position. If you are interested or want to know more, contact Denise Olson at 904-347-1154 or [sags.prezident@yahoo.com](mailto:sags.prezident@yahoo.com).

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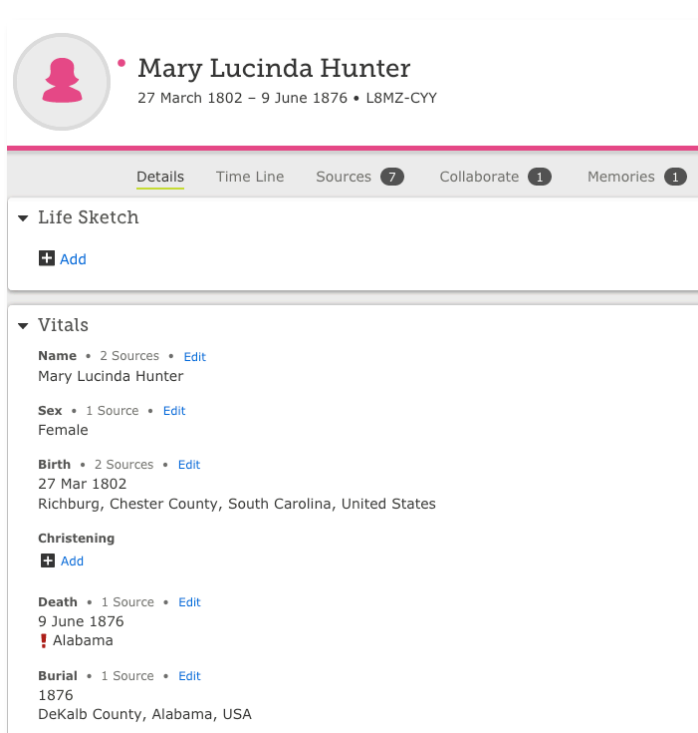
# Getting Organized

## Editorial Notes

In addition to resolutions for the new year, January is traditionally the month researchers review their research to see how to better organize all the records, photos, notes and resources we have collected over the years.

I have been blessed with three generations of genealogists before me who have passed on their research along with an amazing amount of things that are part of our history. These treasures include stories, photos, Bibles, letters and many other amazing things. My first instinct was to protect them from disaster, but I also wanted to share them with my research cousins and use them to inspire other family members to get involved with our family history.

Most of my research cousins are also using FamilySearch. If you are not familiar with FamilySearch, you may not know that it is a collaborative platform. This means that users are not creating a family tree, but adding to **the** family tree. In this example, you see both a Collaborate and a Memories section related to this person. I can connect with any of my fellow



The screenshot shows a profile for Mary Lucinda Hunter on FamilySearch. The profile includes a name, birth and death dates, and a list of vital events. The 'Vitals' section is expanded, showing details for Name, Sex, Birth, Christening, Death, and Burial. Each entry includes the number of sources and an 'Edit' link. The 'Life Sketch' section is collapsed and shows an 'Add' button. The top navigation bar includes 'Details', 'Time Line', 'Sources' (7), 'Collaborate' (1), and 'Memories' (1).

**Mary Lucinda Hunter**  
27 March 1802 – 9 June 1876 • L8MZ-CYY

[Details](#) [Time Line](#) [Sources](#) (7) [Collaborate](#) (1) [Memories](#) (1)

▼ **Life Sketch**  
[+](#) Add

▼ **Vitals**

**Name** • 2 Sources • [Edit](#)  
Mary Lucinda Hunter

**Sex** • 1 Source • [Edit](#)  
Female

**Birth** • 2 Sources • [Edit](#)  
27 Mar 1802  
Richburg, Chester County, South Carolina, United States

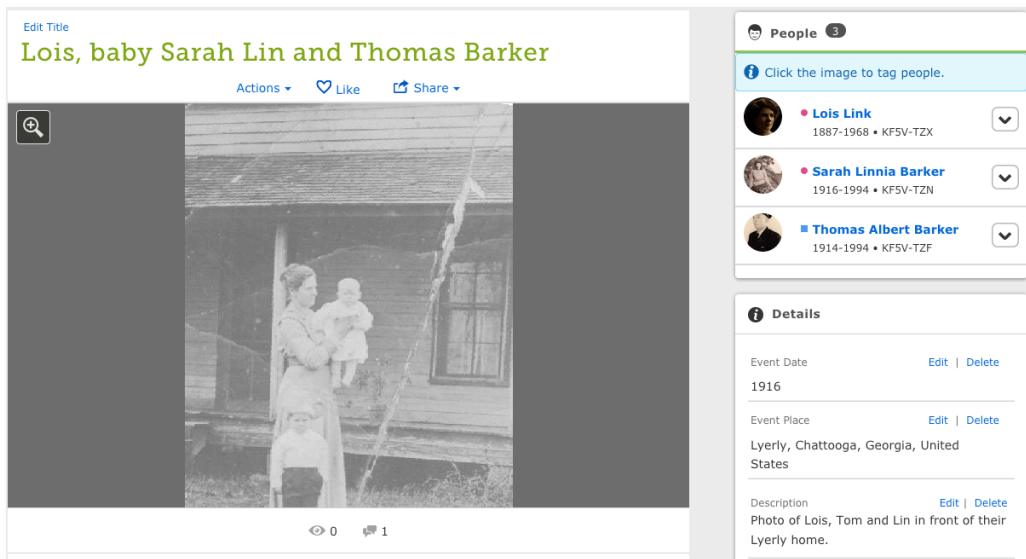
**Christening**  
[+](#) Add

**Death** • 1 Source • [Edit](#)  
9 June 1876  
! Alabama

**Burial** • 1 Source • [Edit](#)  
1876  
DeKalb County, Alabama, USA

collaborators to discuss our research efforts and share information. I have found this quite useful in expanding my research and I enjoy connecting with cousins. I was surprised to find how many cousins from my generation are also researching. Many are people I haven't seen since childhood. It has been a delight getting reacquainted with them.

The Memories section serves two purposes for me - a place to add photos and scanned items to an ancestor's "card" and a free off-site storage solution to insure those family treasures will be accessible long after I'm gone. And, because the FamilySearch family tree is collaborative, we all have access to the ephemera posted to any of our ancestors' Memories screen.



When a memory is added, each individual shown in the photo or mentioned in a text item is linked to this memory. In this example, there are three people in the photo and each is listed in the People section of the memory item. In the family tree, you will also see links to Memories on each individual's Person Card and Page. Researchers can download and share memories, add notes and even start discussions from these memories.

One last thing . . . all of this family history goodness is available at no cost. To learn more, visit the [Gather Your Records](#) section of the Family History Guide.

# Famicity - A Beautiful Family Network

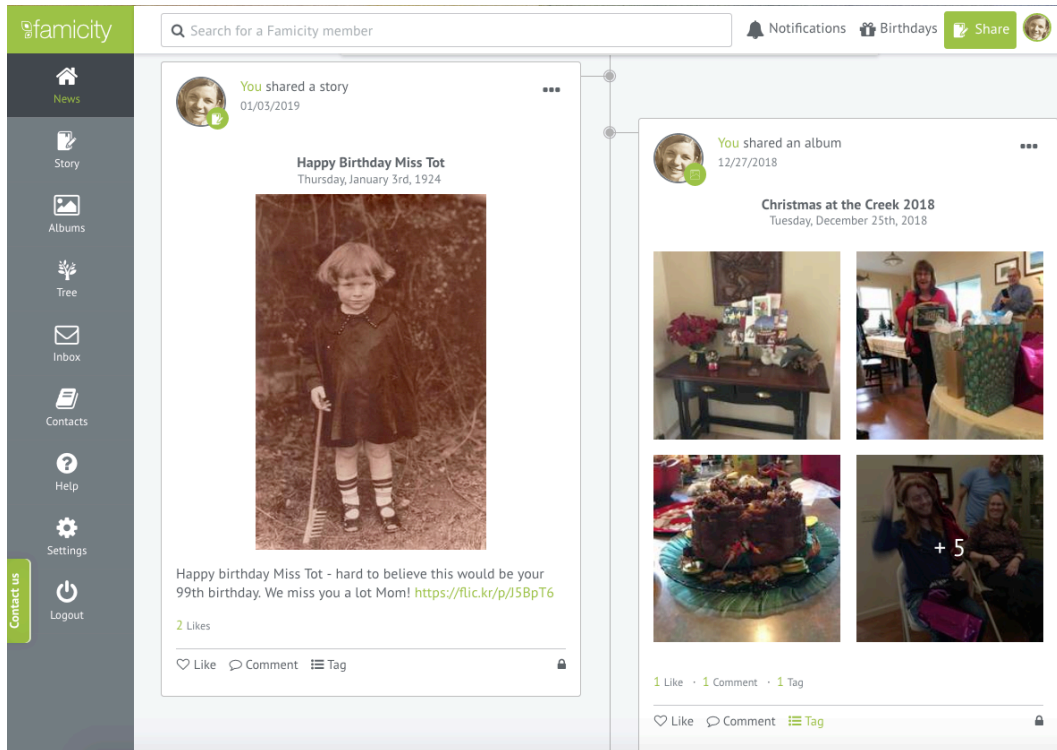
## Storytellers Studio

Famicity is many things. It's part scrapbook, part photo album, part social network and all about family. Famicity gives you a private network to keep in touch with your family and close friends wherever they are. Once you create your Famicity network, you can invite them – near and far – to share news, stories, photos and even videos.

The network owner controls who will have access to the site and can even set permissions on an item by item basis. For example, there may be photos or stories not appropriate for younger members. Those items would be assigned to a group just for older members.

The screenshot displays the Famicity website interface. On the left is a dark grey sidebar with navigation icons for News, Story, Albums, Tree, Inbox, Contacts, Help, and Settings, along with a 'Contact us' button and a 'Logout' option. The main content area features a search bar at the top with the text 'Search for a Famicity member'. To the right of the search bar are icons for Notifications, Birthdays, and Share. Below the search bar, two story cards are visible. The first card, dated 10/31/2018, shows a photo of a baby crawling on a wooden deck with the text 'Happy Birthday Bill' and 'Funny - you didn't have much hair then either'. The second card, dated 10/30/2018, is titled 'Monday, August 3rd, 1868' and features a historical photograph of a school building. Below the photo is a text block: 'In August, 1866, the Trustees fortunately secured the services of S. A. Link, who having concluded a very successful year as Principal of an unusually large model school, was prepared to enter upon the work here with an experience and equipment which ensured success. He was a broadminded, capable man, competent to fill almost any chair in an university; was a successful, graceful worker, and to him is due the preserving among Southern authors and their works from oblivion. He was a lover of books and had the unusual gift of inspiring the love of reading in the young. During his administration the school reached a high degree of excellence. He resigned in 1867 to become the President of the Tennessee College for Young Ladies, situated at Franklin.' The card also includes the caption 'Samuel Albert Link and the Tennessee School for the Blind' and interaction options like 'Like', 'Comment', and 'Tag'.

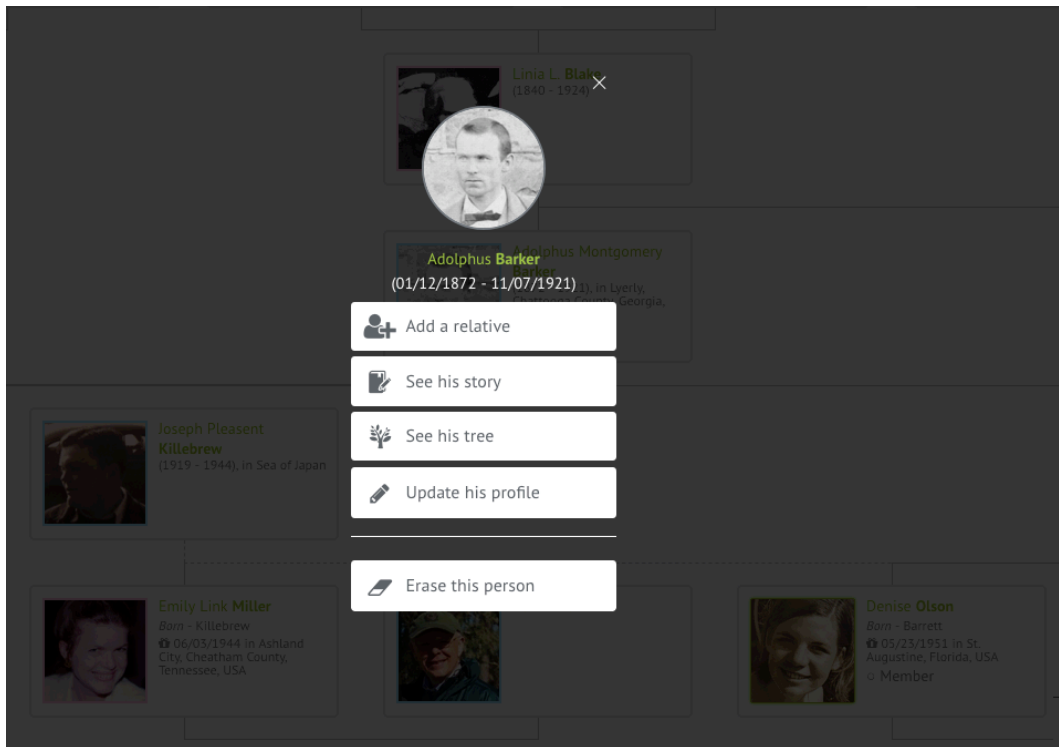
You can do very well with the free Famicity option. If you want to post your own high-def (HD) videos and photos, you can take advantage of the Famicity Premium subscription. It costs \$4.99/month and gives you 50GB of storage to share those photos and videos along with access to Famicity's dedicated technical support.



The Inbox feature makes it easy to start a chat with one or more other Famicity members. With family spread from one end of the country to the other, it gives our family a delightful way to stay in touch.

Put your creative juices to work to include a bit of family history here and there. Share artifacts like the portrait you see here. When your family research discovers an interesting story about an ancestor, share it along with a photo. You'll be surprised how much the family enjoys them. Famicity also supports photo albums. We have put this to use to share special events.





There is a family tree component. For those ancestors who are no longer with us, the family tree gives us an opportunity to show how our ancestors fit into our family and share stories about them. When my research finds an interesting tidbit, I'll add it as a story to the person(s) involved.

One thing that helped attract my family was posting funny birthday "cards". So far these have attracted a lot of attention. It also has inspired others to get creative too. Now that I have their attention, I'll start including links to the tree in my stories. We'll see how that works.

In addition to access via web browser, Famicity also offers free mobile apps for both iOS and Android devices. To get started, visit <https://www.famicity.com> to learn more and create your own network.

# Future-Proof Your Family History

## Research Toolbox

Do you remember WordStar? It was my favorite word-processing program back in the 1980s and it was already being overshadowed by software like WordPerfect and Microsoft Word. Even these apps have changed dramatically over the years making documents created with early versions of them unreadable in today's versions.



Here's a look at a WordPerfect document created in the 1990s. If you can find a program that can open the file, this is what you will see.

Anyone who has used a desktop computer for more than a couple of years knows the frustration of documents that cannot be opened because the software application used to create those documents 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 the good news is that one format has been around since the beginning of the digital age – plain text. The bad news is it's just that – plain. There are no font changes, no bold or underline and no colors. It's just alpha, numeric and special characters.

In 2004, John Gruber, a well-known tech writer, developed a lightweight markup language he called Markdown. It was designed using plain text with "tags" - characters used to identify formatting instructions. Because the document is created in plain text, it is quite readable even with the Markdown tags.

Using a Markdown editor instead of a word-processing application, the writer creates a Markdown document. These Markdown editors include "publishing" routines that will quickly convert your plain text document into a document formatted for its purpose. In seconds that Markdown file can be transformed into a Word document, PDF document or HTML for a web page. The beauty of this is that when the next latest and greatest word-processing software is released, the Markdown programs will just add an export routine that converts your Markdown document to this new format.

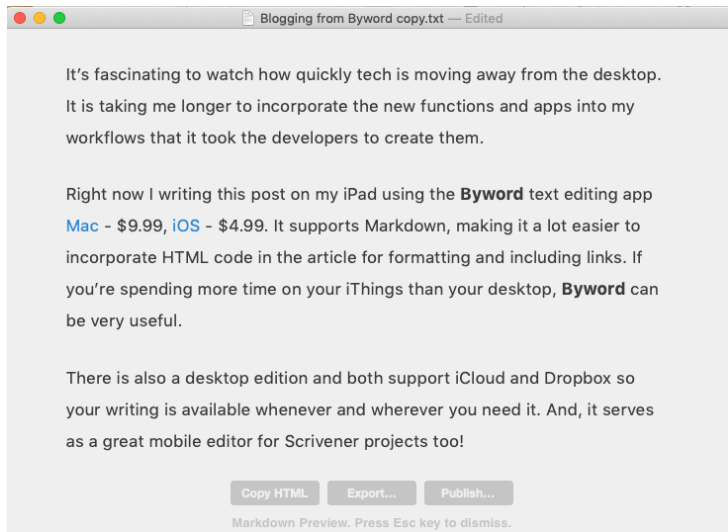
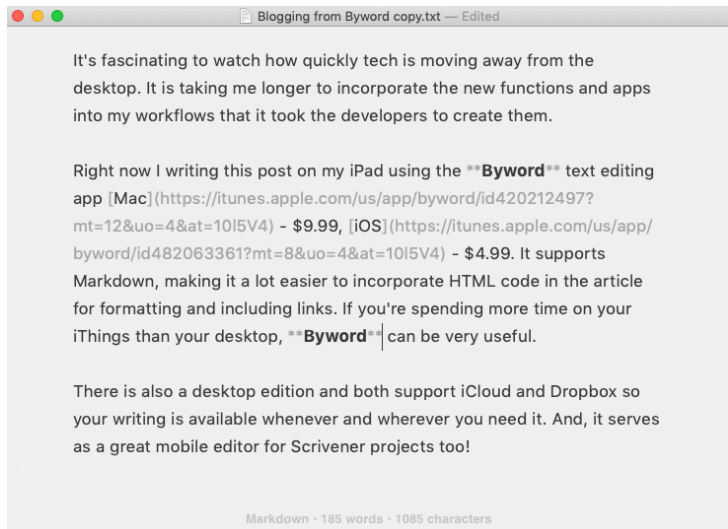
Where can you find a Markdown editor? Right now Mac users have more choices, but Windows apps are beginning to catch up. Here are some that you may find useful:

- Scrivener (Windows, Mac, iOS) is a writing platform designed for long-form writing that also includes Markdown support. Selected texts can be exported to a broad range of formats including a number of word-processing apps, HTML, ePub, Kindle and iBooks.
- Ulysses (Mac, iOS) is a writing platform similar to Scrivener. Features include exporting selected articles to text, ePub, PDF and Word along with publishing to WordPress and Medium blog platforms.
- Byword (Mac, iOS) makes it easy to write, review your documents within the app, export to HTML, PDF, rich text, or publish directly to Medium, WordPress, Blogger, Tumblr and Evernote.

The article on the right was written using the Byword app on a Mac. Notice that even with the Markdown “code” this document is still quite readable. Two asterisks before and after a word or phrase is the markdown code to bold the characters inside the asterisks.

Below you see what that same bit of the article looks like when exported as a Microsoft Word document.

Writers will probably find writing platforms like Scrivener and Ulysses more useful for managing articles, maintaining an archive of published articles and exporting selected article collections as finished publications. If you are creating publications for print that require complex layouts, you will first need to export your selected articles to an appropriate format - like Word - so it can then be imported to the layout program of your choice.



# Build Your Own Online Archive

## In the Archives

We all have lots of family “stuff” . . . photos, letters and other ephemera. What are you doing to protect those precious items? Today we have a very affordable option that not only gives us digital off-site storage to protect our treasures but also serves as a beautiful display for those treasures.

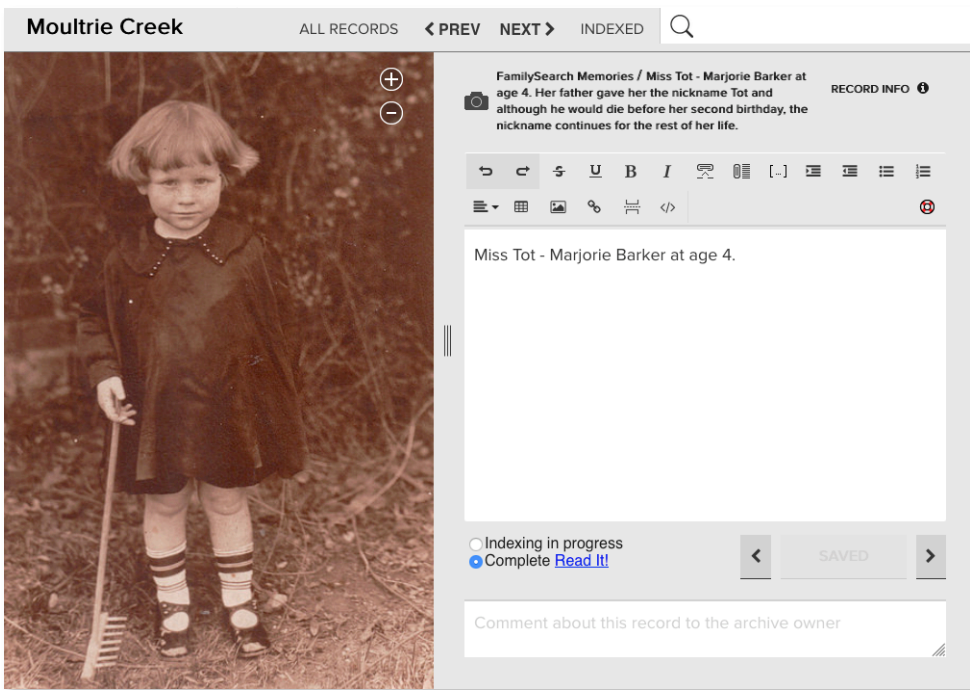
As I scan, upload and transcribe my family collection on Kindex, I am impressed at how well those items display. As you see below, the original document is visible on one side with a transcription on the other. While this Bible image is quite sharp, I also have items where the ink has faded or a part of the page is missing. That is when the transcription becomes very useful.

The screenshot displays the Kindex web interface. At the top, the 'kindex' logo is on the left, and 'ARCHIVES' and 'denise@moultriecreek.us' are on the right. Below the header, the page title is 'Moultrie Creek' and the navigation includes 'ALL RECORDS', '< PREV', 'NEXT >', and 'INDEXED'. A search bar is also present. The main content area is split into two columns. The left column shows a scanned page of a 'Marriages' register with handwritten entries. The right column shows the corresponding transcription of the text. The transcription includes the following entries:

- Marjorie Barker to Joseph P. Killebrew  
Place and date - Mexico City, Mexico - May 7, 1943
- Thomas Albert Barker to Florence Albrecht  
Place and date - Somerville Mass. - June 1946
- Marjorie B. Killebrew to William H. Barrett, Jr.  
Place and date - St. Augustine, Fla. - April 15, 1950

At the bottom of the transcription area, there are options for 'Indexing in progress' (unchecked) and 'Complete [Read It!](#)' (checked). A 'SAVED' button and navigation arrows are also visible. A comment box at the bottom says 'Comment about this record to the archive owner'.

Here is a photo of my mother at age 4. Since there is no text to transcribe, the Record Info element provides the text to describe the photo.



With a bit of effort and a little imagination, Kindex can serve as both an online archive and a family scrapbook.

Kindex offers two options. With Kindex Cloud you can create a public archive that supports an unlimited number of records. It includes the tools for indexing you saw in the examples above and supports any number of Kindexers - people who have access to your archive to add, transcribe, search and browse records. The Kindex Cloud archive costs \$5 a month, but if you transcribe twenty records within the billing period, you will receive a \$5 "reward" giving you the next billing period for free. There is no cost to include additional Kindexers and their transcribing efforts will count toward your indexing total.

There are other features that help you get organized. For example, you can divide your archive into collections. I have set up collections for each family

group along with sub-collections for type of record. For example, I inherited the letters my grandfather sent my grandmother for a period of years before they married. My grandfather died when my mother was still a toddler so these letters and a few photographs are all we have of him. Dolph's Letters is a sub-collection within the Barker collection. There are also sub-collections for photos, records and miscellaneous items.

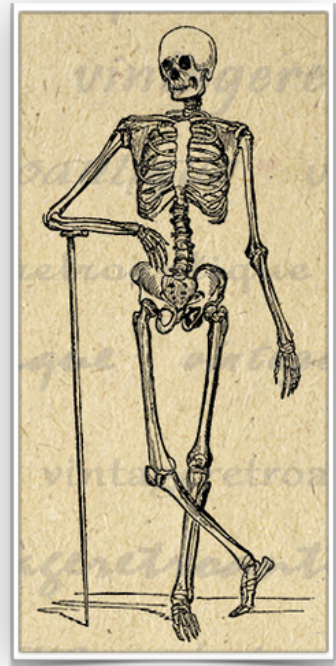
Want to learn more? Visit Kindex at <https://app.kindex.org>. You can search the public archives to see what others are doing with their Kindex archives. Check out the support pages to see how easy building your own family archive can be.



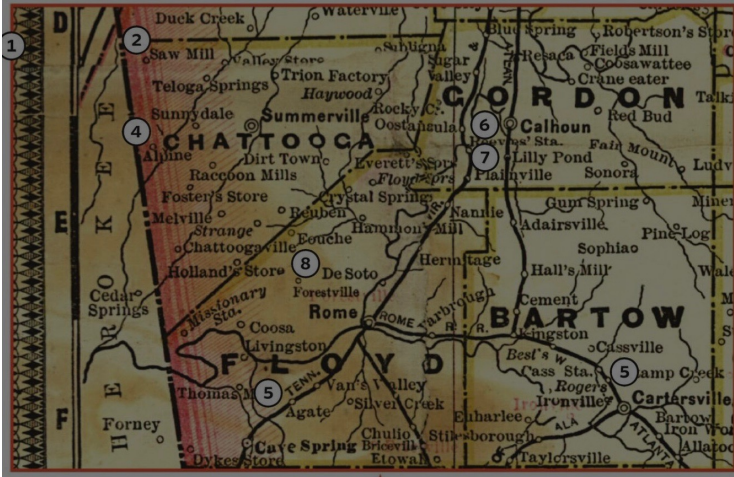
# Out of the Closet

Imagine my surprise when I turned the page in the latest Family Tree magazine to find the map used in George Morgan's article pinpointed Chattooga County, Georgia – home to my mother's side of the family.

~Denise



## Railroad Maps



Share your triumphs, interesting ancestors and even the skeletons found in your research. Bring your family tales and treasures out of the closet and we'll be happy to put them on display here.

Send your skeleton or tale to [sags.publications@yahoo.com](mailto:sags.publications@yahoo.com)



## Society Services

In addition to our monthly meetings, there are a number of ways SAGS members can connect online include:

SAGS Online is the society's public website. Here you will find upcoming meetings and information about the society.

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.

The Ancient City Bulletin is a quarterly publication with articles on society news,

Research Notes - Our weekly email update for genealogy news and deals along with links to useful resources and other articles. Research Notes arrives in members Inbox every Monday morning and past editions are available online at SAGS Support.

# Publishing Guidelines

We encourage our members to submit articles related to genealogy, family history and research methodology for publication in the *Ancient City Bulletin*.

Submissions should be sent as an electronic file in either rich text format (.rtf) or MS Word (.docx) format via email to [sags.publications@yahoo.com](mailto:sags.publications@yahoo.com). Please keep formatting to a minimum as the article will need to be styled to match the Bulletin's design. The article title should be on a separate line at the top of the page with the author's name listed immediately below. Photos included as part of the article are welcome, but please also send a copy of each photo as a separate file. Captions are always welcome and please include the photographer's name for proper credit. Including a list of sources is also encouraged.

Articles will be edited for grammar and style and any edits will be reviewed with the author prior to publication.

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