

CLEVELAND COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 6434

MOORE, OKLAHOMA 73153

JULY 1982

OFFICERS 1982-1983

President - Mrs. Becky McGaha Jeffries.....794-2124
Vice President - Mrs. Genivia Jury.....794-4604
Treasurer - Mrs. Tressie Weathers.....634-4628
Secretary - Mrs. Louana Bowker.....691-9064
Public Information Officer - Mrs. Geneva Coates.....794-2396
Projects - Mrs. Jan Tate.....329-5641
Acquisition & Genealogical Assistance - Mrs. Katherine Matthews.....794-1248
Immediate Past President - Mrs. Sharron Ashton.....321-4214

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is my honor and pleasure to be chosen as your President. Thank You!
Now that my feet are back on the ground, my thoughts are toward the many projects that we could start: cemetery records, tax and land records, newspaper files and marriage records. I am a genealogist and I have done a great deal to preserve my family's history; but as your President I want to look to the future and help to preserve the history of Cleveland County. Our County is full of history, waiting to be uncovered and written. As a group, we can work diligently toward saving our primary and secondary sources of information in Cleveland County.

With anticipation I have accepted the office of the Presidency, but I have only one reservation: I need lots of help from YOU!

I am looking forward to a very successful year. We can accomplish miracles in our organization with the aid of all the membership.

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Our newest member of the Board is Mr. Hadley Meinders who has accepted the position of Membership. His telephone number is 329-6293.

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Membership is open to all persons interested in Genealogy. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month from September to May at 7:30 P.M. Meetings are rotated between the Moore Public Library, located at 225 South Howard in Moore, and the Norman Public Library, located at 225 North Webster in Norman. Membership dues are \$4.00 per year.

REPORT FROM THE PROJECTS CHAIRMAN

There are 2,600 Micro-film rolls for Revolutionary War Soldiers and Widows who applied for pensions or bounty land.

In some cases this is the only proof a person might find on a R.W.S., because the original records for service were burned in the War of 1812. Some applications are priceless because some soldiers stated where they were born, birthdate, childrens names, and marriage. When widows applied they had to prove their marriage and presented whole Bible pages.

To order a complete military file from the National Archives and Records Service on ONE soldier the charge is \$15.00. A roll of film costs \$15.00 and has many soldiers or widows on it. The DAR started the Oklahoma Memorial Film Fund to acquire all of the rolls. Today they have 720 rolls, which are located in the Historical Library in Oklahoma City for the public to use. Mrs. Mary B. McBryde is in charge of the fund and ordering the film.

At our last monthly meeting Mr. Neil Harris suggested our Society start a project to order more film. If a person did not want to pay \$15.00 for a roll, they could give any amount on a certain roll and when the goal of \$15.00 was reached for that roll, it would be ordered.

Janet E. Tate has a list of the films already at the Historical Library, the ones on order, and will keep track of deposits, and order when the goal is reached

At our last general meeting the Society approved the ordering of four rolls in the name of our Society. To be fair in the ordering it has been left up to Mrs. McBryde which rolls to order. Also Mrs. Cox ordered a roll on Wallings and Mrs. Tate ordered a roll on Tate. One roll was ordered on Kearby as a memorial to Mrs. Verna Wilkinson, recently deceased mother of our board member Tressie Weathers. Tressie also ordered a roll on Kerby in memory of her mother.

If you wish to order a roll please make the check out to the Oklahoma Memorial Film Fund, and call Jan.

Some of the projects the Society hopes to undertake this year are Cemeteries, half have already been canvassed by the Black Beaver Chapter OSNSDAR. They are: BANNER, BLACKBURN, BOX, CHAPPELL HILL (CROPPER), DENVER, DRIPPING SPRINGS, FAIRVIEW AT MCGUIRE, FAIRVIEW AT ROBINSON, FALLS, HOLSENBAKE (DENTON) INDEPENDENCE, LEXINGTON (CATHOLIC-ST. JOHNS) LEXINGTON, MOORE, MT.ZION, NOBLE, ROSE on STOKES farm, SHILOH, STELLA, AND WILLOWVIEW. We want to do the rest this fall. Newspapers, abstract such items as, obituaries, weddings, births, people listed as being from other states, and unusual items. Marriage records, see my plea below. We would like to copy the first five books, which would take us up to Statehood.

We need volunteers, so if you would like to work in the cemetery, or sit in the library and read the films on the newspapers, call Jan, we have plenty of jobs open.

HELP ! HELP ! HELP ! HELP ! HELP !

Continued next page

We are in the process of copying the Cleveland Co. marriage records. Norma Nichols, District Court Clerk, was kind enough to furnish us with a private, air-conditioned room to work on these, but only until the second week of August. Progress is slow. If we could schedule several members every day we could finish by August. Two hours a day would be a big help, or whatever time you could spare. You must be able to print or write legibly. Call Jan Tate - 329-5641. THANKS!

ACQUISITION AND GENEALOGICAL ASSISTANCE

Our Committee is responsible for maintaining copies of ancestry charts, planning and conducting workshops, and answering all correspondence received by our Society requesting research. We also request exchanges of newsletters with other genealogy groups and historical societies in Oklahoma and other states.

At the present time, we receive newsletters from Garfield County, Ottawa County, Osage County, and Canadian County. This summer I am writing letters to other counties and out of state as I learn of the interest of our members. So please call me if you would like me to write a specific county. Than I can call you if and when we begin to receive the newsletters.

We have a surname file that is the size for "5 by 8" cards. If you have not filled out a card, please do so and bring it with you to the September meeting or mail to me. We have asked the Norman Library if we can place the Surname file box there, and this was approved. We also plan to make copies and place in a book form, and place at the Moore Library. We felt that placement of our materials at the Norman and Moore Libraries would be the most convenient to our members.

I would also like to ask each of you to make a copy of your ancestry chart and mail to me or bring it to a meeting. We plan to have these available. That way we may be able to help each other more. If you are not sure how to fill out an ancestry chart, please call me and I will be happy to help you.

This fall we plan to have a Workshop either in Moore or in Norman (or maybe in both!!). If you would like to help in any way--giving a speech, registering participants, making coffee--please call me.

One last thing--if you have purchased books that you felt were especially helpful, please call me as we are compiling a list of such books. No one likes to spend money to find out that the material is no help at all, or isn't what it was advertised to be. Also, if you would be willing to loan the material to another member for a short time, please let me know that too. Thank you.

Katherine M. Matthews, Chairperson

794-1248

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If you subscribe to Quarterlies from Genealogical or Historical societies and are willing to share with other members, lets "pool" our resources. Other members could order Quarterlies from other areas and we could all benefit by that. Please call Katherine and let her know what you are subscribing to, or intend to order.

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A PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGIST writes:

In recent years we have heard a great deal about the first four generations of our ancestry and their importance. With this in mind I recall an incident which occurred while I was a supervisor of a genealogical archive when a family representative turned over to the archive a binder of family records, about 500 sheets, three inches thick. When I asked if the family had another copy for the records the answer was, "We are no longer interested in this record, we made a hurried judgment some years ago and this is not our family record." Sad, but true, this has happened several times in my experience.

There are several reasons why the first three or four generations of your ancestry are the most important if not the most interesting.

(1) A sudden, or even a lasting desire, to learn about one's ancestry does not justify a hurried or inaccurate decision in research. The records can wait. It's the direction in which one travels that is important - not the speed.

(2) The very foundation of an accurate and complete family genealogy is in the first few generations. This is a difficult period of time in which to compile an accurate genealogy because there is a restriction on the access to vital records within the first seventy-five years. It is difficult to verify the traditions and personal recollections of the living ancestors who may assist you.

(3) The color and richness within a family genealogy is best obtained within the first few generations. While family information may need to be verified, the experiences of their lives, their joys, sorrows and successes will never be found in a courthouse record.

(4) Beyond the first generations you will find limited information on the personal lives of your ancestors, therefore, close at hand, we have a one-time, all-time opportunity to know, love and appreciate those few direct ancestors who gave us life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

E. Kay Kirkham

Taken from the GENEALOGICAL HELPER May/June 1982.

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The Helper and also the DAR Publication is available in most libraries. Library hours have been extended in many of our areas. Take this opportunity to visit them for some additional research. The Oklahoma Historical Society Building located Southeast of the State Capitol, N.E. 23rd & Lincoln Blvd., is open as follows:

Reference Library: Month thru Friday 9:00- 9:00, Saturday 9:00 - 5:00.

Newspaper Library: Monday thru Saturday 9:00 - 5.00.

Archives Manuscripts: Monday - Saturday 9:00 - 5:00.

Closed Sundays and Legal Holidays.

I have found that in the evening there is always a reader available for use. Do consider this time for your research.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 21, 1982 at the NORMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY, Speaker to be Norma Nichols, District Court Clerk, Cleveland County.
OCTOBER 19, 1982 at the MOORE PUBLIC LIBRARY
NOVEMBER 16, 1982 at the NORMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please mark these dates on your calendar as you may not be called unless the date or place of meeting has changed. Watch the newspapers: Mary Goddard's column in the Daily Oklahoman, Norman Transcript, and the Moore Monitor for announcements.

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A covered dish PICNIC is planned for Wednesday, July 21, 1982. This will be held at the REC Building (behind the Target Store) in Norman, 6:30 P.M. Bring your family and enjoy the fellowship.

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Renew your membership now!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

CLEVELAND COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 6434, MOORE, OK 73153

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

This application is for NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL MEMBER _____

NAMES RESEARCHING. LIST NAME, AREA, & TIME PERIOD _____

LIST PROJECT ON WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK, SUGGESTIONS FOR PROGRAMS, AND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS _____

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MOORE, OK 73153



Edna M. Couch
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Norman, OK 73069