



The Searcher

Suncoast Genealogy Society Newsletter

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MARCH

Saturday, 23 March 2024, 1:30-4:00 pm
 Join us at the Clearwater Countryside Library
 2642 Sabal Springs Dr, Clearwater, FL

The National Archives: **The Nation's Attic**



Featuring

PAULA STUART-WARREN,
 CGSM, FMGS, FUGA

Sooner or later our research leads us to the treasures held in governmental archives. Governmental archives are a treasure trove of information for researchers, with the United States National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) being the go-to source for federal government records. While many genealogists rely on federal census, military and pension records, as well as passenger arrival records, NARA has custody of a vast array of other useful records.

This hour and syllabus material focuses on the Washington, DC, area facilities, commonly called Archives I and II, finding aids, website, catalogs, access options and research tips. Some discussion covers the regional branches of NARA, including the finding aids.

Genealogy and DNA IG

Monday, Mar 11

1:00-3:00 pm

PHL Conference Room

Hybrid Meeting & via Zoom

open to all members

**TOPIC: What's new at Ancestry,
 Family Tree Maker & Roots Tech**

Genealogy Help Desk



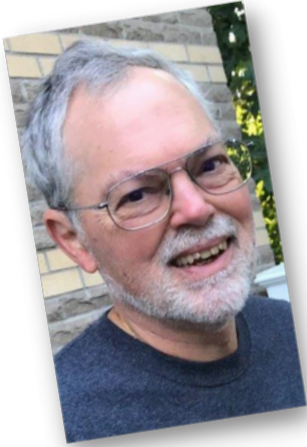
Tues, Wed & Thurs

1:00-4:00 pm

**PHL Genealogy
 Section**

**Need help researching online,
 breaking down a brick wall.
 Beginners and members are
 encouraged to stop by!
 Come join us at the Help Desk!**

President's Message



Thanks to everyone that helped at our Winter Seminar. The speaker, Sean, was informative and very entertaining. The food was delicious, and the prizes were great, especially the gift basket. I am not Irish but I now have a much better appreciation for those of you doing Irish research.

I recently welcomed the students at the Beginning Genealogy Course. Thanks to Ann, Marianne, Jean & Shari for providing this very informative course.

We are still looking for someone to serve as Secretary, this is an important position that must be filled. Janet Sidor has been doing an excellent job but she is not seeking another term. Please contact me or John Matthews if you are interested.

Bob Pierro

Look What's Coming in April!



**Suncoast
Genealogy
Society**
Palm Harbor, Flor.

Proud Partner with

Palm Harbor Library
We. Us. Together.

SGS 41st Annual Meeting

Saturday, 27 April, 2024, 1:30-4:00pm
at the Palm Harbor Library

**QUIZ
TIME!!!**

Join us for our yearly gathering!

Engage in fun games.

Test your knowledge of genealogy.

Connect with newfound cousins through the
FamilySearch app.

Celebrate our 41 years of discovering ancestors
and telling their tales.

Participate in the election and induction of new officers.

Member supported. Free and open to the Public!

For more information about SGS visit:

www.SGSFL.com



Do You Have Cousins Nearby?

At the SGS April Membership meeting we will have a bit of fun with FamilySearch “Family Tree” app for smart phones. With it, you can find cousins and see how you are related to others. Maybe you are related in ways you didn’t know, to other SGS members!

Please download this app before the meeting, or you can also download the app at the Palm Harbor Library, using the library wifi. You also need to have an account (free) at www.familysearch.org and identify yourself in the FamilySearch tree family tree: Account Settings, Family Tree Preferences, set the Family Tree Starting Person as yourself. The icon for the app looks like this:



Message from the Nominations Committee

Hello All,

The SGS Nominating Committee met earlier this week to discuss the positions that need to be filled for the 2024-2026 term.

We will be presenting a slate of officers at our March meeting and of course nominations from the floor will be accepted as well.

Our Board of Directors and Officers are an integral part of the success of SGS for the next two years. If you are interested in volunteering to be an officer and to be part of our great society, contact John Matthews, Marianne Bradley or Beth Bleich by January 25th.

Sincerely,

John Matthews, 612.875.3108 Marianne Bradley, 727.784.0420 Beth Bleich, 352.650.8421

National Genealogical Society - Virtual Conference coming in May



2024 VIRTUAL FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES

16-18 MAY



Society News

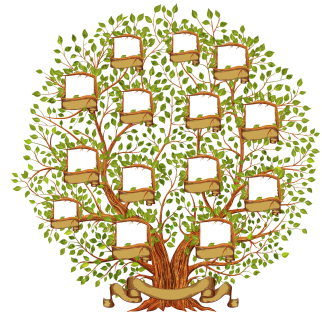


REMINDER!
IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP AGAIN
FORM AT [HTTPS://SGSFL.COM](https://sgsfl.com)

Our monthly meetings are
on the
4th Saturday
1:30 - 4 pm

JOIN US

Our Genealogy Friends



Pinellas Genealogy Society
Hybrid Meeting & via Zoom
Saturday, Mar 16 @ 11 am - 2 pm

1. **We're Related to George Washington? Proving Family Stories**
2. **Her Name was not Unknown: Finding Female Ancestors with Gena Philbert-Ortega**

<https://pinellaskenealogysociety.com/>

Tarpon Springs Library
Genealogy Research Group
Monday, Mar 11 @ 6:30 pm

Explore FamilySearch
with Debbe Hagner

<http://tarponlibrary.org/genealogy/>

Florida Genealogical Society – Tampa
<https://fgstampa.org/>

Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay
<http://www.jgstb.org/>

DAR, Caladesi Chapter

Members meet the 3rd Monday of the month, Sept thru May, 11:30 am, Dunedin Baptist Church. Contact [Debbie Smyth](mailto:dsmyth927@gmail.com), dsmyth927@gmail.com, for more information.

SAR, Clearwater Chapter

Members meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month, Sept thru May, 11:30 am, Dunedin Golf Club. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/SARCclearwater/> for more information.

SGS Board 2022-2024

- President:** *Robert Pierro*
- Vice President:** *John Matthews*
- VP/Membership:** *Shari Harmon*
- VP/Programs:** *Jean Van Horn*
- Treasurer:** *Joan Baptist*
- Secretary:** *Janet Sidor*
- Past President:** *Debbie Smyth*
- Directors:** *Redd Slyker*
Ann James
Kim Croco-Brooks
- Committee Chairs & Others**
- Education:** *Ann James & Jean Van Horn*
- Facebook:** *Beth Bleich*
- Help Desk:** *Marianne Bradley*
- Historian:** *Ann James*
- Library Liaison:** *Peter Cannon*
- Publicity:** *Redd Slyker*
- Newsletter:** *Kim Croco-Brooks*
- Registered Agent:** *Shari Harmon*
- Sunshine:** *Mary Jane Hough*
- Web Development:** *John Matthews*

Proud Partner with



Happy Birthday!



- Marianne Bradley**
- Elaine Campoli**
- Mary Jane Hough**
- Jennifer Mortell**
- Natalie Mortell**
- Tom Sidor**

Welcome

OUR NEW MEMBER

Catherine Jirikowic

Suncoast Genealogy Society
 c/o Palm Harbor Library
 2330 Nebraska Ave.
 Palm Harbor, FL 34683



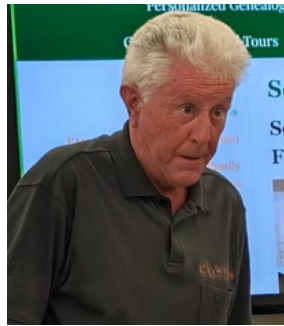
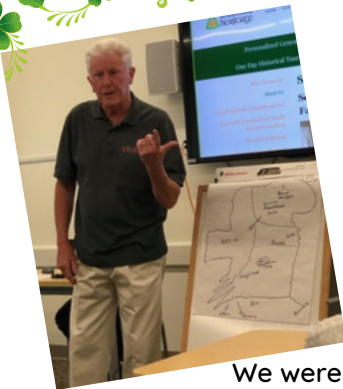
Check our website:
sgsfl.com

Email us:
info@sgsfl.com

Connect with us on
[Facebook](#)



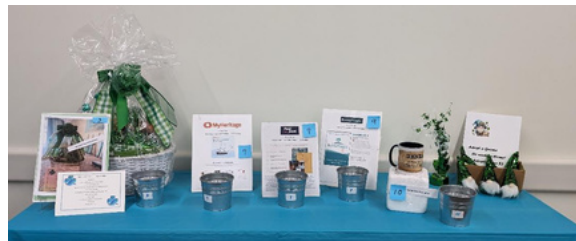
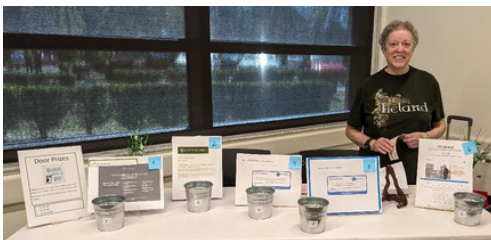
Spring Mini-Seminar



We were listening intently to Sean Quinn as he was sharing on how to find our ancestors in the Townland, and examining the various records that are out there



Redd went all out with a wonderful spread of delicious food



10 prizes for 10 winners: Genealogy Bank, RootsIreland, Irish Fun Basket, Legacy Family Tree Software, Legacy Family Tree Webinars, Vivid-Pix Photo Restore, My Heritage, Find My Past, RootsMagic Software, and Genealogy Mug: Thanks Ann