



# LEGACY

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF

**THE SOUTHERN GENEALOGIST'S EXCHANGE SOCIETY, INC.**

Library: 6215 Sauterne Drive, Jacksonville, FL • 904-778-1000 • Web site <http://sgesjax.tripod.com>

## Seminar



We have planned a special one-day seminar with Ann Osisek on Saturday, October 8. A flier is included in this newsletter. Please plan to come. Ann is well known in the Central Florida area where she lives and gives many programs. You will learn, plus have a good lunch and get to know the other members.

## Merger News

The board of SGES voted not to continue with the proposed merger with Jacksonville Genealogical Society. We hope our many friends there continue to join us at our meetings and conferences.

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## 2005 Officers

President:	Jon R. Ferguson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Dot Skinner
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Fay Doling
Recording Secretary:	Pat Gallops-Smith
Corresponding Secretary:	Skip Brown
Treasurer:	Myra Thompson
Historian:	Dick Cardell

## From the President

### Thank You for an Extra Good Job

Several of our members keep on doing their chores with a smile on their face. We have become accustomed to having all this done and don't take the time to say "Thank You." So now is the time:

George Thomas keeps the yard mowed and trimmed, fills in low spots and keeps the limbs picked up. Isn't he a special man?

Esther Thomas accompanies George on most occasions and she polishes the bathroom fixtures. Now, who would expect that?

Anne and John Johnson prepare the quarterly for printing and John prints the covers. Anne and John do the newsletter ready for mailing. What a godsend they have been. What quality work!

John Bond continues to keep our old computer loaded with the roster and the inventory of books, etc. He has been doing this so long that we just expect that work to continue forever. We love you.

Harry McKay is always ready to be called for a little carpentry work or help in moving items, etc. He is so convenient, we often call on him. You're special.

Then there is the list of those who volunteer regularly to serve as librarians. Those who take "regular" days sure make the assignments easier.

*Thank you, Thank You, Thank you.*



### Electrician Needed

It has been suggested that we install florescent lights the full length of the "reading room" over the book shelves and turn the shorter fixtures over the desk and research tables. We will need to purchase one more 8' fixture and

two more 4' fixtures matching what we have the best we can, plus the lamps (bulbs). Then we need to have these installed. I'm sure that our membership includes at least one electrician who will volunteer to help. Please come forward and volunteer.

## Heritage Quest & PERSI

By Ed Murfin

SGES members can buy Heritage Quest Online for \$20 a month.

Besides the ability to search for census data, Heritage Quest also contains a search engine called PERSI, an acronym for Periodical Source Index, provided by the Allen County Public Library Foundation in Fort Wayne, Indiana. See [www.acpl.lib.in.us](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us).

It is a database with an index to more than 1.6 million citations to articles in 6,300-plus titles published in English or French (Canadian) dating back to 1800, with many new ones added daily. It links PERSI citations to digital images of about 15 percent of the articles indexed, and that is growing daily.

Search PERSI by surname, place name, how-to topic or periodical title. State names are best searched using official two-letter postal abbreviation.

Information provided includes the book's description and where a copy of it can be found. This often includes many libraries, including our own. If the article is not located in a library near you, for about \$6, Allen County Public Library will send a photocopy, up to six at a time. Our library has request forms, or you can download one from the Heritage Quest Web site following the PERSI citation.

Because little in depth information on the article is provided, you will have no way of knowing whether your ancestor is cited in the text. If so, try writing or calling the article's publisher (often a genealogical society or library) to see if someone is willing to check for your ancestor in the article.

Another PERSI capability is "Search Books," which allows you to read the full text of more than 25,000 books online, page by page. You can search by name, keyword or

place.

The downside is that the search engine brings back every word containing your word, and then some. A recent search for the surname "Auchter" drew more than 20 hits that included the word "daughter." Another upside is that PERSI highlights the word you're searching in the text, so it is easier to find. It also shows you what page each search term is on.

If you are interested in this service being continued as a part of SGES membership, please let us know via e-mail ([sgesjax1@juno.com](mailto:sgesjax1@juno.com)) today, while you're thinking about it

Some members don't understand why they can't find certain census records they are looking for. Some of the records are not available online. These can often be found in such sources as the Jacksonville Main Library downtown or the SGES library. Check our Web site for a listing of our own available records.

Remember that most of the records of the 1890 census were destroyed in a fire. Partial records for some states and counties were saved (Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and the District of Columbia).

Jon Ferguson, was lucky to have found just the exact 1890 census records he needed on a particular family recently.

Another reason you may not find the census you are seeking online is that not all of Heritage Quest's records have been indexed. You can "browse" these unindexed censuses by county and even township.

The 1880 census index is at the Church of the Latter Day Saints Web site ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)).

This first national census was taken in 1790 and the last national census available is the 1930 census.

Still, you may not find the family for

other reasons, which include misspelled surname, the census taker left the family off because they weren't home at the time of the census, or the information was transcribed incorrectly.

Many states took their own censuses during off years (for example, 1885, 1895, etc.) and some of the earliest states took censuses before 1790.

The SGES library contains many books on state and national censuses providing detailed information about what's available and what is not available, as well as the many anomalies.

Accessing Heritage Quest online is easy, once you have signed up and paid for it. Our librarian, Carla Mellott, will give you a password. Go to our Web site <http://sgesjax.tripod.com>. Click on the little purple square beside the words "Heritage Quest," on the upper right. Click on "Heritage Quest" and log in.

Be sure to read "What's new," "how tos" and "More about this collection." These will help you tremendously with your searches.

If you have any problems, most of these stem from incorrectly typing in the SGES address or password, contact the SGES library via e-mail or telephone.

Although Heritage Quest is available at some libraries for free, nothing beats researching from your own comfortable chair at home at night for only \$20 a month.

*Anne M. Johnson contributed to this article.*

## Georgia Maps

*Submitted by Kim Peters*

The University of Georgia has several online maps.

The following links to Georgia maps are great for finding locations of towns no longer in existence: [www.cviog.uga.edu/Projects/gainfo/histmaps.htm](http://www.cviog.uga.edu/Projects/gainfo/histmaps.htm) and [www.cviog.uga.edu/Projects/gainfo/histcountymaps/](http://www.cviog.uga.edu/Projects/gainfo/histcountymaps/).

## Bureau of Land Management Offline

The invaluable national Bureau of Land Management land search database has been offline for several months.

BLM says it is "currently involved in a court action in which the adequacy of information security is an issue. Failing to demonstrate adequate protections could result in a much longer-term, mandatory disconnection. As a consequence, it is imperative that all sites be properly secured and tested before being reconnected."

Although BLM says it will be online in June, nothing is available at this writing. If there is a specific question, or if you're looking for particular information, e-mail your request to [NI\\_Webteam@blm.gov](mailto:NI_Webteam@blm.gov) and "we will do our best to direct you to the appropriate contact person."

The Florida State Archives has an index of land bureau sales online, but it does not provide the actual document as the national site does.

## New Online Databases

**The Library and Archives Canada** has placed its 1911 censuses online. Keep in mind that this census is indexed only by province, district and sub-district (not by name.) Images of census pages can be viewed as .pdf files. [www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html).

**The Texas Government Land Office** provides information on Texas land grants. Visit the office online at [www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/lgrants\\_blc.html](http://www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/lgrants_blc.html)

**Brigham Young University** has placed online its collection of family histories, which number more than 1,900. The database can be searched by keyword, surname, geographic location, title or author, and it has an advanced search option. Go to [www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/](http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/) to search the site or to add your own history. The university also has a collection of digitized manuscript diaries and journals. View the entire collection at <http://www.lib.byu.edu/online.html>.

**The University of New Hampshire Library**, [www.izaak.unh.edu/dlp/](http://www.izaak.unh.edu/dlp/), has placed online many maps, atlases and historical collections of that state.

**The National Archives** recently placed online the personnel files of more than 56 million military personnel who served between 1885 and 1939. Full listing of all of these searchable online records: [www.archives.gov/veterans/research/online.html](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/research/online.html). Military personnel records are sealed for 62 years past the date an individual left active service. Most World War II records, for example, will remain closed for several more years. Because of a fire at the records center in 1973, not all records survive. Coast Guard records will probably not be available until 2026. Some files contain crumbling paper and will probably be kept on hold for some time.

**The American Historical Association** is opening to the public its high-quality scholarship articles online. Article reviews will remain a privilege of membership. [www.historycooperative.com](http://www.historycooperative.com)

## DAR to Hold First National Conference

*By Eric G. Grundset*

The DAR Library will host its first genealogical conference at DAR Headquarters in downtown Washington, D.C., on Saturday and Sunday, October 15-16. Copies of the program for the Conference on Early American Genealogical Research may be obtained by contacting the library by e-mail at [library@dar.org](mailto:library@dar.org) or by writing to CEAGR, DAR Library, 1776 D ST., N. W., Washington, D.C. 20006-5303. The conference brochure can be accessed and printed at [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org).

The event is open to all interested genealogists. It will focus on records and methodology for the Colonial period to about 1860. We already have 25 registrations and will likely cap the registration at 400.

## SGES 2006 Calendars

SGES will have a 2006 calendar for sale in October. The calendar will be a quality production and include historic pictures of Jacksonville and our library. It will make a beautiful gift for Christmas or any other occasion. Please plan to purchase at least 10 calendars. If we sell 1,000 calendars, it will provide a nice profit for the society.

## Upcoming Events

**The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society** meets the third Saturday of each month at Wesconnet Public Library. Aug. 20 Speaker: Tara Fields, Webmaster, The Crypt of Camden County, Ga.

**St. Augustine Genealogical Society:** Next meeting Aug. 13 at 1 p.m. "Custom Reports in Family Tree Maker 2005, Deanna Ramsey, Tallahassee Genealogical Society. Meets at Southeast branch of the St. Johns County Library, 6670 U.S. 1 South, St. Augustine.

**Trips for 2005:** Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 15-20; LDS Research Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, Sept. 10-18; Allen County Library, Fort Wayne, Ind., Oct. 16-23. These trips are open to anyone. Call Edie Mixon for information: 904 794-7970.

## Meetings Moved to Webb-Wesconnet

A reminder that our joint meetings with the Jacksonville Genealogical Society are now being held at the Webb-Wesconnet Library on 103<sup>rd</sup> Street at 1:30 p.m. on the third Saturday each month. You will find adequate parking and a variety of programs scheduled for the varied interests of our membership. Please attend when possible. Let us know what kind of programs suit your needs. If you have a suggestion for a speaker, please let our chairman, Dot Skinner, know.

## New Members

Orlando, FL: Ronald Carey Philpot	Orange Park, FL Charles & Rhoda Ellis
Jacksonville, FL: Betty L. Rudd	Pueblo, CO Angela Hahn
Jewell Coverdale	Madison, FL Chandler Rains
L. Louise Raines	Sanford, FL John T. Miller
Bonnie Bass	Chestnut Mtn., GA: Bonnie Mattox
Laura Minor	Dubuque, IA: Glenda Vize
Carolyn Kring	
Lillian Gonzalez	
Prineville, Oregon: Thomas Hinkleman	
Brentwood, TN R. Shannon McDonald	

You may note that our membership is far reaching. Please encourage your contacts to join us.

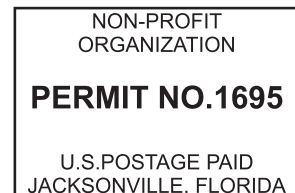
## What's Happening in the SGES library?

We have recently purchased several strong bookshelves. They are installed in the main room. The books have been shifted so that now we have a few shelves to allow additions to the various state book collections. The other research books have been arranged along the wall or in the next room. The special collections from Walter Stovall and Aurora Shaw have been merged with our others. Many other books are being processed to add to our collection. If you have not been in recently, you may want to make a special effort to come see what is happening. It is amazing. We have a great library.

## WWI Induction Cards

New member Angela Hahn reminds us that the Florida State Archives provides a wealth of information online. One of these is a database of World War I induction cards. Another is Florida Confederate Pension records. You can find these and much more at:<http://www.floridamemory.com/Collections/WWI/>

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