



Imperial Polk Genealogical Society

Newsletter Winter 2025

First Semester Program Lineup

Once again, your directors have hit the ground running for 2025. We are launching a variety of monthly speakers All are both in person and online. (Request a link from news@ipgs.org.) Join us at the Lakeland History & Culture Center, at the Lakeland Public Library, [100 Lake Morton Drive, Lakeland, FL 33801](#). (Ph: [863.834.4280](tel:863.834.4280)). Meetings are 1-2:30 p.m. EST each second Saturday.

Special Election: Jan. 11
we will elect a vice president
to finish out the year.

January 11 – Preserving Personal Memories



Do you have keepsakes too large to fit on your scanner? Have you wondered how to keep starch-eating silverfish away; and avoid fading, or those awful brownish clouds? At the Lakeland Public Library, History Room Librarian Supervisor LuAnn Mims is a certified archivist whose services to the public include consultations on how to best preserve your irreplaceable family history mementos, documents and other ephemera. See how to conquer the aging process, what supplies to use, and what help is at hand.



February 8 – Keeping the Story Alive: Creating Family Books

Linda Munroe will tell her personal story of writing family history books, review decisions needed for self publishing, and discuss resources used.

She has authored two different types of books about her own family histories.

Linda is a retired school administrator. She enjoys the hunt for ancestors and has assisted numerous women in locating American



Revolutionary War patriots in their family trees. She is an Honorary Regent of Bartow Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and a member of the Jamestowne Society. (Rescheduled after Hurricane Milton.)

March 8 – **A Florida Family Homesteader During Times of Social, Racial, and Political Unrest**

Family lineage involves a group of people descended from a common ancestor. An ascending lineage begins with a younger person and traces

ancestors upward to parents, grandparents, and as high as one can climb the family tree. A descending lineage begins with a known elder ancestor and traces the family tree downward to the youngest known descendant. This is important for heritage societies, such as the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. They require proof of direct lineage for membership.

Come be inspired by a story about Gale Pinkston's paternal, second-great-grandfather. It illustrates the kinship-proving process not only for heritage societies but sparks the fascination underlying all valid family histories.



April 12 – **Genealogical Traps and Escapes**

If you haven't encountered pitfalls, you haven't done much genealogy, have you? Our local panel has stories to share ranging from hiccups to nightmares.

This is an interactive session about would-be disasters and lessons learned to overcome problems in that quest for the certain family tree. Bring your puzzles, and we will draw on these experiences to eke out those elusive answers.

May 10 – **A Grave Story**



Peter DuFresne has tapped cemetery resources, through groups not accessed by the general public. Follow his own exploration and pleasant

discoveries. "They are different resources," he promises, "ones most of us don't know about." Could this bring the break-through you have needed? Come learn with us.

More to come – **Professional Genealogist**

To continue our IPGS treats, the board of directors is lining up a nationally known speaker. Stay tuned!

Talent tapped by FSGS

The current president of IPGS Gale Pinkston, J.D., CG, was recently appointed to serve on the Board of Directors for the Florida State Genealogical Society, (FSGS).

Gale reports she is honored and excited about this new opportunity and is looking forward to discovering how genealogy-related activities at the state level will benefit ongoing work and activities of IPGS.

Our Mission

The Imperial Polk Genealogical Society's mission is to encourage and promote the study of genealogy and to bring together people who have an interest in family history.



Special offer – new member discount, Free beginning genealogy course

Peter DuFresne will teach a **free, six-week beginning genealogy course**, on behalf of the City of Mulberry, open to all.

If you're putting together your family tree or have had to take a break because it's been too frustrating, you're not alone. This course is perfect for anyone just starting out with a family history, or who has taken some time off from it. We'll dive into the ups and downs of discovering your roots together.

Every Tuesday from January 14 – February 18

6:00 PM

Studio 37 400 N. Church Ave, Mulberry, FL 33860

This is a good time to recruit family and friends! If you take Peter's free course, the IPGS board will extend a \$5 discount off your 2025 membership dues. Memberships are January through December.

See a weekly course description, and also details of IPGS memberships, at <https://www.ipgs.org/>.

Just for fun – fan chart background for Zoom

Just for fun, here is a link showing how to put a Family Search fan chart as background on your Zoom screen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tdCeo90h20>

It includes how to view different aspects of your research to date. Enjoy!

