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## Jacksonville Public Library Genealogy Newsletter

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### Events

#### November 10

The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society, Inc. will hold "Our Ancestors Antiques Home Show" on Saturday, November 10, at 10:30 a.m. The event will take place in the Community Meeting Room, 3330 Kori Road, Jacksonville, FL. It is a favorite for everyone. Each person brings an heirloom, photograph or story and has a 5-minute platform to share the information with others present. This occasion is open to the public. It is not required to be a member to share and this is a no charge event. Call (904) 778-1000 for questions or directions. A short business meeting for annual election of officers for 2008 will occur at 10:15 a.m. As always, light refreshments are served.

#### November 17

The Jacksonville Genealogical Society will hold its monthly meeting, November 17, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Webb-Wesconnett Branch Library, 6887 103rd Street, Jacksonville, FL. This is a dual purpose meeting in that it is time to elect officers for the next two years. Additionally, November is our traditional "Show and Tell" meeting where members and guests are invited to bring family heirlooms and discuss their history. Refreshments will be served. For additional information please contact Mary Chauncey at (904) 781-9300.

## **December 1**

### *Ancestry Library Edition: How to Use a Powerful Genealogy Source*

Learn how to use this comprehensive genealogy database available at all Jacksonville Public Library locations. The class will be held from 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. in the Electronic Classroom on the first floor of the Main Library, 303 N. Laura Street. Seating is limited. Please call 630-2409 to pre-register.

## **The 1945 Florida State Census Index is Online!**

State censuses have been taken at one time or another by most of the 50 states. Unlike the federal censuses, which are taken once every ten years to apportion Congressional representation, state censuses were generally taken at random, their purposes varying according to the needs of the state.

Florida's state censuses were an exception to the rule because they were taken systematically. In accordance with the 1838 Constitution, they were conducted in 1845 and every ten years after until the state census was abolished in 1949 (Senate Joint Resolution #46, 1949). Although 10 state censuses were conducted, the only schedules that exist today are the 1885, 1935, and 1945 censuses. A printed index exists for 1885 but no index is available for 1935 or 1945.

Jacksonville Public Library has undertaken a project to make the 1945 Florida State Census more accessible by digitizing and indexing each of the 90 Duval County precincts. We have transcribed the first 30,000 names and the finished portion of the index is now available on the JPL website in the form of an alphabetical name list that links to images of the original document.

The schedule includes the following information: name, address (whether inside or outside city limits), age, sex, race, relation to family, place of birth, degree of education, whether home owner or renter, and occupation.

You can use the index at: <http://jaxpubliclibrary.org/coll/gen/1945census/>

## **Volunteer Recognition**

Indexing the 1945 Florida State Census would not be possible without the help of our dedicated volunteers. The following people have worked hard to complete the portion that is now available on our website:

Betty Lee  
Patricia McCullough\*  
Marta Metcalf  
Rae Oliver\*

Bertha Powe\*  
Jill Ross  
Rachel Shannon  
Holly Timm  
Renee Wilson  
Jennifer Workman

*\* An asterick denotes a volunteer has contributed over 100 hours.*

## **Indexing the Census: The Process**

Many people were involved in the process to index each precinct you see in the online index. Here's how it works:

First, the Library's Digitization staff scans the microfilm and converts it to PDF format so it may be posted on our website. One file is created for each precinct. This enables the index user to browse neighborhoods on a page-to-page basis.

Once a precinct has been posted online, volunteers working from home access the PDF and transcribe the following data for each person in their precinct: (1) last name, (2) first name, (3) precinct and (4) page number. To ensure the most accurate transcription possible, every page will be transcribed twice, each by a different person. Both sets of transcription are then checked for any discrepancies by a third person, the proofreader. The proofreader consults city directories when correcting discrepancies between the two transcriptions.

As the 1945 Florida Census Index is an ongoing project that requires input from many people, volunteer opportunities abound. If you would like to participate, you can learn more at: <http://jpl.coj.net/coll/gen/volopp.html>

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