

Cleveland County

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



P. O. Box 6176
Norman, Oklahoma 73070

Dec 1992

 Volume 14, Number 1 Winter 1993

 Library Address: 1005 N. Flood, Suite 136, Norman, Oklahoma
 Hours: Tuesday 1-5 P.m.
 Thursday 1-5 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, Payable January 1, 1993

NEW LIBRARY LOCATION & OPEN HOUSE

We thought it was bad news when the Plans for moving the Genealogical Library to Gray Street failed, but it was really wonderful news in disguise! Jerry Ruffin found a new location that is much better and we are already moved in and open for researchers. Our new address is 1005 North Flood; this is the building just north of our original location and is clearly marked Park Plaza II. Our suite number is listed as 136 but actually we occupy four good-sized rooms, all interconnected. We have 812 square feet of very well arranged space (almost twice what we had in the three separate rooms at the previous address) and our rent is \$304.50 Per month with utilities furnished. Our lease is for two Years, with option to renew.

Please come in anytime...and often...and most especially for the OPEN HOUSE Wednesday, January 20 from 3 to 6 P.m. to see Your new library and the additional collection of materials available for You. Mrs. Mitzi Musick Barnett of Ft. Worth, the donor of the 375-book Reagan collection, Plans to be a special Guest.

THANKS! THANKS! THANKS!

We had such wonderful help with the tremendous job of moving into our new library location and we want to express our thanks, hoping we do not leave anyone out! We especially want to thank Alan Montgomery who has spent more hours than anyone else measuring spaces, loading and moving heavy furniture and boxes of books, building more bookcases, and doing countless other tasks. Ken Dodson, Presse Paul, Olier Valliere, and Charles Blanchard and others have also worked with Alan.

R.C. and Betty Angle drove from OKC to vacuum the new rooms before we started moving in; Ken Dodson cleaned the old room before we moved out, two days before our December 31 deadline. Fran Blair dusted and Polished everything; she even used spot remover on the carpet!

We have had a good crew unpacking boxes and putting books on shelves, primarily Margaret Earls, Fran Blair, and Evelyn Parker, as well as Mary and Sylvia Paul, and Gladys Dodson. Olier Valliere has worked hours processing the rest of the new books; Allie Ritchie, Pat Starzer, Betty Smith and Jean McCracken have helped. Ruthann Monk has put everything for the catalog cards and book lists on the computer. I have even worked a bit myself.
 -----Gwen Woods

FIRST FAMILIES OF CLEVELAND COUNTY

The 353-page First Families book is in final review prior to sending to Tennessee Valley for printing! The price is \$30.50, which includes shipping and handling. Make check or money order to CCGS, First Families, P.O. Box 6176, Norman, OK 73070.

THE HELEN GOULD ORRICK REAGAN COLLECTION

Jim and Eunice Goddard were searching through old, out-dated Publishers catalogs and happened upon a Bonner family book. Since this is the surname of Jim's Revolutionary War ancestor, the two set out to find a copy of the book. The Dallas Publishing house was no longer in existence; the building where it had been located was gone; the business was not in the Yellow Pages or in the local city directories. However, the name of Mitzi Musick Barnett, the Publisher, was listed in the current Ft. Worth telephone directory. One call was all it took: Yes, she had the Bonner book; Yes, she would send Mr. Goddard a copy; in fact, she added, if the Goddards would come to her home in Ft. Worth, she would work out a deal where they could have, for their local genealogy library, a copy of all the books she had published during her working years and, in addition, she would also include all of her personal reference books collected during her professional research - except for a few which she was still using on her own lines - for a total of about 375 books!

Mrs. Barnett had been saving the books in in hope that she and other interested researchers could open a small, private genealogy library in honor of her good friend and mentor, Helen Gould Orrick Reagan. As Mrs. Barnett's health began to fail, she realized that the books would have to be disposed of in another way. She felt that the libraries in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area did not need her books but was persuaded by the contingent of Goddards (Jim and Eunice of Norman, George of Midwest City, Russell and Jewel of Grand Prairie) that the new Cleveland County Genealogical Library did. She requested that the collection not be added to an existing public library system, each book would be identified with a bookplate honoring her friend, and the books would not be put in storage but made available to researchers as soon as possible.

Genealogists are very cooperative and, when there's this kind of treasure to benefit the library, even more so. Jim and Eunice made two trips, George made one trip via a business trip to San Antonio, and the Texas Goddards cooperated by hosting the travelers and lending their new van for hauling the books back and forth.

Most of the books which Mrs. Barnett published were family books, often written by a family member for a limited reading audience. All are now out of print and, if there are other copies, they are in private libraries. So, if you are interested in an unusual name like de Graffenried or Shannonhouse or a more ordinary Smith or Richardson, our library can assist you through the goodness of this dedicated Texas writer, researcher, and publisher. There are also over 100 geographic location books, which include an exceptional collection of local county records from Missouri and a few small but important books from the Oregon Territory. This is not the largest collection which our library has received but is especially valuable because of the rarity of many of the volumes and the fact that they were given by an out-of-state non-member who loves books and libraries.

A BOOK THAT IS MORE THAN A BOOK

Just east of the center of the State of Pennsylvania is a small county named Union. You won't have any trouble finding it because the county in the very center of the state is named "Centre." Our library has added a new "old" book to its holdings from the Helen Reagan Collection entitled Union County, PA 1855-1965 by Mary Belle Lontz. If you have any connection, however nebulous, with this small county don't be deceived by the unprepossessing title. Ms. Lontz has spent time, work, and expense to cover just about every facet of Union County. Some of her topics are dispositions from Revolutionary War veterans and their widows; many, many complete cemetery censuses including several single graves in obscure places. Two of these single graves were of Revolutionary soldiers. She offers hundreds of biographical sketches on early families, vignettes on historical houses, histories and records on all the churches and church cemeteries, and newspaper abstracts. She even gives us names of the unmarried men in every one of the townships as gleaned from the 1900 census. She has provided an index which probably is, of sheer necessity, incomplete so you would be better served if you would look at the text personally and at length. It will also help if you know the township where your family lived.

Eunice Goddard

FROM THE FIRST FAMILY FILE

Inez Thompson Simmons of Lexington is Charter Member 112 of our lineage society, First Families of Cleveland County. Inez, unlike most of us could have Proved her qualification for membership by going back one generation to her Parents. However, Inez was gracious enough to go an extra mile or two and gave us information on allied families: Hughes, Lutes (1810, NC); Taylor (1772, NC); Thompson (1863, IL); Carrier (1879, MN); Cabbie (1830, IN), a Thompson who was born in the District of Columbia in 1803 (!) and Simpson (England (1809). If any of these names are of interest to you, feel free to research the First Families vertical file. It has an index in the front of the drawer. You may not remove any of these files from the Library, but one of the volunteers will copy any portion you want for a copying fee.

Several others of the First Family family have volunteered information far above the requirements. Some of these will require separate indices because they cover so many important early families. Sharron Ashton's family is quite extensive, as is that of Katrina Gross. If your roots are deep in Cleveland County, look at some of this research carefully: You're almost sure to find a cousin.

Another fact that should interest and impress you is that we have 11 members who are themselves Pioneer settlers. The criteria was that every applicant must show lineal proof to a person who was on the land in what is now Cleveland County on or before the time of the 1910 census. Although Oklahoma is a comparatively young state, remember that Virginia, New Hampshire and Georgia were once "young" states and any kind of list showing early settlers is invaluable to researchers. The following is our very own "treasure" list compiled by Lyle Gamel, Chair of First Families Committee.

Lelia "Lee" Marie Berry Tolson	b: May 1895
Clifford Lee Moody	b: September 1899
Sylvia Hoy Phillips	b: January 1905
Eula Dean Williams Kelly	b: June 1907
Molly Esther Jones	b: October 1907
Charles S. Standley, Jr.	b: December 1907
Charles Raymond Inglis	b: February 1908
Verl Pierre Higbee	b: May 1908
Margaret Elizabeth Standley Griffin	b: February 1910
Eula Elizabeth Smith Blackwell*	b: March 1910
Irvin Edmond Rushing**	b: May 1910

*Eula Elizabeth Smith Blackwell (Al Smith's sister) died 14 September 1992 in Ada, OK

**Irving Edmond Rushing died July 10, 1992, in Red Bluff, CA

We offer our condolences to their families and our thanks for the contributions they made to our Part of the State of Oklahoma.

THE THINGS THAT YOU'RE LIABLE TO READ IN THE BIBLE...

In the Reagan Collection there is a new "old" book entitled Family Bible Records, Vol I. Compiled and indexed by Stephenie H. Tally-Frost, 1969. Ms Tally-Frost's efforts are not confined to one geographic place nor to one family. It is obviously a collection of Bible Records that she got through the courtesy of friends, family and perhaps folks like you and me who buy old Bibles at garage sales!

The Bible here quoted is the Barnhart Bible; it was published by Emmanuel Thurneyson in 1798. The first two portions of the hand-written family records are in German. The remainder fortunately are written in English, apparently about the Barnhards who lived in central Pennsylvania. Right amid the births, deaths, marriages, and other family data is an extra bit of information which catches the eye and floods the mind with wonderment.

"November the 13th 1833 was the morning that
the wafers fel (sic) from the skies."

Does anyone out there know anything about this phenomenon! Please reply to the editor of this newsletter and we'll pass it along to our readers.
Eunice Goddard

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THE LIBRARY WILL NOT BE OPEN ON THURSDAY NIGHTS

NEW BOOKS

The following books have been added to the library for Virginia Research Tax Payers, VA 1782-1787, Fothergill and Nauale. These are not included in OS census

Head of Families at the First Census of US 1790, Records of state enumeration

Virginia Colonial Militia, Crozier, Soldiers and officers, information Posters, county rosters, county order books and land bounty certificates.

Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants 1649-1742, vol 1. Name of Grantee, date, location, acreage.

Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants 1742-1775, vol 2. Formation and settlement of Frederic, CulPepper, Loudon, Fauquier, Dunmore counties. Grant designation and adjoining land owners.

Index to the 1810 Census of Virginia, Bentley. Alphabetical list of heads of households, some 85,000 Persons, county of residence, and Page number of census.

Greenbrier County Marriages 1782-1900, Shuck, vols 1,2,3. Greenbrier county was established in 1777; contains land that would become 11 counties in what later became W VA, surnames, marriage abstracts for husbands and wives, index.

Timesaving Aid to Virginia and West Virginia Ancestors, An easy guide to Birth, marriage and death information, 4 volumes in 1.

Index to VA Revolutionary "Publick" Claims, Abercrombie. Certificates were issued for supplies taken and were Presented to the court to be Paid. Records exist for Practically every county except of newly formed Kentucky. County booklets can be ordered.

Virginia Counties, Robinson. These resulted from VA Legislation. Names of counties, date of formation, land from which it came and shows how each influenced routes of migration and settlement.

Shenandoah Valley Pioneers, Cartmell. From old county Fredric which included Berkeley, Clarke, Fredrick, Hampshire, Hadry, Jefferson, Morgan, Warren, and Shenandoah.

Virginians and West Virginians 1607-1870, Wardell, Vol 3 Parts 1 and 2. Vital statistics on native Virginians and W Virginians from unindexed biographical volumes. Information supplied by families.

Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files, White, vol 1, 2, 3.

Parish Lines, Cocke. Diocese of southwestern Virginia, descent of Parishes by county.

Parish Lines, Cocke. Diocese of Virginia, descent of Parishes.

Charles Parish, York County 1648-1789, Bell. Births and deaths.

The Vestry Book of the Upper Parish 1743-1793, Hall. Nansemond. Vestry book takes Place of early Public records.

Vestry Book of Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County, VA, 1677-1793, Chamberlayne. Earliest consecutive records of Petsworth Parish in existence.

Vestry Book of Blisland Parish, Chamberlayne. Parishes were local governmental institutions.

Vestry Book of Stratton Major Parish 1729-1783, Chamberlayne. Earliest consecutive record of Parish in existence. King and Queen County and New Kent.

Vestry Book of St. Paul's Parish, Hanover County, VA 1702-1786, Chamberlayne. Names of landowners in county are given.

A Guide to Church Records in the Archives Branch, VA State Library, Clark.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Nugent. Abstract of VA land Patents and Grants

Early Quaker Records in Virginia, White. Exact transcription in the oldest Quaker records in VA. Call Chuchatuck Record.

Early Augusta Pioneers, CleeK. Reasons why Scotch-Irish and Germans happened to settle this area. 20 families.

Genealogical Abstracts from Tennessee Newspapers, Eddleman. Marriage and death notices, notice of estate settlements, delinquent taxPayers, goods and services for sale, notice of runaway spouses and slaves.

In Search of Hamish McBagPipes, Goldie. A concise guide to Scottish Genealogy.

VA Genealogies and Family Histories, Virdin.

-----Mabel Ritzman

***** DUES PAYING TIME *****

Once again it is January and time to PaY Your membership fee: \$10 for individual and \$15 for family membership. Fees are Past due February 1, 1993.

FREE GENEALOGY WORKSHOP with William Dollarhide

You are invited to attend a free genealogy workshop with William Dollarhide, a Professional Genealogist, author, and lecturer from Bellingham, Washington. He is the author of the best-selling Managing a Genealogical Project, co-author of the award-winning Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920, and developer of the Everyone's Family Tree software for MS-DOS computers. Mr. Dollarhide is a nationally known speaker who has lectured at major conferences and seminars all over the United States.

The workshop will be February 19, 1-4:30 pm in the Lowry Room of the Norman Public Library, at the corner of Webster and Gray Streets. For further information, contact the Genealogy Library at 405-329-9180.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS & SALES

Books, Maps, Forms and Computer Software for Genealogists!
Exhibits Open: 12:30 pm

Mr. Dollarhide will also be presenting a free genealogical workshop sponsored by the McCurtain Co. Gen. Soc. on January 25 in Idabel at 6:30 pm at the Idabel Library, Avenue 'D' and Main Street. For more info call Ida Mae Burney, 405-245-1348.

The Grady County Gen. Soc. are sponsoring an all-day genealogical workshop with Mr. Dollarhide on February 20, 8 am-5 pm with a \$7.00 fee, limit of 75. For more info call Jean Moore at 405-224-7482 or Chickasha Public Library at 405-222-6075.

CARRY ME BACK TO OLD VIRGINNY

If you are working on a Virginia root - and which of us is NOT - you must keep in mind that in 1861 West Virginia split off from her mother state because of their diverse stances on the slavery question. It appears that the counties which split off retained their original names (in most cases) and also the courthouse records which were actually created by Virginia courts. The following counties, listed alphabetically for your convenience, were originally in Virginia.

Barber	Gilman	Marion	Pendleton	Taylor
Berkeley	Greenbrier	Marshall	Pleasants	Tucker
Boone	Hampshire	Mason	Pocahontas	Tyler
Braxton	Hancock	McDowell	Preston	Upshur
Brooks	Hardy	Mercer	Putnam	Wayne
Cabell	Jackson	Monongalia	Raleigh	Webster
Calhoun	Jefferson	Monroe	Randolph	Wetzel
Clay	Kanawha	Morgan	Ritchie	Wirt
Doddridge	Lewis	Nicholas	Roan	Wood
Fayette	Logan	Ohio		Wyoming

(The Handy Book says there were 50, but I could only find 49)

GIFTS FROM FRAN AND GENE BLAIR

Fran has lent us her new eight-foot folding table for the main library room, we hope to be able to buy it from her soon. And, on New Year's Eve, Gene sent down ten new side chairs! They are upholstered in a soft medium-dark blue fabric with wooden frames. Not only are they comfortable but they make the entire library look elegant! Thank you so very much, Fran and Gene! ---Gwen Woods

We were saddened to learn of the death of Bill Bergstresser and wish to express our sympathies to Gladyce.

CLEVELAND COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

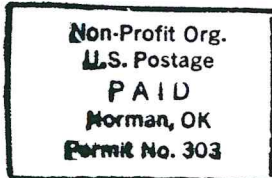
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First vice-President: Chris McLaughlin
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Historian: Betty O'Brien
Hospitality: Barbara Young
Library: Gwen Woods
Program: Chris McLaughlin
Newsletter: Carol McGehee
Research: Olier Valliere, Evelyn Parker
Library Location: Jerry Ruffin
Publicity: Mabel Ritzman
First Families of Cleveland Co.: Lyle Gamel

HANDBASTING vs MARRIAGE

The letters "H/F" may be found beside a person's name on early marriage & birth records. This stands for "Handfast." It is basically a sign of the confirmation of a form of "uncanonical, private or even a probationary form of marriage." Handfasting was a form of announcing a union between a man and woman who wished to live together as husband and wife before receiving the blessing of the church. The couple would stand before a group of peers, hold their clasped hands above their heads and state their intentions. The agreement was good for a year and a day, or until the preacher came to perform the rites of the church. If at the end of this time period each wished to go his own way, they could do so without ties. Any child born of a HANDFAST was considered legitimate and would inherit.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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