



# GENIE BYTES

Volume 7, Issue 1

Grand Strand Genealogy Club

February 2026

## Message from the Editor

### Bonnie Kishpaugh

Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Members of the Board

I've now completed seven years of publishing *Genie Bytes*. I couldn't have achieved this without your help!

On page five of *Did You Know?* Pat Bernschein gives details of the restart of her "Genie Chat" Special Interest Group. On page seven, Chris Davis directs us to several *Featured Websites* celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup> events.

Do you have a question about your genealogy research? Miss Genie just might have the answers. She's waiting for you to send her your questions. Have you come across any books, websites, or tidbits you would like to share? These recommendations may assist other members with their research? This is one of the many reasons we have a club newsletter – to support our fellow members. Send all the above to our club email address with *Newsletter* in the subject. Go ahead, be brave, send them in. You've got this! ♦

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message from the Editor and "Introducing Our 2026 Officers"
- 2 "2024-2025 Concluding My Term as President" and "Is ChatGPT All It's Cracked Up To Be?"
- 3 "Is ChatGPT..." (cont'd.) and "Finding A Distant Cousin"
- 4 "Finding a..." (cont'd.) and "Discovering a Scandal Using Full Text Search"
- 5 "Discovering a..." (cont'd.) and Did You Know?
- 6 Commemorating America's 250<sup>th</sup>
- 7 Commemorating America's..." (cont'd.), Featured Websites, Featured Books, and Call for Genie Jar Donations
- 8 State Guides, Dear Miss Genie, Calendar of Events, Club Officers and Board Members, Club Details, and Disclaimer

## Introducing Our 2026 Officers

### V. Susan Hutchinson

President, GSGC Officer of the Board

Before retiring to Myrtle Beach in 2017, I was a Medical Technologist working for a clinical diagnostics company. About 20 years ago, armed with just a copy of my maternal grandmother's marriage record, I began my search for her family's origins. Records of my mother's family have confirmed one branch came from Holland. I was thrilled to find that they settled along the Hudson River in 1662 and were a part of the early history of America.

Genealogy combines the two things I love – researching and writing. My goal is to write comprehensive books on the four main branches of my family tree.

Joining GSGC two years ago and utilizing the knowledge in this group has helped me find more resources and records than I thought I ever would. With your help I am reaching my goal of writing my family's history. ♦

### Jean Brennan

Vice President, GSGC Officer of the Board

I've been a member of Ancestry since 2009, but my love for genealogy began long before that through the stories my dad shared about our family. At every family gathering, he would pull out his old metal box of photographs and bring our relatives to life with stories behind each face.

As I began exploring my own ancestry, I realized how much those stories shaped my understanding of who I am and where I come from. Genealogy is more than names and dates; it's about the lives and connections that link us across generations.

By listening to our parents and grandparents, we're all genealogists in the making. I'm honored to serve as Vice President of the Grand Strand Genealogy Club and look forward to learning, sharing, and growing together throughout the year. ♦

## 2024-2025 Concluding My Term as President

### Charlene Carson

Past President 2024-2025, GSGC Officer of the Board

As my time as club president neared its end, I paused to reflect on the many incredibly talented, knowledgeable, and supportive officers, program chair, and volunteers that made my role so enjoyable and easy.

The growth and success of the club during my tenure was not due to my efforts or actions alone. Rather, it was the contributions and ideas of so many members, who by working together, raised the achievement bar of this club to another level.

I would like to thank all the 2024 and 2025 officers for their support; the program chair for unwavering dedication in continuing to bring the “best of the best” presenters to our meetings; to the volunteers that serve in the many support roles – lanyards, membership, newsletter, rewards program, SIG’s, technical support, website – spending many hours keeping our club running smoothly; to the members that give of their time and talent to make presentations, support special projects, and provide one-on-one research assistance.

Lastly, I would like to thank every club member for their participation by attending the monthly meetings – whether in person or via ZOOM – your contributions enrich the knowledge shared in our Grand Strand Genealogy Club community.

It’s been an honor to serve as club president – now, look for me quietly sitting in the back row! ♦

## Is ChatGPT All It’s Cracked Up To Be?

### Nancy Engle

Member, GSGC

What is ChatGPT? Is it another Artificial Intelligence (AI) program just like all the others? Or is it something different? People are talking about it, mentioning it by name. People from our Genealogy group, successful, avid researchers, are talking about ChatGPT. Up until now, I was skeptical. I should mention I was hesitant to delve into AI. Back in its infancy in the 1980s, Department of Defense (DoD) was experimenting with it. The term often used was GIGO (Garbage In, Garbage Out), and GIGO still resonates. As AI gained

momentum, I began to test its accuracy and found it fairly reliable. Occasionally, however, I noticed a not-quite-accurate response or missing information, and that old GIGO term popped into my mind. Did ChatGPT go beyond the typical Google search? Time to find out.

As with all genealogy research, there are missing puzzle pieces. I decided to give ChatGPT a try. For many years, my cousin Stafford and I tried, without success, to find more information about the house where our Paternal Grandfather, Charles, was born. Maybe Chat was the answer. I downloaded the app and created an account.

According to Charles’s Birth Record from the Department of Public Health, Division of Vital Statistics, Philadelphia, PA, he was born at 2323 Hamilton Street, Philadelphia, PA, to John McMenamin and Catherine Carr, our Great-Grandparents.

John immigrated in 1883, and his wife and their two eldest children immigrated in 1884. Our Grandfather, Charles, was the first of their children to be born in the US.

The other puzzle piece my cousin and I tried to solve was the identities of Charles’s Baptismal sponsors. According to a letter from St. Francis Xavier Parish Office, which was the Parish where 2323 Hamilton Street was located, Charles was baptized on 12 Jul 1885. His Sponsors were Charles and Margaret McFadden.

Over the years, Staff and I researched various sources to determine who Charles and Margaret McFadden were. They could have been family or friends. In fact, McFadden’s are connected to our McMenamin and Carr lines, but we couldn’t connect Charles and Margaret to our known lines.

So, I put Chat to the test. Where was 2323 Hamilton Street located? I knew it was in the Fairmount Park area and was pretty sure the homes on that block had been raised. Chat didn’t find the exact address but came up with some alternatives. The results listed the sources it checked and provided a summary of findings. Next, it provided some alternative sources to search, again listing findings and alternative sources. Chat was winning me over.

After about 15 minutes of searching, Chat turned up a

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2016 message board conversation thread on irelandxo.com (I never heard of it). One message contained the address 2323 Hamilton Street, and the author of the post was Denney McFadden, the same surname as Charles's Baptismal sponsors. Denny's email address was at the bottom of the message, so I sent him an email with the information about our Grandfather. It turns out Denny's Grandfather was Charles McFadden, and Charles's sister was Margaret. Since they were all living at the same address, 2323 Hamilton Street, in separate apartments, when my Grandfather was born, they were likely Charles's Baptismal sponsors. Charles and Margaret were 21 & 18, respectively, so they would have been of age to be sponsors. The home at 2323 Hamilton was owned and occupied by their parents, James & Sophia McFadden. There was a back entrance to a separate apartment where John and Catherine McMenammin lived with their family.

Given the various family connections in Ireland and the U.S., John likely had James McFadden's address when he arrived in Philadelphia and contacted him. It's possible the McFadden's sponsored his immigration. Also, there were numerous McMenammin families in the same area and Church Parish at the time John immigrated. I was told by one of the family members that they were all related. There are some DNA connections, but I still have to build out the branches.

The home at 2323 Hamilton Street no longer exists. In fact, that area was torn down to build the Philadelphia Art Museum and various other tourist attractions.

The original St. Francis Xavier Church, where Charles was baptized, was located at the corner of 25<sup>th</sup> & Biddle Streets and was also torn down. The famous Art Museum steps that Sylvester Stallone ran up in the Rocky movie now stand on the site. The new Church was built at 2319 Green Street, Philadelphia, PA and still stands.

I'm a believer in ChatGPT. I like the way it lists the resources it checked, then gives you alternatives. I have more than a few missing puzzle pieces and can't wait to solve each mystery.

Sadly, my cousin passed away in 2024 at the age of 95, and he never got to see this new puzzle piece put in place, but I believe he's watching and smiling. ♦

## Finding a Distant Cousin

### Bob Dahlin

Technical Support, GSGC Member of the Board

It started with an e-mail from *MyHeritage*. The e-mail, dated 21 October 2024, said that I had a DNA match named Rigmor Astrid Marianne Hellström, aged 90 or above. It also said that she was possibly my parent's fourth cousin and that she appeared in a family tree managed by Carina Sinclair from Sweden. As I have written before (*GenieBytes* - May 2022 edition) I enjoy tracking down living cousins. However, rather than going on wild goose chases, I select DNA matches to research who have a somewhat substantial family tree of their own. Carina's family tree included 386 people, so I decided that this was a good candidate to pursue.

The first thing I did was to review the DNA match and the family tree referenced in the e-mail. One of the matches that we shared was my second cousin, Torbjörn Andersson. This told me that Rigmor was related to me on my father's father's side. If she was my father's fourth cousin as *MyHeritage* estimated she was, she and my father should share a third great grandfather. I knew that my tree went back that far, but looking at the tree that was posted on *MyHeritage*, it did not go back that far. However, I noticed someone in her tree with a familiar surname, Stenberg. The Stenberg in her family tree was too recent to be my father's third cousin. My job became tracing her Stenberg line back to see if there was a match to someone in my tree.

The Church of Sweden kept records of Swedish citizens going back to the late 1600s. Many of these records are digitized and available on *ArkivDigital*, a website that I subscribe to. I recreated Carina's *MyHeritage* family tree on my *Ancestry* account and began the process of working the Stenberg line back, one couple at a time. Eventually, I found a match. My third great grandfather, Sven Stenberg, was a match for her mother's third great grandfather. There was only one problem! My third great grandmother was Sven's wife, Kjerstin Larsdotter. The records showed that Carina and her mother were descended from a third great grandmother named Bolla Johansdotter. Was this really the same Sven Stenberg in both trees?

I started going through church records that referenced

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Sten, one-by-one. I found out that he married Bolla Johansdotter in about 1812. She died in 1815. Sven then married Cajsa Lisa Johansdotter (no relation to Bolla) later in 1815. Cajsa Lisa died in 1819. Sven then married Kjerstin Larsdotter in about 1820. So, Carina and Rigmor are descended from Sven and his first wife. I am descended from Sven and his third wife. We are not fourth cousins...we are half-fourth cousins.

I contacted Carina through the message service on *MyHeritage* and told her what I found and that she was my half-fourth cousin, once removed. This started a conversation that has lasted more than a year now. Carina does not have a *Facebook* account, but her husband does. I talk to both her and her husband, Thomas through *Facebook* Messenger. Her surname when she was born was Olsen and her husband's surname was Sundström. However, they both decided to adopt the surname Sinclair to honor her Scottish roots as this was the surname of one of her ancestors.

They invited us to visit them if we ever returned to Sweden. We took a trip to Sweden last September and since their home was about only about a 45-minute drive from our hotel, we decided to take them up on their offer. They live in a beautiful old home in the country, not that far from Lake Vänern, the largest lake in Sweden. When she first saw me, she commented that I look a lot like her uncle, her mother's brother. The DNA is strong in this one! We had a very nice lunch and spent the afternoon chatting with them. Carina's sister Catrin is a doll artist, and she gave us a doll representing a Vätte Vättar are small, goblin-like nature spirits from Norse Folklore.

I told Carina that she had many cousins that lived about an hour away from her in Hjo. She has since contacted one of them and plans to attend any future family functions that they have. I am sure that we will visit Carina and Thomas in the future when we return to Sweden. I am constantly amazed at what you can discover through DNA and genealogy! ♦

## Discovering a Scandal Using Full Text Search

**V. Susan Hutchinson**

President GSGC, Officer of the Board

As you may be aware, *FamilySearch* released a new tool called Full Text Search. This feature will dive into documents and records that a simple record search

may not uncover, especially if your family member is not the focus of the document. As an example of what may be found, I will relate my recent experience that uncovered a scandal in one of my mother's lines. I would never have found this using a simple record search.

If you heard our *Stories in Military Letters* presentation at the November 2025 GSGC meeting, you may be aware that one of my ancestral lines is the Spoor family. In that presentation I read a letter from my 2<sup>nd</sup> Great Grandmother to her son Wallace during the Civil War. Wallace had several brothers and sisters including Julia who was three years his senior, born in 1835 and who I didn't know much about. To fill in some gaps in my Spoor research, I thought I would try Full Text Search using just the last name Spoor with a range of dates after the Civil War. It came up with hundreds of documents to weed through; however, it was worth the effort as I found one record with something very interesting about Julia Spoor.

I had the usual census records, death record, obituary, etc. on Julia and knew she had married a Franklin Nims in 1878 with a reference in an online family tree to a previous husband named Thompson. When I did the new search on the Spoors, I found a probate record that confirmed she did have another husband name Charles Thompson. Or did she?

The search led me to an October 1888 court transcript for a Hearing Petition on the estate of C. C. Thompson where Julia Nims claimed to be his widow and therefore the sole heir of his estate. C.C Thompson died in 1887. Well now that's interesting considering she had been married to Mr. Nims for 9 years. Was Julia a bigamist?

Several witnesses were called to testify to determine if Charles Thompson and Julia were actually husband and wife. All those who were acquainted with the couple stated they referred to each other that way and one witness who ran a boarding house said they slept in the same room. This was getting interesting! Then I reached the part where her brother William was called to the stand. William stated that Thompson boarded on his family farm in Lyons, Wisconsin in the fall of 1857, making arrangements to keep several horses there for the winter. William further stated that in March of 1858 Thomspson left and said he would be coming back for

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Julia, which he did in June. He stayed a couple of weeks and then he and Julia left saying they were getting married. The couple took the train to Freeport, Illinois and when asked if it was strange that they left without being married first, William said no and that "it was her will to go and she took a notion to go and she went." About a year later, William saw them together at the family farm where they stayed in the same room as husband and wife with Julia calling herself Mrs. Thompson. Then Julia testified and the transcript started to read like a soap opera.

Julia took the stand and said that when she and Thompson left Wisconsin they stopped in Davis, Illinois first. Thompson brought a man to the hotel where they were staying and he performed a marriage ceremony in their room. Julia stated she "believed" this man to be a minister, but couldn't remember his name or the name of the hotel. Julia said Thompson made a living dealing in horses and after testifying to their somewhat nomadic life across Northern Illinois and into Wisconsin it was determined on cross examination that they only lived as husband and wife for three years. When it was stated that he left her, Julia quite firmly replied "he did not leave me" and said he had sent her home. She ended up in Racine, Wisconsin in 1862 running her own business and saw Thompson occasionally until 1865 after which she had no more contact with him.

And then it came – the question about her marriage to Franklin Nims in 1878. Julia stated she and Thompson were never divorced and his brother Sam, who was deceased at the time of the hearing, had told her that Charles died in 1873. The probate records for Charles Thompson say he was a single man when he died and his remaining brothers maintained he was never married.

In combing through the 203 pages of this probate packet, I was unable to find any record of what the court determined about Julia's claim to be his widow. Her brother William testified that Charles Thompson was a talker and "talked all the time." This gives us an indication of Thomson's character and it is very likely that he talked Julia into "marrying" him and may have gotten someone to pose as a minister to perform that ceremony in Davis then ditched her not long after. Julia died in 1891 only three years after her petition to be recognized as the widow of C.C. Thompson, with the hearing revealing their relationship was a scandal no

matter how you look at it. Living in sin or being a bigamist are part of Julia Spoor's story and I would never have known without Full Text Search.

If you want to get started now with your own search using Full Text, log on to [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org) and select Search. Full Text is the second option. You can search by keywords or name then enter a place and year range. Be aware that it will display potentially hundreds of links to documents for you to comb through if you make your search too broad. I suggest you start as I did with just the last name and a narrow range of dates. This way it will display a shorter list of documents, but it will also show everyone with that last name in the place you designated. You can get more details on all the ins and outs of Full Text Search at our May GSGC meeting when Charlene Carson will show us how to effectively use this new feature. It may help you discover your own family scandal. ♦

## Did You Know?

Pat Bernscheine the Coordinator of the Special Interest Group (SIG) "Genie Chat" will be restarting their meetings on February 19<sup>th</sup>. They meet on the third Thursday of each month from 2 to 4 pm at the Surfside Library. Please join them for discussions focusing on current trends, tools, and techniques to help you with your genealogy research. The format is informal and open, encouraging members to share questions, tips, and discoveries. All experience levels are welcomed. ♦

All that genealogy researching for long periods of time on your devices can give you headaches, affect your eyes or - *horror of horrors!* - lead to premature aging! Now we don't want that to happen, do we? Instead of purchasing blue light glasses, all you need to do to filter out the blue light is to adjust the settings on your devices. Go to the [CyberGuy](http://CyberGuy.com) website to learn how to adjust the blue light on all your devices.

When I first tried it, I found the warmer light to be too yellow so I went halfway back on the scale until I got use to it and then readjusted it back up and it was OK for me. Since then, I discovered on the CyberGuy's website that I didn't have to do this. He says your eyes will adjust to it and it won't look so yellow after a little while. ♦

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

# Commemorating America's 250<sup>th</sup>

**Christine Davis, Ed.D.**

Member, GSGC

## February/March/April Revolutionary War Events

- **4 February 1763** - King George III of Britain announced an end to hostilities in the colonies.
- **10 Feb 1763** – *The Treaty of Paris* formally ended the French and Indian War. The English soared as they took over the colonies and drove the French from North America.
- **11 Feb 1768** - Massachusetts Assembly issues *The Massachusetts Circular Letter*, denouncing Townsend Acts.
- **27 Feb 1776** - The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge in NC was the first significant Patriot victory halting British advancement in the South.
- **6 Feb 1777** - The American frigate HMS *Solebay* captured the British sloop *Speedwell* off the North Carolina coast seizing its cargo of rice and indigo. On 7 Feb the *Solebay* captured the schooner *Hope* and its financial fortune. On 8 Feb the *Solebay* continued its success and captured the schooner *Little Dick*.
- **6 Feb 1778** - The United States and France become allies.
- **7 Feb 1778** - British General William Howe was replaced by Henry Clinton.
- **3 Feb 1779** - The Battle of Port Royal Island, SC: Maj. William Gardiner went ashore with two battalions from the 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment [Continental Regulars], The South Carolina Militia [including an African American unit from Charleston] where he clashed with Colonial Brig. Gen. William Moultrie. Notables in the group were Thomas Heyward Jr. and Edward Rutledge [both signers of the Declaration of Independence]. The forces of Gardner and Moultrie clashed until the British ran out of ammunition and retreated. This American victory resulted in 30 American and 52 British casualties [*The Battle of Port Royal Island Beaufort, SC 3 Feb 1779 American Battlefield Trust Available Online: battlefields.org*].
- **14 Feb 1779** - Battle of Kettle Creek, GA: Colonel John Boyd set out with 800 Tories to meet General Archibald Cambell [celebrating his capture of Augusta, Georgia]. Pursuing Patriot Colonial, Andrew Pickens managed to kill over 100 of Boyd's men. After crossing the Savannah, Boyd rested his men north of Kettle Creek where colonial scouts discovered his location. Pickens split his men into three columns of about 400 Patriots and in a surprise attack, outflanked the British, and drove them into the swamps. In the ensuing four-hour battle, Boyd was hit and fell mortally wounded. Despite outnumbering the Colonists two-to-one, the British retreated, abandoning both horses and supplies [*The Battle of Kettle Creek, Georgia, 14 Feb 1779, American Battlefield Trust, Available Online: battlefields.org*].
- **2 March 1776** - The Battle of Rice Boats on the Savannah and the capture of a fort on Cockspur Island, GA - both were Patriot victories.
- **14 March 1776** - Two SC tenders encountered and took over a Loyalist ship at Sandy Point. They delivered the cargo to Charleston.
- **17 March 1776** - The British campaign at Boston ended when they withdrew their troops to Halifax, Canada.
- **6 April 1776** - Continental Congress declares colonial shipping ports open to all except the British. They authorized privateer raids on British ships and the disarming of all loyalists.
- **7 April 1776** - *USS Lexington* [An American Navy Warship] famously captured the British warship *HMS Edward* off the coast of Virginia.
- **10 April 1776** - Congress appointed James Monroe as a Brigadier General in command of all the forces in North Carolina.
- **12 April 1776** - North Carolina empowers its delegates to the Continental Congress to support declaring independence. They were the first colony to do so.
- **18 April 1776** - American militia capture the Irish transport ship *Isabella* at Cape Fear, NC harbor.
- **22 April 1776** - S.C. Capt. Turpin on the *Comet* captured the British ship *HMS General Clinton* in Charlestown Harbor.
- **6 April 1777** - In a letter from John Adams to James Warren, Adams writes: "South Carolina seems to display a Spirit of Enterprise in Trade, superior to any other state..."
- **12 April 1777** - Cornwallis opened his 1777 campaign in NJ to lure Washington's army from their winter headquarters at Morristown.
- **19 April 1777** - Thomas Paine releases *The American Crisis*, a series of articles in support of an independent and self-governing America. George Washington found it so inspirational, he ordered it read to his troops at Valley Forge.
- **26 April 1777** - Sixteen-year-old Sybil Ludington

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rides 40 miles through the night to warn Milita, the command of her father, Henry Ludington, that British troops are planning an invasion of Danbury, CT. ♦

## Featured Websites

V. Susan Hutchinson informs us that the website [Evidence Explained: Historical Analysis, Citation & Source Usage](#) has a wealth of information for those who are writing their ancestry or who want to learn about how to look at source material for content and credibility. A hard copy of the book (4<sup>th</sup> edition) this site is based on and which we featured in the October 2020 issue of *Genie Bytes* is available in *The South Carolina Room* at Chapin Library. ♦

According to Christine Davis the following websites from around the country have many upcoming events, tours, programs, educational information, etc. celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup>. These events will be updated daily/monthly so please check the various websites for their everchanging calendar. Some things have already started. Fun for the entire family especially nearby cities in South Carolina!

★[America 250 US](#)

★[America 250 DAR](#)

★[America 250 US Whitehouse](#)

★[US Education Resources and Lesson Plans: Closeup America](#)

★[America 250 South Carolina](#) ♦

Do you have revolutionary roots? Do you even know? [American Ancestors](#) has launched a new website to mark America's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It includes how to research your roots be it revolutionary/patriot/loyalists, how to apply to lineage societies, stories to read/watch/from their archives, and events including upcoming/past/on-demand courses. There certainly is a lot going on at this website! ♦

## Featured Books

Dollarhide, William. *A Genealogist's Guide to the American Colonies: Part I - New England Colonies*. Family Roots Publishing Company, 2024. This book identifies the important New England resource centers with over 900 links to Internet websites. The volume includes important research information of the following colonies: Colony of Acadia (Canada), Popham Colony,

Plymouth Colony, Province & District of Maine, Massachusetts Bay Colony, New Hampshire Colony Connecticut Colony, and Rhode Island & Providence Plantations. According to *Amazon* if you have colonial American ancestors, this book will be of great help to you. ♦

Dollarhide, William. *A Genealogist's Guide to the American Colonies: Part II - Middle Colonies*. Family Roots Publishing Company, 2025. According to the publisher this book identifies the important Middle Colonies resource centers with 1,481 links to Internet websites. In addition, there are samplings of the databases available for New Netherland, New Sweden, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware Colonies. Online resources for all colonial counties for each colony are listed, showing details about old maps, *FamilySearch* catalog categories, and a link to the *FamilySearch* catalog page for each city/town of that county. ♦

Dollarhide, William. *A Genealogist's Guide to the American Colonies: Part III - Southern Colonies*. Family Roots Publishing Company, 2025. According to the publisher this 122-page guidebook identifies the important genealogical resources related to the Southern Colonies. There are chapters for each of the colonies – each with a total number of 1,221 Internet links for Spanish Florida, Virginia, Maryland, Carolina, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. ♦

Palmer, Dana A. *Ultimate Guide to Mastering FamilySearch*. Genealogical Publishing Company. 2025. This guide contains step-by-step instructions with lots of visuals on how to find your ancestors' records. There are explanations of the many tools including the Catalog, Images, Wiki, Full-Text Search, and much more on this extraordinary free website. This book is for all levels of users whether you're a beginner, intermediate or above. ♦

## 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! ♦

## State Guides

### Maryland

(Source: State Guide Maryland by Koford, R. W Originally published in the Nov/Dec 2024/Vol.25, Issue 6, P. 33 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1788

First federal census: 1790

Birth and death records begin: 1640 (county, sporadically); 1898 (state)

Marriage records begin: from formation (county); 1777 (state)

Contact for vital records:

MD State Archives. ♦

### Oklahoma

(Source: State Guide Oklahoma by Koch, A. Originally published in the Nov/Dec 2024/Vol.25, Issue 6, P.37 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1907

First federal census: 1890

Birth and death records begin: 1908 (state)

Marriage records begin: Varies by county (no statewide requirement)

Contact for vital records:

OK Dept. of Health, Vital Records Division. ♦

## 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](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com) – Subject: "Miss Genie." She would love to hear from you. \*\*

### SOUTH CAROLINA GRAND STRAND GENEALOGY CLUB (SCGSGC)

#### OFFICERS

President: V. Susan Hutchinson

Vice President: Jean Brennan

Secretary: Linda Murphy

Treasurer: Anne Laymon

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

\*\*Lanyards (\$5 ID Badge Holder + 2 Ribbons. Additional Ribbons \$.25 each) – See Marie Peacock or email the Club at [genieclub2002@gmail.com](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com) to order\*\*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### GSGC MONTHLY MEETINGS

PLACE: CHAPIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY/VIA ZOOM

TIME: 10 A.M.

PRESENTATIONS: (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- February 14: Researching War of 1812 Soldiers — Brian James
- March 14: Preserving Your Family History — Marcy Lopez (Budget Genealogy)
- April 11: Using Artificial Intelligence to Amplify Your Genealogical Work — Kate Penny Howard

### GENEALOGY MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

**Roots Tech 2025** – March 5-7, 2026. The conference will be in person in Salt Lake City (\$129) and virtual (FREE!). Registration now open. Check website for details. ♦

**GRIP Genealogy Institute** (Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh) – June 22-26, 2026 (Virtual Courses) July 12-17, 2026 (In-person Courses) This is “the” event for genealogists and family historians who want to develop their skills. The Institute provides extensive week-long courses on various genealogical topics offering focused instruction with eighteen class sessions taught by experts. Registration for these courses will open February 5, 2026. Check website for course details. ♦

\*\* 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 at 10:00 a.m. at:

Chapin Memorial 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](mailto:genieclub2002@gmail.com)**

**Website - [www.scgsgc.org](http://www.scgsgc.org)**

### GENIE BYTES NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bonnie Kishpaugh

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