

Ancient City Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society

August 2016

Contents

Speaking About . . .	3
Cool Connections	5
Maintaining Your Research	6
City Directories at the Internet Archive	8
The Society Page	10
Society Services	12
Publishing Guidelines	13

Ancient City Bulletin by St. Augustine Genealogical Society is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 171 Second Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.

Speaking About . . .

The President's Line

While Bob Burns is enjoying the summer in New England, other board members are writing for the President's Line. This month we welcome Judy Parrino, our Programs chair.

I'm the newest member of the St Augustine Genealogical Society Board, so let me introduce myself. I've lived in the St Augustine area since 2005. I briefly joined SAGs from 2006-2007 when I was such a "newbie" that finding my ancestors was a far-off dream. I dropped out of the group when I started working full time. I retired about a year ago, and one of my retirement goals was to get back into SAGs and continue my genealogy research.

When I received a call from our Society President, Bob Burns, last spring, about what areas I was researching and what my genealogical goals were, I was delighted to talk with him. At the end of our conversation, Bob mentioned that the group was looking for someone to schedule speakers for our General Session meetings, so here I am.

In the interest of full disclosure, I still consider myself a "newbie" at family research, but at least I've begun the process. The reason I joined SAGs is because I feel genealogy research is a continuous learning process and SAGs is a great way to pursue this learning development in the St Augustine area. Meeting all these nice people with such interesting stories is simply a bonus on top of that!

Researching and finding speakers is confronting a learning curve for me, so I would like to solicit everyone's feedback on what types of presentations you'd

like to see in 2017. To my thinking, many minds are a lot better than just one. Don't know where to begin? Check out some of the topics listed below.

- General research information pertaining to all parts of the USA & world -- OR
- Research specific to St Augustine or southern genealogy, such as Florida land records or Civil War ancestors.
- Presentations about specific subject areas, such as Catholics, Lutherans, Historical Sites , Holocaust & Jewish topics, Medieval history, Palatines, German Americans, Italian Americans, Greek Americans, Scandinavian Americans, Ireland & Irish Americans, the UK, etc.
- Methodology, technology "How-To" presentations?
- Presentations on Passenger Lists & Immigration and/or Ellis Island or Castle Garden specifically?
- Historical presentations, like why did your relatives emigrate and what hardships did they have to endure?
- Once you hear the DNA presentation in September, do you want to hear additional information on DNA as a way of researching your ancestors?
- Do you want to learn how to write about your ancestors?

Please e-mail me now or at anytime to sags.programs@yahoo.com or call me at (904) 940-0336.

Cool Connections

Editorial Notes

I find it hard to believe that I grew up in St. Augustine in a house without air-conditioning. The summer heat did little to stop us kids. While I still prefer the heat to the bitter cold of northern climes, I have found that August is a good month to stay as close to the air-conditioning vent as possible. Fortunately there's one right above my computer and I'm taking advantage of it to work on my family research. Thanks to the Internet I can visit archives around the world. I can connect with family, friends and other researchers to ask questions or just catch up. And, there are plenty of webinars to attend.

Closer to home is our SAGS Support site where members can get together any time. It's also full of news and information about other online resources that can help your research. The site's calendar of online events (many of them free) is full of webinars, hangouts and online meetings.

If you haven't accepted your invitation to join SAGS Support, now's the time to check your inbox for the user guide and your invitation to join us. Spend the hot days of August enjoying the cool connections you'll make at SAGS Support.

The best treasures are yet to be found.

~Mel Fisher

Maintaining Your Research

Research Toolbox

Your computer plays a huge role in your research efforts. It is your window to the Internet and the growing number of archives found there. It is also your communications center, your filing cabinet and your research notebook. While your computer is key to your research efforts, are you performing the housekeeping and maintenance tasks needed to keep your system in top form?

When was the last time you backed up the files on your computer?

Are you using an antivirus program to protect your data?

Do you regularly check for and install updates to your operating system and installed applications?

System Maintenance

The first thing you need to do is maintain your systems. Both your operating system and the apps you've installed on your computer are constantly being updated. These updates fix problems (called bugs) affecting the app's performance and vulnerabilities that bad guys can use to hack into your computer. Be aware, too, that most software developers place limits on how long older operating systems and applications will be supported with updates. If your system is still running old, unsupported software, you are more vulnerable to attacks and other disasters.

Windows users will find the Windows Update applet in the Control Panel. This notifies you when there are updates to Windows and its associated apps (Internet Explorer, for example) but not your installed applications. Each of them has their own update system. The Windows Update app can be set to

automatically check on a schedule you set and even go ahead and install any updates it finds.

The Mac App Store program included on Apple computers will automatically notify you of any updates to the operating system and apps you've purchased through the store. Performing those updates takes just a tap on the Update button. Apps installed outside of the App Store will need to be checked and updated manually.

Don't forget your portable devices either. Check your Android, iOS and Windows devices regularly and perform any required updates. Most devices require access to an app store to purchase software so updates will mostly be handled through your device's store.

Backups

One advantage of a digital archive is that it is easy to duplicate. A family portrait is a one-of-a-kind treasure, but a high-quality digital photograph can be quickly and easily copied and saved in any number of places. And, digital storage is a lot cheaper than physical storage. Don't make just one copy of your digital archives - make multiple copies! Have a copy easily accessible on your computer, a backup on an external hard drive AND off-site backup. When editing a digital file - especially photos, graphics and video - make a copy of the original and work on the copy. These steps will protect you from human error, system crashes and environmental disasters such as fire, tornadoes or hurricanes.

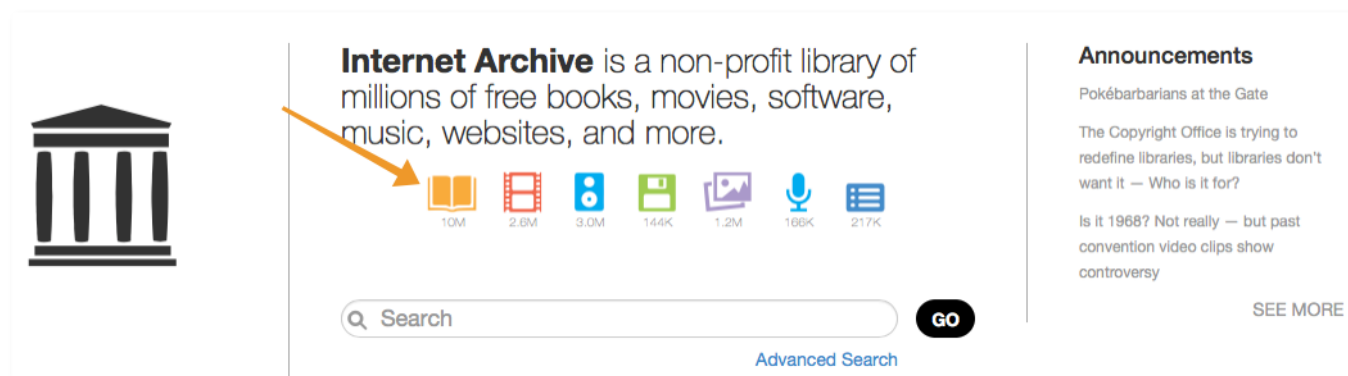
There are apps already on your system that will perform simple backups - manual and automated. You may want a more sophisticated app - or even an online service that handles backups for you. Then, there are online platforms - like photo-sharing sites - that aren't designed as backups but sure serve that purpose very well. The system you choose will depend on your data, workflow and your budget.

City Directories at the Internet Archive

In the Archives

Although many of the commercial archives include city directories as part of their collections, actually browsing through a city directory gives you a broader look at your ancestors' world. Most directories are divided into two sections - one organized alphabetically by name and the other organized by address. The address section is particularly interesting since it shows who the neighbors are.

Internet Archive (<https://archive.org>) has an impressive collection of more than 2000 city directories. These are scanned copies of the actual book. You can view them online and even download a copy if you wish. Best of all, it costs you nothing.



Internet Archive is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more.

10M 2.6M 3.0M 144K 1.2M 168K 217K

Search **GO**

[Advanced Search](#)

Announcements

Pokébarbarians at the Gate

The Copyright Office is trying to redefine libraries, but libraries don't want it — Who is it for?

Is it 1968? Not really — but past convention video clips show controversy

[SEE MORE](#)

To get started, go to the Internet Archive home page and click on the book icon. This will limit your search to text/book files.

The eBooks and Texts screen appears with a list of libraries and collections. Ignore them for now and go for the search box in the right sidebar. Enter "city directory" (with surrounding quotation marks) and press the Return key.

The screenshot shows the Internet Archive search results for 'city directory'. At the top, there's a header for 'eBooks and Texts Internet Archive' with a logo and a brief description. Below that are navigation links for 'About', 'Collection', and 'Forum'. A search bar contains 'city directory' and shows '2,268 RESULTS'. On the right sidebar, there are filters for 'collections 5' and 'texts 2,263', and a 'TOPIC' section with a dropdown arrow and a list of years and locations. The main content area displays a grid of book covers for 'McElroy's Philadelphia city directory' from various years (1841, 1842, 1848, 1839, 1840, 1851, 1853, 1850, 1859). Each book entry includes a cover image, title, author/publisher information, and a small set of icons (book, eye, star, speech bubble) with associated numbers.

The results will look something like this.

Look for the TOPIC item in the sidebar with the down arrow to its right. In this example, I have clicked the arrow to arrange the topics in alphabetical order. Each topic appears in blue because they are links to display all the items matching that topic. The number to the right of the topic shows how many items are available. Scroll down to see all the topics.

If you don't see your city in this collection, remember that Internet Archive is finding and digitizing new content every day. Yours may be next.

If you can dream it, you can do it.

~ Walt Disney

The Society Page

There is no meeting scheduled for August. Don't let that stop you from enjoying some genealogy goodness. There's lots of activity at [SAGS Support](#) - our members-only web site. Every Monday you'll receive our Research Notes newsletter with the latest news, deals and updates from the archives, apps and other genealogical resources. Check out the [Online Events Calendar](#). It's full of webinars, hangouts and online meetings - many of them free. The Ancient City Bulletin archive lets you review previous copies whenever you like. Stop by the [Cafe](#) and join a conversation or start your own. Got questions? Post them in the Cafe and see how quickly you get a response.

If you haven't accepted your invitation to SAGS Support, now's the time to do it. Beginning October 1st, SAGS Support members will be the first to receive newsletters, meeting information and other news.

To have posts delivered to your email inbox, visit the Cafe at <https://sagssupport.wordpress.com/cafe>. You'll find a box in the right sidebar to follow SAGS Support. Click the Follow button, enter your email and WordPress will take care of the rest.

Want more? Take a look at the [intro video](#) and [download the user guide](#). You can always drop us a note at sags.publications@yahoo.com or check with Denise at the next meeting. We'll be happy to help.

Officers

President

Bob Burns

1st Vice President

Open

2nd Vice President

Sue DiDomenico

Secretary

Pat Tanner

Treasurer

Neda Makin

Committees

Research

Open

Networking

Open

Programs

Judy Parrino

Communications

Bernadette Patruno

Publications

Denise Olson

Library Liaison

Joan Lucian

Webmaster

Debbie Bateman

Archivist/Historian

Rosemarie Quintero

Facebook

Sue Gill

Society Services

The Research Help Desk supports our members with research assistance either at meetings or via email. Members can complete a research help request form at any meeting or email your request to Sue Gill at suecarl@aol.com. The Research Committee will respond with suggestions on search options and sources.

Members with research experience are encouraged to volunteer on the Research Committee.

There are a number of ways SAGS members can connect online. These include:

- [SAGS Online](#) - The society's public web site and records archive.
- [SAGS Facebook Group](#) - This is a public group and once you join, you can set it to notify you when items are posted to the group. It's a great place to share useful research resources, ask questions or share a success story.
- **SAGS Mailing List** - The mailing list is used to keep members informed on upcoming meetings, announcement and other activities. To join, send an email message to SAGS-L-request@rootsweb.com with the word **subscribe** in the subject line and in the message body. You will receive a return message asking you to confirm your subscription. Follow the link included in the message. Once you confirm you will receive a welcome message providing instructions for using it.
- [SAGS Support](#) - Our members-only web site offering news, tips, resources and updates along with the ability to connect and share information with other members.
- [SAGS Writers Group](#) - This blog supports our writers group. All society members are welcome.

Publishing Guidelines

We accept articles related to genealogy, family history and research methodology from our members 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@gmail.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.

The Ancient City Bulletin is licensed using the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. Ownership of individual articles remains with the author. Please note that if you prefer a different license for your submission, include your licensing option at the end of your submitted article. Learn more about your licensing options at [Creative Commons](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).