

CLEVELAND COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Volume 10, Number 4 P.O. Box 6176, Norman, OK 73070 December 1989

MEETING SCHEDULE

We have a special program scheduled for January. Jack Welsh, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Chief, Digestive Disease and Nutrition of Oklahoma Memorial Hospital, will speak on "Medicine in the 1800's." Doctor Welsh is currently working on a book about doctors in the Civil War.

Feb 20
January 16---"Medicine in the 1800's" with Dr. Jack Welsh.

February 20---to be announced

March 20---to be announced

Programs begin at 7:00pm on the third Tuesday of each month, September through June. Meetings are held in the A-B Conference Room, Norman Public Library, 225 N. Webster.

IT'S TIME TO PAY DUES

Membership in the Cleveland County Genealogical Society is based on the calendar year. Memberships are due on January 1, 1990. Please look for the renewal form enclosed with this issue of the newsletter.

CHRISTMAS AT THE ROUND TOWER

Plan now to take your family to experience the charm and elegance of a "turn of the century" Christmas. The Norman and Cleveland County Historical Museum will be decorated by the Norman Council of Garden Clubs, Chairman, Linda George. The museum will be closed during January and February for repairs and will open in March with a very special exhibit. "Through Our Grandmother's Eyes" is an exhibit provided by Tracks, Oklahoma Foundation for the Humanities. This exhibit includes interviews and photos of women who settled Oklahoma. The video "Wind Grass Song" will be shown. For more information call: Norman and Cleveland County Historical Museum, 508 N. Peters 321-0156.

Our apologies to Agnes Brooks who should have been listed with the Board Members on our roster as Immediate Past President.

Margaret Earls announced the results of the Dallas Public Library Trip Survey. Most of us voted for the Thursday-Saturday evening trip on April 20-22, 1990.

IRELAND WORKSHOP

Dr. Brian Trainer, director of the Ulster Historical Foundation in Belfast, Ireland, presented a program on genealogical research in Ireland at a special meeting of the Cleveland County Genealogical Society in October. The workshop was a great success with 65 people attending.

Dr. Trainer was making a five weeks "roots" tour of the United States, presenting workshops in eleven cities of the United States and Canada. The society was very fortunate to be able to hear someone from Ireland talk about research there.

Two of the books he mentioned for use in Irish research were IRISH GENEALOGY, A RECORD FINDER by Donal F. Begley and HANDBOOK ON IRISH GENEALOGY. These books must be ordered from Ireland. He also discussed the availability of records at the Public Record Offices in both Dublin and Belfast.

MABEL RITZMAN

GENEALOGY COURSE

Would you like to take a course that will teach you how to trace your family history? A course entitled Genealogical Education may be just what you are looking for.

University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha is offering this class as part of its spring program. The class will meet on Saturdays 10am until noon for 12 sessions beginning January 20 and ending April 7, 1990. The cost is \$30.00 and advanced registration is necessary. The instructor is Dr. Beverly Edwards, a nationally known expert.

If you are interested, please write: Dr. Linda Crumb, USAO, Chickasha, OK 73018 for details.

FIRST FAMILIES OF CLEVELAND COUNTY

The Cleveland County Genealogical Society is sponsoring two workshops for persons who wish to prove lineage to one or more early settlers into what is now Cleveland County, Oklahoma. First Families of Cleveland County is a lineage society being sponsored by the local genealogical group. To be eligible a person must prove direct lineage to a person who was in this area before or at the time of the 1910 census. Proofs include such common items as birth and marriage records and such uncommon items as old school records, pictures of tombstones and personal correspondence from far away family and/or friends. This project has met with much enthusiasm with inquiries from as far away as Vancouver, Washington. The society will provide one-to-one advice and help in filling out the application forms, evaluating and sorting legal documents and other proofs of lineage. There is no charge and anyone interested may attend either or both workshops which will be held from 9am until noon on 7 December and from 7 to 9pm on 11 January at the Norman Public Library.

For further information call Lyle Gamel, Chairman of First Families, at 364-4214 or write Lyle at C.C.G.S.

From **The Norman Transcript**,
Saturday, December 28, 1889.

Christmas in Oklahoma was celebrated pretty much the same as in the states. Oklahoma people are not behind the times.

Nearly every Oklahoma town this season boasts of having a Christmas tree while some of them, Norman for instance, afforded two.

Oklahoma will certainly be the garden spot of the world. With such mild and equable winters as this there is no reason why it should not be so.

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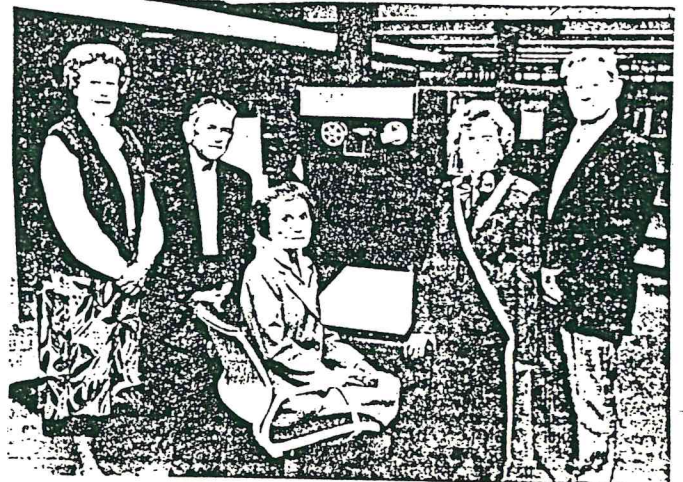
My thanks to Margie Richison for her assistance and to all of you who submitted articles.

Watch for a wonderful article on Shiloh Cemetery submitted by Mary Ann King for our March newsletter.

Primrose Cemetery records will be published by March or April.

If you can help work on cemetery records, please contact Merilyn Pope. We still have a few Meyer and Meyer Funeral Home Records for sale.

If you have information or experience which might help a fellow genealogist in their search please contact a member of the newsletter staff.



Generous donation

Posing with the new unpacked microfilm reader at the Norman Public Library are (from left) Adness McVeigh Brooks, past president of the Cleveland County Genealogical Society; Gerald Ruffin, president of the genealogical society; Mabel Ritzman, past president of the genealogical society; Mrs. Joal A. Kelley, honorary state regent for the Oklahoma Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution; and Jim Stratton Downing, president of the Norman Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. The genealogical society teamed with the Black Beaver Chapter of DAR and the Norman SARs to raise money for the reader four years ago when Ritzman was president. (Transcript Photo by Jay Foreman)

This article about our long-awaited microfilm reader appeared in *The Norman Transcript* on September 22.

WARREN CEMETERY
(formerly Liberty)

(Leave I-35 at Robinson Street, westbound. Go west on Robinson to Brookhaven Boulevard. Turn north on the boulevard to Northridge Avenue; turn west on Northridge about .1 mile, see "Cemetery" sign. Turn north into a one-driveway wide easement between two houses.)

The organizational meeting for the Liberty Cemetery Association was held on November 8, 1890, just a little more than a year after the famous Landrun of 1889. That day, there was set in motion a plan which would keep this modest-sized (four square acres) cemetery maintained and honored for nearly one hundred years. The members of the organizational group read like a mini-First Families of Cleveland County; L. Faubion, H. L. Allen, W. T. Gillock, W. T. Turner, R. F. Lewis, H. Downing, J. A. Edwards, Y. E. Berry. Others appearing early in the records were N. W. Warren, W. C. Adair and D. H. Wynn.

This progressive group established a constitution and by-laws and Articles of Association, to which it has adhered -more or less - over the years. The Association was reorganized on March 25, 1939, at which time, "inasmuch as the cemetery has been commonly called over a long period of years as "Warren Cemetery", the name was changed from Liberty to Warren Cemetery, and new names -along with some of the original ones - were beginning to appear in the records, among which was Miss Hyla Ford, John A. Merkle, and Mrs. J. J. Fox.

In the 1960's, Warren suffered heavy and frequent acts of wanton vandalism. Many stones were taken, many were broken and some were destroyed. Among the stones that were removed and never recovered was that of N. W. Warren, a founding trustee and contributor of the first acre. The destruction was sufficient to require a special called meeting on December 9, 1966 to try to deal with the problem. The American Legion Post, a faithful friend to Warren, offered to help pay the cost of repairs and replacement of the stones.

Warren Cemetery is unique in its place in Norman and Cleveland County. Today it is totally surrounded by a prestigious housing development with only an entrance and exit at opposite ends of a north/south road. In the process of completing the subdivision, Warren was enclosed by a high stockade fence, which remains intact except for a small section on the north side. Although one personally deplores the circumstances which put this historic rural cemetery inside a housing development, we are all aware - and grateful for - the fact that it is safer from vandals than it has ever been. As local cemeteries go, Warren is probably one of the best documented and best-preserved in the county. It presently has a caretaker who is conscientious, experienced, diligent and enthusiastic about the trust that he has been given.

The original deeds to the property are still in the hands of the secretary of the Association, who keeps the records for those members who, although widely scattered, still pay their dues for the upkeep. Many of them come home to Norman on Sunday before Memorial Day to conduct their Association business, visit the final resting places of their ancestors, visit with each other and renew those invisible ties

that bind our hearts, our families, our communities, and our nation into one dedicated whole.

Warren---we salute you and Charles and Lorene Haynes who presently head the association and Elizabeth Merkle of Noble who is the present secretary. A complete census of Warren was made January/February 1986 by members of the Cleveland County Genealogical Society.

-EUNICE GODDARD-

TRAVELOG

Clifton and Agnes Brooks share the following information gained on some of their research trips.

CONNECTICUT

Collinsville, court house---deeds, cemetery records, clerk made copies of cemetery, staff very helpful, parking not a problem.

Hartford, Connecticut State Library, Historical Society, Hartford Public Library---You need TIME to DO Hartford. Excellent facilities, parking garages are quite expensive, but worth not having to worry about your car.

Wethersfield, court house---vital records and land records, well staffed, will make copies for you, parking not a problem.

MARYLAND

Frederick, Frederick County court house---deeds, early marriage records, court records, copies are made for you, downtown parking lots.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston, New England Historic Genealogical Society---outstanding library and staff - oldest genealogical society.

NEW YORK

Albany, New York State Library, Cultural Education Center, Empire State Plaza---early New York records, extensive DAR records, outstanding manuscript department, parking garage under the Plaza - easy access.

PENNSYLVANIA

Wilkes Barre, public library, Franklin Street---limited number of books, staff very helpful. Historical and Geological Society, Franklin Street---excellent library, open 1:00 - 4:00pm -check first. Court House---limited deeds - records lost because of flood, courteous staff, downtown parking lots.

ADVICE FOR BEGINNERS

I started working on my family tree in the sixties. I was fortunate in having a workshop to attend at the Urbana Public Library in Urbana, Illinois. These are notes I made at that workshop. Perhaps something here will be of help to someone who is new to genealogy.

It was suggested we set up a notebook with three sections:
Section I-Family Data. Have a page or two for each family name and keep the names in alphabetical order. The data should be kept in chronological order. Keep general notes. Ask definite questions of all and any family members. Write down all questions, answers, and who told you. Write down the name of any library or courthouse you worked and the date when you were there. If you use a book for information, write down title, author, page number, and paragraph number. Check every little thing and write it down.

Section II-Bibliography. List every book or manuscript that you know about that looks as though it might have material you could use. Each time you look at a book, check the author's bibliography. Make sure you make a note each time you look at a book. Write down where you found the book. Write down the name or number of room in the library or courthouse.

Section III-Source Material. Where and how to look. Before 1860 people will usually be located by county rather than city. County lines were constantly changing so you will need charts or maps to show these changes. Shifting of counties was very common before 1800. In early times many people will be located by the name of a stream. The first thing to find out is where they lived. The first U.S. Census was in 1790. Look through the 1790 census, find your family name and work onward. The census of 1850 gave actual first name of each person in the family. Remember to work with counties rather than cities. After finding the location, check county court house for more information. This would be the county clerk or probate clerk. Land records and court records should be checked. There are various courts. Ask to see old records. A good place to look is in the local library and get all the information you can there. Then try the state historical library. Another source is a church with parish register of baptisms, marriages, and deaths.

Some abbreviations you might find are:

b-born	no pens-no pension
mar-married	appl pens-applied for pension
mar 1-2-which marriage	no rec-no record
ch-children	grfr-grandfather
no ch-no children	gragrfr-great grandfather
d-died	grmr-grandmother
dy-died young	wf-wife
dient-died without a will	l gen-1st generation
test-made a will	ca-about a certain date
wit-witnessed	date/5-aren't sure which calendar was used
prob-probate	son-in-law or daughter-in- law was sometimes used
pens-pension	for stepson or stepdaughter

WERE YOU BORN TO BELONG?

Are you able to prove descent from an ancestor who will qualify you for membership in one or more of the lineage societies? (Continued from the September newsletter.)

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

Active membership is open to male United States citizens of good repute who have served honorably on active duty as commissioned officers since September 16, 1940, or between April 6, 1917 and July 2, 1921. Male descendants of members or of deceased officers eligible at time of death, are eligible for hereditary membership with full rights and privileges. In addition, perpetual membership may be conferred upon any regular member or eligible applicant.

DAUGHTERS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

Women who are lineal descendants of soldiers and sailors of the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps and Revenue Cutter Service, who served between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865, in the war for the Suppression of the Rebellion and of such State regiments as were called into active service and subject to the orders of the United States General Officers, between the dates mentioned, and have been honorably discharged therefrom are eligible for membership.

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES

Male lineal descendants of commissioned officers, or those later commissioned, who served in the Union Forces 1861-1865 are eligible. Hereditary membership is also now open to male descendants of a brother or sister of such officers after the applicant's eighteenth birthday.

LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

All mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, granddaughters, blood-kin nieces and cousins, thus including all female lineal descendants, twelve years of age or over, of honorably discharged Union Soldiers, sailors and Marines of the Civil War, 1861-1865, also ex-army nurses of that War, are eligible to membership in the Circle. Any Circle may admit to honorary membership any son, grandson, great grandson or blood-kin nephew of an honorably discharged soldier, sailor or Marine who fought in the Civil War, 1861-1865.

For further information contact Clifton and Agnes Brooks, 329-8437.

(Article to be continued)

Please make the following additions and corrections to your list of CCGS Officers, Board Members, Committees and Members. If anyone was overlooked, please contact me so our list can remain current.--Linda.

AGNES BROOKS---Board Member---Immediate Past President

RACHEL HANLEY---329-4764

IRENE PETRICK---4623 East 105th Place, Tulsa, OK 74137

New Member:

LINDA ZOLDOSKE---14450 Bridgecreek, Norman, OK 73071, 360-4377



Happy Holidays from C.C.G.S.

Cleveland County (OK)
Genealogical Society
Post Office Box 6176
Norman, OK 73070



McCracken, Jean
1219 Kansas
Norman, OK 73069

