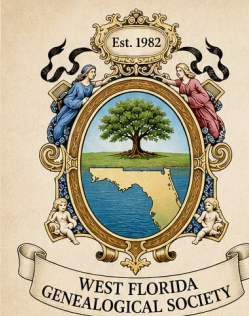


Preserving the Past, Enriching the Future

The West Florida Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 10217, Pensacola, Florida 32524-0217



Volume 45, Issue 3

Website: wfgs.org

November 2026

Executive Board of Directors

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<http://www.wfgs.org>

Blog:

<https://wfgs.org/blog.php?sid=2>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WFGenSoc>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@WestFloridaGenealogicalSociety>

West Florida Genealogical Society Meeting

In-person and Virtual

November 7, 2026—Saturday, 10:30 am

The West Florida Genealogical Society will meet on Saturday, November 7, at 10:30 am. The meeting will be held in meeting room B on the first floor of the downtown Pensacola Library (239 N. Spring Street). A society update and informative business meeting will precede the program.

Dean DeBolt, Archivist for the University Archives and West Florida History Center at the University of West Florida will give a presentation on "UWF Archives Updates."

To register, email wfgsmeeting@gmail.com; the Zoom link and pass-code will be sent the day before the meeting. The WFGS Board of Directors has instituted this procedure to prevent potential hacking of the meeting.

Meetings are free and open to the public and include a presentation on genealogical research or relevant history. **Refreshments will be provided.**

Holiday Treats for December 5 Meeting

To celebrate the holidays, we thought it would be fun to ask members to bring a family holiday treat and its recipe. A sign-up sheet will be at the November meeting, and if enough people sign up, we will have these treats instead of our customary donuts.

Election of Officers and Board of Directors for 2027-2028

Members nominated for the following positions are:

Secretary

Vacant

Board of Director – 2027

Jean Booton

Board of Directors – 2027-2028

Bryan Stapleton

Jane Caffrey

Theresa Gagnon

Voting for Board members will be held on December 5, at the general meeting.

If you want to add your name, contact Jennifer Rollins at rollins.jl@me.com.



Give a welcome to:

Frank & Judy Grasso

We encourage you to explore our resources, participate in events, and connect with other members. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need assistance.

Once again, welcome aboard!

Members of the Month

During the monthly meetings members give a brief introduction of themselves, telling when and how they became interested in genealogy, and the surnames they are researching. A sign-up sheet is available at the meetings.

Palafox Market

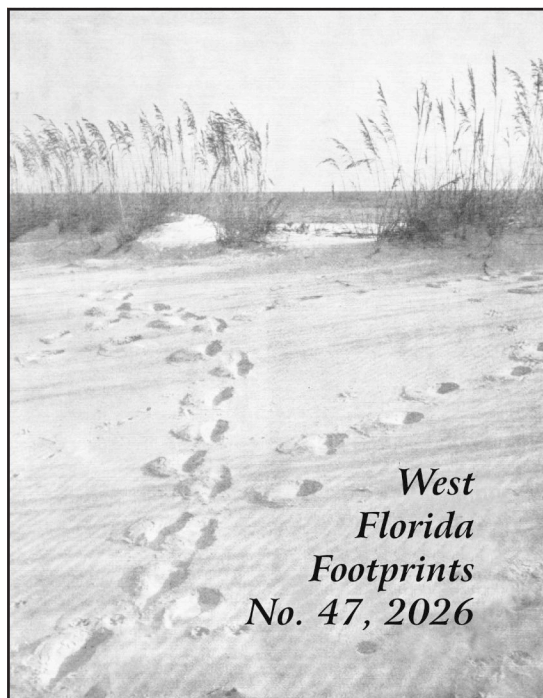
The WFGS has been participating in the Palafox Market on one or two Saturdays for the past few months. This venue helps us reach people who may be interested in family history but don't know where to start. If you are interested in manning the display table on one of those Saturdays, please contact a Board member for details. Also, a sign-up sheet will be available at the next meeting.

Field Trips

Field trips that had been planned for the historic A.V. Clubbs East Hill Home, St. John's Cemetery, and St. Michael's Cemetery have been temporarily canceled.

Webinars

Nancy Loy puts together a monthly list of upcoming webinars of interest to genealogists and historians. The link is on the home page of the WFGS website. So, [click here](#) to see this wonderful resource!



Articles Needed for the 2026 *West Florida Footprints*

We need articles for the 2026 issue of *West Florida Footprints*.

The issue will center on the 250th Anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026. If you have Revolutionary War ancestors, we encourage you to write an article about them. It doesn't have to be long. Include photos or images of documents, if available. Please contact the editor if you are interested in submitting an article for publication.

If you need guidelines for writing the articles, please contact Denise Mowery, at wfgsfootprints@gmail.com

Guidelines for *Footprints* Articles

- Articles can be submitted anytime. The deadline for article submissions is September 30 for the current year's issue.
- Article file types include Microsoft Word (doc or docx), Rich Text Format (rtf), and text files (txt), among others. If you are unsure, contact the Editor.
- Articles in past issues of *Footprints* have been one to two pages in length, sometimes longer (1,200 – 3,000 words).
 - Before submitting articles, please verify the spelling of names, place names, etc.
 - Submit photos with the articles, if available. See below for image (s) submission information:
 - Provide the original photo(s) (preferred method). Photos will be returned after the *Footprints* issue is sent to the printing company (this will ensure that there are no problems with the images).
 - Scan the photo(s) at 300 dpi (v per inch), which is the minimum setting for printing. Save the image file as a "jpg," "tif," "png," "bmp," etc. file type.
- You can embed the image file within the article to establish the position of the photos. However, send the images as separate files.
 - If you would like a photo caption, please provide the necessary information for the caption.
- Articles and photos can be turned in at the monthly meeting or emailed to the editor at:
wfgsfootprints@gmail.com
Denise Mowery
Editor, *West Florida Footprints*



SAVE THE DATE

WFGS Spring Conference

March 13, 2027

See the conference flyer and registration form attached to this issue.

Monthly Luncheon

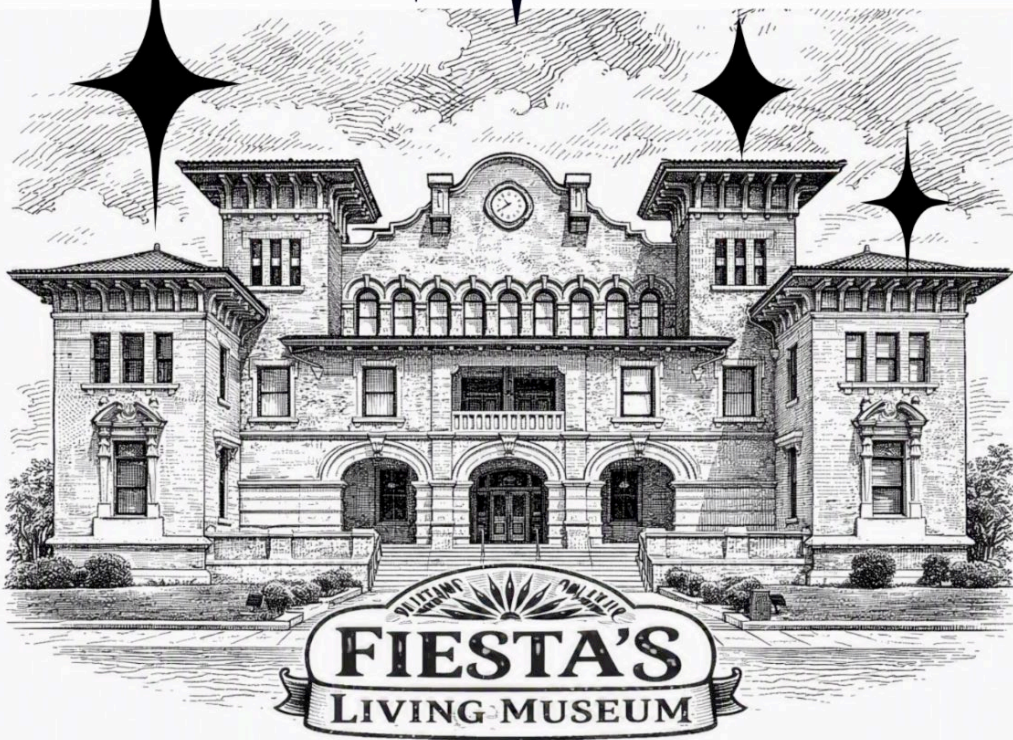
Today we met at Sonny's on 9th Ave for our quarterly luncheon. Only about half of our usual group was able to attend. We missed you but understand doctors and hurricane issues. We had a good time comparing hurricane stories and happy to do something normal again. Our next lunch will be in January. There will be signup sheet at the December and January meetings with the time and date. Our next general meeting is Saturday, 10:30, November 7, at the library on Spring St. Come early and visit. Our speaker will be Dean DeBolt from the UWF Archives. Hope to see you there!





Fiesta
PENSACOLA

PENSACOLA
Foo Foo
FESTIVAL
PRESENTED BY ACE



FIESTA'S
LIVING MUSEUM



NOVEMBER 5TH
5:30-8PM
PENSACOLA MUSEUM OF HISTORY
SCAN THE CODE FOR TICKETS:
ADULTS \$8
KIDS (5-12) \$5
UNDER 5: FREE

We're excited to invite you to experience one of the most unique cultural events in Pensacola. Fiesta's Living Museum.

This immersive, character-driven program brings 465 years of local history to life through live interpreters, interactive storytelling, and historically grounded performances.

If you've ever wanted to step directly into Pensacola's past, this is your chance. Visitors can meet figures from different eras, explore our city's diverse heritage, and enjoy an engaging experience suitable for families, students, and history lovers alike.

Tickets are now available, and we encourage you to secure yours soon. Your participation supports local arts, education, and community programming while giving you access to an unforgettable event.

RootsTech 2027

March 4–6

Registration is now open for RootsTech 2027! Come and celebrate your story at the world's premier family history event. This year's theme—"Celebrate!"—invites attendees to see family history as more than looking back. Family history is also a living celebration of the past, present, and future.

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/rootstech-2027-registration#exploring-the-theme-behind-rootstech-2027-celebrate>

Fold3 Transcription Viewer

Genealogy and military research just got a massive upgrade! We've unlocked 2.4 million pages of Revolutionary War Pension Files with a state-of-the-art, patent-pending Transcription Viewer.

The Transcription Viewer is unlike anything you've ever seen and is designed to make reading historical manuscripts faster, clearer, and much less frustrating.

<https://www.fold3.com/blog/experience-revolutionary-war-pensions-like-never-before-with-our-new-improved-full-text-search-and-transcription-viewer/?>

Tracking a Migrating Ancestor Through Land and Tax Records

November 19, 2026

Diana Elder

Webinar Abstract: Migrating ancestors present challenges in discovering their actions and records. Land and tax records place an ancestor in a specific location in time and provide details to uniquely identify him from people of the same name. Learn key strategies for utilizing these important records, including where to find them and how to use them to discover more about your ancestor.

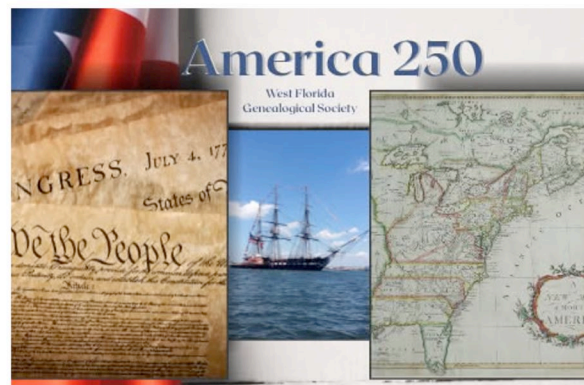
Presenter: Diana Elder AG[®], AGL[™] is a professional genealogist accredited in the Gulf South region and serves on the advisory board for The International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen). She is the author of *Research Like a Pro: A Genealogist's Guide* and co-author of *Research Like a Pro with DNA*, which have helped thousands of researchers strengthen their genealogical methodology. With her daughter Nicole, Diana has built a comprehensive educational platform teaching the Research Like a Pro methodology through study groups, an interactive eCourse, and the Research Like a Pro Genealogy Podcast. She shares research strategies on Family Locket (familyloket.com), making professional-level techniques accessible to genealogists worldwide. A sought-after speaker, Diana presents regularly at RootsTech, the National Genealogical Society Conference, and institutes, as well as genealogy societies throughout the United States and internationally.

Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_C9jaDO1pTnK487hCwU_iKA

THE

West Florida Genealogical Society

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Future



WFGS New Website

The WFGS website transition to the new platform is complete. The URL is the same (www.wfgs.org).

As a WFGS Member, your login name to the website will remain the same.

Your password did not transition because it is encrypted.

At your FIRST LOGIN, you will need to go through the “forgot password” process.

Click on the “I forgot my password” link on the Member login page. This link takes you to the “Reset Password” form. Enter your email address in your profile and reset instructions will be sent to you. The email will come from ENS CRM.

Your password must be at least eight characters long and include at least one capital letter and one number.

Website Feedback

The new WFGS website has been active for a few weeks, and the Board would like feedback from the members. There are a few problems that we are aware of. If you encounter any problems while using the website, please let a Board member know.

Meeting Recordings

Please remember that presenters copyright all program content. Recording, photographing slides, copying content, or reposting our program recordings anywhere online or on other platforms is strictly prohibited without the presenter’s explicit permission. Failing to obtain permission violates copyright and undermines the generosity of the speakers who share their research with our community.

Please respect our presenters and their intellectual property by not recording, photographing, or redistributing program recordings in any form.

Thank you for helping us protect our speakers’ work.

General Meetings

General meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month (except July) at 10:30 a.m. at the downtown Pensacola Library, meeting room B, on the first floor (239 North Spring Street), Pensacola, Florida.

Each month features a different speaker and topic. Our meetings are open to the public and free of charge.

Executive Board of Directors Meetings

Regular and special meetings of the Board are open to all members of the WFGS. Members who are not on the Board may not participate in any deliberation or discussion unless expressly authorized by a vote of a majority of the Board or have been placed on the meeting agenda.

Board of Directors meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m., via Zoom.

Monthly Meeting

The meeting room is reserved from 10:30 am until 1:00 pm for our monthly meetings. Members and visitors are welcome to stay to socialize and have discussions. Board members will be available during this time to answer any questions.

WFGS Membership Dues

Annual dues are \$20.00 for an individual membership or \$25.00 for a family membership.

Annual dues shall be payable on or before January 1. Dues should be paid before March 1 for members to retain access to the members' side of the website.

Dues may be paid at the monthly meetings, by mail, or on the website (<https://wfgs.org>).

Please make checks payable to the West Florida Genealogical Society.

Send checks to:

WFGS Treasurer

P.O. Box 10217

Pensacola, Florida 32524-0217

Update Your Email

Please log in to the WFGS Members' portal on the website (<https://wfgs.org/login>) and verify your email address. The email on the membership list is the one used to contact you (i.e., newsletter, conference updates, general information, etc.). **If you haven't been receiving emails from the Society check your spam folder.**

Contact me, if you have problems. Denise Mowery, Editor, wfgsfootprints@gmail.com