



GENIE BYTES

Volume 5, Issue 3

Grand Strand Genealogy Club

August 2024

Message from the Editors

Bonnie Kishpaugh & Ann Hamilton

Editor & Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Members of the Board

It looks like the IAAM field trip was a powerful experience for many who attended. Do you enjoy going on genealogy field trips? Have any suggestions for future field trips?

“You Read it Here First” on page two lists current Officers and Members of the Board in need of backup or replacement. Some have served for years. We need volunteers with new ideas to propel our Club to its 40th anniversary. One of these positions might be perfect for you!

A visitor (and possibly now a member) who attended our April Club meeting requested information on researching her Japanese ancestors. She asked and we delivered! (Our Featured Website will help her begin the quest.) One of our members is researching North Dakota. In this issue we provide the State Guide. Do you have a question? ASK US!

Get ready for the October meeting by reading all of Chris Davis’ “Brick Wall” articles. If the problem with your ancestor persists, complete the [Problem Ancestor Form](#). Get help from a fellow GSGCer in October! ♦

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message from the Editors, Call for Genie Jar Donations, “Thank You” Note, and Featured Book
- 2 “You Read It Here First!”
- 3 “You Read It Here First,” (cont’d), “Strategies to Break Down Brick Walls,” Part 3 of 3, and Book Review
- 4 “The GSGC’s Visit to the IAMM,” Featured Website, and Did You Know?
- 5 NH/ND State Guides, Dear Miss Genie, Calendar of Events, Club Officers and Board Members, Club Details, and Disclaimer

Call for Genie Jar Donations

Members of the GSGC last met solely in person in March of 2020. Expenses such as maintenance of our website and Zoom subscriptions as well as payment of speakers and the *Ancestry* subscription for Chapin Library continue. Please help us. Mail your check or money order to Grand Strand Genealogy Club, 6529 Valene Court, Myrtle Beach, SC, 29572. Thank you, in advance, for continuing to support YOUR GSGC!

Below is a “Thank You” note received from one of our remote Zoom attendees along with their donation to our Club. We really appreciate each and every one of our members who donate and support the continuation of the Grand Strand Genealogy Club. ♦

stjude.org/givehope

Hi!

While I'm in Brunswick Co, NC and have yet to attend an in-person meeting, I thoroughly enjoy being able to Zoom the speakers. Hopefully, these small donations will help. Thank you so much!

Featured Book

McClure, Rhonda R. *Genealogist’s Handbook for New England Research, 6th Edition*. New England Historical Genealogical Society, 2021. This new, full-color, user-friendly redesign is an extensive, indispensable resource for those researching in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. ♦

You Read It Here First!

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Member of the Board

Part One: Officers

Selecting slates of candidates for 2025's Officers and Members of the Board will be on the GSGC's agenda for the next several months. Discussion begins at the August meeting. At the September meeting, nominations will be received from the floor and a slate of Officers will be proposed. Nominees must have consented to serve if elected. There will be additional calls for nominations from the floor in October and in November when the election of Officers takes place.

Two current Officers request backup or replacement.

Claire Fleming~~1 year as Vice President.

The Vice President presides at meetings of both the Board of Directors and the general membership in the absence of the President, fills the office of the President in case of vacancy, and assists the President in other matters when called upon. Claire seeks a **REPLACEMENT**.

Dennis Fitzgerald~~7 years as Secretary.

If Word is installed on your computer, if you're a regular meeting attendee who doesn't mind adding Board meetings to your calendar, and if you've got 4 to 5 hours to spare each month, consider becoming Dennis' **BACKUP** or **REPLACEMENT**. The Club provides a template to assist with note-taking.

Part Two: Members of the Board

Six Members of the Board request shadows, backups, or replacements for '25. Remember? Being a **shadow** is GSGC's equivalent of a free trial. You're under no obligation to take the position. Like it? Become a **backup** in training to **replace** the person who currently serves.

Each retiring member of the Board will mentor her/his successor during the last three months of the year to ensure a smooth transition. Volunteers should declare their intention by GSGC's October meeting so that they can take advantage of this mentoring opportunity.

Pat Bernschein~~1st year as Webmaster.

Have you created a text box in Word? Have you entered text in the box? If so, you can be the MASTER of GSGC's software-free, web-based website! NO

CODING NECESSARY! **Shadow** Pat as she updates the site. Like what you see? Be Pat's **BACKUP**.

Lois Butler~~16 years as Historian.

If you're a scrap booker, a shutterbug, and an in-person attendee at GSGC meetings, you're the perfect **REPLACEMENT** for Lois who, due to health concerns, has been unable to attend meetings in person for many months.

Bonnie Kishpaugh~~5 years as Editor of *Genie Bytes*.

Do you have a nose for news? Do you want its presentation to be accurate and attractive? Have you created text boxes in Microsoft Word? Bonnie's template with preset styles is easy to use. Highlight your text. Select your style. Voila! **Shadow** Bonnie. Be her **BACKUP**. Become her **REPLACEMENT** as editor of *Genie Bytes* when she steps down.

Michelle Kosinetz~~1st year as Membership Registrar.

The Membership Registrar must be comfortable with Word and Excel. The registrar should also own a laptop that can be brought to meetings as well as a printer. Owning a scanner is handy. Because Michelle must be at every meeting, she'd appreciate a **BACKUP**.

Susan Perhala~~11 years as Office Depot Rewards Coordinator.

Handling our Rewards program is an easy and fun way to help the Club. Creating a personal rewards account on line allows one to keep an eye on things and print out the rewards certificates when they appear. Susan spends less than an hour a month gathering empty cartridges from club members and turning them in to Office Depot--but she's been doing it for 11 years. She's ready to welcome a **REPLACEMENT**.

Danny Sullivan~~2 years as Technical Support Supervisor.

Danny's eager to share what he's learned since he replaced Bob Dahlin two years ago. He's looking for someone who's willing to be his **BACKUP** at one Monday morning Board meeting and one Saturday morning general meeting for a total of approximately 5 hours a month.

Willing to volunteer? All positions are gender-neutral.

(cont'd. on next page)

So, follow this link: <https://www.scgsgc.org/board-position-descriptions>. Scroll down the page to find a detailed description of each position. ♦

Strategies to Break Down Brick Walls

Christine Davis, Ed. D.

Member, GSGC

Part 3 of 3: People Resources

8. **Search relatives including aunts and uncles, as well as friends and neighbors [FAN]** listed within baptismal, school/institution, naturalization, marriage, divorce, deeds, wills, death certificates, probate, and estate records. Check census, city directories, petitions, jury, and legal documents! An ancestor may be listed within. TIP: Use a family group sheet and Research Plan to guide and organize work.
9. **Connect with living relatives** and review their profiles and friends on social media. Many post family photos and clarify relationships among relatives. GOOGLE THEM! Locate regional postcards, family photos/scrapbooks, Bibles, [even on eBay] and research all DNA cousins! TIP: Send for military, discharge, and pension records. They are free and full of goodies you never knew.
10. **Review what others have found**, BUT evaluate names, locations, dates, and ages for validity and use common sense when forming conclusions. Fix errors in your tree and check back for new finds. TIP: Triangulate to verify and record information with citations whenever possible.
11. **Read** articles, review videos, or take an online course to sharpen research skills and to learn about new resources. TIP: Join regional genealogical groups/societies or blogs and subscribe to *Family Tree Magazine* – they offer a wealth of research strategies and resources.
12. **Finally, consider consulting a professional.** Organize and share all you know. A professional may use a unique strategy or resource and help put a crack in that wall! TIP: Never give up. There is nothing wrong with taking time off or seeking assistance from someone who can look at your brick wall with fresh eyes. ♦

Book Review

Anne Laymon

Treasurer, GSGC Board Officer

Jones-Rogers, Stephanie E. *They Were Her Property: White Women as Slave Owners in the American South*. Yale University Press, 2019.

Most historians claim that the institution of slavery is the province of men. This multi-award-winning, well-researched book--which includes period interviews and documents--tends to prove that theory wrong. Ms. Jones-Rogers discusses the role that women in the South played in both the ownership and marketing of slaves before the Civil War.

Did you know slaves as property were received by many young women as gifts at birth, christenings, and weddings from parents or other kin? These “gifted” beings belonged to the women and many documents were created so husbands or other family members could not discipline the mistress’ slaves, nor could the men sell or trade them to pay off debts.

Women were in charge of their enslaved property and they realized its worth. In many households, the wives owned more slaves than their husbands and this contributed to women’s total household wealth. Some of these powerful women—those both kind and cruel--were worth more than their husbands! Many women attended and actively participated in the markets where slaves were bought and sold.

Slaves were hired out for labor or as wet nurses or nannies to other white women. This brought in additional income for the owners’ use. As the Civil War neared its end the women realized that with the freeing of the slaves, their household income would disappear. They would be ruined. Many women were horrified by this realization. They hid slaves so Union soldiers would not free them. Some hired their freed slaves at low wages and thought them ungrateful when they wanted to leave.

This book has absolutely nothing to do with any of my genealogical research. However, the title piqued my interest. As one who's lived in the South for 40 years, I began reading. If you want to learn more about the impact women had on the slave trade and how they handled their property, this book should be on your reading list! ♦

The GSGC's Visit to the IAAM

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Member of the Board

On May 11th, sixteen members of the GSGC visited the International African American Museum in Charleston. The weather was perfect. The museum exceeded our expectations. Charleston cafe cuisine did not disappoint. I emailed attendees with a call for comments. What follows are their responses.

Anne: "I liked the mixed media aspect of the entire museum." Anne also forewarns, "There is not enough time in one visit to take it all in."

Dennis: "I was Impressed with professionalism of the displays."

Michelle: "The tiny Praise House impacted ... me. The building was intended to celebrate the Christian faith. Its small size was intentional. The slave owners did not want ... slaves to congregate and perhaps plot insurrection and also wished to keep their ... slaves separate from those on neighboring plantations. But it was a place where the slaves could celebrate, pray, sing, hold "ring shouts" and served as a venue for community gatherings and meetings."

Susan: We heard "... original voices ... [describing] an experience." [That] ..."is much more profound than reading about same."

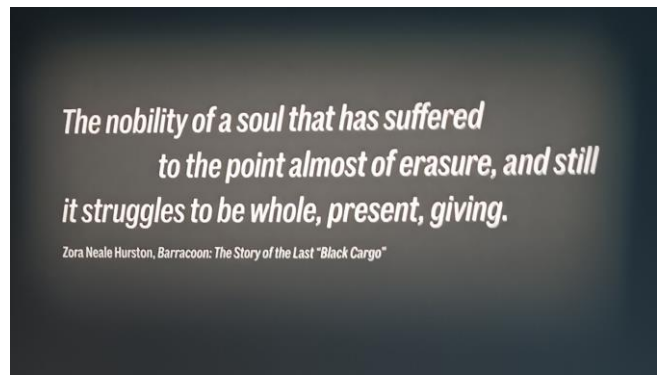
Bill: "I liked the variety of exhibits. Some were physical items and some were oral presentations, but all were stimulating and informative."

Charlene: "I was especially impressed by the quality of the changing graphics and photography displayed in the main hall entry to the museum."

Cheri: "This, my second visit to the museum was as powerful as the first. With enslavers in my tree, many of whom may have purchased those who came in through the wharf that the IAAM now stands on, I feel a sense of responsibility to honor and remember the enslaved. The museum is a powerful way to do that."

Pat: "The words powerful and overwhelming come to my mind. How can you depict something so unthinkable? Events and timelines are presented in a peaceful and reverent way that captures and underscores their importance in history."

Ann: "Finally, lest I might never forget, I brought the words of Zora Neale Hurston home with me."



Anne Laymon, Charlene Carson, and Michelle Kosinetz provided transport for those of us who don't get around much anymore. But it was Phyllis Hughes who spearheaded the entire road trip from start to finish. We would expect no less from the one club member who's been able to decipher the double helix that is deoxyribonucleic acid and present it in a way that short-term-memory-challenged seniors can understand and utilize.

Thank you, Phyllis, for giving us what for many was the most memorable trip of the summer. Thank you, Phyllis, for chairing another DNA SIG in September. THANK YOU, PHYLLIS, FOR ALL THAT YOU DO! ♦

Featured Website

Researching Japanese ancestors? [MyKoseki](#) might be a starting point. "This website provides the tools to obtain your koseki (family registers) – which will enable you to trace your roots back to Japan – in some instances, up to four generations before the immigration of your issei ancestors!" ♦

Did You Know?

[FamilySearch](#) has added over 19 million newly-indexed family history records including 16 million in US Living Persons Database 1970 – 2024. New historical records were also added from collections in Scotland, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, the Czech Republic, El Salvador, Ireland, and Peru. What a great free site! Why not volunteer to make more records searchable for yourself and others. Click on the *Get Involved* tab on their website. Thank You, *FamilySearch!* ♦

**Have a tip/tidbit you'd like to share? Please submit it to genieclub2002@gmail.com – Subject: "Tip/Tidbit." We'd love to hear from you. **

State Guides

New Hampshire

(Source: State Guide New Hampshire by Gravel, D. F. Originally published in the May/June 2024/Vol.25, Issue 3, P. 33 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1788

First federal census: 1790

Birth and death records begin: 1600s (local); 1905 (state)

Marriage records begin: 1600s (local); 1905 (state)

Contact for vital records:

N.H. Division of Vital Records Administration. ♦

North Dakota

(Source: State Guide North Dakota by Ball-Kilbourne, G. Originally published in the May/June 2024/Vol.25, Issue 3, P.37 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1889

First federal census: 1850 (as part of Minnesota Territory)

Birth and death records begin: 1893/1899

Marriage records begin: from formation (county); 1925 (state)

Contact for vital records:

N.D. Dept of Health, and Human Services. ♦

Dear Miss Genie

No questions received this quarter. ♦

**Do you have a question for Miss Genie? Why not send it to her at genieclub2002@gmail.com – Subject: "Miss Genie." She would love to hear from you. **

SOUTH CAROLINA GRAND STRAND GENEALOGY CLUB (SCGSGC)

OFFICERS

President: Charlene Carson
Vice President: Claire Fleming
Secretary: Dennis Fitzgerald
Treasurer: Anne Laymon

BOARD MEMBERS

Historian: Lois Butler
Membership: Michelle Kozinetz/Pat Bernschein
Newsletter: Bonnie Kishpaugh, Ann Hamilton
Past President: Dick Temple
Programs: Cheri Passey
Technical Support: Danny Sullivan
Webmaster: Pat Bernschein

► Become involved. Shadow a Board member. We welcome you. ◀

Lanyards (\$5 ID Badge Holder; \$2 Ribbons + \$.25 each additional ribbon) – See Marie Peacock or email the Club at genieclub2002@gmail.com to order

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GSGC MONTHLY MEETINGS

PLACE: CHAPIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY/VIA ZOOM

TIME: 10 AM

PRESENTATIONS:

- August 10: German Research Online — James Beidler
- September 14: *WikiTree* — Mags Gaulden
- October 12: Problem Ancestor

GENEALOGY MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

Third Annual East Coast Genetic Genealogy Conference

– October 4-6, 2024. The ECGGC DNA conference is for those with beginner, intermediate, and advanced experience. You will be able to attend in person or virtually. Registration opens August 1st. Check website for details. ♦

AAHGS (Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society) 2024 Virtual Conference

– Fighting Erasure: Staying Visible by Keeping African American Genealogy and History in Focus – October 10-12, 2024. Check their website for registration dates. ♦

Salt Lake City Research Trip

– November 4-9, 2024. Largest library of its kind with a staggering worldwide collection of records and help by *Ancestor Seekers* consultants. Check website for details/future research trips. ♦

**Please visit [ConferenceKeeper](#) for the most complete "Calendar and Collection of Genealogy Events" on the Internet. This is your chance to attend a meeting virtually you may have been unable to attend onsite because of its distance or cost. **

MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of each Month 10:00 AM at:

Chapin Library (*FamilySearch* Affiliate Library)
400 14th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Meetings held both at Chapin Library and via ZOOM

Email - genieclub2002@gmail.com

Website - www.scgsgc.org

GENIE BYTES NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bonnie Kishpaugh
Assistant Editor: Ann Hamilton
Published: Quarterly (February, May, August, November)

Note: Please send your questions/suggestions/feedback to genieclub2002@gmail.com - Subject: "Newsletter."

"Disclaimer: This newsletter is for informational purposes only, published exclusively for GSG Club members; contributors submit material under the assumption of copyright compliance and understand both content and length are subject to edits. Listed Websites are informational and are the intellectual property of those site owners - not the newsletter publisher - and the editors cannot certify the accuracy of the material published on any linked site."