



Imperial Polk Genealogical Society

Newsletter

January-February 2010



Installation of Officers for 2010

President's Message

Good morning fellow IPGS members:

It was a nice day on Saturday to see all the loyal members of IPGS brave bad weather and assemble for our January meeting and the first of the New Year. I appreciate all the effort expended by those who helped to make this meeting a success which includes the refreshment persons and those who helped to set up the equipment. It would be unfair to some to try to personally name everyone but everyone knows that I am very thankful to see the efforts to be present in this blustery day.

I would especially like to welcome new members, Angelo Spoto, Cheryl Goff, Sandra Raymond, as well as William and Marie Heffelfinger.

At the beginning of the day I showed a visual of the new internet videos offered by the Family History Library

in Salt Lake City. Here is the link to access them.

<http://tinyurl.com/debr9s>

You can view any or all of them which range from 15 minutes to 35 minutes. You must have high speed internet and speakers on your computer to listen and view these videos.

Looking forward to see each of you in February when Paul L. Enchelmayer will be presenting a program entitled "The Deceptive Ancestor" which he demonstrates how to separate fact from fiction in our family history.

Paul travels from Orlando where he is an expert in the field of digital photography, genealogy, web design, and personal use of computers.

Alvie L. Davidson CG, Pres. IPGS

<http://alviesgenealogyspot.blogspot.com>

February Meeting Information

February 13, 2010 at 1pm
Unitarian Universalist meetinghouse
3140 Troy Ave.; Lakeland, FL

Speaker/Topic

The Deceptive Ancestor (Separating Family Fiction from Fact) by Paul L. Enchelmayer

Programs at other sites:

Largo Public Library, 2/13/10, for Dick Eastman; Register and get details at:

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flpgs/Seminars/sem2010/pgs-2010-seminar-brochure.htm

Samford Univ Institute at Birmingham, Ala. will be June 13-18, 2010. See:

www4.samford.edu/schools/ighr/index.html

Alvie teaches there often and he nearly always attends it!



December, 2009 Christmas Party Pictures by John Randle:



Marlene Pitts' Research Tips:

- State Census Records Online

Miriam Robbins Midkiff has written a great article on her AnceStories blog listing all the known state census records that are available online. She writes:

How are state censuses helpful in genealogy? Census were often taken in the years between the decennial federal censuses; many were enumerated in years ending in "5," such as 1885, 1895, etc. They are also a great substitute for the missing 1890 Federal Censuses. If your ancestor lived in a territory prior to statehood, chances are you'll find him or her enumerated several times, since territories often took multiple censuses in order to prove they had enough residents to be admitted to the Union. Finally, state censuses contain answers to questions that aren't normally asked in federal censuses: complete birth dates, specific birth locations, detailed information about your ancestor's farm

(acreage owned, number of cattle, pounds of butter yielded in the past year, or bushels of wheat harvested). They often show lists of marriages by township in states that did not yet require keeping of vital records; names of churches and industries within the township, showing a larger picture of the community; and even details such as whether your ancestor served in the military or had a log or frame home!

Miriam's article continues with even more explanation and then lists online state census records available for 24 states.

This article is a keeper! I copied-and-pasted it to my list of "things I may need to know someday." You might want to do the same.

You can find Miriam Robbins Midkiffs list of State Census Records Online at <http://ancestries1.blogspot.com/2009/12/state-census-records-online.html>.

While on that site, you might want to check out Miriam's other articles on the AnceStories blog. Good stuff!

Do you have comments, questions, or corrections to this article? If so, please post your words at:

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2009/12/state-censusrecords-online.html. You might find that other newsletter readers have already entered comments, questions, or corrections.
Contributed by: Marlene Pitts, IPGS

Those in IPGS & DAR or SAR:

Joyce Bode, Lydia Giancotti
Gay Harlowe, Joe Hill, Ken Davis
Michelle Hubenschmitt
Janet Lautenschlager, Lucille Luther,
Jean Marris, Sally Moore,
Lauretta Onachilla, Dot Read,
Betty Sands, Peggy Snow,

Judy Thonebe, Virginia Wesson,
Cheryl Whitt, Betty Williams, Alvie
Davidson, Audrey Wittholz, Doris
Wooden.

If we missed your name, please
notify Editor at:

sroberts4@earthlink.net

IPGS Operations Notes:

Pres. Alvie reports: We have received our new viewing screen. The cost was a good deal at \$118 in comparison to the older one at more than \$400. We got this through a company called CSN Stores, an on-line sales company. The screen is very good quality and if we are careful with it we should have it around for years.

**Reminder from Mary Thomas,
Treasurer**

Once again the time has come to renew our memberships in the Imperial Polk Genealogical Society. Our membership year runs from 1 Jan to 31 Dec with dues to be paid **not later than** 31 Jan of each year. Dues can be paid by mail or at our monthly meeting on the 13th of Feb 2010. If paying by mail, please include the Membership Renewal Application with your check. Mail renewal to: IPGS; P.O. Box 10; Kathleen, FL 33849-0010.

Dues are:

Yearly: Individual - \$15.00

Family - \$25.00

Life: \$150.00 (Age 65 and over)

A new IPGS Directory will soon be available. It will include a list of all active members as of 31 Jan 2010. We would like to include all of our present members in this Directory so please try to update your

membership before the end of January 2010.

Editor's Column:

Ancestry.com offers a DNA test and a place to find those who are in the families of those who have been DNA tested. I have met several people who share the name Wadsworth because of a group named 'Wadsworth'. One of the group members, Trad, has also been DNA tested and we have learned that we are descended from brothers who were in North Carolina in Moore County. Mine was there in 1790 according to the 1790 Federal Census. Trad says his was there at that time, too. Trad is a surgeon who lives in Atlanta, GA.

I want to trade pictures of our male ancestors. Maybe he looks like my two first cousins who share Trad's gender.

I wonder if DAR will soon accept DNA evidence of our ancestry as proof of our lineage sufficient to admit us to DAR. Perhaps some of you know whether or not there is any interest in that method of proving lineage in the DAR. If so, please share it with us.

History of the times of our ancestors is also interesting. It makes our ancestors human and not just some face in a sepia colored picture.

One of mine was in the Florida Senate for the entire decade of the 1890s. He died in Madison, FL in 1910. His life was celebrated as the Madison County, FL Senator. The paper at that time reported that his was 'the largest funeral and best attended' since the reporter had been born.

While searching for more personal information about that

same 2nd great grandfather, I have read many an East Florida Newspaper and have learned that most of the Madison County newspapers are available online at the Smathers Library, University of Florida website. If you want to search newspapers for more personal information about your ancestors, the website is:

<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/fnpl>

I am interested in the Madison, FL papers printed in the 1890s. None of those are on the UF website but yours might be. So, give it a look and see what you can find.

ERRATA:

If you can and want to help with the IPGS website, please contact Alvie Davidson at FloridaSearch@verizon.net

Florida Southern College allows people to audit some of their classes. You may need the permission of the Professor teaching the class you want to audit and will need \$50.00 to pay to the Registrar. You may find Theology, History, Spanish, Latin and other classes to be to your liking.

Don't forget the Lectures sponsored by Florida Southern College. The next one is on the Race Riot in St. Augustine in 1964. The Speaker is Dan Warren who served the 7th Judicial Circuit as the State Attorney at that time. The lecture will be in the Hollis Room at 7 pm on the Campus of FSC on February 25, 2010.

EDITORIAL STAFF:

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