

# IMPERIAL POLK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



President

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Web address: [www.ipgs.org](http://www.ipgs.org)

Link to the IPGS Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/IPOLKGS>

“Looking Forward to the Past”

April, May, June 2017

Volume 28 Issue 2

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## Greetings to the Members of IPGS

We are well into the year of 2017 and things are looking great for our genealogical society.

My goal for this calendar is to run the entire year without any expenses from our treasury except for the rental of meeting facilities. So far this is working.

I just got word that Family Tree Maker will be introducing the 2017 version which will be adding some things and removing some things to better the program. I have submitted my request to get my new version and am looking forward to using it.

Our April 2017 program was moved further into the year. This will permit Peter Summers to drive from Clearwater and do a great program about the ins and outs of Homestead Land.

I am planning to make a request for a nominating committee at the April meeting in order to allow adequate time to do a thorough search for a new president. As it has been announced I will not be placing my name for nomination as the next president.

My wife has had some setbacks with her health and I am in need of care of her needs.

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## Upcoming Events

Check on the next page for the upcoming meetings and great speakers & webinars that we will have!!!!

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## Looking for helpful Tools?

### A website you should be using:

Thomas MacEntee

[info@genabloggers.com](mailto:info@genabloggers.com)

He has helpful suggestions and (paid) webinars.

Coming up:

Additional DNA Tools and Concepts Boot Camp  
Saturday, 22 April 2017

### Family Tree Magazine *March/April 2017*

(available at Books-A-Million or online)

This issue contains “the Genealogy Websites Guide!”

Best Search Tips:

[Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com)

[FamiltSearch.org](http://FamiltSearch.org)

[Findmypast.com](http://Findmypast.com)

[MyHeritage.com](http://MyHeritage.com)

And many more!

It also has an article by

(David A. Fryxell “Heritage Hacks”)  
that gives information on how to find *freebies*  
in various websites—even paid ones!!



IMPERIAL POLK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 2016 MEETING CALENDAR

All monthly meetings will be held at 1.00 pm on the second Saturday of each month at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lakeland, 3140 Troy Avenue, Lakeland unless otherwise noted. Visitors are always welcome!

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**April 8, 2017 Homestead Act– The Land, the Experience, the Records, and Where to Find Them**  
**Speaker: Peter Summers**

**May 13, 2017 “TBA”**

**June 10, 2017 “TBA”**

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From: [genealogy.bellaonline.com](http://genealogy.bellaonline.com) March 30, 2017

**Tina Sansone**

BellaOnline's Genealogy Editor

**Genealogy Basics in 30 Mintues**

“[Genealogy Basics in 30 Minutes](#)” written by Shannon Combs-Bennett was recently released. *This is a quick guide to creating a family tree, building connections with relatives, and discovering the stories of your ancestors.* The book is divided into the following chapters:

- Introduction
- Starting your family tree
- Genealogy road trips
- Online research, genetic genealogy, and other resources
- Tracking and sharing research
- How to tame sprawling records
- Conclusion
- About the author
- Appendix
- Index

Within this easy to read book, Shannon explains the “joys, challenges, and triumphs of researching your family origins. There are lots of examples, case studies, and advice that can help would-be family historians quickly get up to speed.” I wish when I started doing research that I had a great resource like this to get me started. There are lots of great tips and information for the budding genealogists. For example, on page 28 Shannon gives tips on what to include in a portable genealogy kit. In the back of the book Shannon lists 20 questions to ask relatives geared toward children. Another topic she covers is getting organized, and anyone who has done genealogy knows the importance of this skill. I will be keeping this book next to me as a great family history resource.

Shannon Combs-Bennett is an author, researcher, and lecturer based in the Washington, DC area. She is a frequent contributor to *Family Tree Magazine* and [Family Tree University](#). She serves as the Creative Director for the [In-Depth Genealgist](#), and is the founder of [T2 Family History](#).

Other educational genealogy books you can find written by Shannon are "An In-Depth Guide to Washington, DC" and "An In-Depth Guide to Richmond, Virginia".

**NEW FEATURE—INPUT FROM THE HISTORY CENTER by Dorinda**

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**LUNCH and LEARN at Polk County History Center (at the historic courthouse)  
3rd. Tuesday each month, except December, 12 noon until 1:15pm - bring a lunch if you choose!**

**APRIL 18: African-American Education in the Jim Crow South**

**MAY 16: Polk County Historical Commission: Reflecting on 80 years of Preserving Polk's History and Heritage**

**JUNE 20: Florida Cattle Ranching: Five Centuries of Tradition**

**See you soon,  
Dorinda**

**(From: [www.olivetreegenealogy/beginner](http://www.olivetreegenealogy/beginner))**

## **New to Genealogy - Help for Beginners**

### **Start Your Journey to Find Your Family Tree**

Are you new to Genealogy? Are you lost and bewildered by the Genealogy websites you're finding online? This Newbie Guide will try to help you make sense of it all, and get you started on your journey to finding your ancestors.

#### **10 Steps to Starting Your Genealogy Journey & Finding Ancestors**

- Step 1. [Start with yourself](#)
- Step 2. [Talk to Family Members & Relatives](#)
- Step 3. [Find Death & Burial Records](#)
- Step 4. [Find Ancestors in Census Records](#)
- Step 5. [Find Marriage Records](#)
- Step 6. [Find Birth or Baptism Records](#)
- Step 7. [Contact other descendants in Genealogy forums](#)
- Step 8. [Join a Mailing List](#)
- Step 9: [Subscribe to a Free Newsletter or a Blog Feed](#)
- Step 10. [Search the LDS Family History Library website](#)

**Pedigree Chart:** Begins with you and displays your direct ancestors. Most pedigree charts cover four generations, with a place for names plus dates and places of birth, marriage and death for each person.

**Family Group Sheet:** Used to record names and information on an ancestor and his complete family of spouses and all children

**Source:** The document, record, publication, or person used to prove or establish a fact.

**Newbie:** A newcomer or beginner in genealogy

**Mailing List:** A discussion group with similar interests. Subscribers join and participate in discussion on a defined topic. Distributed through e-mail

**Website:** A collection of pages put online by a webmaster or organization. Can be viewed in a browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox

## Libraries for Research Help

### EAST HILLSBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### QUINTILLA GEER BURTON ARCHIVES CENTER

605 North Collins Street  
Plant City, Florida 33563  
813-754-7031

qcenter@tampabay.rr.com  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flqgbac>

Tuesday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Wednesday – Saturday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.



## Research Help



### Lakeland Stake Family History Center

Located in Lakeland at the corner of Peterson Road and Lakeland Highlands Road next door to

George Jenkins High School.

Visiting hours are as follows:

(863) 709-0800

*Note: Hours have changed!*

**Tues., Wed., Thurs 9 - 1 and 6:30 to 8:30pm**

**Closed: Monday, Friday, Saturday  
Sunday 3 - 5 pm**

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### Polk County Genealogical Library

## Visiting the Library

### Address

Polk County Historical & Genealogical Library

100 East Main Street  
Bartow, Florida 33830-4629

### Operating Hours

Open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

We close for all major holidays and the Tuesday which follows a Monday holiday.

Please check [our calendar](#) on this website for details of holiday closures. Before driving a long distance to visit the library it will be advisable to call and confirm your dates.

### Contact Information

Phone: (863) 534-4380  
Fax: (863) 534-4382



Equipment available for use!

**Lake Hamilton FL FHC**  
**2300-2499 9th. Street**  
**Haines City, FL (863) 307-9514**  
**Judy Kay Deal, Director**  
**W: 1-4pm; 5-8pm**  
**TH. 9am—8pm**



Take note of the years statewide vital-record-keeping officially began in each US state—that's when counties started to collect birth, marriage and death information and report it to state offices. Some counties or towns kept stats earlier, and some were slow to comply with state laws, so check with your ancestors' local government for record availability.

	BIRTH RECORDS	MARRIAGE RECORDS	DEATH RECORDS		BIRTH RECORDS	MARRIAGE RECORDS	DEATH RECORDS
Alabama	1908	1936	1908	Montana	1907	1943	1907
Alaska	1913	1913	1913	Nebraska	1905	1909	1905
Arizona	1909	1909	1909	Nevada	1911	1968	1911
Arkansas	1914	1917	1914	New Hampshire	1901	1901	1901
California	1905	1905	1905	New Jersey	1848	1848	1848
Colorado	1907	1907	1907	New Mexico	1920	1920	1920
Connecticut	1897	1897	1897	New York	1880	1880	1880
Delaware*	1861	1847	1881	North Carolina	1913	1962	1913
District of Columbia	1874	1811	1874	North Dakota	1907	1925	1907
Florida	1899	1927	1899	Ohio	1908	1949	1908
Georgia	1919	1952	1919	Oklahoma	1908	1908	1908
Hawaii	1842	1842	1859	Oregon	1903	1906	1903
Idaho	1911	1947	1911	Pennsylvania	1906	1885	1906
Illinois	1916	1962	1916	Rhode Island	1853	1853	1853
Indiana	1907	1958	1899	South Carolina	1915	1950	1915
Iowa	1880	1880	1880	South Dakota	1905	1905	1905
Kansas	1911	1913	1911	Tennessee*	1908	1945	1908
Kentucky	1911	1958	1911	Texas	1903	1966	1903
Louisiana*	1914	none	1914	Utah	1905	1887	1905
Maine	1892	1892	1892	Vermont	1955	1955	1955
Maryland	1898	1950	1898	Virginia	1912	1912	1912
Massachusetts	1841	1841	1841	Washington	1907	1968	1907
Michigan	1867	1867	1867	West Virginia	1917	1964	1917
Minnesota	1900	1958	1908	Wisconsin	1907	1907	1907
Mississippi	1912	1926	1912	Wyoming	1909	1941	1909
Missouri	1910	1881	1910				

\*Delaware's statewide birth and death records stop in 1863 and resume in 1881. All Louisiana birth records are kept in parish clerk offices. Tennessee has no statewide birth or death records for 1913.

Washington, DC's birth records go back to 1874, death records to 1855 (but none were filed during the Civil War) and marriage records to 1811.

## Webinars —free on the day of presentation

Family History Webinars most are at 2PM

Register at

[www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com](http://www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com)

### April 2017

4/5 Geoff Rasmussen

Preserve, Share, and Search your digital pictures with Google Photos

4/12 Lisa Alzo

Your Whiteboard in the Cloud: Trello for Genealogists

4/14 Eric Basir

Complete Photo Restoration in 4 Easy Steps

4/18 Rick Sayre CG, CGL, FUGA, (BCG)

The Genealogy in Government Documents

4/19 Mary Hill

Neighborhood Reconstruction: Effective Use of Land Records

4/26 Rick Sayre CG, CGL, FUGA

Finding and Using Land Ownership Maps

4/28 Ron Arons

Researching Criminal Records

### May 2017

5/3 Angela Walton Raji

Take Back to Where I Belong: Transportation Records of the Freedmen's Bureau

5/10 Fritz Juengling

Introduction to Danish Genealogy

5/12 Jane Wilcox

New York City and State Government Vital Records

5/16 Debbie Parker Wayne CG, CGL, (BCG)

MAXY DNA: Correlating mt-at-X-Y DNA with the GPS

5/17 Thomas MacEntee

Remember me: Lifestreaming and the Modern Genealogist

5/24 Eowyn Langhoff

WikiTree: Free for All without A-Free-for-All

5/31 Michael L. Strauss

The Great War: Researching Your WWI Ancestors

FREE SCGS Jamboree Extension Series Webinars!

Register at

<http://tinyurl.com/2017-SCGS-Webinars>

### April 2017

Sat. 4/1 10 AM PDT Nancy E. Loe MA, MLS

Finding Scottish Ancestors Online

Wed. 4/19 6 PM PDT James Baker PhD, CGsm

So Many Historic Book: How can I Find my People?

### May 2017

Sat. 5/6 10 AM PDT Nicka Smith

Beyond The Surface: Analyzing and Capturing Genealogical Data

Wed. 5/17 6 PM PDT Tessa Keough

Location, Location, Location: One Place Studies in North America

### June 2017

Wed 6/21 6 PM PDT Annette Burke Lyttle

Turn Your Family History Facts Into Stories

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### Illinois State Genealogical Society

Register at

<http://bit.ly/ISGSWebinars> 9PM EST

**April 11, 2017** with Nicka Smith

Tracing Slaves and Slaveowner Ancestors with DNA

**May 9, 2017** with Liza A, Alzo

Cause of Death: Using Corner's Records

**June 13, 2017** with Melissa Barker

Preserving Old Family Letters

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### Florida State Genealogical Society

Webinars are scheduled from 8 PM to 9 PM EDT

**April 20, 2017 Cyndi Ingle**

**Be Your Own Digital Archivist: Preserve Your Research**

**May 18, 2017 Thomas MacEntee**

After Your Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy Research

**June 15, 2017 Nancy A. Peters CGsm**

**Gone to Florida! Tracking Migrants from Antebellum South Carolina**