



DGS NEWSLETTER

Volume 17, Number 4 (Issue 149)
July–August 1993

Dallas, Texas

Capital Expansion Project Update: Survey Results and Exciting Announcements!

by Jan Bishop McFarland

Pour yourself a cup of coffee and get comfortable. The Capital Expansion Committee (CEC) is up to its collective neck in good news, and we want you to enjoy every word.

Survey Results

DGS's Genealogy Section Usage Survey brought an extraordinary response from both members and nonmembers. Survey forms were provided at our Spring Seminar on 27 March, and in the May/June issue of the *DGS Newsletter*. In an average survey, a 10% response is gratifying; 15% to 20% is sensational. But genealogists seem to be way above average. *Nearly 60%* of those attending the DGS Spring Seminar completed survey forms, and response from the newsletter form continues to come in. Here are the results to date:

- *Are you a member of DGS?* Yes—208. No—100. No answer—3.
- *How often do you visit the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library?* Once a month or less—187. Twice a month—28. Once a week—55. Twice a week or more—3. No answer—38.

- *Please rate each of the following DPL Genealogy Section needs:*

<u>Item</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not important</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Additional microfilm readers	210	56	9	36
Additional microfiche readers	38	103	51	119
Additional desks/carrels	153	91	25	42
A second photocopier	188	75	6	42
Lockers for personal effects	34	58	142	77
Additional library terminal	86	88	44	93
New microfilm printer	145	76	19	71
Additional CD-ROM equipment	78	84	41	108

- *Would you like to have available a printed "Guide to the Genealogy Section?"*
Yes—279. No—15. No answer—17.

[Capital Expansion Project, Survey Results — continued on page 81]

DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 12648

DALLAS, TEXAS 75225-0648

Founded in 1955, the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) is the oldest organization of its kind in Texas. It is a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation.

Executive Board

Officers:

J. Bruce Moseley President
 Arthur H. Rubeck Executive Vice President
 Dorothy Odom Bruce VP for Programs
 Leslie Smith Collier VP for Membership
 Adrienne Bird Jamieson VP and Editor,
The Dallas Quarterly
 Sammie Townsend Lee VP and Co-editor,
DGS Newsletter
 Terri Mulliken Allen Recording Secretary
 Laurie Goggan Wharton Treasurer

Directors:

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 John V. Wylie Computer Interest Group
 Clifford V. Slagle Mailings
 Helen Mason Lu Publications
 Shirley Sloat Publicity
 Markaleeta Stevenson Research
 Robert H. "Bob" Maybrier Special Projects

Appointed by the President:

Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck Library Liaison
 Mary Ann Jones Fournier Parliamentarian
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Newsletter Staff

Sammie Townsend Lee Co-editor
 Linda Shaddock Rogers Co-editor
 Terri Mulliken Allen Queries
 Dorothy Odom Bruce DGS News
 Leslie Smith Collier Bulletin Board
 Patricia Law Hatcher Contributing Editor
 Margret Hancock Pearce Contributing Editor
 John V. Wylie Computers

The object and goals of this Society are to:

- Create, foster, and maintain interest in genealogy and family history;
- Raise standards of genealogical research through educational programs, workshops, and the publication of data;
- Promote the collection and preservation of material relating to the early history of Dallas County and those pioneers who settled the area;
- Copy, index, and publish records, documents, inscriptions and other genealogical source materials;
- Support the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library; and
- Stimulate the exchange of information between Society members and genealogical researchers across the nation.

Meetings:

The DGS regular meetings are held on the 4th Monday, September through May, except for December. The DGS Computer Interest Group meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday, September through May, except for December.

Membership:

Individuals, libraries, or societies may apply for membership. 1993 annual dues are \$18 for the calendar year. New member dues and renewals should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 25556, Dallas, Texas 75225-1556, and marked to the attention of the Vice-President of Membership. All current members receive *The Dallas Quarterly* and the *DGS Newsletter*.

Newsletter:

The *DGS Newsletter* is published bi-monthly. Contact the editor for permission to reprint any material contained in the *DGS Newsletter*. Copy deadline for the September-October *DGS Newsletter* is 3 July 1993. All articles and correspondence for the *DGS Newsletter* should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 12648, Dallas, Texas 75225-0648 and marked to the attention of the Newsletter Editor.

DGS Calendar of Events

DGS REGULAR MEETINGS

Date: 27 September 1993 (Monday)
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Speaker: Jan Bishop McFarland
Topic: *Expansion of the Genealogy Section
of the Dallas Public Library*

Date: 25 October (Monday)
Time: 11:00 A.M.
Speaker: Sammie Townsend Lee
Topic: *Texas Repositories and their Treasures:
Where to Research in the Lone Star State*

Date: 22 November 1993 (Monday)
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Speaker: Patricia Law Hatcher
Topic: *"My Ancestor Isn't in the Census:"
Are You Sure?*

DGS COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS

Date: 9 September 1993 (Thursday)
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Speaker & Topic: To be announced

Date: 14 October 1993 (Thursday)
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Speaker & Topic: To be announced

Date: 11 November 1993 (Thursday)
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Speaker & Topic: To be announced

DGS SPECIAL EVENTS: EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS & CLASSES

Event: Summer Lecture Series (3rd Seminar)
Date: 24 July 1993 (Saturday)
Location: Dallas Public Library
Speakers: Barbara Baylis, Pat Hatcher,
Sammie Lee, and Art Rubeck
Seminar: *A Pilgrimage to Mecca: Planning Your
Research Trip to the Family History Library*
[See page 82]

Regular Meetings: Unless otherwise indicated, DGS Regular Meetings are held on the fourth Monday, September-May (except December), in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library (Dallas Public Library), 1515 Young Street in downtown Dallas.

Computer Interest Group Meetings: Unless otherwise indicated, the DGS Computer Interest Group (DGSCIG) meetings are held on the second Thursday, September-May (except December), in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library. Additionally, the DGSCIG holds a question and answer meeting in the library's East/West Rooms (across the hall from the Auditorium) on the fourth Monday, one hour prior to the Regular Meeting.

Regular Meetings and DGSCIG Meetings are free; visitors and guests are welcome.

Event: Summer Lecture Series (4th Seminar)
Date: 21 August 1993 (Saturday)
Location: Dallas Public Library
Speaker: Helen F. M. Leary, CG, CGL, FNGS
Topic: A Master Plan for North Carolina Research
[See page 82]

**For information or a registration
brochure on the Summer Lecture Series,
call the Genealogy Section, 670-1433.**

Event: 6th Annual DGS Symposium
12th Annual Beginners Workshop
Date: 13 November 1993 (Saturday)
Location: Dallas Convention Center
Conference-style programs with a variety of speakers and exhibitors. Brochures available in September.

Event: Annual Spring Seminar
Date: 16 April 1994 (Saturday)
Location: Dallas Convention Center

DGS NEWS



The President's Message

by J. Bruce Moseley

1992-93 was a period of remarkable progress on many fronts for the Dallas Genealogical Society. I hope you will join me in expressing our appreciation to Barbara Roberts Baylis and her Executive Board for their leadership throughout a banner year. We have had interesting programs, exceeded 900 in total membership, and have enjoyed a marvelous Quarterly. The Newsletter has grown bigger and better and the Computer Interest Group attracts more and more attention. The Summer Lecture Series, Fall Symposium, Beginners Workshop, and Spring Seminar were received with acclaim; and the Symposium set all-time attendance records. The Dallas County Cemetery Inventory Project has now covered the southern half of the county, the Bylaws have been revised, and foundations laid for a Capital Expansion Project to support the Library and a Permanent Endowment Fund. All of that will be some act to follow!

And thank you, dear members, for your enthusiastic support and proficient efforts on behalf of DGS. It never ceases to amaze me how much talent there is among the Society's membership, and how freely it is given in accomplishing our objectives. You are an outstanding group, and I feel very honored to be your president for the coming year.

What will this coming year look like? First, I will expect that the tradition of excellence in whatever we do will be continued. Second, I want everyone engaged in DGS activities to enjoy themselves and feel like their time is well spent. In addition, the results of our support for the Genealogy Section of the J. Erik Jonsson Library should reach a more evident level. New types of educational opportunity will be provided, and the Fall Symposium and Spring Seminar will be moving to new quarters. The collection and publication of Dallas County genealogical material will be continued, and assistance to those using computers in their research will be expanded. Most importantly, in every way you make known, the Society will try to address the needs of the

membership.

With your continued help, 1993-1994 should be an enjoyable, worthwhile year in the life of the Society.

Highlights of the 1993 Annual Meeting: Fun, Food, and Fellowship

The Society's annual meeting, held on 24 May 1993, began with a reception in the East/West rooms honoring the DGS membership. Many members and guests attended, enjoying the food and socializing for the hour prior to the meeting.

The program was presented by Dr. David Morgan, Director of Information Services for the City of Dallas and Interim Director of the Dallas Public Library. Dr. Morgan captivated the audience with a demonstration of a new computer catalog system that may become a reality at the library in the next few years. The audience watched as the computer talked to them, located materials with simple key words in English or Spanish, played classical music scores, displayed fine art graphics, and worked jigsaw puzzles, among other amazing abilities. Such a system would place Dallas Public Library at the "head of the class" in informational systems.

The 1993-1994 Executive Board was installed by outgoing president, Barbara Roberts Baylis. A complete list of the names and positions of the new officers and directors is printed on page 74, the masthead, of this newsletter. Prior to installing the new board, Barbara called the members of her 1992-1993 board to the stage and presented each with a certificate of appreciation recognizing their contributions during the previous year.

Annual Gift Presented to the Library

The highlight of the annual meeting was the presentation of the Society's annual gift to the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library. This year's gift totaled \$15,000 and was presented to a beaming Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, supervisor of the section. (\$1000 of the total was presented in memory of the Society's deceased members.) The gift money will be used by Lloyd to purchase materials to add to the collection.

1992-1993 Officers and Directors Annual Reports

Barbara Roberts Baylis — President

As specified by the DGS bylaws, the president's report by Barbara Baylis will appear in the September issue of *The Dallas Quarterly*.

Bruce Moseley — Executive Vice President

The 5th Annual Genealogy Symposium and 11th Beginners Workshop were held concurrently at the Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church on Saturday, Nov. 14, 1992. Thirty-six lectures were offered in the Symposium and the all-day beginners program covered a full range of elementary research topics. The 700 people who attended made this the largest autumn event D.G.S. has ever sponsored.

On March 27, 1993 almost 500 people came to the Richardson Civic Center to hear James L. Hansen of the Wisconsin State Historical Society speak at our 37th Annual Spring Seminar. Comments at the end of the day complimented the speaker, as well as the Society for its history of outstanding educational presentations. A large array of exhibitor displays and a delicious catered lunch contributed significantly to the program.

The two events together generated over \$15,000 for the Society. Because of their popularity, we have outgrown the facilities used the past few years. In consequence, arrangements have been made to hold future symposiums and seminars at the Dallas Convention Center. The first of these will be the Fall Symposium on Nov. 13, 1993.

William E. "Bill" Benson — Vice President for Programs

No report received.

Dorothy Odom Bruce — Vice President for Membership

Welcome to the 178 NEW MEMBERS in DGS!

— 26 May 1993 —

Regular Members	794
Libraries	15
Life	<u>63</u>
Total DGS Membership	872

DGS ended the 1992 Membership year with 861 Regular Members, 17 Libraries, 58 Life, with 936 Total DGS Membership. 1993 Membership at this time is over 60 members behind 1992. Have you renewed for 1993? My hope is that DGS Membership will reach over 1000 total members during this year.

I have certainly enjoyed this position on the DGS Board for the past two years. Please support Leslie Collier as she assumes this office, and help her by RENEWING YOUR 1994 MEMBERSHIP EARLY!

Address: DGS Membership
P.O. Box 25556
Dallas, TX 75225-1556

Adrienne B. Jamieson — Vice President for The Dallas Quarterly

The Dallas Quarterly is the editor's report. However, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank two DGS members who have contributed articles this year. Chester Lamberth let us publish his index to the deaths mentioned in *The Dallas Morning News*, 1889. Anyone who has abstracted or done extensive newspaper research will realize that this was a very substantial task. Also, I would like to thank Helen Lu, who treated us to another year of the *Texas Presbyterian*. I'm hoping that other members will follow their example and submit articles for *The Dallas Quarterly*.

Sammie Townsend Lee — Vice President for the DGS Newsletter

Effective in January 1993, with Volume 17, the *DGS Newsletter* is being compiled bimonthly by a newsletter staff consisting of Sammie Lee, Linda Rogers, Terri Allen, Dorothy Bruce, Leslie Collier, Pat Hatcher, Margret Pearce, and John Wylie. This change was necessitated by the growth of the newsletter and the amount of information that needs to be passed along to the membership.

As Vice President for the newsletter I would like to thank Linda Rogers for her contributions to this office. The 1992-1993 DGS year began with Linda holding this position, but personal commitments,

[Reports: Continued on next page]

[Reports: Continued from previous page]

combined with the large amount of time it takes to put together the newsletter, forced her to submit her resignation in January. She agreed to continue as co-editor with me and helped put together the present staff and current look.

Linda and I want to thank that staff for all their contributions of material and articles this year, as well as their ideas and input. Additionally, we would like to thank the following for their contributions to the newsletter: Barbara Baylis, Madilyn Crane, Ramona Honan, Kelvin Meyers, Art Rubeck, Mary Reid Warner, and the entire 1992-1993 Board.

Dorislee Riley Hoffpauer — Recording Secretary

Copies of all officers and directors reports will be filed with the secretary and be bound with the minutes for the 1992-1993 year.

Laurie Goggan Wharton — Treasurer**Assets as of 24 May 1993**

Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking-NationsBank	\$32,064.98
Money Market-Bank One	4,929.13
Bulk Mail Deposit	478.87
Life Member Investments	
MMF-Cash Equivalent Fund	2,013.94
Note-U.S.Treasury	<u>5,443.75</u>
Total	\$44,930.67

Funds as of 24 May 1993

Operating Fund	\$29,827.80
Life Member Fund	9,250.00
Bulk Mail Fund	478.87
Publications Fund	<u>5,374.00</u>
Total	\$44,930.67

Patti Perkins Darnell — Books and Forms

This has been a busy and productive year for the sales of DGS Books and Forms. Total revenue was approximately \$3600. The spring and fall seminars resulted in sales of about \$673 and \$356 respectively. Ninety-eight pieces of mail were answered that resulted in sales of about \$1735. The remainder of the income was generated from sales of DGS forms at the Dallas Public Library.

Once again the Society is indebted to Adrienne Jamieson for producing masters for the new 1830 and 1840 census forms. Plans are in the works for a

new Census History form as well as revisions to the 1900 census form.

I would also like to thank the volunteers who assisted me at the DGS table during the two seminars: Nancy S. Miller, Edwina Dyes, Helen Lu, Sammie Lee, Kelvin Meyers, and Rubyann Darnell. A special "Thanks" goes to Dorislee Hoffpauer who was an invaluable help to me, not only at the spring seminar, but through my entire term.

John V. Wylie — Computer Interest Group

See John's report under the DGSCIG column.

Robert H. "Bob" Maybrier — Mailings

The four quarterlies had a total of 3,823 copies mailed at a cost of \$350.17.

The seven newsletters had a total of 7,766 copies mailed at a cost of \$766.88.

We mailed a total of 9,038 promotional brochures at a cost of \$856.78. These were for the Fall Symposium, Spring Seminar, and the Summer Lecture Series.

We mailed 959 proposed by-law changes at a cost of \$88.30.

There have been five mailings (quarterlies and newsletters) to Canada for a total cost of \$7.62.

Total postage for the year was \$2,130.74 plus the annual mailing permit of \$75.00 plus two or three dollars for return postage due slips. This represents an increase of \$205.71 over last year.

Helen Mason Lu — Publications and Markaleeta Stevenson — Research

Our reports are being combined since we have worked closely with each other to make this a very productive year for both research and publications. At the beginning of our taking office we decided that we wanted to work on the Cemetery Inventory Project and concentrate on the south part of Dallas County.

Our work began in the summer 1992. Periodically a DGS scouting party was sent out to locate the cemeteries. If the cemeteries were small, they were copied on the spot by the scouting party. For most cemeteries that were larger, a team of DGS volunteers were called in and trained how to record the data. These teams usually consisted of from 5 to 15 volunteers. We went at least once a week to inventory cemeteries, sometimes twice.

[Reports: Continued on next page]

[Reports: Continued from previous page]

These full days were from about 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 or 4:00 P.M. We had 27 DGS members and several DGS friends involved in this project.

This past year 54 cemeteries were inventoried and burial records were checked when they were available. The smallest cemetery inventoried was the Five Mile Community Cemetery, but no markers were in evidence. The largest and the most challenging was the Oak Cliff Cemetery on 8th Street consisting of 10 acres, having about 3,000 graves with markers and more than 2,000 additional burials recorded for which no marker was in evidence.

As these cemeteries were inventoried, the work was then turned over to Director of Publications, Helen Lu. These were typed and periodically a team of proof readers came in to proof the copy. If any item such as date, name, etc., was questioned, a trip was made back to the cemetery to verify the correct data.

All of the inventories made during the past year have been typed and proof read. This work has resulted in two new volumes (Vol. 4 & Vol. 5) of *Dallas County Texas: Genealogical Data from Early Cemeteries* of approximately 200 pages, each with a full-name index. These are expected to be released in late summer 1993. A small, but tedious, amount of work remains, namely indexing, introductions, etc. There are also another 89 pages that will be the beginning of Vol. 6 of this project.

Cemeteries Inventoried: Beaty Family, Cameron Family, *Carver Memorial, Cockrell Family, Coming Home, Crestview Memorial Park, Daniel Family, DeSoto Memorial Park (now Holy Redeemer), Durrett Family, Five Mile, Five Mile Community, Glenn Family, Gravel Family, Heath Family, *Holy Redeemer, Honey Springs, Hord Family, Horton Family, Hustead Family, Hutchins (African-American), Kinnard Family, Kleburg, Kleburg (Mexican), La Reunion, *Laurel Land, Ledbetter Family, *Lincoln Memorial Park, *Lincoln Memorial, Lisbon, Little Bethel "Pioneer," Little Bethel Memorial Park, McAdams Family, Merrifield, Miller Family, Missionary Baptist Church, Mobley Family, Nance Family, New Oak Cliff (now Laurel Land), Oak Cliff, Overton Family, Pleasant Valley, Rain-Hall, Ramsey Family, Rhodes, *Rose Lawn, Rylie, Sandy Branch, Tree/Treese, Trinity Portland Cement Company,

Trinity, Vincent Family, Wesley Chapel, Wheatland, and Wood Creek. (An asterisk "*" indicates modern day cemetery with perpetual care and was inventoried for information only.)

Additionally, Helen Lu reports that (1) a revised edition of *DallaSearch* is in progress and will be available in late summer 1993; and (2) Vol 1 and Vol. 2 of *Dallas County, Texas: Genealogical Data from Early Cemeteries* will now be available on microfiche, along with Vol. 3.

We feel this past year has been a most rewarding year. Thank you for having the confidence in us and asking us to stay in these positions another year.

[Editor's note: A list of volunteers that Helen and Markaleeta would like to thank for their contributions to the Cemetery Inventory Project is included in the article, "Picnic in the Cemetery" on page 83.]

JoAnne Norwood — Publicity

No report received.

Millard D. Noell — Special Projects

My primary responsibilities are as follows:

Queries: During the year I responded to 90 queries. Some of the queries I answered completely, some were referred to a list of professional genealogists generated by DGS, and some were referred to the Editor of the *DGS Newsletter* for possible publication in the newsletter. Queries were received from many other states and two were received from England.

Donation Acknowledgements: During the year, I sent out 29 acknowledgements. This year was lighter because of the decrease in 1920 Census Fund donations.

Publication Exchanges: Six letters were written in response to inquiries and requests received from DGS directors or officers and possible exchange partners.

In addition to these assigned duties, I served on the publication exchange audit committee, the DGS financial record audit committee, and on the DGS Fall Symposium and Spring Seminar committees responsible for signs. I have also answered several inquiries on DGS business not related to genealogical information.

The co-operation of DGS officers, directors, and members is appreciated.



DGSCIG

by John V. Wylie

Annual Report for the DGSCIG

Programs and attendance for the Dallas Genealogical Society Computer Interest Group (DGSCIG) grew in the 1992–1993 Society Year. The most noticeable growth was in programs, as we added a two-hour session on the second Monday of each month that provided lecturers and participants sufficient time to deal seriously with more complex computer issues as they relate to genealogy. These sessions also included an open question and answer period. A total of 148 people attended DGSCIG events this year.

Lectures presented during the year were:

- 14 September 1992 — *Optimizing Your Computer for Both Speed and Safety*, by John Wylie
- 12 October 1992 — *Our Favorite Utility Software*, by various DGS Members
- 9 November 1992 — *Used Hardware and Software: Advantages and Pitfalls*, by Cheryl and Steve Volceka
- 11 January 1993 — *Automated Archives Sources Available on CDRom*, by Steve and Pat Young
- 8 February 1993 — *GIPSI Plus: A Program for Managing IGI Data*, by Mike Basham
- 8 March 1993 — *Reviewing Cumberland Diary, Cumberland Tree, and Cumberland Biography*, by Art Rubeck
- 5 April 1993 — *What We Learned at GENTECH 93*, by various DGS Members
- 10 May 1993 — *Some Uses of WordPerfect and Microsoft Word in Genealogy*, by John Wylie

The forty-five minute sessions starting one hour before each regularly scheduled DGS meeting were continued, but as an open question and answer sessions. With no scheduled presentation at these sessions, we were not sure how attendance might be affected. Attendance at these sessions was up from past years, with a high of 58 attending two sessions, an obvious endorsement of this change.

Additional program growth included adding a Resources Library. This Library, maintained by Shirley Sloat, included catalogs and published material of interest to those using computers and

other technology in genealogy. A CD exchange program was also started with the help of Cliff Slagle and Shirley Sloat.

The DGSCIG also took on the responsibility for preparing the labels for all DGS mailings, the tabulation of data collected for the Capital Expansion Project, and participation in the Civil War Soldiers System Indexing Project sponsored by the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the National Park Service, and others. As the year ended, a GEDCOM Study Group was being formed, and a committee was formed to look into establishing a database indicating who in DGS is researching what.

At the request of the Board a study of the Genealogy Shareware Disk Library was conducted and a formal report was accepted by the DGS Board in May. The Board approved the following resolution to be added to the DGS Standing Rules:

The Dallas Genealogical Society "Genealogy Shareware Disk Library" (GSDL) be continued under the following guidelines:

1. A DGS Genealogy Shareware Disk Library committee be formed to oversee the DGS activities of the GSDL. This committee shall be composed of the disk librarian, the Director for the Computer Interest Group and one DGS member appointed by the President. The committee shall ensure that the GSDL continue to be provided as a service to members while remaining consistent with DGS policies.
2. The Genealogy Shareware Disk Library be made available as a service at each DGS activity where sales are permitted (such as workshops) and at DGSCIG meetings where such sales do not conflict with existing policy. Except for workshops, the disk library should not blatantly advertise through signage or any means that might raise the appearance of a commercial activity.
3. The GSDL committee shall report necessary financial data to the DGS Treasurer by December 15th and May 15th each year, as of December 1 and May 1, respectively. Revenue beyond expenses (profits) shall accompany these reports.
4. Recognizing that the GSDL is maintained in conjunction with another organization (the SuperSaturday Genealogy Computer Interest Group), DGS activities of the library will be recorded and reported separately.

Capital Expansion Project, Survey Results *[continued from front page]*

- **Please rate the ease of use of the DPL Genealogy Section:**
Very easy—23. Fairly easy—139. Somewhat difficult—104. Very difficult—18. No answer—27.
- **Other changes/improvements you would like to see made in the DPL Genealogy Section:**

Bring the county books back out/book retrieval too slow	135	(43%)
Please publish a guide to the section.	33	(10%)
Compliments about the staff.	24	(8%)
Please rearrange stacks by state and county.	25	(8%)
Need better signs/label book ranges.	25	(8%)
More staff or volunteers.	24	(8%)
Complaints about the staff.	10	(3%)
Eating area for all-day visits.	7	(2%)

The CEC is grateful to all of you who took the time to help us in our evaluation. Your responses were both thoughtful and articulate, and they now form the basis for the Committee's planning process. The survey analysis has also been furnished to the Administrative Staff of the Dallas Public Library, and to the heads of the History Department and the Genealogy Section. As a result, two of your wishes are already being granted: a "DGS Desk," staffed by DGS volunteers, is being placed in the Genealogy Section; and the library staff is at work compiling a new guide to the section.

Fiche Readers for Sale

With more and more genealogical material being made available on microfiche, a fiche reader is rapidly becoming basic equipment for the genealogist. Thanks to the creative thinking of DGS member Maxine Bramlett Scoggins and the generosity of Coda Energy, Inc., of Dallas, the CEC is pleased to announce that DGS is offering for sale 16 microfiche readers, with proceeds going to the Capital Expansion Fund. In the last *DGS Newsletter*, we told you that your donations to the Fund need not be limited to dollars; we want your ideas and suggestions, as well. Maxine paid attention, and when her son, Gary, mentioned that his company had a room full of barely-used fiche readers they wanted to donate to charity, she wasted no time in contacting the CEC. Are there any more out there like Maxine?

John Wylie, our resident equipment expert, has examined the readers and says they're of excellent quality and in remarkable condition. No other announcement of this sale will be made until the Summer Lecture Series seminar of 24 July. At that time, any remaining readers will be offered for sale to the general public. The price is \$80.00 each, plus tax, and includes the latest DPL Genealogy Section Catalog on microfiche. (Yes, you read it right. See below.) If you're interested in purchasing one of these beauties, inquire at the new DGS Desk for more detailed information. Our thanks to Maxine Scoggins, Gary Scoggins, and Coda Energy, Inc.

Browse the Card Catalog at Home!

After you've purchased your new fiche reader, you'll probably want some fiche to read. No problem. The Society is making available for sale the Dallas Public Library Genealogy Section Catalog on microfiche. As anyone who's used these fiche can tell you, they're a tremendous time-saver. Now you can plan your library research in the quiet comfort of home. When you arrive at the Genealogy Section, book list in hand, you can head straight for the stacks. The packet contains a complete Subject, Author, and Title Catalog to the DPL Genealogy Section holdings in book form, as well as many of the microforms. (The Library's Cataloging Department is currently in the process of adding Genealogy Section microforms to this fiche catalog.) The catalog is updated with all of the latest acquisitions on a quarterly basis, so DGS is offering two options for purchase. You can buy the current catalog at any time for \$7.50, plus tax and postage. Or, if you prefer, you can receive the quarterly
[Capital Expansion Project, Fiche Catalog — continued on page 82]

Capital Expansion Project, Fiche Catalog [continued from page 81]

updates automatically by entering a one-year subscription for \$28.00, plus tax and postage. All profits from the sale of the catalog on fiche will go to the Capital Expansion Fund.

Please be aware that this same catalog on microfiche is available, in limited quantities, from the Business Office on the second floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library at a price of \$5.00, plus tax. Obviously, we hope you'll opt for the convenience of having the catalog delivered directly to your home *and* the satisfaction of knowing you've added to the Expansion Fund. What's *most* important to us is that our members have this valuable resource available for their use.

Salt Lake City, Here We Come!

Have you ever dreamed about making *the* research trip? You know, the one to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. What would that dream trip be like? You'd want to stay at least a week, probably in a hotel right next door to the Library. And wouldn't it be great if you had expert guides right there with you, helping to direct your research? A nice dinner, maybe, with a methodology talk by a nationally-known speaker. That would be a real bonus. And a pre-trip orientation class, so you could get a feel for the layout of the Family History Library, its procedures and its treasures. And maybe—or is this asking *too* much? Would it be possible to have a DGS tote bag included in the package? It one thing could make it perfect. You'd want the profits from the trip to go to a really good cause, something like expanding your own Genealogy Section back home in Dallas. Sounds wonderful, yes? So what are you waiting for? Look at page 83 for the dream details.

Mark Your Calendars NOW!

You do not want to miss the 27 September 1993 meeting of the Dallas Genealogical Society and the formal presentation of plans for expansion of the DPL Genealogy Section. We'll have architect's drawings, information on fund-raising, and lots more.

Summer Lecture Series Tickets Still Available

As this newsletter went to press, a limited number of tickets were still available for the third and fourth seminars of the Summer Lecture Series.

The third seminar of the series, to be held on Saturday, 24 July 1993, features well-known members of DGS speaking on *A Pilgrimage to Mecca: Planning Your Research Trip to the Family History Library*. Barbara Baylis, Pat Hatcher, Sammie Lee, and Art Rubeck frequently travel to Salt Lake City to research in this amazing library and want to share their experiences and knowledge with you. No where else in the world can you have this much exposure to as many genealogical records as owned by the LDS Family History Library. And, now with our exciting DGS Salt Lake City tour coming up this fall, this seminar should be a prime attraction for anyone considering the trip!

The fourth seminar to be held on Saturday, 21 August 1993, will feature the highly acclaimed lecturer, Helen F. M. Leary of Raleigh, North Carolina, speaking on her home state. *A Master Plan for North Carolina Research* promises to enlighten us on that state's records and how to locate them, access them, and use them effectively. Also while in Dallas, Ms. Leary will conduct a free class on genealogical certification on Friday afternoon, 20 August. See page 84 for details.

The 1993 Summer Lecture Series is sponsored by DGS in cooperation with the Dallas Public Library. It is an official fund raiser of the Capital Expansion Project.

Ticket price for both seminars is \$34 or \$18 individually. Seminars are held in the comfortable Auditorium of the Dallas Public Library. Registration begins at 9:00 A.M.; first lecture at 9:30 A.M.; and ends at 4:00 P.M. Lunch is brown-bag or a list of nearby restaurants will be available.

Brochures are available in the Genealogy Section or one will be mailed to you upon request.

Salt Lake City Fall Research Tour

Sponsored by the Dallas Genealogical Society

31 October — 7 November 1993

Join us this fall and research in the world's largest genealogical collection housed under one roof. For one whole week, you will have at your fingertips hundreds of thousands of books and nearly two million rolls of microfilm. DGS members with research experience in the Family History Library will act as your guides. The best part is having other family researchers along to share the adventure. So, if you've never been to Salt Lake City or even if you go there regularly, take a look at the package we've put together.

The cost for the 7-night, Sunday to Sunday package, is \$450 based on double occupancy. Single rooms are available at \$600, but are limited. Non-DGS members must add a \$25 per person fee to the prices (this fee will include a free 1994 DGS membership.) The tour price includes a gift to the DGS Capital Expansion Project of no less than \$50. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt following the trip. What better way to see Salt Lake City, have an enjoyable week of research, and at the same time contribute to the Society's worthwhile project.

YOUR TOUR PACKAGE WILL INCLUDE:

- Seven nights at the Howard Johnson Hotel located next door to the Family History Library and convenient to restaurants, theaters, the Salt Palace, and shopping.
- Pre-trip orientation classes here in Dallas to acquaint you with the Library and help you plan a research strategy.
- Transportation to and from Salt Lake City airport and baggage handling at the hotel.
- A special get-acquainted reception at the hotel on Sunday evening, 31 October. Wear your Halloween outfit!
- Monday evening banquet, featuring the nationally-known genealogist Dr. Arlene Eakle as the after-dinner speaker.
- An informal question and answer session on Tuesday or Wednesday evening headed by professional genealogist Gordon L. Remington.
- DGS members Barbara Baylis, Dorothy Bruce, Pat Hatcher, Sammie Lee, and Art Rubeck as guides to make your trip run smoothly and help you get oriented in the Library by answering your questions.
- An up-to-date informational guide to the library and the city from your tour guides.
- The assistance of the experienced staff of the Family History Library, including foreign translations.
- DGS tote bags!

WHAT THE TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Transportation to and from Salt Lake City is not included. Participants are not required to travel in a group, and may drive or fly to Salt Lake City from any location. By reserving the trip early, you will have sufficient time to watch for "bargain fares" offered by the airlines. Both American and Delta fly to Salt Lake City from Dallas.
- Personal expenses such as meals (other than the banquet), beverages, tips, laundry, or telephone charges.

Act now! The tour is limited to thirty people. First come, first served. As a DGS member, you are receiving first notice of the tour in this newsletter. An announcement at the Summer Lecture Series seminar on 24 July and will open the tour to nonmembers.

To register, send one-half the tour price (\$225 double occupancy or \$300 single occupancy) to DGS Salt Lake City Tour; Post Office Box 25556; Dallas, TX 75225-1556. A registration form and additional details will be sent. The balance of the trip price will be due by 1 October 1993. For more information, write DGS or call Sammie Lee, 214/349-1435; Jan McFarland, 214/352-5139; or Dorothy Bruce, 214/239-4901.

HELEN F. M. LEARY, C.G., C.G.L., F.N.G.S.

TO SPEAK ON GENEALOGICAL CERTIFICATION

What is genealogical certification? Are you a candidate? What is the Board for Certification of Genealogists and what does C.G.R.S., C.A.L.S., C.A.I.L.S., C.G., C.G.L., and C.G.I. mean? Why is it important for the genealogist to become certified? How *does* one become certified?

Answers to these questions will be the focus of a special session to be taught by the nationally-known educator, Helen F. M. Leary of Raleigh, North Carolina, who currently serves as President for the Board for Certification of Genealogists. Helen will outline the various certification categories and the qualifications of each:

- Certified Genealogical Record Searcher (C.G.R.S.)
- Certified American Lineage Specialist (C.A.L.S.)
- Certified American Indian Lineage Specialist (C.A.I.L.S.)
- Certified Genealogist (C.G.)
- Certified Genealogical Lecturer (C.G.L.)
- Certified Genealogical Instructor (C.G.I.)

The session will be held on Friday afternoon, 20 August 1993, at 2:00 P.M., in the Auditorium of the Dallas Public Library.

The session is **FREE** and open to any genealogist who wants to learn about certification and, particularly, to those interested in becoming certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

The session is a part of the **1993 SUMMER LECTURE SERIES** and is sponsored by the Dallas Genealogical Society in cooperation with the Dallas Public Library.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the reservation form and turn it in at the service desk in the Genealogy Section at the Dallas Public Library or mail it to Sammie Lee, 10655 Longmeadow, Dallas, TX 75238-2828. Questions? Call Sammie at 349-1435.

Please reserve a seat for me at the *free* session to hear Helen F. M. Leary speak on Genealogical Certification:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

(Please include phone number in case of cancellation of session.)

1993 Year of the Volunteer

In this continuing series of articles on the people who volunteer their time and talents to DGS, we feel it is particularly fitting to honor one who has served the Society with dedication for the past year. As our outgoing president, this lady deserves our thanks and appreciation for a job well-done.

Barbara Roberts Baylis by Margaret Hancock Pearce

Occasionally talent, charm, and energy come together in one dynamic package. This is certainly the case of DGS's immediate past president, Barbara Roberts Baylis.

Barbara seems to have been groomed all her life to be a genealogist. As a small child, she lived in Longview, Texas, in the midst of a loving and close family. When she was only two years old and the men were off to war, Barbara, her mother, and her aunt moved home to live with her maternal grandparents. On that same block lived her paternal grandmother, who owned and operated a flower shop. Barbara remembers: "Every Sunday, we took all the remaining, unsold flowers to the cemetery and placed them on family graves. A lot of stories came from those visits to the cemetery. This was the beginning of my interest in family history."

Also, being an only child and an only grandchild, Barbara was fortunate to inherit the family mementoes. This served to further strengthen her sense of connection to her ancestors. However, it wasn't until she became good friends with Adrienne Jamieson through their garden club that she ventured into the study of genealogy. Barbara says she realized that judging flower arrangements wasn't really her strong point. She and Adrienne were looking for a new pastime. When they heard of a genealogy class being offered by El Centro College, they decided to enroll. That class was in 1972.

What a catalyst! Barbara and Adrienne are still contributing to genealogical research and education.

Prior to serving as DGS President for 1992-1993, Barbara has served in four other positions. She served as Vice President for Programs (1986-1988), Director of Books and Forms (1987-1988), Executive Vice President for Workshops (1988-1989), and Parliamentarian (1990-1991).

In addition to her dedication to DGS, Barbara has contributed articles to the newsletter and developed 18 genealogical lectures on subjects as varied as a cemetery and tombstone workshop, photography and

genealogy, and problem solving.

Barbara has earned genealogy certificates from six institutions in ten course studies. She is a well-known speaker in Texas and spoke at the 1992 National Genealogical Society Conference in Jacksonville, Florida.

Barbara is a professional photographer and winner of several local and national awards. Her plan for the immediate future is to concentrate on the Genealogical Institute of Texas and to research.

"I learned something from doing the article on Rebecca Nurse for the DGS Writing Awards. It is very important to get your research down in writing. It makes you gather everything together that may be scattered about. Write up a report on just one person. You may *think* you have it all together and you really don't. Also, when you start going back through your material, you see other things you should do."

Barbara enjoys taking research trips with her husband Robert "Bob" Baylis. They have two children, Bradley and Belinda, two adorable grandchildren, and are looking forward to the arrival of their third grandchild this summer.

About DGS, Barbara says: "The Society has done a lot for the collection at the library. I remember the first day Lloyd came. We had a little, bitty section. I've watched it grow. I believe it has grown because of all the help of those who have been in DGS. And, it's fun, too, if you like people and you like history."

And Barbara does.



Barbara Baylis holding the drum stick of her Revolutionary War Ancestor, Isaac Origin.

Dallas Convention Center: New Home to DGS Educational Events!

by J. Bruce Moseley

Over the last several years, DGS educational events have been received with great favor. A reputation for providing first-class genealogical research training has been established. That reputation has led to larger and larger crowds in attendance, and therein has grown a problem. Everyone who comes to a DGS conference is pleased with the speakers, the topics, the training received, the exhibitors, and the arrangements—but they are very frustrated by being overcrowded at our two biggest events. Who wants to be packed in small rooms like a sardine, have to endure bargain basement conditions at the exhibitor tables, or stand in long lines at the rest room? The simple fact is we have outgrown the facilities we have been using. However, this issue has been addressed and relief is in sight.

The Society is most pleased to announce that beginning next fall, the problem of crowding at the fall and spring events has been rectified! On **13 November 1993** the Annual Fall Symposium and Beginners Workshop will be held in the **Dallas Convention Center**, as will subsequent major educational conferences. We'll have a hard time outgrowing that place!

The Convention Center is not just big—it's convenient, versatile, and comfortable. There is ready access to secure, covered parking so walking outside in bad weather is eliminated. The number and size of available meeting rooms is endless; no more will Lloyd Bockstruck have to repeat a talk during lunch to accommodate all who want to hear him! In the area we will use, there is four times as much space for exhibitors as we have had. The facility is pleasantly furnished and decorated, and will contribute significantly to the success of future DGS convocations.

In many ways, it's good for the Society to be meeting in the center of its home city, just a few blocks from the Library we support and use so extensively. Detailed instructions to make arrival at the Convention Center simple and easy will be included in future Newsletters and publicity flyers.

Also, since dates have already been set for next year's events, you can put the following on your calendar now: 1994 Spring Seminar, 16 April 1994; 1994 Fall Symposium, 19 November 1994. Having such a marvelous location available makes the prospects for DGS educational events exciting indeed!

DGS People: NGSQ Article by DGS Members

The *DGS Newsletter* always likes to let our members know when good things happen to DGS people. This time we want to let you know that DGS people were responsible for good things!

The current issue of the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (81:2, June 1993) has an excellent feature article, "Indexing Family Histories," by Patricia Law Hatcher and John V. Wylie. Pat is a past president of DGS, and John presently serves as director of our Computer Interest Group. Both are on the *DGS Newsletter* staff and have contributed many outstanding articles to our own publication.

The NGSQ article goes into great detail on using your computer to generate a quality index for your family history. Anyone who is currently compiling

a family history (for the DGS Writing Awards Competition, we hope) *should* read Pat and John's article. Quoting from the article's introduction, "The index is the door through which other genealogist enter a book. Its creator determines whether that door is closed, obstructed, or wide open and welcoming. A poor index is a disservice to reader and author alike. A good one serves both immediate relatives and researchers who do not know yet whether they are associated with this family."

Copies of the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* can be read in the Genealogy Section. Memberships to NGS can be had by writing to them at 4527 Seventeenth Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

DGS People

"Picnic in the Cemetery"

by Sammie Townsend Lee

The "Cemetery Inventory Project" of the Dallas Genealogical Society has made great strides in the past year. Spearheaded by two very capable ladies—Helen Lu, Director of Publications, and Markaleeta Stevenson, Director of Research—the project has inventoried and made ready for publication nearly 60 cemeteries in the southern part of Dallas County. Helen and Markaleeta are quick to point out this has been achieved with the involvement of a number of dedicated DGS members and friends of the Society, including assistance from the community and some active cemetery associations.

To say thank you to all these willing workers and to celebrate the end of a very productive year, Helen and Markaleeta sent an invitation to all who had participated in the project to join them for a "picnic in the cemetery." Held on Wednesday, 19 May, in perfect weather, the picnic was a delightful success. The scene was the historic Oak Cliff Cemetery where nearly thirty volunteers dined at linen-draped tables under large ancient shade trees. As most attending were genealogists, no one seemed to mind the company of the tombstones.

Before acknowledging all those who helped the cemetery inventory project in one way or another (including copying inscriptions, proof reading, locating cemeteries, etc.), our thanks as a Society must go to Helen Lu and Markaleeta Stevenson for their devotion to this project and the hours and hours of volunteer time they have contributed. A project like this is only successful if you have dedicated people leading it.

Helen and Markaleeta would like to acknowledge the following: Adrienne Jamieson, Harry Stevenson, Bernie Coffey, Leslie Collier, Chan Edmondson, Bruce Moseley, Francis Lindell, Dorislee Hoffpauer, Laurie Wharton, Jan McFarland, Dorothy Bruce, Sammie Lee, Margret Pearce, Rubyann Darnell, Patti Darnell, Edwina Dyes, Sharlene Watson, Lillie Page, Rosa Truhe, Margie Nix, Mary Freeman, Betty Street, Helen Anthony, Brenda Taylor, Fred Harrington, Olivia Harrington, Jennie Faye Ellis, Nat Harris, Sue Harris, Nancy Miller, Joyce Martin Murray, and Sue Cravey.

Also, thanks to the following cemetery association leaders: David Eisenlohr (Oak Cliff Cemetery), Bes Milam (Five Mile Cemetery),



Left to right: Harry Stevenson, Helen Lu, Markaleeta Stevenson, and Adrienne Jamieson

Chester Jones and Helen Anthony (Lisbon Cemetery), W. H. Hilton (Trinity Cemetery), Grady "Pat" Sims (Rhodes Cemetery), and the association of the Little Bethel "Pioneer" Cemetery.

Also, acknowledgment to some special friends of DGS: Kathy Petry, Bart Edmondson, Verda Wright, Barney Jones, Rev. C. Ken Hurley, and Donald Payton.

Those of us who participated in copying the stones of the Oak Cliff Cemetery would like to say a special thanks to Al Christensen of Goode-Taylor Pontiac-GMC of Oak Cliff. He was kind enough to arrange for the volunteers to use the "necessary" facilities of the dealership. That's a big help!

We are fortunate that Helen and Markaleeta will be leading this project for the coming year. Much is left to be done. When they call, we hope you will volunteer and experience this wonderful feeling of knowing something of lasting importance has been accomplished.

Cemetery Vandalism and Thefts

On the same subject, but a less cheery note, it seems that hardly a month goes by without picking up the newspaper and reading about the desecration of another cemetery in our area. The information on page 88, received from two DGS members, shows a decidedly disturbing pattern.

Cemetery Statuary Found in Area Antique Shops

by Jan Bishop McFarland

As researchers, we tend to assume that if we find our ancestor's tombstone, we will find it in a cemetery. It's not only basic methodology, it's common sense. At least it used to be. The unpleasant truth is that the tombstone that once stood at the head of your ancestor's grave may now be sitting in the window of an antique shop with a hefty price tag dangling from it.

One of home decorating's hottest new trends is antique garden statuary; and since the supply of *authentic* statuary is fairly limited, most reputable antique dealers have some difficulty locating pieces for sale. Unfortunately, it appears that others may be less discriminating about the source of their merchandise. Several antique shops in the Dallas area have begun offering up for sale angels, urns, lambs, and cherubs stolen from the graves of Texas pioneers. In a few cases, where the tombstones are unusually decorative, the stones themselves are being ripped from the ground and sold for top dollar.

Dallas is fortunate in that most of its antique shop owners are honorable people who would not dream of selling such items. A few, however, recognize no moral dilemma in making a profit from the desecration of graves. They merely grind off or paint over any inscription, set the price, and wait for an unsuspecting customer.

One antique mall on lower Greenville Avenue has an unusually large (and seemingly limitless) supply of what appears to be cemetery statuary, and one or two shops on Henderson, just off Central Expressway, are currently offering pieces which may once have been reverently placed at the graves of someone's parent or child or sister or brother.

If the cynical practice of selling grave markers for profit is to be stopped, it will have to be done by the people who best understand and respect the importance of preserving our cemeteries. As genealogists, we are among a very small group of people with the expertise to recognize these pieces.

So please, take the time to visit antique shops in your area. If you find pieces that you believe may have been taken from a cemetery, talk to the owner. Find out where, and from whom, the piece was purchased. Educate them. Ask them to call you if someone comes door-to-door peddling these types of items. Reputable dealers will be as anxious as you to see this practice stopped.

Missing Grave Markers Sought

by Edith Kyser Smith*

The Kyser-Peck Cemetery on White Road off FM 740 near Chandler's Landing at Lake Ray Hubbard has been vandalized repeatedly, with huge stones overturned, fancy tombstones defaced and broken, and angels and lambs being cut from the tops of stones. At the scene of the last vandalism of the cemetery, there was left behind a half-burned candle, which would indicate to us this may have been a cult ritual.

It is our hope to make some sort of permanent record at the cemetery of those without stones. For the first time in its 150-year history, the cemetery has now formed an association dedicated to the preservation and restoration of this hallowed ground. If any DGS member has relatives buried in this cemetery without a stone, please let us know their full name, when they were born and died, and any other necessary information about them. Anyone wishing to put up a marker may do so. It is our understanding if the exact location is not known, the proper wording on the monument is "In memory of..." and this can be placed in the cemetery near where one might think the stone should be, next to a close relative, etc.

Missing from this cemetery is a large stone about five feet tall and of slender girth with the following inscription: Sarah Howard, 1841-1858. She was Sarah Elizabeth Goss, daughter of Ephriam Goss and Rebecca Johns. Sarah was born in Owen County, Indiana, and came with her parents to what was then Kaufman County, Texas, in 1848. She married Alonzo Howard. The stone has been missing for about a year.

Another stone: Fanny Kyser, 1800-1871. She was Fanny Rudd, born in North Carolina, and moved to Lincoln County, Tennessee, as a young woman. She married James Kyser, and they moved to Kaufman County, Texas, in 1845. This stone has been missing about ten years. The bottom part is intact, reflecting "71 years."

Missing for years is the marker for the young son of Jackson Irvine. Irvine was married to the daughter of Colonel McKenzie who ran the ferry across the Trinity River about 1847. We would like the full name of the child and date of birth and death.

**Edith Kyser Smith; 414 Lincolnshire Drive; Irving, Texas 75061-6440; 214/790-3301.*

Beginner's Corner

The County Courthouse

by Sammie Townsend Lee

One of the most important areas of genealogical research is in the records generated by local governments and located in town and county courthouses throughout the United States. Records found in the courthouses can supply you with the name of a previously unknown ancestor and establish proof of your own descent. Along with family records, library sources, and federal records, courthouse records are a basic source of family history.

County courthouse records—except where destroyed or lost over the years—date from the beginning of the county. Courts were units of government as well as judicial bodies. Courthouses and town halls provided facilities for recording:

- *Vital records*, such as recording marriages, births, and deaths.
- *Land ownership*, such as registering and recording deeds, leases, bills of sales, powers of attorney, etc.
- *Probate matters*, such as recording wills, appointing estate administrators and guardians, overseeing inventories, appraisements, and sales, and various other matters pertaining to the settlement of estates.
- *Taxation*, such as assessing and collecting taxes.
- *Court proceedings*, such as registering naturalization and oaths of allegiance, maintaining roads, overseeing bastardy cases, issuing licenses, overseeing education, calling militia units to muster, filing adoptions and name changes, registering brands, appointing juries, recording voter registration and holding elections, and any other duty necessary to county or local government.

The four basic types of *court proceedings* are *civil*, *criminal*, *equity*, and *probate*. The names of the courts and their proceedings will differ slightly from state to state, as will the titles of the record-keepers. For this information, consult Bentley's *County Courthouse Book*¹ or Everton's *Handy Book*.²

For the most part, records found in the county courthouse tend to be *primary sources*—records created at the time of the event or soon thereafter. The beginning family researcher will mostly use

vital records, *deeds*, *wills*, and their *indexes*. As you become more proficient in research, it will be advantageous to advance into other types of land records, probate packets and miscellaneous estate records, various types of records created by court proceedings, and tax records.

The records may be originals, transcripts, or abstracts. They may be found in large bound volumes or loose papers stored in almost any fashion—including cardboard boxes stuffed away in the attic or basement of the courthouse. Records may have been put on microfilm or microfiche, and the original volumes and papers given to the historical society, state archive, or stored in a warehouse.

This article tells how to prepare for a visit to the courthouse and procedures for conducting research after you get there. Future "Beginner's Corner" articles will highlight land records, probate records, and court records in more detail. For background reading on the county court system and the records generated therein, several books are recommended. To learn about the court system, consult *The Source*.³ For more information on the records, *Shaking Your Family Tree*,⁴ has much to say on the records in county courthouses and town halls. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*⁵ has chapters on courts, the records, and how to abstract and transcribe the records.

Never Go to the Courthouse Unprepared

One of the biggest mistakes researchers make is to go to the county courthouse unprepared. It is of vital importance that you take the time to do a bit of homework and learn what you can reasonably expect to find in the county records. Before making a mad dash to the courthouse, consider the following:

- Do a preliminary historical survey of the counties in which you are interested. Know the dates they were formed and the names of parent counties.
- Watch for boundary changes. Nothing is more frustrating (or embarrassing) than to undertake research in the *wrong* county. Thorndale and Dollarhide's *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses*⁶ will show county boundary changes each decade between 1790 and 1920.
- Before you leave for the courthouse, learn what kinds of records are kept at the county level, the

[Courthouse: Continued on next page]

[Courthouse: *Continued from page 89*]

terminology used in that state, and the records that are likely to be held in a specific courthouse.

- Learn how to gain access to the records and how to abstract or copy the needed material.
- Check at the nearest large genealogical library to see if any county courthouse inventories, or finding guides exist for the county you plan to visit. The information in these county inventories will tell you what records exist for that particular county, how the records are organized, where the records were kept at the time the book was compiled, and what the records are called.
- While at the library, check its catalog for any published or microformed county records. Check the published abstracts and transcripts for clues to help you get a jump-start on your research once you reach the county. It is just good form to have a research plan before you leave on any trip.
- A quick call to the courthouse will tell you if the material is still available in the same location or where it may have been moved. (Courthouse telephone numbers and addresses can be obtained from both Bentley's and Everton's books.)
- While you have the courthouse on the line, ask some quick questions, such as operating hours and upcoming holidays the courthouse observes.

Some "Do's" and "Don'ts" Once You Arrive

- *Do* inquire about the clerk's schedule and observe it. Always leave at least ten to fifteen minutes before closing time so as not to delay the clerk from closing on time.
- *Do* allow enough time to accomplish your research goals. If you are in a hurry or careless, you may miss a vital record or important information. As in any project, give courthouse research the time it deserves.
- *Do* be courteous and respectful and be mindful of the impression you are creating.
- *Do* dress appropriately for the courthouse. Take your cue from the professionals and business people working around you.
- *Don't* expect the courthouse personnel to help you with your research. They may not know how to search records using genealogical methods.
- *Don't* expect the personnel to know about your ancestors. Usually, they are not genealogists and few of them care about genealogical research.

They are not paid to help family researchers. Their job is to maintain the modern records so that the ongoing business of the county can be conducted.

- *Do* ask necessary questions, such as where the records and indexes you plan to use are located, and if any records may be on microform. Also, inquire about photocopying charges and who will operate the machine. *Don't complain about the price of copies!*
- *Do* know the proper name of the record you are seeking or be able to describe it accurately.
- *Don't* ask courthouse personnel to climb ladders to fetch probate packets or record books for you. You will be expected to do this yourself. If you are unable, plan to take along someone who can or plan to hire a researcher in the county to assist you once you arrive.
- *Do* be prepared to search in dirty basements or musty, dusty attics for some stored records. The older records are not always kept on a neat, tidy shelf.
- *Do* thank the personnel when you leave even if they did nothing at all to help you. It may mean a nicer reception when you return and will go a long way toward improving the tenuous relationship between family researchers and county clerks across the country.

NOTES:

1. Elizabeth Petty Bentley, *County Courthouse Book* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1991).
2. George B. Everton, Sr., editor, *The Handy Book for Genealogists* (Logan, UT: Everton Publishers, Inc., 1991), 8th edition.
3. Arlene Eakle, "American Court Records." *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing Co., 1984) 151-214.
4. Dr. Ralph Crandall, *Shaking Your Family Tree: A Basic Guide to Tracing Your Family's Genealogy* (Camden, ME: Yankee Books, 1986).
5. Val D. Greenwood, *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1990), Second Edition.
6. William Thorndale and William Dollarhide, *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1987).

Guide to Resources in the Genealogy Collection of the Dallas Public Library

South Carolina Department of Archives and History Combined Alphabetical Index

by Linda Shaddock Rogers

- Overview** From its beginnings with the failed attempts by the Spanish and French to colonize South Carolina in the 16th century and the eventual granting of the territory in 1663 by Charles II to eight noblemen who became proprietors of the province, this state has seen a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds. This variety of English, Quaker, French Huguenots, Episcopal Dissenters, Irish, Scottish, German, and Scotch-Irish was the life-blood of the southern migration and the ancestry of many modern-day researchers. Although there are notable gaps in early records, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH), located in Columbia, is rich in original source materials. It has extensive holdings of original records and microfilms of original records dating back to colonial times.
- Content** *The Combined Alphabetical Index* is a computer-generated microfilm finding aid that brings together in alphabetical order persons and places mentioned in thirty early record series held by SCDAH, either in the original or microfilm forms. Researchers wanting photocopies of particular documents should send a paper copy of the index page (with needed items marked) or full citations (including the 18 digit numerical reference and the page number on the index on which the item appears) to SCDAH.¹ Limit the request to twenty entries. A cost estimate for paper copies of the documents will be supplied by return mail.
- Location** The Genealogy Collection of the Dallas Public Library owns the entire *Index* consisting of 19 rolls of microfilm. They are located in the South Carolina microfilm drawers along the east wall of the genealogy section.
- Aids** **A review of the first few pages (introduction) of roll #1 will list all the record series included in the *Index*.** Persons and places from all the record series that are included are listed in alphabetical order, but not all record series have been indexed to the same depth. Only the names of the principal parties to a transaction have been included for all records *except* plats, the Memorial Series in the Records of the Auditor General, tax returns, Paper Medium Loan Mortgages, and bills of sale. The index entries for these series include all personal and place names. Indexed records include land plats, land grants dating from 1694, court records, renunciations of dower, tax returns and mortgages, property sales, and accounts audited from the Revolutionary War. The entry gives the record in which the name was found, dates referenced in the record, and coded numbers guiding SCDAH to the exact location of the entry in the original document.
- Series owned by The Genealogy Collection are *Memorials of the Auditor General (1731-1775)* and *Comptrollers General Accounts Audited of Claims Growing out of the Revolution (1778-1864)*.

Note:

1. South Carolina Department of Archives and History; P. O. Box 11669; Columbia, SC 29211.

Bulletin Board

Do you have information you would like to share with other genealogical researchers in DGS? Have you found a "good deal" in genealogy, a rare library, a new source? If so, send the information to us. This column is your forum for exchange. Please send original information only and include the source.

Send to: Bulletin Board Editor; DGS; P.O. Box 12648; Dallas, TX 75225-0648.

Missing in the 20th Century

Do you need information on Great-uncle Joe's family after 1900? Maybe Selective Service can come to your rescue. If a family in which you are interested had males eligible for the draft in World War I, inquire at your local LDS Family History Center for order numbers of the recently micro-filmed draft cards for that war. The cards of twenty-four million men have been recently microfilmed by the Family History Library and are available for research. These are arranged by state, county or city, individual draft board, and finally alphabetically by surname. Each draft card can yield a signature, a date of birth and an address. The films are catalogued *United States\Military Records\World War, 1914-1918*.

Large Charts

We genealogists are proud of our research; why not celebrate it with a poster-sized chart to hang over our desks! Offered are 36"x48" or 24"x36 charts for \$44 and \$29 respectively; additional copies at a lower price. These computer-drawn charts are prepared from your GEDCOM file and may be ordered in pedigree or descendant format. Number of persons on the charts is dependent on your data but can be estimated: 36"x48" paper can handle up to approximately 40 generations with 270 persons being the maximum number in largest generations; 24"x36" paper accommodates about 30 generations with up to 200 people per generation.

Address: Computerized Chart Service; Dept. GC43; 11733 Indian Ridge Road; Reston, VA 22091.

Library of Congress Lists

The Library of Congress will mail you a printout of all family histories for a particular surname that are housed in their collection, at no charge. Enclose a SASE and limit your request to one or two surnames.

Once you are aware of the books available on your families, some can be requested through interlibrary loan or rented at local LDS Family History Centers. Genealogies published before 1900 are available from the Library of Congress on microfilm.

Address: Family History Division; Library of Congress; Washington, D.C. 20541.

First Families of Tennessee

In preparation for Tennessee's 200th year, the East Tennessee Historical Society has organized a "first families" program in remembrance of those pioneers who settled in Tennessee prior to statehood in 1796. You need to provide documentation for each generation and proof that your ancestor was in the area before that date. There is a \$25 fee, for which you will receive a certificate suitable for framing. Your research will be archived in the McClung Collection, Knoxville Public Library.

Address: East Tennessee Historical Society; 217 Market St.; Knoxville, TN 37902.

Italian Translations

Do you have documents written in Italian that look like gibberish to you? Juliet Pierce, Dallas resident and Italian linguist, offers genealogical translations and interpretation services. Contact her for further information and fees.

Contact: Juliet Pierce; 4246 Royal Ridge Drive; Dallas, TX 75229-5460. Phone: 351-6474.

Colorado Vital Records

The state of Colorado has opened a new office from which genealogists may order birth and death certificates. The current price is \$12 per search, whether or not the certificate is found.

Address: Colorado Department of Health; Division of Vital Records; Glendale Office; 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South; Denver, CO 80222.

FHC Summer Hours and Closings

Area LDS Family History Centers (FHC) have set their summer schedules—genealogists take note. The FHCs are branch libraries of the Salt Lake City Library, largest genealogical collection in the world, and welcome all researchers.

Duncanville FHC; 1019 Big Stone Gap; Duncanville, TX. Phone: 709-0066. Hours:
Tuesday & Wednesday – 9 A.M. – 9 P.M.
Thursday – 9 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Lake Highlands FHC; 10701 Lake Highlands; Dallas, TX. Phone: 349-0730. Hours:
Monday through Thursday – 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.
Wednesday & Thursday – 6 A.M. – 9 P.M.
Friday – 9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Plano FHC; 2700 Roundrock; Plano, TX. Phone: 867-6479. Hours:
Tuesday & Thursday – 9:15 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.
Wednesday & Friday – 9:15 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

Genealogical Institute of Texas

Conceived by three faces familiar to Dallas researchers, the Genealogical Institute of Texas (not affiliated with the Dallas Genealogical Society) kicks off its inaugural session 26 July 1993 at the Richardson Civic Center. Under the direction of Barbara Baylis, Madilyn Crane, and Mary Reid Warner, the GIT offers a series of week-long courses designed to appeal to beginners and advanced students alike. Attendees select the course that best meets their needs: Introduction to Genealogy, Intermediate Genealogy, U.S. Military Records; Advanced Problem Solving; Gone to Texas; and Sharpening Research Skills.

Cost of the Institute is \$275, which includes four 1½ hour classes each day Monday-Thursday, and two on Friday. There will be problem solving sessions in the evening. Offered at small additional cost are daily lunches, a Texas-style buffet on Thursday evening, research trips to the Dallas Public

Library and the National Archives Branch in Fort Worth, and a document preservation class.

The GIT has made arrangements for a vendor's hall in which genealogical books and materials may be purchased Monday-Wednesday, from noon until 8:00 P.M. Dallas-area genealogists who are not attending the institute may visit the exhibitors for a \$3 entry fee, using the coupon below. Exhibitors to date: Dallas County Pioneer Association, DGS, The Preservation Emporium, Sons of the Republic of Texas, M & C Photography, Creative Memories, Descendants of Mexican War Veterans, The Final Page, Benjamin Franklin Productions, Henington Publishing Company, Rootstamps, The Cuban Index, J & W Enterprises, Weynette Parks Haun, Texas State Genealogical Society, and Outbackpress.

Further information: Genealogical Institute of Texas; P.O. 799004, Box 118; Dallas, TX 75379. Phone: 214/233-9248.

**EXHIBITOR COUPON - GENEALOGICAL INSTITUTE OF TEXAS
RICHARDSON CIVIC CENTER — JULY 26 OR 27 OR 28
GRAND HALL — 12 NOON to 8 P.M.**

\$3.00 ADMISSION PAID BY:

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Queries

Queries do not require a Texas connection and are free to members of the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS). Nonmembers should include \$3 for each query. DGS reserves the right to abbreviate and condense queries and assumes no responsibility for their accuracy. Send as many queries as you wish, and they will be printed as space permits. Mail all queries: Queries Editor, DGS Newsletter, P. O. Box 12648, Dallas, TX 75225-0648.

DALTON

Hoping to locate any descendants of **Oscar DALTON**, a printer in Dallas in 1900. His sons listed as living with him in the 1900 census were **Harry M. DALTON**, **Frank O. DALTON**, **Wallace S. DALTON**, and daughter and son-in-law, **Hilary O. and Belle P. (DALTON) OWEN**.
John L. Mosely; Box 61; Franklin, AZ 85534

WEIMER

Seeking information on **Carl (Charles) WEIMER**, born in Germany and died in Dallas, TX, 1889/1890. He possibly was buried in Oak Cliff but no death records available for this period and no burial records found. He appears in the 1870 DeWitte Co., TX, census and married in Medina Co., TX, in 1875. They had 5 children, the last born in Dallas in 1889. When did he arrive in this country? I am interested in obtaining copies of records that would have been in the Declaration of Intent made 3 Apr 1882 in the District Court when he was 36 years old.
Virginia Baade; 338 Avenue Four; Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

McDONALD

Seeking information on parents and fellow siblings of **John and Rosanna McDONALD**, who lived in Jefferson Co., IL, circa 1844, and in Fannin Co., TX, by 1860. John died in 1861. He was born in TN circa 1814. Their children were: **Mary, Nicholas D., Maria Jane, Hannie, Rosanna Virginia, Angeline Cornelius, and Syna (or Lyna) Belle**.
Craig McDonald; 77 Washington Street; Marblehead, MA 01945-3529

ROGERS McKNIGHT BRYANT

Seeking information on **Stephen ROGERS I, II and III**. **Stephen ROGERS I** was born in 1806 probably in TN. He married **Rebecca (?)**. In 1832 they came to TX with brother **Robert ROGERS** and settled in Rogers Prairie, TX. **Stephen ROGERS II** was born in 1833 in TX, and died in TX in 1871. He married **Rhoda Jane McKNIGHT** in 1885, daughter of **James Marion McKNIGHT** of Nacogdoches, TX. **Stephen ROGERS III** was born in 1870 near Helena, Karnes City. He married **Laura Kyle BRYANT**, who was born in VA in 1868. She lived a short time with brother **James/John BRYANT** in Ranger, TX. He died in 1861 in El Paso, TX.
Mary P. Wood; 465 Craig Circle; Lewisville, TX 75067

CROOK HODGE OWENS

Seeking information on **James F. and Josephine (HODGE) CROOK**, married in 1877 in McLennan Co., TX. James may have died in the late 1880's in Dallas or McLennan Co., TX. Their daughter, **Anna May CROOK** was probably born in 1880 in Dallas, TX, and may have married **L. S. OWENS**.
Joanne Kennedy; 310 Locust Street; Plattsburg, MO 64477

NANCE

Seeking information about **William Franklin NANCE, Jr. (Frank NANCE)** born circa 1826 and may have moved to Dallas, TX, around 1846. Who are his descendants?
Anne Elaine Richmond; 77783 Sunnybrook Rive; Palm Desert, CA 92260

**PAINT
GILL**

Seeking information on **Mark James and Lilian May (GILL) PAINTOR** who were married in 1912 in Port Arthur, TX. The family probably moved to Dallas sometime between 1912 and 1946, where he possibly worked as a dentist. They were the parents of about five children, three or four of whom were married by 1946.

Roy G. Birch; 2 the Firs; Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY12 1NL; Great Britain

**OVERTON
CAMERON**

Need information on the ancestors of **Aaron OVERTON**, born 1789 possibly in Wilkes Co., NC. He died in 1850-1860 in Dallas Co., TX, (Oak Cliff?) and his wife, **Rachel (CAMERON) OVERTON**, born 1787 in Wilkes, NC. She died after 1860, probably in Dallas Co (Oak Cliff?).

Mike McCabe; P. O. Box 1327; Oakridge, OR 97463

**LEDFORD
RUFFETT
LORD
SIMPSON
HART
BROMLEY
BURCH
ALLEN**

Needs help with families of **Moses M. LEDFORD** born 1841/4 in Yancey Co., NC, and died in 1925 in Byars, OK. His wife was **Sabra Laraceena**, possibly **RUFFETT**, a full blooded Choctaw Indian. Sabra died 1900/1 in a house fire. Their children were **Samuel David LEDFORD**, born 1868/9, died 1935 Byars, OK, married **Mattie LORD**; **Lauraceena LEDFORD**, married **W. L. Simpson**; **Geri Lucinda LEDFORD**, died 1953 in OK, married **Mr. HART**; **John Thomas LEDFORD**, born 1882 in Denton Co., TX, married **Minnie Lee BROMLEY**; **Mozella LEDFORD**, b. 1889, married **George Washington BURCH** in 1907; **Ada LEDFORD**, born 1891 in TX, died in CA, married a **Mr. ALLEN**. What happened to this family?

Mary Ellen Ledford; 702 Fouts Drive; Irving TX 75061-4126

**CRADDOCK
PERRY
FULLER**

What happened to **Martha S. CRADDOCK** and **T. J. PERRY** after their marriage? They were married in 1875 by **William Hancock, J.P.**, the record filed in Ellis Co, TX. **A. S. FULLER** signed the affidavit on reverse of license that both parties were over 21 years of age. **A. S. FULLER's** wife was **Eliza L. CRADDOCK**, believed to be a sister of **Martha S. CRADDOCK**.

Mrs. Robert J. Fuller; Route 1, Box 129 B Starr Road; Grand Saline, TX 75140

**BULLARD
HOLLY**

Seeking any information on **Henderson (Henry?) Guice BULLARD**, born 20 Oct 1851 in TN; died 23 Dec 1933 in Zavala Co., TX. Married to **Martha E. HOLLY** before 1880. Lived in Henderson, Smith, and Rains Counties, TX.

Sammie Townsend Lee; 10655 Longmeadow; Dallas, TX 75238-2828; 349-1435

Coming in the September-October issue:

- The date and place for the DGS Fall Symposium has been set. In the next issue of the *DGS Newsletter*, we will preview the topics and speakers lined up for this year's exciting event, plus give you registration information.
- The Capital Expansion Committee is working throughout the summer with the Dallas Public Library to come up with floor plans for the expansion and a list of the top items needed for the Genealogy Section. CEC Chairman, Jan McFarland, will give us all the details.
- Do you know the difference between an Ahnentafel, decendency, and pedigree chart? Leslie Collier and Barbara Baylis will outline the differences and tell us when to use each in the next "Beginner's Corner."

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DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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Volume 17, Number 4 (Issue 149)
July-August 1993