



CLEVELAND COUNTY  
 GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
 NEWSLETTER

*Winter*

Volume 12, Number 1

P O Box 6176  
 Norman, Oklahoma 73070

Spring 1991

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February 19	Regularly scheduled meetings of CCGS, Inc. All meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Norman Public Library, Webster and Gray Streets, Room A-B, 7 p.m.
March 19	
April 16	

ANNUAL LLOYD DEWITT BOCKSTRUCK WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, 24 AUGUST, 1991

We are sad to report the sudden death of VaRue Bailey Douglas at her home in Norman on 23 December 1990. VaRue joined CCGS last year and she became active in the opening of our new library. We were fortunate to enjoy her company at our Christmas party and to have her as one of our loyal members.

Our library is in urgent need of volunteers! If you have a couple of free hours, please contact Rachel Hanley or any one of the library staff or volunteers.

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Membership dues are now due. If you have not paid, please send your check for \$10 individual or \$15 family to Jim Mohon at PO Box 6176, Norman, OK 73070. (This increase was approved at our November meeting by vote of the membership to cover increased operating costs.)

CLEVELAND COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Linda Fairbanks.....Editor  
Margie Richison.....Assistant and  
Contributing Editor  
Jim and Pat Smith.....Wordprocessing  
Gwen Woods.....Member  
Fran Blair, Margaret Earls,.....Support Staff  
Eunice Goddard, Jim Goddard

Please send comments, questions and articles  
for publication to:

Linda Fairbanks  
712 Westridge Terrace  
Norman, OK 73069

Margie Richison  
1601 Valley Ridge Road  
Norman, OK 73072

Gerald Ruffin, President  
C.C.G.S., Inc.  
P.O. Box 6176  
Norman, OK 73070

We of the Newsletter staff are  
pleased to welcome Jim and Pat  
Smith. Jim and Pat are recent  
additions to CCGS and have vol-  
unteered to help the Newslette  
staff with wordprocessing. In  
addition, Jim and Pat are regu-  
lar volunteers at our library.

If you have any article of in-  
terest, please contact a mem-  
ber of the Newsletter staff.  
We are always looking for new  
ideas.

C.C.G.S., Inc., is approved as a tax-exempt  
corporation under Sec. 501 (c) (3) of the  
Internal Revenue Code.

CLEVELAND COUNTY IN THE 1920'S  
by Rachel Hanley

Homes were being piped for natural gas to be used for  
cooking purposes. The advertisements about natural gas stated  
that it was clean, cool and convenient.

A total of 382 gas lines had been added to the homes by  
June 30, 1924, 70 of these were added in June.

Kelvenator refrigerators were being advertised  
as, porcelain and electric! Later an eight foot electric  
General Electric refrigerator was advertised. Before this ice  
was being delivered daily from the ice wagon.

Norman first had electricity in 1903. It was limited to  
a single light bulb hanging from the center of the ceiling.

Blackert Electric Co. at 103 West Main advertised the  
comforts of the electric fan in June of 1924. They were so  
small they were suggested to be used in the office. Electric  
vacuum cleaners were also being advertised. By 1924  
attractive light fixtures were available.

Beautiful home furnishings were advertised by Myer and  
Myer. Also beautiful homes were being built.

The historical house at 509 N. Peters was built between  
1899 and 1900. The cost was around \$4,000. Some of the other  
Silk Stocking Row houses were built at the cost of \$500 to  
\$1,000.

The brick house, now painted brown, at the corner of  
Peters and Tonhawa, was the first brick house built in  
Norman.

There is a house on S. Ponca, which was owned by  
Dr. Capshaw, in which Fisher Plumbing Co. installed the first  
bathtub in Norman.

The Security National Bank moved into new quarters at  
the corner of Main and Peters. C.H. Bessent was the president  
and R.W. Hutto was cashier. Office space was also made



available to the professional community. The new bank opened for business on June 28, 1924.

The new Federal Building, was under construction in the spring of 1924. It is located at Gray and Peters. Cost of construction was \$ 70,000 and materials was shipped by rail. A crisis developed when three cars of stone could not be located. Railroad officials finally solved the problem. The building is now owned by the City of Norman, and I believe, is for sale.

On May 4, 1924 the Meyer and Meyer Funeral home purchased a limousine to be used as a car and as an ambulance.

The Ku Klux Klan were very active in Norman with regular demonstrations and advertisements for membership giving only a post office box number.

Birthing was still a function limited to the home, as were marriages and funerals. By 1932 the American Legion Hospital was in operation with Miss Pearl Dunscomb as superintendent.

Rural community news was regularly reported in the 1924 newspaper and was especially interesting to those of us who had rural roots. Social functions, besides the Church, included the Saturday Night "Play Party." The fact is, this was an evening devoted to Square and Round Dancing. Young men rode their horses from miles around to participate. Music was furnished by the local Fiddlers and Pickers. The more successful "Play Parties", it was rumored, lasted till dawn.

#### PLACE NAMES

**FRANKLIN.** A village in the southwest corner of Section 5, 9n, 1w. Now the 7300 block of East Franklin Road, Norman. Post office established May 10, 1892 and named for *Franklin* Blackburn, first postmaster. The post office was in Blackburn's half dugout home at 7800 East Franklin Road that lasted until January 25, 1895, when Thomas A. Jones became postmaster. Office was then removed to the home of Jones (about 5700 East Franklin Road) until Samuel J. Shultz was appointed postmaster October 24, 1896.

Office operated in Shultz's store at about 6401 East Franklin Road until May, 1899, when it was washed away in a Little River flood. Shultz then rebuilt at the site of the present village. Post office was discontinued April 14, 1906, when rural delivery service was extended to the community from Norman.

**HELL'S HALF ACRE.** Favorite outdoor site during the first third of the twentieth century near Norman. Located on the left bank of the South Canadian River near the southeast corner of Section 17, 8n, 2w, where 12th Avenue Southeast enters the flood plain of the river.

**HELSEL.** Post office established January 24, 1900, with Clara Drago as first postmaster. The original proposed name was Dan. It was located in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of Section 21, 7n, 1e. Named for Steve Helsel, nearby store owner. Date of discontinuance indeterminate but believed to have been in 1906. This office had six postmasters during its existence within the community.

**HALL.** Post office established March 7, 1891, by Carrie Hall, widow of Gervase Hall. It was located on the family homestead in the northwest quarter of Section 26, 8n, 1w, or in today's terms one mile east and one mile north of Maguire store. When Ben F. Brown became postmaster September 13, 1893, he relocated the office on the Charles Hobough homestead one mile southeast, in the northeast quarter of Section 35, 8n, 1w.

Approximately eleven months later D. F. Knight became postmaster and the office was again relocated one and a half miles east where some living octogenarians remember it—in the southwest quarter of Section 30, 8n, 1e. Knight remained the postmaster until November 15, 1906, when the office was discontinued and service was replaced by a rural route from Noble.

HOLSONBAKE CEMETERY

Holsonbake (Denton) Cemetery is located 4 miles east and 3-1/2 miles\* south of Lexington. This cemetery record was compiled by Carolyn Breeden of Purcell, Ok. and Remel McCrone of Washington, Ok.. \* You may go 4 miles east, but you can only go 2 miles south, for the section line is closed and has been for over 50 years. Therefore you must do some zig zagging to get to the 3 mile point. Also , don't go 1/2 mile south, go about 30 feet south and 10 feet west or just across the bar ditch and you are in the cemetery!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
Adams, C.D.	14 Feb 1837	7 Apr 1907
Adams, Quincy	1 Jan 1902	8 Jul 1903
Bennett, Frank	30 Dec 1895	17 Feb 1899
Bennett, James B.	18 May 1888	29 Jan 1898
Bennett, Lizzie	24 Sep 1865	12 Jan 1899
Bennett, Mary	22 May 1832	14 Nov 1895
Brown, Robert H.	3 Nov 1894	7 Nov 1898
Camp, C.B.	21 Dec 1858	17 Jan 1899
Camp, Mary E.	22 Aug 1881	29 Nov 1894
Coleman, Bird	21 Jan 1824	14 Sep 1888
Dosier, Alice Neoma	2 Jul 1899	26 Oct 1901
Grower, Emma Jane	28yrs 10mos 12days	26 Mar 1896
Hoggard, Geogrie	18 Nov 1892	Jul 1897
Holsenbake	Children of Obed & Bell	
Lister, George R.	18 Apr 1854	30 Oct 1899
Milsap, Janne E.	9 Mar 1881	6 May 1898
Millsap, Logan	15 Oct 18??	24 Dec 1854
Moore, William	15 Oct 1897	27 Jul 1899
Myers, Cecil	20 Sep 1899	Jan 1900
Myers, Claude	26 Feb 1887	1 Aug 1893
Myers, Peter	6 Jan 1855	16 Jul 1909
Ott, Jane	11 Dec 1826	29 Jan 1898
Ott, Maggie E.	27 Apr 1875	11 Sep 1900
Ott, Norton V.	Feb 1899	21 Jun 1899
Padgett, Willie	15 Jun 1908	21 Jun 1909
Padgett, Mary Jewel	28 Sep 1909	11 Oct 1909
Pearson, J.R.	18 May 1878	20 Feb 1883
Pinner, Matilda	12 Feb 1836	1 Jan 1894
Rex, Willie	21 Apr 1878	22 Jan 1893
Sharrock, Eva	15 Jun 1891	18 Sep 1899
Tate, Dalpheil	6 Jan 1890	10 Dec 1900
Tate, Nathan G.	18 Feb 1850	22 Feb 1901
Vincent, Garland	6 Nov 1846	5 Jan 1895
Vincent, Martha	20 Dec 1852	Jul 1926

In addition to the above, these names were found in When Corbett Flourished - The Early Years by Harreld K. Howell and Hilda Patti.

Evans, Clearse	17 Aug 1893	Aug 1905
Higbee, Claud	infant	1899
Higbee, Lawrence Lamar	9 months	1903
Higbee, Lee	infant	1897
Holsonbake, Rev. Louis D.	5 May 1844	21 Sep 1901
Williams, W.S.	13 Oct 1854	5 Mar 1900



Obituary Notice from YOU ALL'S DOIN'S, Lexington, Ok.  
September 27, 1901

REV. L.D. HOLSENBAKE DEAD

A Good Man and A Friend To Everyone Passes Over To The  
Great Beyond.

Last Saturday, September 21st, at noon, occurred the death of L.D. Holsenbake, at his home, seven miles southeast of Lexington. The sad news was a shock to the community, for everyone felt that one of Cleveland county's noblest and worthiest citizen was gone.

The deceased's illness was brief and very few of his friends knew of his real condition until the death summons was near at hand. Two weeks ago today he brought a load of fruit to town, and while handling a basket, scratched his thumb on a small nail about the basket. The deceased complained of his arm painning him; this grew worse and it was soon apparent that blood poison had set in and there seemed to be no relief for the sufferer. Medical skill could avail nothing, and death claimed the kind husband and noble father.

The funeral occurred at the family residence Sunday at 10 o'clock, and was attended by a large concourse of sorrowing friends. Rev. H.H. Everett, of Noble, and Rev. G.W. Herrington, conducted the funeral services. The burial was had in the Elsenore graveyard, near the deceased's home, immediately afterwards, and was under the auspices of the Confederate Veterans.

Lewis Devore Holsenbake was born in Franklin County, Georgia, May 5th, 1844. At the age of fourteen he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Later young Holsenbake moved to Arkansas and enlisted in the Confederate Army at the outbreak of the Civil War. His patriotism and bravery won for him an enviable record in the army. At the age of twenty-three the deceased entered the ministry, and in March 1866, was married to Miss Sareptha Vick at Monticello, Ar.. Soon afterwards the young couple moved to Shelby County, Texas, and from there to the Chickasaw Nation where they resided until the opening of Oklahoma to settlement in 1889. In the race for homes, Mr. Holsenbake was fortunate enough to secure the fertile tract of land which he soon converted into perhaps the most beautiful and valuable fruit farm in Oklahoma. About four years ago the Rev. Holsenbake, quit the ministry, since which time he devoted his entire time to the care of his fruit farm.

Though never having had the advantage of a college education, L.D. Holsenbake became a orator and a scholar and withal a christian gentleman. He seemed to be everyone's friend; ever ready to lend a helping hand to the unfortunate and to give a word of encouragement to the disconsolate.

The deceased leaves a wife, a son, Obid, and two daughters, Mrs. Jno. Spowles and Mrs John Myers. The entire community extend their sympathy to the bereaved family in the hour of sorrow.

FROM THE DESK OF THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR:

SCHEDULE:

Tuesday 1;00 - 5:00  
Thursday 1:00 - 6:00  
Saturday 9:00 - 3:00  
Other times by appointment.  
Call 329-8437, 329-4004,  
321-4602, 364-3335

Staff:

Volunteer Coordinator: Rachel Hanley

This is a time of grateful thanks for all our volunteers, with Special Thanks to Celia Morris Phillips who was initially in charge of the technical processing of our accessions. She has compiled and edited a Desk Manual for our volunteers. Thank you, Celia, for sharing your time and talents.

Thanks to all who responded to our Want/Needs list, published in the last Newsletter.

Also, thanks to the following who donated books, periodicals, equipment and time:

Inez Anderson	Mary Goddard	Lurland Raibourne
Fran Blair	Joyce Grishan	Gerry Ruffin
Agnes Brooks	Jean McCracken	Mildred Schuster
Cliff Brooks	Chris McLoughlin	Al Smith
Paul Clark	Margaret McLoughlin	Jim Smith
Gladys Dodson	Naola Masters	Pat Smith
VaRue Douglas	Alan Montgomery	Oleta Tolen
Margaret Earls	Majorie Morgan	Gloria Vaughan
Linda Fairbanks	Betty O'Brien	Daphine Webster
Eunice Goddard	Charles Parker	Glynn Webster
Jim Goddard	Merilyn Pope	Charles B. Williams (PHD)

We have the following categories for our books:

Census  
Countries- to include Heraldry  
Directories  
Families  
General Reference-to include History  
How To  
Lineage Societies  
Maps and Atlases

Oklahoma :

Oklahoma -Cleveland County

USA - All States - General books first, the States in alphabetical order.

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Periodicals - Filed alphabetically by States - Followed by those which cover many areas - e.g. DAR Magazine, Genealogical Helper, Heritage Quest.

In our filing cabinets there are three drawers of file folders:

1. Families/Surnames
2. Geographical Location
3. General

This is OUR Library! We need the help of our MEMBERS - to do many different jobs.

Do you have books, periodicals, equipment to donate? Do you know someone who has items to donate? Call me. We'll arrange to have the items picked up.

Do you have some time available for the CCGS Library? Call Rachel Hanley - 329-4764.

Do you have typing skills to share? Several of our typing projects may be done at home.

Do you have items for the files in our file cabinet drawers?

Thank you all again. Happy New Year to all. 1991 will be a wonderful year for our LIBRARY.

Agnes McVeigh Brooks, Director

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The new year brings with it new challenges to all of us in many ways. Your Membership Committee is dedicated to serving the Society not only through our calling to remind you about meetings but also the recruitment of new members and renewals of memberships.

In 1990 our membership was 100 and it is believed that this could be doubled in 1991. Our goal is for "Each One to Bring One".

REMEMBER 1991 dues should be paid now---only \$10 for one or \$15 for Family Membership.

We welcome the following new members and wish them "HAPPY SEARCHING" and a HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of our members:

Paul Buettner	Marjorie Early	Eddie & June Schimelpfering
Naomi Claxton	Barney Kahoe	James & Patricia Smith
Gwen Crumpley	Paul Norton	Myrtle Turnage
Carla Davis		

Oleta Jury Tolen---Chairman

FIRST FAMILIES OF CLEVELAND COUNTY, OK

Our Lineage Society, FFCC, is alive and well going into the new year. We currently have 132 members with two additional applications under review. Eunice Goddard, FFCC Secretary, composed and mailed a Holiday letter to each of our members.. We have had several telephonic inquiries as to membership and have mailed out numerous application packets.

The committee is actively engaged in developing the format for our Volume I, FFCC Lineage Book. Once the format is developed we'll need many volunteers to type and proof the individual family sheets. Anyone with Courier 10 or 12 font on your typewriter or word processor please let Eunice know.

Those FFCC members who want to add additional names of ancestors to their Certificates of Membership may do so by providing necessary ancestor documentation; return their certificates for further inscribing; and pay an additional \$5.00 per each additional name. We have several members who are in the process of doing this, so that more pioneers are recognized.

FFCC CM044, Mildred Mae Schwartz Coates, of Oklahoma City has donated a lineage book on five generations of the Schwartz family to our new Genealogy Library. We want to thank Millie very much for this contribution.

All the best for the coming year---let's keep the applications for FFCC membership rolling.

CLEVELAND COUNTY (OK)  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Post Office Box 6176  
Norman, Oklahoma 73070





INFORMATION FROM DALLAS

The Genealogical Library has recently received a gift copy of Red River County, Texas Deed Abstracts, 1846-1855 Volume 2 which includes parts of Cass, Delta, Grayson, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris and Titus Counties. In addition to this book the compiler is also offering Volume 1 and also the deed abstracts from Austin County and Washington County, Texas. These Texas land records are invaluable resources to many Oklahoma's whose roots are in Texas.

In addition to the Texas books, there are two deed abstract books from Sumner County, Tennessee and two from Warren County, Kentucky.

Limited space in our local newsletters does not permit us to mention all of the books which are being offered, but the editors thought that any or all of these books might be of interest to Oklahomans. For more information write to:

Joyce Martin Murray  
2921 Daniel  
Dallas, TX 75205

OUT OF PRINT BOOK

CLEVELAND COUNTY  
PRIDE OF THE PROMISED LAND  
by Bonnie Speer

still available  
from the author

188 pages with over 250 pictures,  
this coffee table pictorial history  
relates the development of Cleveland County  
from prehistoric times to the present.

PRICE: \$29.95 + tax

For more information  
see the copy in the Genealogical Library  
or call Bonnie Speer, 321-7302.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

Annual single membership [\$10.00] \_\_\_\_\_  
Annual family membership [\$15.00] \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

CLEVELAND COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 6176     NORMAN OK 73070

