

A detailed botanical illustration in a light, sketchy style serves as the background. It features various plants, including a large, broad-leafed plant on the left, a fern frond extending across the top, and a butterfly in flight near the center. The overall tone is soft and naturalistic.

Ancient City Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society

ST. AUGUSTINE
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY
PUBLICATIONS



April 2017

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The Society Page

Our April meeting will be held on Saturday, April 15th, at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US 1 South. Check-in begins at 12:45pm and the meeting begins at 1:00pm. Lori Miranda will present *Picture This: Family Photos*. Lori is a well-known speaker in this area and a board member with the Amelia Island Genealogical Society.

The April short course begins after Lori's Q&A and will demonstrate how to use Google Alerts to automate some of your research efforts. Learn how to create a saved search so that Google will repeat it regularly and notify you when a matched result is found.



If this masthead doesn't show up in your inbox every Monday morning, you are missing out on society news, research tips, upcoming events and other useful genealogy happenings. Contact sags.publications@yahoo.com to set up your subscription.

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The Genealogy Social

Editorial Notes

Today's technology has done wonders for those of us researching our ancestors. The search engines and online archives have made our efforts easier and more productive. They have also made it easy to connect with other users researching the same families. I call them research cousins and making a connection with them is as enjoyable as finding a new ancestor. I have been playing Words With Friends (the digital equivalent of Scrabble) with a woman in Charleston for a couple of years. I "met" her on Facebook in one of the genealogy groups but took some time to realize we were related. She's still beating me in WWF but she has also opened up an unknown (to me) side of my Henry family.

JWiese74 [CONTACT JWIESE74](#)

AncestryDNA
Join the millions making DNA discoveries.

- Connect with new cousins and find new ancestors
- Fill in the gaps in your family tree
- Discover your ethnic origins

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Member since 21 Sep 2010
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About
Member Name JWiese74
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Education Bachelors Degree

Search the Member Directory
Find other members similar to JWiese74 in the Ancestry Member Directory. You can search based on research interests, location, language and more.

JWiese74 is willing to help other Ancestry members!
[Contact JWiese74](#) to ask for help

User profile page on Ancestry

Many of the online archives include networking features making it possible to connect with your research cousins. Take advantage of your user profile page at the sites you use to advertise which surnames and locations you are researching.

When a shaking leaf or tip sends you to another user's tree, use the archive's internal messaging options to introduce yourself. You can then compare notes, ask questions and discuss research options. Both Ancestry and MyHeritage offer impressive networking features.



RootsMagic page on Facebook

Facebook is full of genealogy support groups ranging from archives to apps. They offer tips and answers to questions. Look for genealogy or historical societies online in the areas you are researching. They can help you find locations that are no longer on a map or - especially in rural areas - information on your families and their neighbors.

Look for Facebook pages for the software programs you use. You'll find the latest news, tips and deals. Many offer links to connect with tech support and you can post questions on their page. You'll also find other users who are happy to share ways to take advantage of the program's features.

There is also a very large community of genebloggers who blog the stories their research discovers along with sharing their research expertise. Thanks to newsreaders and the social networking features included in blog platforms, they not only attract other genebloggers, they often attract research cousins too.

Go ahead and test the waters. See if you don't find that online networking can be a very productive - and fun - pastime.

Research on the Road

Research Toolbox

I remember the days of dragging large notebooks full of family group sheets and research notes with me when we drove to north Georgia to visit family - and do some research. I left my research at home when I enlisted in the Air Force. As a result, I missed several potentially lucrative research opportunities.

Today, those massive binders have been replaced with one digital notebook in Evernote. The information on those family group sheets has moved to my genealogy program which includes both a desktop and mobile version. Now I can take all my research with me thanks to my iPad and easily add new information, records and notes thanks to my iPhone and its camera.

A number of online archives offer free mobile apps (iOS and Android) to access their data. These include Ancestry, MyHeritage and FamilySearch. You can use your device's web browser to access those that don't have apps. Currently there is only one full-featured mobile genealogy app available - MobileFamilyTree (iOS - \$19.99) - but you can bet more are coming. Combine these apps with a good notes management service like Evernote or OneNote and you've got access to all your research anywhere you have an online connection.

There are several other useful apps and services to include in you mobile toolbox. Add a scanning app to your phone. It has a better camera and you will get higher resolution scans than with a tablet. You'll find a list of Scanner apps in the [Speakers Handouts page](#) at SAGS Support along with tips for using them to capture those records you find on your trips.

Whether you travel around the world or just to the local library, these mobile tools can make researching on the road a lot easier.

Billion Graves

In the Archives

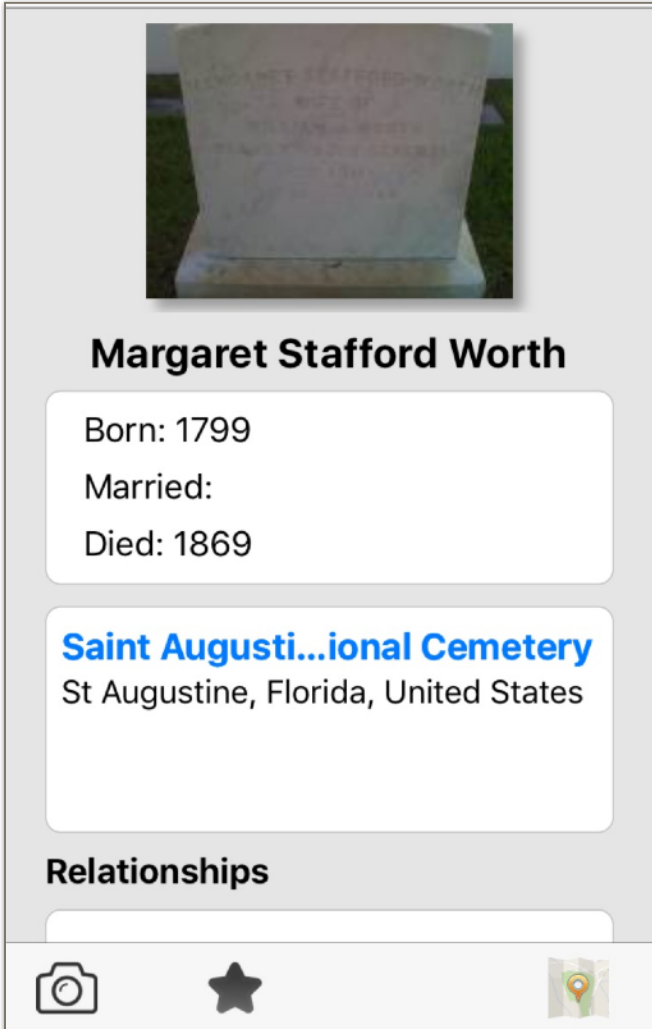
BillionGraves (<https://billiongraves.com>) is an archive of cemetery headstones from around the world. These headstones and their transcriptions have been submitted by volunteers using their smartphones with the free BillionGraves app installed. This allows them to capture GPS coordinates for the grave along with the headstone photograph. Once the photos are uploaded to BillionGraves, volunteers also transcribe the headstone information to make them searchable.

The BillionGraves app also supports the researcher looking for a grave. Thanks to the GPS information, they will not only discover the cemetery but the actual location of that grave.

BillionGraves has been active in Europe and the Middle East for sometime so it is a great resource for finding the graves of overseas ancestors. They organize group events and challenges to help build the



archive. It's very popular over there. Their US presence is still new, but catching on in many places. Their impact has pushed [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) to finally upgrade the Find A Grave platform. It is getting many features similar to those found at BillionGraves.



Margaret Stafford Worth

Born: 1799
Married:
Died: 1869

Saint Augusti...ional Cemetery
St Augustine, Florida, United States

Relationships

Camera icon, Star icon, Location pin icon

BillionGraves offers both free and premium access. BillionGraves Plus costs \$29.97 USD for an annual subscription. Benefits include their Family Plot service which helps you find other family members related to the person you are searching. The Nearby Graves feature lets you take a virtual walk through a cemetery and look for gravesites based on name, distance from the original grave you found and more. Since families can be buried in different locations, the Global Family feature helps you find and mark those sites for future reference. Then there is the Family Notify feature which notifies you when a new record is added matching the name and location you are searching.

Purchasing a premium discount has outside benefits too - like a 50%

discount for the first year of a MyHeritage Complete Plan (normally around \$300/year) and a 15% discount on any AncestorCloud project.

Editor's Note: FindAGrave is feeling the burn. They recently released a FindAGrave app [iOS & Android - free] so you can photograph, transcribe and upload grave info from your phone. In addition, a new site design is in beta testing.

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 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.
- [SAGS Writers Group](#) - This virtual special interest group supports members looking for creative ways to document and share their family history.
- [SAGS Facebook Page](#) - Our society's home at Facebook, it presents the latest society news along with upcoming meetings and presentations.
- [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.

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.

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