

# ***Ancient City Bulletin***

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society

April 2016

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# The President's Line

Bob Burns

About ten folks from our Society attended the North Florida Genealogy Conference in Orange Park, and from what I heard, found it very valuable. The sessions opened up new ideas and new connections. While it was a long day, it was well worth the \$25 fee.

Our next meeting is slated for 10:30am on April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Southeast Library on U.S. 1 South. Our guest speaker is Kathy Stickney, presenting "Researching Your Confederate Soldier." Her husband, Clyde, spoke to us last fall.

Our speaker for May 14<sup>th</sup> is Carol Carlisle, whose topic will be "Research Logs and Timelines." This looks like an interesting topic for all of us. I want to pay a special thank you to Judy Parrino, who has been helping me fill out our speaker requirements, starting with Carol. She is now focusing on June 11<sup>th</sup>, and the rest of the year.

A note to all: I hope you all received the email blast sent out by Bernie, our Communications Chair. It focused on the return of Who Do You Think You Are? to The Learning Channel (TLC), starting Sun. April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00pm. It is nice to segue to this show after the seasonal finale of the PBS series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

I would also like to remind everyone of the availability of the Help Desk, staffed by Sue Gill. She can be reached at [suecarl@aol.com](mailto:suecarl@aol.com), or via Facebook, or via our website.

A final reminder is that annual dues are now overdue. We will begin calling unpaid members to confirm their interest in retaining their membership. Please send in your check as soon as possible. Thank you. And enjoy your web browsing!

# Generating Genealogists

## Editorial Notes

One of the sessions I presented at last month's North Florida Genealogy Conference discussed the impressive social features included in Flickr's photo-sharing service. Apparently, while I was describing how to connect with other family historians via Flickr, someone very special made a connection with me. That evening, while catching up on email and social networks, I discovered a comment attached to a photograph in one of my Flickr albums. It was a photo of "Miss Emmie". Miss Emmie's husband is my mother's first cousin. The comment he posted was quite simple - "my great grandma". Of course I responded immediately and our conversations are continuing. Tyler is quite young and already fascinated with his family history. I've got an album dedicated to our Barker family and it appears he has visited it. He has even discovered my blog and commented on several stories there. It also appears that his grandfather is helping spur his interest in family history. Love it!

My fascination with family history started much the same way - photos and stories. I was lucky to have a number of storytellers in the family. Through them I learned about the Jewish doctor who was a hero of the Republic of Texas and that my Barker great grandfather was a Confederate soldier who was captured and sent to a POW camp near Chicago. At the war's end, he walked home to Georgia. These stories inspired me to learn more. My photos and blog articles are focused mostly at my immediate family. Their eyes glaze over when I show them a pedigree chart, but they love reading the stories. Funny how those boring charts become interesting when they diagram our relationship to an interesting ancestor. I have even attracted a number of "research cousins".

If you are looking for ways to generate genealogical interest in your family, start telling your own stories and see how they respond. Don't know how to get started? Join the [SAGS Writers Group](#). With a little help from your genealogical friends, you'll find all kinds of creative ideas and support.

# Notes Management

## Research Toolbox

Can you imagine research without notes? Neither can I.

Taking notes is as personal as it is imperative. We all have our own style and habits which impact how we take and organize our research notes. I was taught to use index cards with one card for each bit of information I uncovered, along with its source information. That format suited me well in my analog youth, allowing me to rearrange my notes both for analysis and to organize my thoughts when I was ready to start writing.

The digital world has made note-taking a lot easier. Today we can collect, organize and access all our research notes no matter where we are. Our smart phone replaces the library's copy machine when we want a copy of a page or record. That same phone can find and display any of our notes in seconds.

Evernote (<https://evernote.com>) is an amazing platform that makes it easy to capture all or part of a web page and save it to a virtual notebook. Add a few tags and let Evernote's search function pull together your notes on a particular family, location or topic in a matter of seconds. In addition to capturing web pages, you can email notes, images and documents to your Evernote account and you can even manually type notes when needed. Got a microphone or headset attached to your desktop or mobile device? You can record an audio note - or interview - and include it in your Evernote collection.

Your notes are maintained in your online account and there are desktop and mobile apps insuring access to your research wherever you are. Install Evernote extensions in your browser and you can capture web content with just a click on the Evernote Web Clipper as shown in the example below.

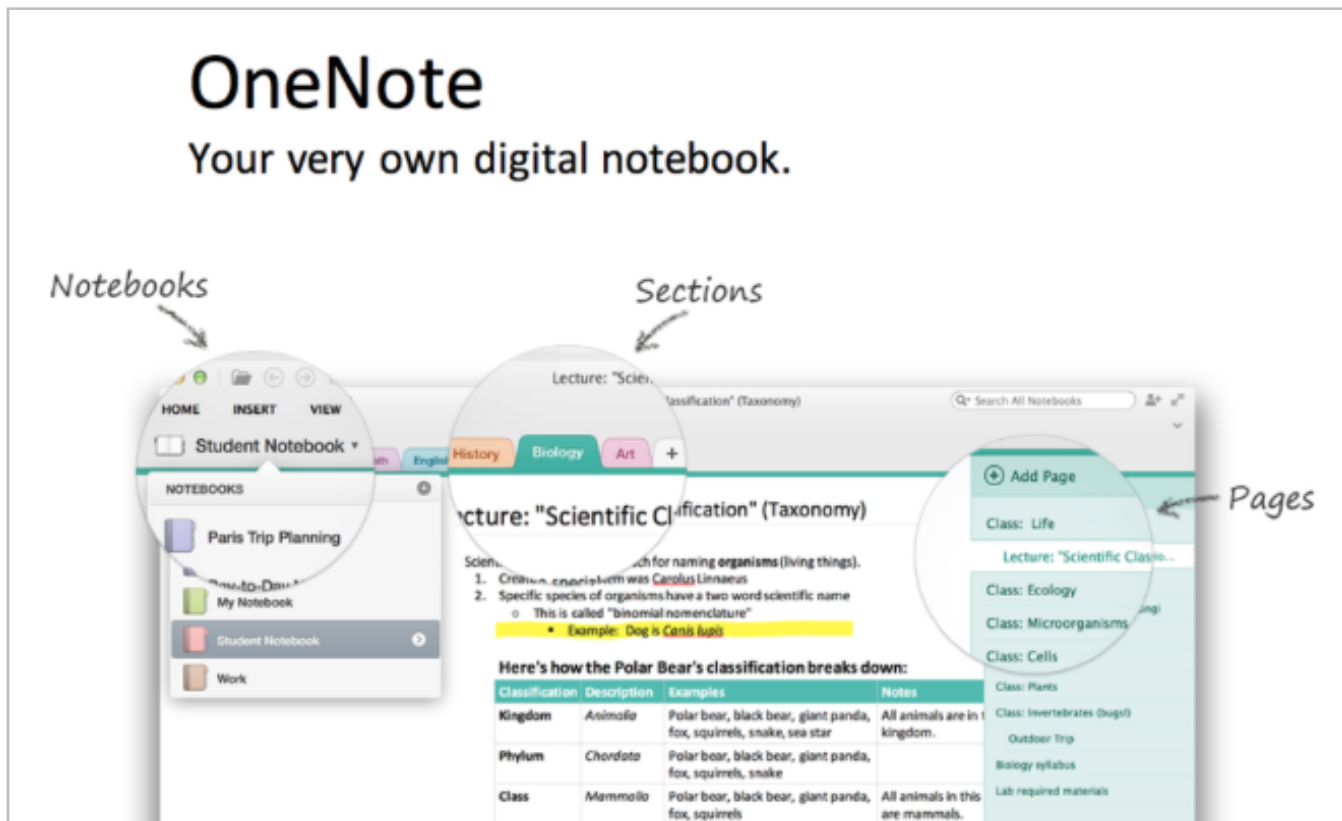
The screenshot shows the FamilySearch website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for Family Tree, Memories, Search, and Indexing. Below this, there are tabs for RECORDS, GENEALOGIES, CATALOG, BOOKS, and WIKI. The main profile is for William James Barrett, born 15 September 1827 in London, England, and died 1 December 1864 near Concord Church, Mississippi. His parents are listed as Michael John Barrett and Frances Scott. Below the profile is a table for the 1860 US Census, 1860, showing details for W J Barrett and other household members. A table below that lists household members with columns for HOUSEHOLD, ROLE, GENDER, AGE, and BIRTHPLACE. On the right, there is a preview of the original census document with a search icon. An Evernote Web Clipper overlay is positioned on the right side of the page, capturing content from the census record. The overlay includes a 'Save' button, a 'Clip' section with options like Article, Simplified article, Full page, Bookmark, and Screenshot, an 'Organize' section with 'Family Research' and 'Add tag', and a section for tags with 'surname:barrett x', 'census x', and 'Mississippi x'. There is also an 'Add remark' field and an 'Options' gear icon.

**Evernote's Web Clipper quickly captures online content**

Notes and clippings are organized into notebooks, but tags are also used to make searching easy. Common searches can be saved and new notes matching the search criteria will automatically be included in that saved search. Evernote supports both Windows and Mac on the desktop along with mobile apps for iOS, Android and Windows devices. It offers a free, Plus (\$25/year) and Premium (\$50/year) service. The Plus and Premium services provide more upload volume, more collaboration features and more security. They also allow you to take your notebooks offline so you can access your research information even when you aren't connected to the Internet.

Evernote isn't your only option. Microsoft's OneNote (<http://www.onenote.com>) is another impressive service. It also supports Windows, Mac and most mobile devices. The apps and services are free. It does use Microsoft's OneDrive platform to save notes so they are accessible wherever and whenever you need

them. As your notes archive grows, you may need to purchase additional storage.



Other notes management options include Google Keep (<https://keep.google.com>), Simplenote (<http://simplenote.com>) and Zoho Notebook (<https://notebook.zoho.com>).

Each of us has our own research management style. Going digital with notes management will require some adjustments to your usual note-taking habits, but that effort will be worthwhile in the time you save retrieving specific notes or saved records.

## Florida Memory

In the Archives

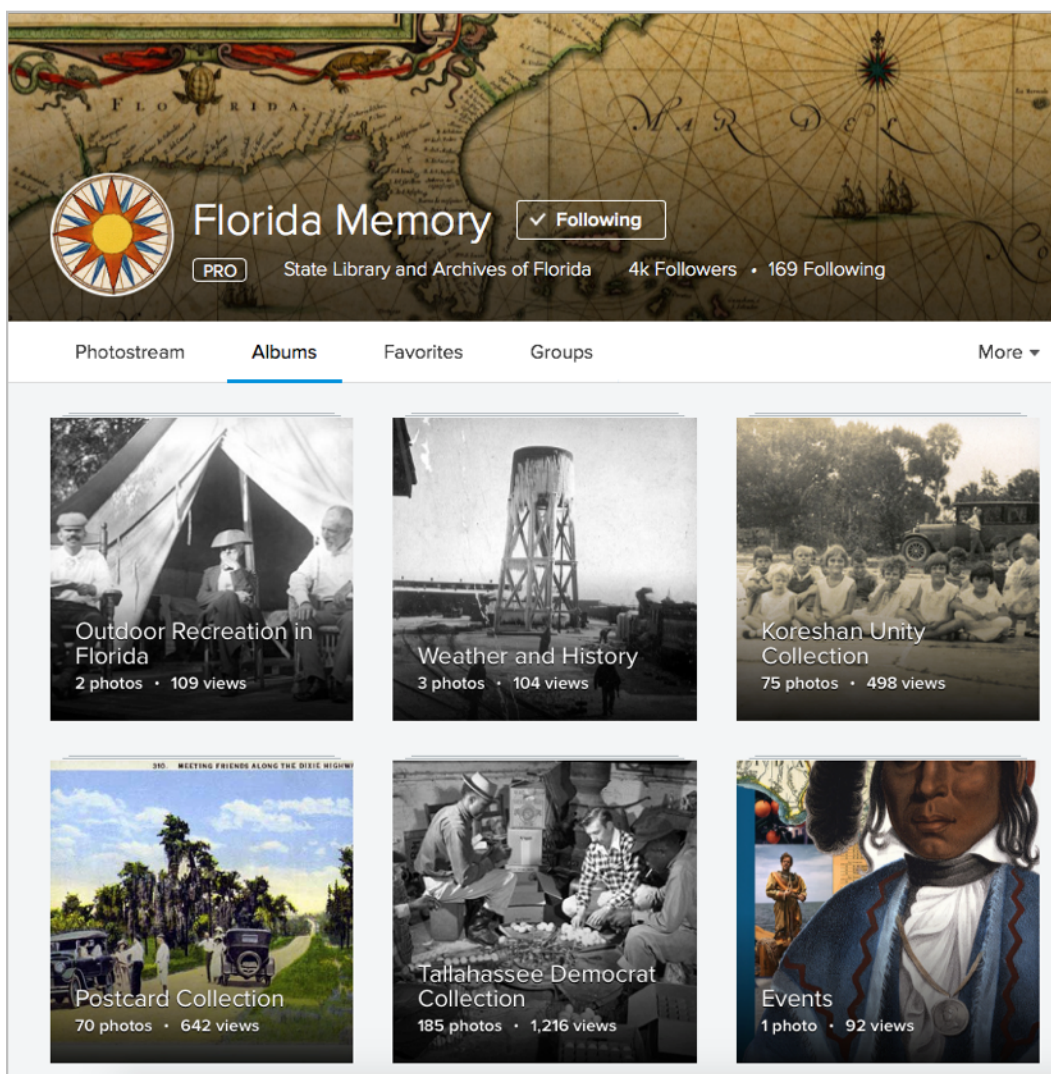
[Florida Memory](#) is an online outreach program of the State Library and Archives of Florida. Here you will find an impressive collection of photographs, films, videos and even audio recordings featuring Florida's history, culture and people. There are historic maps along with a number of impressive records collections. Genealogists will find the [Confederate Pension Application Files](#), [Spanish Land Grants](#) and [World War I Service Cards](#) particularly interesting.

[Florida Maps: Then & Now](#) offers a series of fascinating videos which combine historic maps with current aerial photos and audio narratives describing Florida's history. The Matanzas River video describes a plantation the was located at what is now Bing's Landing on A1A south of Washington Oaks State Park. You can still see preserved ruins in this delightful Flagler County park.



Take advantage of the [Guide to Genealogical Research](#) section for an overview of the various collections and how they can support your research efforts. This guide also lists - with links - outside resources for further research. You will want to add the [Florida Memory Blog](#) to your newsreader. It introduces you to the various collections and shares fascinating historical sketches on a broad range of topics.

Florida Memory also has a significant presence at [Flickr Commons](#). You will find photos and videos organized into albums by topic. Extensive descriptive information supplements each image and most of the photos can be downloaded. Both sites offer researchers some impressive historical resources.



# Cherokee Roses

Denise Barrett Olson

Growing roses in Florida can be a challenge. Heat, humidity and bugs conspire to destroy the delicate hybrids most people prefer. They are just too much work for me. We raise two types of roses – the Cracker rose and the Cherokee rose.

The Cracker rose is actually one of the antique China roses better known as Louis Philippe. It's a bush rose with clusters of small, dark red blooms and it blooms year-round. When we first saw this plant at the nursery, I asked their resident expert – a very charming, very Southern lady – if this rose would be difficult to raise here. She answered in her slow, Southern drawl, "Honey, this rose will grow in traffic." She was right. We whack the bushes back a couple of times a year to keep them from getting leggy, but that's all the attention they get.



The Cherokee rose is an entirely different creature. You seldom see it growing in a garden and it's almost impossible to find at a nursery. In early spring, you will find it blooming all over the woods and roadsides in north Florida where it grows wild. The Cherokee is also an antique China rose – a climbing rose that blooms once a year. Its flower is a simple white, five-petal bloom with yellow stamens.

While most roses have thorns, those on the Cherokee rose are formidable. If you want security, plant a perimeter of Cherokee roses – and buy some sturdy leather gloves before trying to handle them.

This rose received its common name because it is linked to the Trail of Tears. The petals represent the tears of the Cherokee women as they made their way on their forced migration. The golden yellow center symbolizes the Cherokee gold taken from them. It is the state flower of Georgia.

Our yard is no manicured landscape so the Cherokee rose fits in perfectly. It also serves a very symbolic purpose – both my mother [Marjorie Barker Killebrew Barrett 1920-1981] and her mother [Lois Link Barker 1887-1968] loved the Cherokee rose. Like the rose, both women were strong and tough. Each had a quiet beauty – in both body and soul. My rose climbs up the front porch rail right outside the window by my desk. It provides a link to these two special ladies.

Looking at the records of their lives, you will find a great deal of tragedy associated with my Cherokee roses. Lois lost her mother at the age of 5. She was in her early 20s when her father died. Her husband, Dolph, and his father both died within a week of each other when Marjorie was not quite 2. Lois raised four children by returning to her home state of Tennessee and teaching school. Not only did they survive the Depression, but Lois also managed to hold on to the Georgia farm. Marjorie's first husband, Joseph Killebrew, was killed in World War II. Her second marriage ended in divorce not long after the birth of her fourth child. She also supported her family by teaching school.

## Officers

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Sue Gill

There was nothing tragic about either woman. From the letters she saved, we see that Lois was a bit of a flirt before she and Dolph were married. I don't remember a "doting" grandmother, but we always enjoyed visiting or having her visit us. I seldom saw her agitated and she always enjoyed company. The letters and cards received after her death show the many lives she touched and their love for her.

Mom was strong, talented, resourceful, gracious and fun. She sewed beautifully, refinished furniture, did her own upholstery and had an eye for design. Every weed, every scrap had design potential. She could see potential in even the most common items. Her flower arrangements and Christmas decorations were eye-catching. My favorite prom dress was made from a sample piece of upholstery damask and the end of a bolt of drapery satin.

She loved the beach and we spent lots of time there. She thought nothing of piling us all into the car for a Sunday breakfast cookout and swim at The Cove before getting dressed for church. Our big front porch was the official rainy-day playground for the neighborhood. Grandmother's antique wicker would get up-ended and covered with sheets to create playhouses. Many a theatrical was performed on that porch. One exception was the magic show where my cousin and I were going to saw my sister in half. Mom gently convinced us that we needed to perfect our other tricks before taking on this one.

I remember her irritation – mostly about small things like poor grades, getting home after curfew or chores that didn't get done. She constantly pressed us to do better, work harder and study more. We could be anything we wanted, she kept telling us, but we would have to work for it. Yes, she played the mother guilt thing quite well. However, when crisis hit she seldom panicked. Injuries, accidents, hurricanes and illnesses were handled with amazing calm.

She was just reaching the stage of life where she could relax and enjoy herself when the illness struck that would take her life so early. The last lesson she taught us was to make the best of today because we don't know what will happen tomorrow. Like all her other lessons, this one has served me well.

Not long after she died I spent a long weekend at the family's Georgia farm with her two sisters. Our project was to find a suitable stone for mom's grave. We were looking for Georgia marble. At that time, it meant we'd be looking at old stones that, for one reason or another, had been removed from their original owners' graves. We visited several monument companies without finding anything we liked. At our last stop, one stone stood out because of its unusual shape. Once we got closer, we knew this was our stone.

The front of the stone was carved with Cherokee roses.



*The Barker plot at New Hope South Baptist Church in Holland, Georgia*

## The Society Page

Join us at the Southeast Branch Library on April 9th when Kathy Stickney is our guest speaker. Using her father's family members as a case study, Kathy traces them through the various records available on Confederate soldiers and their units. Records illustrated include muster rolls, trench rolls, register for a hospital, register of prisoner of war, oath of allegiance, roll of surrendered prisoners, company transfer, home guard rolls, and pension records.

Information is provided on how to research a given unit, discover its chain of command, and the battles it fought. People are encouraged to dig



deeper and even visit the various battlefields. The meeting begins at 10:30am.

The SAGS Writers Group meets Thursday, April 28th, at 2:00pm at the St. Johns County Public Library's main branch located at 1960 N. Ponce De Leon Boulevard in St. Augustine. The topic for April is *The Future of Memories*. Details and support notes are available at the SAGS Writers website. SAGS Writers is open only to members of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society and serves as both a resource center and way for group members to stay connected between meetings. Email [sags.publications@yahoo.com](mailto:sags.publications@yahoo.com) to request access to the site.

## Research Notes

RootsWeb update from [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com):

*Regretfully, despite their best efforts, our teams were not able to retrieve all of the data associated with the site. Specifically, we were unable to retrieve content from FreePages added after the summer of 2015. We understand these pages are important to you and are very sorry that we are not able to recover the data that was lost as a result of the hardware failure. Going forward, we are adding additional technical resources to support the site and ensure such an issue does not occur again.*

Florida State Genealogical Society's April Webinar will be held on April 21st with Beth Watson Foulk presenting *Problem Solving with Timelines*. The webinar begins at 8:00pm, but you must register in advance. Visit <http://www.flsgs.org> for details and to register.

The Southern California Genealogical Society has announced its schedule for the 2016 Jamboree Extension Webinar Series. These webinars are open to anyone at no charge, but you must register to attend. Visit the [SCGS webinar page](#) for schedule and registration information. Registration is now open.

These aren't the only sources for useful webinars. Check out the online calendar of GeneaWebinars, Hangouts and other online events at [GeneaWebinars.com](http://GeneaWebinars.com).

Are you following [Genealogy 101](#)? It's not just for beginners! The site is updated daily with the latest news from the archives, upcoming webinars and conferences, informational videos and a lot more. You can choose to follow (subscribe) to the site via email or newsreader. Click on the orange bar at the left side of the screen to display the sidebar. You'll find the Follow options there.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Publications Library](#) - This online library is open 24/7. Here you will find current and past issues of the Ancient City Bulletin along with other society publications.
- [SAGS Writers Group](#) - This blog supports our writers group.



## 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](mailto: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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