



GENIE BYTES

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Grand Strand Genealogy Club

August 2022

Message from the Editors

Bonnie Kishpaugh & Ann Hamilton

Editor & Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Associate Board

Be sure to take a look at the upcoming Board vacancies listed on page 3. One of them might just be a good fit for you. You've got two options: volunteer for the position outright and begin your term on 1 Jan 2023 or shadow its current holder for a month or two or even a year. Shadowing gives you the opportunity to learn the required skills from the resident "expert" and to feel comfortable with your mentor and friend who's just a phone call or an email away when you need help. Remember, when you shadow, if the shoe doesn't fit, you can always say, "No."

Finally, we have a Dear Miss Genie question. Yeah! ♦

Call for Genie Jar Donations

Members of the GSGC last met 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! ♦

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GSGC's Turning 20!

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes and Membership, GSGC Associate Board

Come celebrate this landmark event with us at Chapin or on Zoom. Enjoy refreshments. Then, whether in person or on screen, test your knowledge of genealogical trivia. Last, but not least, don't forget what's become a GSGC September tradition. If you've a brick wall or two that's still standing, complete the Problem Ancestor Form at GSGC.org. Send it to genieclub2002@gmail.com or submit it at September's meeting. Another member's fresh perspective may at least loosen the mortar and dislodge a brick or two. See you in September! ♦

Featured Website

Kathleen Keenan gives Diahn Southard's [Your DNA Guide](#) website ★★★★★! Features include: a monthly newsletter, a blog, *Youtube* videos, reference guides for purchase, and the *Academy* which offers a variety of interactive, slide-rich Zoom courses.

Kathleen applauds Diahn's teaching style. It's intuitive, visual and step-by-step. The newsletter promises "a little news tossed with tips and inspiration to Do the DNA!" including registration prompts for free webinars. Kathleen recommends her joint webinars with other genealogy professionals as well as Nathan Dylan Goodwin, author of genealogical crime mysteries. Diahn's blog features topics such as *How to Find Your Biological Father without his Name*.

Genie Bytes readers: check out the August 2021 issue. Diahn's *Your DNA Guide - the Book* is featured.

If you're ready to take your DNA research to the next level and to self-study at your own pace with step-by-step guidance from an acclaimed professional, then *Your DNA Guide* is the website for you. Just ask Kathleen! ♦

Unsung Hero: Charlene Carson

Anne Laymon

Treasurer, GSGC Board Officer

Charlene and I have something in common. We both have Polish ancestry. But searching for my Polish line is not where Charlene became my hero. She helped me twice with another member's "Problem Ancestor." When I visited the *Family History Center*, Charlene happened to be the volunteer in the room. She was very instrumental in assisting me with finding records and deciphering sources. I never would have thought to *Google* "ship named George, 1619." Charlene did. Voila! The results almost knocked me off my chair!

Charlene also was very helpful when she worked at the reference desk of Chapin Library assisting me with the computers there. Charlene helped me use the Chapin computers to log into the library version of *Ancestry*. She also showed me where the microfiche rolls were stored. And I am sure she would have helped me with the microfiche machines if I needed those.

Most importantly, Charlene is my Unsung Hero because she offered to try and help me with a *Family Tree Maker* issue. My dad used *Family Tree Maker* years ago, but then lost interest. Thankfully, he backed everything up on CDs. Charlene offered to try and convert the CD records to a thumb drive. I could then use that to upload his records on my laptop's new version of the program. She was successful! Years of my dad's recollections, notes, and entries were all rescued and passed along to me so I could continue to add to his family history.

THANK YOU, CHARLENE! ♦

Unsung Hero: Phyllis Hughes

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes and Membership, GSGC Associate Board

I, Ann Hamilton, am right-brained to the extreme. Methodologies and data? Pshaw! PEOPLE—their stories—drew me to genealogy. That acronym--DNA—it became my brick wall. Inevitably, I knew if I wanted to unearth the tales of my PEOPLE across the pond, it was the DNA analysis I needed. Right-brained Ann didn't know where to begin.

I needed someone who made me feel comfortable saying, "Help!" "I don't know." "I don't understand!"

"Explain again." Phyllis Hughes is that person. Serene. Soft-spoken. Ready-smiled. Tenacious. Creative. A born teacher. Phyllis' guidance unlocked 400 years of German ancestry for me.

Here, in her own words, is the story of the genesis of Phyllis' passion for DNA as a genealogical tool.

"I was born in Raleigh, North Carolina. Before moving to Fayetteville in the 6th grade, I lived in historic East Raleigh-South directly across the street from Shaw University. My maternal grandparents, who relocated to Raleigh in 1926, raised 8 children there. It's where most of their grandchildren were born, including me."

"My parents and I lived in a house right behind them, so we shared lots of quality time. It was during these formative years that I became a budding genealogist. My grandparents told me stories about their lives before they relocated to Raleigh from the rural counties of Richmond and Montgomery. They even took me on field trips to visit their relatives and allowed me to ask lots of questions. It was as if they were grooming me to be the family historian."

"I can still remember the smell of peaches from my visits with my grandmother's sister who lived right in the middle of an orchard. I remember, too, that the homes of everyone we visited on my grandfather's side were surrounded by a lot of land. Through my genealogy research, I learned that his family owned 385 acres in Richmond County and were Free People of Color during the time of enslavement."

"My favorite story was the one my grandfather told me about the first time he saw my grandmother. She lived in Montgomery County within eyeshot of his home in the county of Richmond. He said he saw her walking one day and she was so beautiful he thought he was looking at an angel."

"These memories were tucked away until I took the Ancestry DNA test. I originally took it to learn my ethnicity composition. Later, I found that the test results helped the memories to re-emerge, allowing me to connect with the people and their descendants whom my grandparents so strategically placed in my mind and in my heart."

This is why Phyllis is so passionate about DNA testing. This is why she shares her passion with all of us. Thank you, Phyllis! ♦

Board Vacancies: They're Sayin' Goodbye. Will You Say Hello?

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes and Membership, GSGC Associate Board

Two and one-half years of COVID protocols have taken their toll. Many of those in GSGC leadership positions hope to be replaced or relieved by a shadow. Willing to volunteer? All positions are gender-neutral. So, go to the [SCGSGC](#) website, log in, and find position descriptions under "More" on the navigation menu. Before you do, read about the services rendered by these long-serving GSGC members.

Lois Butler~~14 years as Historian.

As I wrote earlier this year in my salute to Lois as an Unsung Hero of the Club, if you're a scrapbooker and a shutterbug, you'll love shadowing our long-serving Historian and stepping into her shoes whenever she's ready to step down. The Historian has her cell phone with her at meetings and recognizes a photo op when she sees one. She scours local publications for news of the Club and reaches out when the Club's newsworthy. Finally, she compiles photos, clippings, and memorabilia into scrapbooks.

Bob Dahlin~~4 years as Technical Support Supervisor.

In the past 2+ years, Bob learned "...a lot about Zoom meetings..."--from emailing invitations to our members to running them. To ensure flawless transmission each month, Bob uses the Club's equipment and draws on his own knowledge of *Word* and *Windows*. Now, because Bob "...enjoys teaching others..." he'd like to share what he's learned with someone who's willing to lead Technical Support, as he has, for approximately 5 hours a month.

Susan Perhala~~9 years as Office Depot Rewards Coordinator.

Handling our Rewards program is an easy and fun way to help the Club. Susan spends less than an hour a month on this task. It involves gathering the empty cartridges from club members and turning them in to Office Depot. Creating a personal Rewards account on line allows you to keep an eye on things and print out the rewards certificates when they appear.

Dennis Fitzgerald~~5 years as Secretary.

Secretary is the GSGC position for which Dennis is "on call". He's served 3 times since 2013 and taken up the president's gavel in 2014. If *Word* is installed on your computer, if you're a regular attendee at the Club's meetings, and if you've got 4 to 5 additional hours to spare each month, consider shadowing Dennis. The Club provides a template to assist with note-taking.

Ann Hamilton~~5 years as Membership Registrar.

If you, like me, can't remember names, there's no better remedy than sitting at the "meet and greet" desk at GSGC meetings each month. Matching names on sign-in sheets with the faces in front of you and fielding their questions begins the process which is reinforced by entering members' contact information on an *Excel* spreadsheet and transferring it to GSGC's Gmail account. The Membership Registrar must also be comfortable with *Word* and own a printer.

Susan Hayes-Hatcher~~12 years as Awards/Certificate Distributor.

Is thanking people part of your DNA? Then, like Susan, you'll want to express our appreciation to those who've shared their expertise or shown a special kindness to the GSGC. You'll need a computer with *Publisher*, a color printer, a supply of manila envelopes, stamps, and an hour or two each month. You'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you've given credit where credit is due.

Sandy Houston~~3 years as British Isles SIG Leader.

If Zooming with family and coffee "klatsching" with friends are two of your favorite things, you'll love gathering like-minded GSGC members for a couple of hours each month online or--better yet--in person. Exchange stories you've gathered about British ancestors and sites you've searched and plumbed for pots o' gold. Make a friend or two while you do. You, as facilitator, need only a computer, ability to schedule a Zoom meeting, and a subject a month to discuss.

Judy Phillips~~3 years 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! As Judy shadowed our former webmaster, Phyllis Hughes, you can shadow Judy as she updates the site and searches *Google* for valuable links for GSGC's members. ♦

Book Review: *The Forensic Genealogist Series*

Anne Laymon

Treasurer, GSGC Board Officer

My favorite genre of literature is historical fiction. Combine it with a genealogical research hunt and I am ALL IN! Nathan Dylan Goodwin is a British author, genealogist, and educator. In a series of crime mysteries, Goodwin records the exploits of Morton Farrier, a forensic genealogist. Covering such historical topics as liquor smugglers operating between France and England, World War II spies, and Suffragettes, Goodwin's novels mix history with humor and adventure as Farrier unravels his clients' genealogical mysteries as well as those of his own family. Readers accompany Farrier as he visits archives, conducts searches, uses microfiche readers, and deals with front desk staff. Goodwin seamlessly blends Farrier's personal life with his genealogical research.

The 11 books in the series are easy to find at [Nathan Dylan Goodwin's](#) website. Order them online in paperback or as e-books. Each stands alone; each is hard for the reader to put down. I highly recommend them! ♦

Featured Books

Ann Hamilton recommends *Angle of Repose* Paperback – November 4, 2014 by Wallace Stegner about a historian who, late in life and disabled, writes the story of his grandparents. His grandmother's many letters provide plot and character development. ♦

Kinship: It's All Relative, 2nd Edition Paperback – December 13, 2009 by Jackie Smith Arnold. Do you know what a removed cousin is or the difference between a great aunt and grand aunt or the degree of those blood relationships? Well, this is the book for you! It is an excellent easily understandable and inexpensive reference guide to all the confusing levels of kinship. ♦

Did You Know?

Beware! Scammers are targeting amateur genealogists! So, don't be fooled by the offer of an unclaimed inheritance, or a pricey book tracing the history of your surname, or the discovery of royal ancestors complete with a coat of arms. Some of these scammers may even advertise in legitimate

genealogical publications or on websites. They may also scam you via the more customary venues of snail mail, phone calls, emails, or social media. Be on the alert for cyber criminals who are phishing for your usernames, passwords, and credit card numbers. If curiosity gets the better of you and you open an email from an unknown sender, don't click a link or download a document found therein. Be aware. Be vigilant. When in doubt, **DELETE**. Remember. If an offer is too good to be true, it probably is!

Think you've been scammed? Find help on these websites:

- [Scamwatch.gov.au](#)
- [Fraudguides.com](#)
- [Pricegen.com](#)
- [Ancestralfindings.com](#)
- [Hbc.bank](#)
- [Ripoffreport.com](#)
- [Securityscorecard.com](#)
- [Thoughtco.com](#)
- [Icapgen.org](#) ♦

**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

Arkansas

(Source: State Guide Arkansas by Wilkerson, J. Originally published in the May/June 2022/Vol.23, Issue 3, P. 33 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1836

First federal census: 1830 (as territory); 1840 (as state)

Birth and death records begin: 1914

Marriage records begin: from foundation (county); 1917 (state)

Contact for vital records:

AR Dept. of Health, Vital Records. ♦

Michigan

(Source: State Guide Michigan by Willson, K.R. Originally published in the May/June 2022/Vol.23, Issue 3, P.37 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1837

First federal census: 1820 (as territory); 1840 (as state)

Birth and death records begin: 1867

Marriage records begin: 1805

Contact for vital records:

MI Dept of Health & Human Services, Division of Vital Records. ♦

Dear Miss Genie

How may I confirm an address on the 1880 Census? The enumerator retained the street name and number from the previous page and assigned it to every household on the next page—including that of the couple I believe to be my great grandparents.

Answer: First, identify the enumeration district. The **New York Public Library** offers an article that can help. *Genealogy Tips: Searching the Census by Address* by Philip Sutton explains how to locate an address and how to generate an enumeration district (ED) number. The article also refers readers to **One-Step Webpages** by Stephen P. Morse. When accessing his site, proceed to “US Census (1790 – 1950)” and click on “Unified 1880 – 1950 Census ED Finder.” On that page click the drop-down menu and choose 1880 and enter as much of the address information you know. I've used this website many times to locate problem ancestors. Good Luck!

If you need additional assistance, please complete the **mentoring form** found on our website. ♦

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)

BOARD OFFICERS

President: Dick Temple
Vice President: Charlene Carson
Second Vice President: Marie Peacock
Secretary: Dennis Fitzgerald
Treasurer: Anne Laymon

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS

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Membership: Ann Hamilton
Newsletter: Bonnie Kishpaugh, Ann Hamilton
Past President: Darla Williams
Programs: Cheri Passey, Charlene Carson, Bob Dahlin
Technical Support: Bob Dahlin/Danny Sullivan
Webmaster: Judy Phillips

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

Club T-Shirts (\$10) – See Darla Williams 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 13: DNA Round Table – Phyllis Hughes
- September 10: Problem Ancestor and Club's 20th Anniversary Celebration
- October 8: National Archives and Records Administration (How to Use it) – Lynn Baker

GENEALOGY MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

New York State Family History Conference 2022: Return to New York – September 8 - 10, 2022. The State's largest family history event featuring more than 40 educational sessions. Participate in-person or online. ♦

AAHGS (Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society) 2022 Virtual Conference - Bridging the American Divide: Resurrecting the Memory and Space of Black Patriots and History Makers - October 12 – 15, 2022. Check their website for registration dates. ♦

Salt Lake City Research Trip – October 17 - 22, 2022. 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. ♦

Due to the Coronavirus most – if not all – meetings/conferences are being held virtually. 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

Due to Coronavirus check website for meeting location

Email - **genieclub2002@gmail.com**

Website - **www.scgsgc.org**

GENIE BYTES NEWSLETTER

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

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