

# Cleveland County

## GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



P. O. Box 6176  
Norman, Oklahoma 73070

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Volume 13, Number 4 Fall 1992  
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Library Address: 927 N. Flood, Suite 118B, Norman, Oklahoma  
Hours: Tuesday 1-5 P.m.  
Thursday 1-5 & 7-9 P.m.  
Saturday 11 a.m.-3 P.m.  
Phone: (405) 329-9180  
Meetings: 7:00 P.m., 3rd Tuesday of each month  
(except July & August)  
Norman Public Library, Webster & Gray Streets  
Dues: \$10 Per Year, \$15 for family membership  
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### NEW LIBRARY LOCATION

We have very exciting news about our Genealogical Library: soon after November 1 we expect to move into our new quarters at 221 East Gray! We will be sub-letting approximately the southwest one-fourth of a large building which is being handsomely remodelled by the Norman Builders Association. Not only will we be almost doubling our present library space but we will also have access to a large conference room for our regular monthly meetings. After the portion of the remodeling costs for our area is paid, our monthly rent and utilities will be less than for our present over-crowded quarters.

We will need your financial help for initial costs and lots of good volunteer back-up help to complete this move efficiently and quickly. Please be ready to say yes when we phone you.

The Library Location Committee is chaired by Jerry Ruffin with Mabel Ritzman, Yumalee Bowman and Gwen Woods as members. Jerry is largely responsible for the success of this project, which has come after many months and many hours of exploring possibilities. The next time you see Jerry, give him an extra thank you for his perseverance.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY -- OCTOBER MEETING

You're invited to a party! Our Genealogical Library was officially opened in October 1990, so we are celebrating with a birthday party for the library during the social hour at the October 20 meeting of CCGS.

Some items on the Library's "wish list" include: 1 box of letter-sized manila folders, heavy metal book-ends, Scotch "Magic" tape refills, black 3-ring 1-inch or 3-inch notebooks. If you're short on shopping time, we'll be happy to receive folding money in the birthday basket. Gifts need not be gift-wrapped; we'll just put them on a table near the birthday cake. The program will be by Bonnie Speer on writing your family history. Please join us for the celebration!

We'll meet in the OG&E Building on the south side of Main Street, across from City National Bank. Everyone is encouraged to use the elevator instead of climbing the stairs. The door for the elevator will open at 6:30 and the meeting will begin at 7:00 P.m.

The program for the November meeting will be on Genealogical Information at University of Oklahoma Libraries by Roberta Kauska. In December we'll have our Christmas Party instead of a program.

## RESEARCHING CENSUS RECORDS

Elizabeth Shown Mills, National Genealogy Quarterly, suggests the following precautions when working with census records:

- \* Recognize and accept errors made by the census taker
- \* Record and carefully study the official census date and date of enumeration
- \* Record all individuals who have the same surname. Watch for different spellings
- \* Record all information on individuals with different surnames living in the household with your ancestor
- \* Record at least a dozen neighbors before and after your ancestor
- \* If your ancestor owned no land, note nearby neighbors
- \* Study individuals of the same surname in the adjacent county or state if your ancestor lived near a border
- \* Study the neighborhood for families with similar naming patterns, migration patterns and occupational patterns.
- \* Locate ancestors and children on every census during their lives.
- \* Use census schedules other than the population census.

**NOTE:** The first Monday in August was the official date for the 1790-1820 census; June 1 was the date for the 1830-1900 census; April 15 for the 1910; and January 1 for the 1920 census.

Three copies were made of the 1790-1820 census, two of the 1830-1840 census, three of the 1850-1880 census and one of the 1890-1910 census. There are also two series of microfilmed copies. If the information is not legible on the documents you are using, check a different research facility for another copy or series.

## HOW TO DATE A TOMBSTONE

- \* Slate or common fieldstone oldest (except for wooden, used by Pioneers) 1799-1830
- \* Flat-topped hard marble 1830-1849
- \* Round or pointed soft marble with cursive inscriptions 1845-1868
- \* Masonic 4-sided stones began 1850 to Present
- \* Pylons, columns and all exotic-type monuments 1860-1900
- \* Zinc monuments 1870-1900
- \* Granite, now common, came into use in 1900  
(LeFlore County Heritage, Vol 12, #1, June 1992)  
(B.A.G.S. Newsletter)

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Put your genealogy in the Library of Congress. All you need to do is mail your typed completed genealogy to the Library of Congress, Exchange & Gifts Division, 10 First St. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540 (Westward Into Nebraska, Vol XV, #8)

## NORTH CAROLINA QUERIES

North Carolina Archives will answer inquiries by mail. Letters must ask a single, specific question, such as, "Do you have a marriage bond for Elijah Coor and Grace Jones, about 1800?" or "Do you have proof of service for a Confederate soldier named John Grey from Wayne County?" Enclose a SASE. Out-of-state requests require a \$5 search fee payable to North Carolina Dept of Cultural Resources. Following your answer, the document may be ordered for copying costs. Send to 109 East Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2807.  
--Southern Queries

**NATIVE AMERICAN RESEARCH** If you are working on Native American research, read the article in Prologue, Page 290, Fall 1992, on Indian Depredation Cases.

**CHAIRS NEEDED:** Please, as you go to garage sales, look for a pretty wooden straight chair to be used in the new library.

## FIFTEEN WAYS TO FIND A MAIDEN NAME

All fifteen ways will not work on the same Person: it depends on the time, Place, and where the Person lived. Try for three Proofs, but get at least two. You'll find that it is not so difficult.

- \* The lady's death certificate, within last 100 Years
- \* Where to Write for Vital Records, (see in our CCGS Library)
- \* All childrens' death certificates, living into the 20th century
- \* Copy of her obituary--check to see if father or any brother survived her: one out of five obituaries give clear indication of her maiden name
- \* Marriage record: also check childrens' marriage certificates
- \* Printed church records or Printed marriage records (books or journals)
- \* UnPublished church record of marriage (The LDS Church has many on microfilm)
- \* International Genealogical Index (IGI)
- \* Divorce Papers
- \* Newspaper Indexes (especially in burned counties)
- \* County Histories
- \* Widows Military Pensions
- \* Locate a family genealogy of spouse (New York Public Library estimates 25% of their Family Genealogies are the only copies)
- \* Wills and Probate records
- \* Queries

Taken from Ottawa County Genealogical Society Smoke Signals, Summer, 1992.

## NEW ACQUISITIONS FOR OUR LIBRARY

- \*\* Susan Critelli of Robbinsville, NJ has given our CCGS Library the following microfilms of some Oklahoma Counties, 1910 Census:
  - T624 1270 Choctaw and Comanche
  - T624 1271 Pottawatomie
  - T624 1242 Atoka
  - T624 1245 Caddo
  - T624 1247 Pittsburg and Pontotoc
  - T624 1258 Leflore and Latimer
  - T624 1621 Love and McClain
  - T1273 8 MicroCom, however, Oklahoma A and Part of B are Missing
- \*\* Money donated by the Norman Lions Club in 1991 was used to add:
  - Oklahoma 1890 Vets and Widows Census Index
  - An Index to 1890 Census of Union Veterans in Oklahoma and Indian Territories.
  - Grant Foreman Papers, microfilm.
  - Index to Indians and Pioneers, microfilm.
  - 1867-1869 Payroll for Creek Freedmen, microfilm.
  - Indian Census Rolls of 1893 for Cherokee, Delaware, and Shawnee Nations, and Cherokee Freedmen, microfilm.
  - 1890 Census of Choctaw and Chickasaw, microfilm.
- \*\* Where to Write for Vital Records (Births, Deaths, Marriages)
- \*\* Exploring Your Cherokee Ancestry by Mooney

## GRADY COUNTY GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

The Grady County Genealogy Society, P.O.Box 792, Chickasha, OK 73023, is sponsoring a workshop to be given by William Dollarhide on Saturday, February 29, 1993, at the Chickasha Library, 527 West Iowa, Chickasha, OK 73018. Fee \$7.00. Space for 75 Persons. Contact Jean Moore at 405-224-7482 or Chickasha Public Library at 405-222-6075.

## NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

The 1993 National Genealogical Society Conference in the States will be held in Baltimore, MD June 2-5, 1993. A flyer regarding this conference has been posted in the CCGS Library for anyone wishing more information.

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Ten cemeteries have been canvassed and this work is being proofread. Ten additional ones are being worked as well. Primrose Funeral Home detail records for years 1933 to 1958 have been placed in blue binders and are available for research. Primrose records for 1959 thru 1972 have just been copied and only need an index. Likewise, Meyer and Meyer records from 1959 to 1982 have been copied and await an index. We can use volunteers for proofreading and computer input if you have some time available. Work on census records will commence as soon as volunteers are available.

## FIRST FAMILIES OF CLEVELAND COUNTY

Sales continue on our book First Families of Cleveland County, OK: A Lineage Society. You may want to buy copies for your children or other family members. The price is \$27.50 plus \$3.00 for packing, insurance, etc., for a total cost of \$30.50. Please send your check or money order to Cleveland County Genealogical Society, First Families, P. O. Box 6176, Norman, OK 73070.

## OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR ENTRIES

Marilyn Pope entered in the "Most Complete Genealogy, Unpublished" category and placed second for the state. It covered her McLerran family line.

Edna M. Couch won blue ribbons in two history categories. Her "Little Known Person" was William Arthur, a homesteader in western Oklahoma County. The "Little Known Event" was Birth of the Blues, in which she submitted sheet music for Dallas Blues by Heart Wand, which was copyrighted in 1912. In the 19 years she has been entering, she has won between \$1500 and \$2000 prize money at the State Fair.

Congratulations to both of you!

## SOONER FASHION MALL BAZAAR

The Sooner Fashion Mall held their annual Bazaar for non-profit organizations on September 19, 1992. Our Genealogical Library was offered and accepted a booth. This is the second year we have participated in the Bazaar and we made approximately \$65.00. We felt we did very well considering the circumstances. It was a home football game day and we drew a very bad spot for our booth.

The Library Committee would like to thank those who manned the booth: Betty Smith, Ann Bailey, Inez Anderson, Elsie Branton, Oleta Tolen, Evelyn Parker, Esther Ciereszko, Roberta Kauska, Karen Kauska, and Gladys Dodson. We also want to thank those who helped us move the books back and forth to the Mall: Alan Montgomery, Paul Clark, Ken Dodson, and Gwen Woods.

We ESPECIALLY want to thank all those who contributed books and helped us get ready for the sale in many other ways.

-----Margaret Earls

## DETERMINING BIRTHDATE FROM DATE OF DEATH

To obtain the birthdate of a person, when the age and death date appear on the tombstone, is to use the 8870 formula. Example: If Sarah's tombstone indicates she died April 5, 1891, and was 3 years, 8 months, and 7 days old, but date of birth is not listed, use the following calculation to arrive at her date of birth.

Write the date of death using numbers with no spaces in the order of year-month-day (18910405).

Subtract Sarah's age by writing it in order by years-months-days (30807).

The answer is 18879598.

Next subtract the constant 8870.

The final answer is 18870728, expressed in year-month-date order.

Thus, 1887, July 28, is Sarah's birthdate.

## THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Goddards for their continuing assistance in preparing the mailing labels and especially to Eunice for proofing the newsletter.

Committee Chairmen and Officers are encouraged to submit items by December 25 for inclusion in the January newsletter. Please?  
---Carol McGehee

## DID YOU KNOW.....

.....That you can obtain from any courthouse in Texas the original marriage license of your ancestor; you must do your own research and go to the correct courthouse. If the original is gone, you can get a copy of the county clerk's record. Which other states give these originals to a researcher?

.....That the black paper inside each acetate page protector is a construction-type paper which gradually absorbs moisture from the atmosphere causing wrinkles in any paper you have taped or glued to it as well as in the acetate. It is better to remove the black paper and replace it with white typing paper or archival paper in regular 8 1/2 x 11" size

## BENEFITURES OF A FAMILY GENEALOGIST

BLESSED are the Great Grandfathers, who saved embarkation and citizenship papers: For these tell when they came.  
BLESSED are the Great Grandmothers, who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters: For these tell the story of their time.  
BLESSED are the Grandfathers, who filed every legal document: For these provide the proof.  
BLESSED are the Grandmothers, who preserved family Bibles and diaries: For this is our heritage.  
BLESSED are Fathers, who elect officials that answer letters of inquiry: For some the only link to the past.  
BLESSED are Mothers, who relate family tradition and legend to their family: For one of her children will surely remember.  
BLESSED is any family, whose members strive for the preservation of records: For theirs is a labour of love.  
BLESSED are the children, who will never say, "Grandma, you have told that old story twice today."  
---Wilma Mauk

## CORRECTION

The last newsletter listed a donation in error: The Annual Business Meeting Report, page two, paragraph three, should have read: CCGS members also gave approval for the Board to open a Trust Fund with the \$5,000 Blair grant and the \$400 grant from Security Bank and Trust. We apologize for the error and wish to thank Security for their generous donation.

## ANNUAL SEMINAR REPORT

One hundred twenty-five registered for the sixth annual CCGS Inc seminar. This was the first year that the society was given a grant by the NAHC Hotel/Motel Funds. We placed newspaper ads in 19 papers and had attendees from six of the cities. Twenty-seven cities were represented from Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas.

Lloyd Bockstruck again fired our interest in research on Virginia, Eastern Tennessee and land records. The seminar next year will be August 28, so write it on your calendars.

## TRUST

Final papers on the new CCGS Inc Trust Fund were signed Thursday, September 18. Security National Bank and Trust Department is the trust officer working with a committee from the society. Interest from the investment will be used for society projects.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Nancy Goddard and wish to express our sympathies to George.

## BUSINESS INFORMATION FAIR

The Fair was begun in 1991 by the CCGS Inc. Fund Raising Committee to provide support for the Genealogy Library. The Wal-Mart Foundation matches contributions (maximum of \$2000). Provided a volunteer project is conducted at the Wal-Mart Store. This project involves handing out business information material for the Fair sponsors. Donations last year totaled over \$1700 (matched by the Wal-Mart Foundation).

The 1992 Fair will be held on Saturday, October 17. Donations by business firms and individual society members may be made by check or in cash, donated in advance or on the day of the Fair, to Mabel Ritzman, Barbara Young or Jerry Ruffin.

## McFARLIN GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

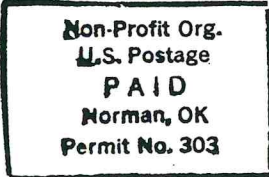
We're offering a workshop in the Fall Academy at McFarlin United Methodist Church entitled "Discover Your Ancestors". It starts October 7 and will meet every Wednesday night for six weeks from 7 to 9 P.M., with a coffee break. It's not too late to get involved if you would like to find out why you should learn about your family history, how to start, where to look for information, who will help you. Is it very hard to do? NO! Is it exciting? YES! Cost \$18.00. Call 321-3484 for more information.

Some reasons why our deceased relatives are: (according to a few death certificates)

- "Deceased had never been fatally sick"
- "Died unexpectedly at the age of 103"
- "Kicked by horse shod on left kidney"
- "Died suddenly: no serious complaint"
- "Deceased died from blood poison, caused by a broken ankle, which is remarkable, as the car struck him between the lamp and the radiator"

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Cleveland County Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 6176  
Norman, OK 73070

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Jean McCracken  
1219 Kansas  
Norman, OK 73069