



Ancient City Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society

ST. AUGUSTINE
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY
PUBLICATIONS



October 2019

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The Society Page



October is Family History Month. St. Augustine Genealogical Society celebrates October with our Family History Faire. It gives our members an opportunity to share the stories, artifacts, photos and surprises their research discovers.

Need help deciding what you want to share? No problem! Stop by our [SAGS Support website](#) and browse through the Research Notes newsletters to find creative ideas that work for you.

We still have openings to fill committee positions for the society. Research, Programs and Communications committees need support. If you would like to volunteer, contact any board member.

Officers

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Journaling Your Family History

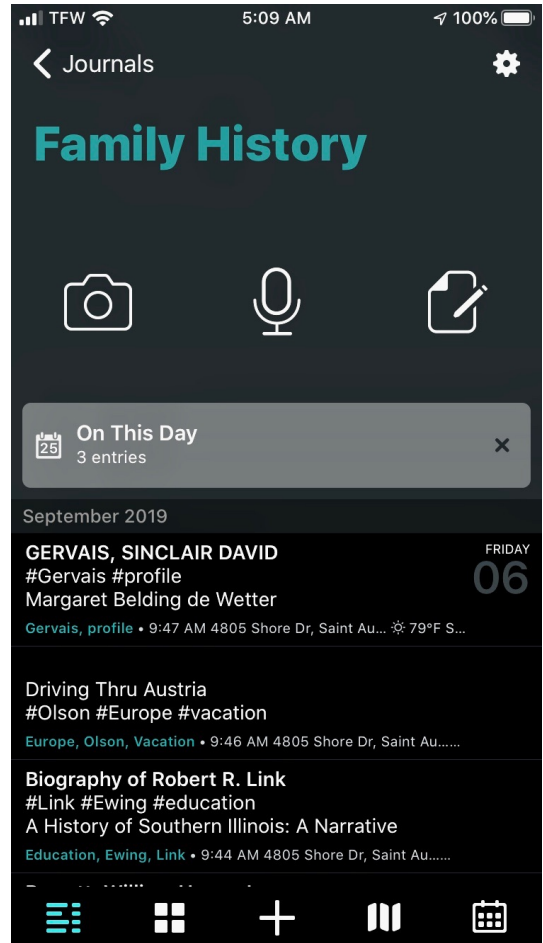
Editorial Notes

Have you ever considered using a journaling app for your genealogy research notes and stories? The DayOne journaling app offers a number of features that make it easy to capture, organize and find the notes you add to your DayOne journals.

Each note created with DayOne automatically includes the date, place and time it was created. You can also add hashtags - keywords describing the content of each note - by including a hash mark (#) immediately ahead of each keyword. For example - DayOne will automatically identify the #Gervais hashtag as a tag for that note. Later, when you want to find all the notes related to that hashtag, go to the Search box and enter the tag in the Search box. Yes, it's that easy.

Don't be afraid to include screenshots in your DayOne journal entries. Upgrading to the premium plan gives you unlimited photo storage.

Another useful feature is the sharesheet. Tap the share icon at the top right side of the note you are writing. Use it to email this entry to someone, post it to social media or your blog. I've tried it with MeWe, Twitter, WordPress and Tumblr and it works beautifully!



DayOne is a free app and is available for the Mac desktop along with iPhone, iPad, Apple Watch and Android devices.

There is a premium option (\$34.99/year) giving you even more features. These include:

- * audio recording
- * voice-to-text transcription
- * unlimited photos
- * unlimited journals
- * cloud backup
- * all your notes are synced to all your devices
- * end-to-end encryption for privacy
- * 25% discount for book printing

I have created two books using DayOne's Book Printing service. It's really quite simple ... select the journal entries you wish to include in the book, create your cover, choose the printing options and preview your book. Once everything is the way you want it, submit your book. The "cart" is displayed showing you the cost for your book. When everything is the way you want it, upload the book and make your payment (Apple Pay or credit/debit card). Your book should arrive about 7 to 12 business days after you're submission.



Take DayOne on a mobile phone with you to the research library. Use the phone's camera to scan pages - saving you copy charges. Create a journal for your research, another for blogging and one for your personal journal. It's one of the best organizing tools you can find.

Last, but not least ... DayOne supports Markdown. This means that your notes will not suffer from bit rot. Years from now - when most of the apps you use today are no longer functional - your DayOne journal entries will still be readable.

Flickr for Family Historians

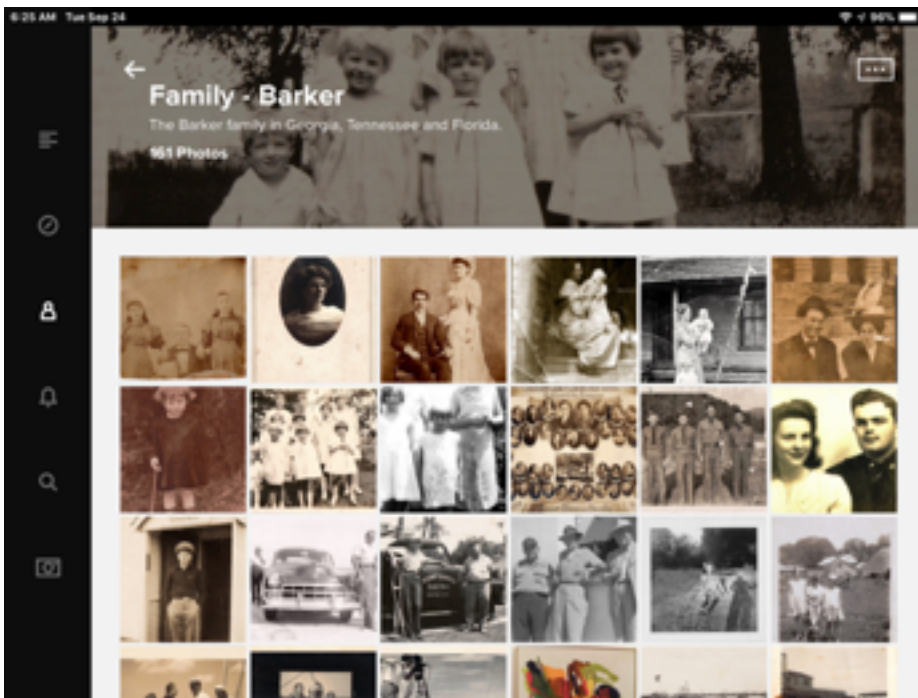
Research Toolbox

Photographs are treasures for family historians. We go to great lengths to find, preserve and protect them. That's where Flickr comes in. Flickr is an online platform for photos and videos with features that both protect them and make them accessible others. It costs nothing to use and offers an amazing amount of features to protect and display your images. Then there is the social side of Flickr, where you can connect with other Flickr users to share and discuss your photos.

Why use Flickr? Here are a few good reasons . . .

- Flickr accounts are free and provide 1,000GB of storage for each user. That amounts to over 500,000 full-resolution photographs. You can also upload videos too.
- Flickr provides tools to organize photos into albums and collections.
- Flickr imports the metadata embedded in digital photographs and provides tools to add your own tags, descriptions, etc.
- Flickr users control access to their photos. Users choose licensing and privacy settings on a photo-by-photo basis.
- Uploading is a breeze. The browser-based uploader is easy to use and many photo-editing apps have Flickr bulk upload capabilities built in. There are also mobile apps which allow you to take photos and upload them in a couple of easy steps.
- Photos stored at Flickr are very searchable, making it easy to find and connect with others sharing the same interests. This is especially useful for family historians looking to connect with research "cousins".
- Flickr is social. Users can comment on photos and there is an in-house messaging system for members. Users can join groups and share selected photos with the group without giving up control of them. Groups also have discussion boards which can also be put to good use.

- Flickr offers free mobile apps for iOS, Android and Windows Phones and there are a number of third-party apps (desktop and mobile) providing support for Flickr.
- Flickr users can use their Roku box, Apple TV or other set-top devices to display photo slideshows on their televisions.
- Flickr integrates with a number of other services and platforms giving users even more functionality.



My Barker Family Album on Flickr

For the family historian, Flickr offers an affordable off-site backup location for your photographs and digitized images. And, although that may be your primary reason to use Flickr, you'll soon discover how useful the organizational and social components can be. Flickr's search is amazing and has not only helped me find photos of people and places related to my

family history, other “research cousins” have found me through my family photos on Flickr.

Flickr offers both a free and premium account. The free account offers an impressive amount of storage at their original resolution. The premium account costs \$49.99/year and includes unlimited photo storage and discounts on services like Adobe Creative Cloud, Blurb, Chatbooks and more.

You can organize your photographs into Albums and Groups. You control access to your albums and photos. Each photo you post to Flickr gets its own page. This is used to add notes, privacy options and tags (keywords). There is also a feature where visitors can add comments to your photos. The tags make it easy for research cousins to find you through the photos you have posted on Flickr.



One other Flickr feature is also a researcher’s dream. It’s The Commons - a section where archives and libraries from around the world have posted amazing collections of historic photos - all of them in the public domain.

To learn more and create your own account, visit Flickr at <https://flickr.com>. You can also access Flickr from your mobile devices using the free Flickr apps - iOS and Android.

Reimagine the Scrapbook

Storytellers Studio

Did you keep a scrapbook in your childhood? Was it something like this – black pages with all kinds of ephemera pasted or taped to it?

It was always a delight to pull out an old family album or scrapbook and take a trip down memory lane. It's even more exciting when we get our hands on an ancestor's scrapbook. Unfortunately back in the day we never heard of anything like "archival quality paper" to preserve precious childhood treasures. Today some of those treasures are in pretty sad shape.

It dawned on me a while back that my family history blog had turned into a sort of scrapbook. It wasn't anything I planned. It just happened. I thought for a while and decided I liked it. Apparently my family does too. My subscribers list is growing with many of them family and a surprising number of childhood friends too.

What does it take to build a scrapbook blog? Not much. Tumblr is part blog, part social network and quite easy to use. Even better, it costs you nothing.

Tumblr supports text, photos, videos, quotes and links. In this example you see a photo with a quote from Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

Tumblr users can follow other Tumblr blogs, add comments, share a post with others and more.

Getting started is quite easy. The [Tumblr Help Center](#) will walk you through the process of creating an



creeksidetales

Southern Hospitality

A part of the placidity of the South comes from the sense of well-being that follows the heart-and-body-warming consumption of breads fresh from the oven. We serve cold baker's bread to our enemies, trusting that they will never impose on our hospitality again.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

The Ritz Cracker at Cedar Key Bed & Breakfast, Cedar Key, Florida.

#quotes

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account and getting your first Tumblr blog up and running. Your first Tumblr blog is your primary blog and you can easily create additional blogs if you wish.



You can also post videos you find on YouTube or Vimeo. All you need is to copy/paste the address of the video to your post and Tumblr will take care of the rest. All viewers need to do is click/tap the start button to watch the video right in Tumblr.

After you create your account and get your first blog started, you can download the free Tumblr mobile apps (iOS & Android) for even easier blogging. Need help? Stop by [Moultrie Creek Gazette on Tumblr](#) and leave a note. I'll contact you as soon as I can.

Danish pastries - Part II

Bob Burns

In early to mid-2019, I planned a trip, using my travel-agent sister, to Denmark for 2 weeks, followed by a one-week cruise to the Norway fjords. The purpose of the Danish segment was to visit Copenhagen (4 nights), two areas where my maternal grandparents were born, and then Skagen at the northernmost tip.

We enjoyed visiting Copenhagen, including a boat tour of the city's waterways, the changing of the guard at the royal residence, the Little Mermaid (a very small sculpture), shopping along the Strøget ("Strøyet"), Tivoli Gardens, and Nyhavn ("Newhown" - new harbor), where colorful buildings on a canal have become the image of Copenhagen.



NYHAVN CANAL

In Nyhavn, we visited the former sailors' home (now Hotel Sømandshjemmet Bethel) where my grandparents met. He was a merchant seaman, and she was a maid.



HOTEL BETHEL, NYHAVN

For new culinary tastes, we tried and enjoyed smørrebrød, which are open faced sandwiches, including marinated or pickled herring with capers, pickled onions and cucumbers, salmon and hard-boiled egg slices, or baby shrimp, etc. all on dark brown bread. We found it delicious!

We then went by train to Denmark's second largest city, Aarhus, for three nights. On the first day, we took a bus south to the Moesgaard Museum, where we saw the 2000+ year old Grauballe man (see below, found in 1952).



GRAUBALLE MAN, MOESGAARD MUSEUM, NEAR AARHUS

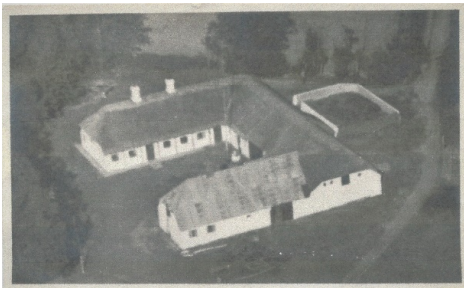
The next day, we took a bus out to Lading/Fajstrup, Sabrø district, where my grandfather Henry (Henrik) was born. Henry was baptized four years later, along with his new brother Frands, in the Sabrø (Lutheran) Church. We only saw rural areas or where most farms had become various forms of housing. We later shopped on Aarhus's Stroget.

We then checked out and went by train, bus and ferry to the island of Læsø (off the northeastern coast) for another three nights. On Læsø, we met a tour guide, Lili, at the Læsø Museumgaarden, being just out of town (Byrum). They have moved into an old grass-covered structure, seen here, and have started a few more grass-covered buildings.



LAESO MUSEUMGAARDEN

My grandmother (and my aunt), were born in the family's grass-covered homestead. Lili found out the homestead's address from a local genealogist. It is located at Byrumvej 28 ("Byrum way 28") .



ca. 1915-20



ca. 1958

We took a cab there and met a distant cousin. She welcomed us into her home and we met her English-speaking daughter. My cousin's grandmother, Ane Petrea Christensen, was the sister of my grandmother, Alma Elvine Christensen; that made us second cousins! We had a great time going over Læsø pictures that I brought with me – they knew almost everyone in the pictures, which I documented. We exchanged email addresses with her daughter, and I will forward our Christensen ancestor package (that I received from Danish researchers I met online), as well as those Læsø pictures. They said the homestead's name is "Slettehaven."



SLETTEHAVEN, BYRUM, LAESO



1961 SISTERS ANE & ALMA

After a few photos and hugs, we walked for about a half-hour to Ydegaard (at Ydegaardsvej 3), where my great grandfather, Niels Andreas Christensen, was born. We took some pictures of the more modern house, but did not expect to know whoever lives there now.



NIELS & ANE CHRISTENSEN



YDEGAARD FARM, LAESO



GRENEN, JUST NORTH OF SKAGEN

We then left Læsø by ferry and train for Skagen. We then left Læsø by ferry and train for Skagen, the ("Skain"), the northernmost tip of Denmark, near where the North & Baltic seas meet. The two seas splashed hard into one another, coming at different angles. It was exciting to stand with one foot in the North Sea and the other in the Baltic Sea. The shopping in Skagen was enjoyable, too.

After two nights, we took a train south to the Aalborg airport, and then flew to Copenhagen. Staying one last night, we enjoyed strolling Nyhavn, and

had dinner outside along the canal. We boarded our Royal Caribbean cruise ship the next day. The Norwegian ports we entered included Stavanger, Bergen, Aalesund, and Kristiansand. Surprisingly, we saw no fjords from the ship; apparently, a separate excursion was needed.

We heard the first day that the fog and rain prevented small boat cruisers from seeing much of the fjord's vertical walls until the afternoon. For us, we enjoyed strolling each of the port cities. In Bergen, we visited the Bryggen wooden buildings where German Hanseatic merchants bought and sold Norwegian stockfish (dried cod), fish oil and hides for much-needed, imported grains.

When we disembarked Copenhagen at 7:30 am, we quickly transferred by bus to the airport, grabbed our Lufthansa flight, and arrived in Boston, by way of Munich (plus 6-hour time change) at 6:25 pm. A two-hour bus ride brought us to Cape Cod, followed by a ride home from friends. We were up for just under 23 hours! This was a fantastic trip, both genealogical and scenic, including a nice relaxing cruise.



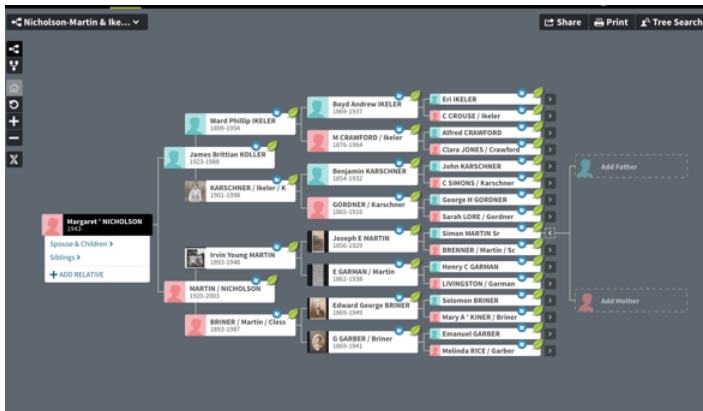
Chipping Away At My Brick Wall

Margaret M. Nicholson, PhD

What better way to attempt a breakthrough of my genealogical brick wall than to describe my process so far and then continue my search as I write this article. Whether I am successful or not, my research methods may help others. Pieces of advice copied from online sites are labelled as HINT. A list of websites consulted is included at the end.

If you are successful in breaking through your brick wall, email me a brief note describing your turning point. And, if by the deadline for submitting this story, I'm still at a loss, your ideas may help me. Perhaps we can include some of these in the weekly Research Notes (compiled by Denise Olson).

Look at my family tree in pedigree view (from Ancestry.com) and see that every great-great-grandparent has been located. Click on any black arrow, and there would be all my third-great-grandparents and many more generations of ancestors as well. EXCEPT for one family line—Simon Martin, on my mother's paternal side.



I can't take all the credit for my well-developed tree. Susan Martin, my mother's half sister—same father—has been researching her family history for years, well before I signed onto Ancestry.com. Susan's research is

meticulous, so with just a bit of checking to reassure myself, I soon had my grandfather's (her father's) family line completed as far as she had gotten. Most of the family was born or lived in or around Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Conveniently Susan still lives there so excursions to cemeteries and archives are easy to arrange when I am visiting her. While in St Augustine, my home now, I can search documents and records online.

Searching for Simon Martin's Parents

Simon Martin and Elizabeth Brenner were listed as the parents on my great-grandfather Joseph's death certificate. (Marked by red circle)

FORM NO. 1, 1914, REV. 1-1-15

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

1. **PLACER OF DEATH**
County of *Dauphin*
Township of

2. **NAME OF DECEASED**
Name of *Harrisburg*
City of

3. **FULL NAME**
Joseph E. Martin
(a) Maiden name *Elizabeth Brenner* (b) Sex *M.* (c) Race *W.*

4. **PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY PARTICULARS**

1. SEX <i>M.</i>	2. COLOR OR HAIR <i>White</i>	3. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED <i>Married</i>
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10. **DATE OF BIRTH** *April 7th* (Year) *1899* (Month) *9* (Day) *1900* (Year)

11. **DATE OF DEATH** *April 7th* (Year) *1900* (Month) *9* (Day) *1900* (Year)

12. **DATE OF MARRIAGE** *Dec 26, 1898*

13. **AGE** *72* (Years) *3* (Months) *11* (Days)

14. **OCCUPATION OF DECEASED**
Printer
189 Paper Binding Works

15. **RESIDENCE** *129-90*
Cherry Street

16. **NAME OF FATHER** *Simon Martin*

17. **NAME OF MOTHER** *Elizabeth Brenner*

18. **NAME OF DECEASED'S FATHER** *Simon Martin*

19. **NAME OF DECEASED'S MOTHER** *Elizabeth Brenner*

20. **CAUSE OF DEATH**
Acute Cardiac Dilatation
129-90
Chronic Myocarditis
Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder

21. **DIAGNOSIS** *Acute Cardiac Dilatation*

22. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

23. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

24. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

25. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

26. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

27. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

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209. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

210. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

211. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

212. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

213. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

214. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

215. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

216. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

217. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

218. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

219. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

220. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

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222. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

223. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

224. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

225. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

226. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

227. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

228. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

229. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

230. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

231. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

232. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

233. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

234. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

235. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

236. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

237. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

238. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

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244. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

245. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

246. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

247. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

248. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

249. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

250. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

251. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

252. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

253. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

254. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

255. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

256. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

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258. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

259. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

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261. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

262. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

263. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

264. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

265. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

266. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

267. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

268. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

269. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

270. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

271. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

272. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

273. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

274. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

275. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

276. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

277. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

278. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

279. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

280. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

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282. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

283. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

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292. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

293. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

294. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

295. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

296. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

297. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

298. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Myocarditis*

299. **DIAGNOSIS** *Chronic Cardiac-Renal Disorder*

300. **DIAGNOSIS** *Usual*

Find-A-Grave listed Simon Martin as buried in Dauphin County Cemetery. The information, provided by the Friends of Pauper's Field, appeared to be based on information recorded on an 1860 Mortality Schedule for Dauphin County.

HINT: Walk the Cemetery – A simple, but effective, genealogy brick wall solution for ancestors that came from small towns is to take a walk through the local cemetery. A good way to look for clues is by reading the inscriptions on the tombstones. (1)

In fall 2018, Susan and I drove to the Dauphin County Cemetery, at one time a place surrounded by farms and open countryside, now closed in by businesses and shopping centers. This forsaken looking place is also known as Potter's Field. We walked among the tombstones, which were really nothing more than stones—flat markers partially covered by grass. We looked without success for the name Martin, but there were only numbers on the stones.

HINT: Many times a brick wall is created by wrong information on a document. A record or document is only as good as what the informant gave. Census, deaths, obits, even births, can lead you on a wild goose chase! (2)

On the way home from the cemetery, Susan suggested that the problem was a misinterpretation of the Mortality Schedule by the Friends of Pauper's Field. Simon is listed along with others whose occupations are shown as "farmer." On the line immediately under his name, but indented, are the words "Alms House." (Marked by red circle) Occupations for those listed were pauper, indigent, and sadly, idiotic.

We found additional support for a misinterpretation in the 1860 US census record for Simon Martin that identified him as a farmer with a personal estate valued at \$1,000 and real estate worth \$10,000. He lived with his wife and his four younger children. (See clip.)

TABLE 2.—Persons who Died during the Year ending 1st June, 1880, in North Carolina COUNTY OF Dauphin State of Pennsylvania, enumerated by age.

NAME OF EVERY PERSON WHO DIED during the year ending 1st June, 1880, whose usual place of abode at the time of death was in this family.	SEX AND AGE						PLACE OF BIRTH, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	THE MONTH in which the person died.	PROFESSION, OCCUPATION, OR TRADE.	DISEASE OR CAUSE OF DEATH.	NUMBER OF DAYS ILL.
	1	2	3	4	5	6					
John Parsons	58	M				M	Penn ^a	Feb	farmer	Zyphoid fever	14
Cath Wiley	1	F					"	Dec		Inflem Lungs	14
Mary Smith	7	F					"	May		Yellow Jaundice	unk
Cath Hufferump	54	F					"	Dec		Tuberc	unk
Elye Rutherford	58	F				M	"	Jan		Brucella	15
John Bishop	47	M				M	"	March	farmer	Tuberc	20
Simon Brewster	16	M				M	"	March	farmer	Consumption	unk
Alms House											
John Trencher	41	M					Huntingburg	Jan	Teacher	Old Age	unk
Julius Kormal	30	M					Baden	Jan		Brain	30
James Porter	50	M					Penn ^a	Feb	Printer	Wetness	10
Uriah Charles	30	M					"	Feb	Farmer	Consump	140
Simon Pandis	50	M				M	Va	Feb	"	Fever	10
William Martz	60	M				M	Pruss	Feb	"	Old Age	unk

Knowing that he had seven children (the older children were on the 1850 census), I was sure he hadn't ended up in the poor house. Back in those days, more than now, elderly parents were always showing up in census records of their sons, sons-in-law, and widowed daughters. (These days, I'm not sure who worries more: we who want to live in our own homes till we die or our children, who would hate to see us in a nursing home, but treasure their privacy.) Once Susan and I assembled all the facts, it seemed strange, and made us look a little dense, that we even visited the cemetery.

HINT: You're Only Searching Online – When it comes to offline research many get scared. So, if you're looking for ancestors locally, take time to connect with a local historical society, genealogy group or library. There are many volunteers and employees at these locations that are eager to help. (3)

My next visit to Harrisburg was March 2019. Susan and I drove to downtown Harrisburg to the Pennsylvania State Archives, administered as part of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Aaron

McWilliams, a research assistant, not only showed us what files were available but worked with us. The next thing I knew we were looking at a will that confirmed the Elizabeth we had in our family tree was Simon's wife. The purpose of the will was to transfer property from Simon Martin, who died intestate, to Elizabeth and then to her current husband, Joseph Shaeffer.

We had census records from 1870 and 1880 that listed Elizabeth as the wife of Joseph Shaeffer. The younger children were living with the couple in 1870. But until we saw all three names together, we couldn't be sure we were dealing with the same people. (Everyone seemed to be named Elizabeth, Joseph, and Simon back then.)

With knowledge of the land transfer, Susan searched online for property maps from the 1860s and found, not only the location of Simon Martin's farm, but proof that Elizabeth's family tree was correct. (Red circle marks S Martin and P Brenner) We wondered if her grandfather, Peter Brenner, gave her and Simon part of his land as a wedding present or if the families lived next door. A research project for later.



Eager to see farmland that once belonged to our ancestors, Susan printed out a modern map of the area. I penciled in Martin and Brenner at the approximate location (see map), and we drove to what is now the Dauphin Highlands Golf Course. Even with the snow obscuring the grass and sandpits, we were able to imagine the rolling hills as a farm.

The place was deserted, but we parked and went into the pro shop. Susan thought it possible that a small family cemetery could have been preserved. The young man behind the counter assured us if there were any graves around, he would know about it.

HINT: Rely on Serendipity – Leave yourself open to opportunities for finding good things without looking for them. This is my advice. When my DNA results showed a close match that led to a “third” line in my family tree, I

was dependent on haphazard events to answer my genealogical questions.
(4)



Just before Susan and I arrived at our golf-farm destination, we were surprised to pass by a sizeable cemetery. On our way back home, we drove through its narrow lanes and were excited to see familiar family names including Garman and Livingston (more about this later). Two men in work clothes and high boots were busy with a bulldozer around the muddy graves. Rolling down the window, Susan asked if they knew of any Martin graves. The older one motioned us to drive to a small building and began walking toward it, lighting a cigarette on his way.

If only I had a video of this man ushering us into the tiny, messy office, laying his lighted cigarette on the edge of the desk, and pulling open an old-fashioned 3x5 card file. He pulled out a card: Simon Martin Sr. Next, he

grabbed a 3-ring binder, shuffled through pages, and finally pointed at the plot notations. We had succeeded in finding Simon's grave!

Not expecting to walk through six inches of snow, we were wearing regular shoes so decided to postpone our visit to the graves for the following day. We returned, bundled up with hats, gloves, and boots, broom and shovel at hand. Side by side, matching tombstones with names carved in stone—Simon Martin and Elizabeth Shaeffer—serve as irrefutable evidence that after Simon's young death, Elizabeth remarried. (See photo) We can only speculate as to why she was buried next to Simon rather than her second husband.



After receiving all our documentation, the Friends of Potter's Field corrected the memorial on Find-A-Grave and now cite Simon Martin as buried in the Churchville Cemetery in Oberlin, PA (near Harrisburg).

HINT: When you can't locate information about someone, try searching for their siblings or other family members instead. Records that include family members often include the person as well. (5)

Having seen that Garmans and Livingstons are buried in the same cemetery as our "brick wall" Simon, we took another look at the relationships. Simon's son Joseph, my great-grandfather was married to Emma Garman, whose grandfather was Jacob Livingston, his second wife was a Susan Martin. (From here on, I refer only to this long-gone Susan, not my aunt.)

I have identified cousins who share DNA with me through Jacob, but through his first wife (which becomes relevant later). Some trees list Susan and Simon as siblings. While their estimated birth dates make this plausible, other than family familiarity and living in the same area, there is no documentation to support the relationship. But this remains an avenue for research and connects with the following hint.

HINT: Using DNA to Do Collaborative Research - Contact DNA matches that may be related to your brick-wall ancestor to discover what they know about their family lines, especially if they have not uploaded a tree to the DNA testing site. (6)

I share DNA with eight cousins who descend from one of the sons (my half 3rd great-uncle) of Jacob Livingston and Susan Martin. DNA-linked trees, correctly constructed, show these relationships as half cousins. However, if Susan and Simon are siblings, I would also be related to these cousins through the yet-to-be-found parents of Susan & Simon.

Using the advice to collaborate, I will send a missive to these eight and others related to Simon Martin. Perhaps, in the not too distant future, we will be successfully in breaking through my brick wall.

More Hints for Breaking Through Brick Walls

Here are the websites I consulted. I avoided sites, I hope, that were selling services. Breaking through brick-wall advice can be accessed directly using the tinyurls.

GenealogyInTime.com <https://tinyurl.com/50-Reasons-Part-I>

<https://tinyurl.com/50-Reasons-Part-II>

GenealogyJustAsk.com <https://tinyurl.com/What-is-a-brick-wall>

FamilyHistoryDaily.com <https://tinyurl.com/Why-you-can-t-break-thru>

My book shows how serendipity played a role in finding my birth father and in solving other genealogical brick walls.

MySurpriseFamily <https://tinyurl.com/>

I'm trying out a blog. Let me know what you think.

<https://margaretmnicholson.tumblr.com>

Ancestry.com <https://tinyurl.com/ExpandYourSearch>

FamilySearch.org <https://tinyurl.com/OvercomeBrickWall-DNA>

Society Services

The Research committee supports our members with research assistance either at meetings or via our Facebook group. Our Research Committee chair is available before and after our monthly meetings. 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.

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. 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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