



NCGS News

The Newsletter of the North Carolina Genealogical Society

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Is it time to renew your membership in NCGS? The membership renewal form is on page 14.

NCGS is offering a new benefit to members

Members can now enjoy a 10% discount on all publications, as well as future workshops, in the NCGS store.

Visit www.NCGenealogy.org and click on the Store tab.

This offer does not apply to new or renewal memberships.

Who are YOUR Ancestors? 6 April 2013 Regional Workshop

Mark your calendar and plan to travel on 6 April 2013 to the historic and rural community of Yanceyville, North Carolina, for a visit with the Caswell County Historical Association (CCHA). George G. Morgan (of Aha! Seminars, Inc.), who has roots in that area, will be the featured speaker. The day's program will include the following talks:

1. Push and Pull: The Reasons for Migration
2. Genealogy Orienteering
3. Alternate Records You May Never Have Considered
4. Bring 'Em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile

The workshop, co-sponsored by NCGS and CCHA, will be held at the Central Ruritan Building, just outside the town limits of Yanceyville. A buffet lunch will be served. Look for details in the registration flyer to be posted this winter on the NCGS website and in upcoming issues of the *NCGS News*.

NCGS Officers and Directors

Executive Committee

Victor T. Jones Jr., President
President@ncgenealogy.org

Victoria P. Scott, 1st Vice President
FirstVicePresident@ncgenealogy.org

Maryann Stockert Tuck, 2nd Vice President
SecondVicePresident@ncgenealogy.org

Terry Moore, CG, Secretary
Moore.Research@gmail.com

Judith Garner Hinton, Treasurer
Treasurer@ncgenealogy.org

Ann Christnacht Hilke, CG, Past President
PastPresident@ncgenealogy.org

Directors

Cindy Born-Mylo, Mabel Osborne Dillard,
Lucinda Glover, Jordan Jones, Carolyn
McCulley, Pam Toms

Marie C. Jones, Administrator
Info@ncgenealogy.org

Monica Hopkins, Webmaster
WebManager@ncgenealogy.org

Vickie Scott, Publications Distributor
BookSales@ncgenealogy.org

Pam Pearson, Book Review Editor
BookReviewEditor@ncgenealogy.org

Committees

Awards Committee
Pam Toms, Chair
Awards@ncgenealogy.org

Membership Committee
Cindy Born-Mylo, Chair
Members@ncgenealogy.org

Nominating Committee
Ann Christnacht Hilke, CG, Chair
PastPresident@ncgenealogy.org

Program Committee
Lucinda Glover, Chair
Programs@ncgenealogy.org

Publications Committee
Victoria P. Scott, Chair
FirstVicePresident@ncgenealogy.org

Publicity Committee
Maryann Stockert Tuck, Chair
Publicity@ncgenealogy.org

Technology Committee
Mary L. Gray, Chair
Technology@ncgenealogy.org

Volunteer Committee
Mabel Osborne Dillard, Chair
Volunteer@ncgenealogy.org

The North Carolina Genealogical Society

PO Box 30815

Raleigh, NC 27622-0815

Society Goals

The North Carolina Genealogical Society, chartered in 1974, is open to all who are interested in genealogical or historical research and in these goals:

- ▶ to increase interest in and raise the standards of research and compilation by means of educational programs and publications;
- ▶ to acquaint members with research sources and materials in North Carolina and elsewhere;
- ▶ to serve as a medium of exchange of genealogical information; and
- ▶ to promote the collection, preservation, and utilization of manuscripts, documents, and other materials of genealogical and historical value.

While not maintaining a library of its own, the society promotes and encourages the development of the many fine research centers across the state. Books given to the society for review in the *NCGS Journal* are donated to the Genealogy Collection of the State Library of North Carolina in Raleigh, North Carolina.

NCGS Statement Code of Ethics

The North Carolina Genealogical Society encourages researchers to uphold high standards for their genealogical research, analysis, and publication. Care should be taken to document properly all information included in a genealogical work. Researchers should remember that the original document is the proper source for all information.

When the original cannot be found, careful analysis of secondary materials (including Internet sites) should be fully explained and sources cited.

Given modern technology and the ease of accessing information on the Internet, researchers are encouraged to respect the privacy of all living individuals by not sharing personal information via electronic media.

While the courts have not yet fully tested copyright issues involving the Internet, the same respect should be paid to information found on the Internet as is paid to information in printed works bearing notice of copyright. Under United States copyright law, an individual's intellectual output is protected whether or not it bears a copyright notice or symbol and regardless of the medium in which it appears.

NCGS Journal

Larry W. Cates, MLIS, Editor

The *North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal* is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Submit articles, comments, questions, and suggestions to Larry Cates, at JournalEditor@ncgenealogy.org.

NCGS News

Phyllis Matthews Ziller, MLIS, Editor

NCGS News, the newsletter of the North Carolina Genealogical Society, is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Submit articles, comments, and suggestions to Phyllis Matthews Ziller at NCGSNewsEditor@ncgenealogy.org.

NCGS Memberships

NCGS 12-month memberships are \$40 for individuals and institutions, \$45 for families (same residence), and \$100 for patrons.

Members receive two publications: the quarterly *NCGS Journal* and the bi-monthly *NCGS News*. Members are also invited to attend, at a discount, the NCGS annual meeting and workshop and all other NCGS-sponsored programs.

A note regarding genealogical credentials: Certified Genealogist (CG) and Certified Genealogical Lecturer (CGL) are proprietary service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists® used by the Board to identify its program of genealogical competency evaluation and used under license to by Board's certificants.

President's Message

by President Victor T. Jones Jr.

The North Carolina Genealogical Society began the year with a bang—a bang that began with the society's computer crashing. Some of the membership database had to be recreated, but thanks to Judy Hinton, Jordan Jones, and Linda Reid, we were able to get the newsletters and journals out on time.

A new administrator was hired in February, replacing Linda Reid who had served the society as administrator for about one year. Linda also had served in various other capacities, and I would like to thank her for her contributions to the society. I would also like to welcome and thank Marie Jones as the current administrator.

Currently, the society has 910 members. As an added benefit for these members, the Board of Directors, at our last board meeting, voted to offer ten percent discount on society publications and future workshops beginning 13 October 2012.

During this year, the society sponsored three workshops.

- In March, we joined with the Tar River Connections Genealogical Society and the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount for a seminar featuring Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS.
- The Seventh Annual Speakers Forum was held in June in Raleigh.
- The Fall Workshop and Annual Meeting was held 13 October at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh and featured Dick Eastman.

Jordan Jones resigned his position as webmaster to begin his new duties as president of the National Genealogical Society. We wish him much success in this task. He will remain a director for NCGS. Our new webmaster is Monica Hopkins, and we welcome her and wish her the best in her new post.

Progress has been made in the Loose Estates Indexing Project, with over 122,000 records (and nearly three million images) indexed at FamilySearch. The Frances Wynne Internship Program has financed two interns at the North Carolina State Archives, where they have processed private family collections for use by historians and genealogists. We will soon be

offering online webinars on topics related to genealogical research in North Carolina. If you have a topic you would like to see addressed in an upcoming webinar, let our program committee know. An introductory webinar will be posted to the NCGS website soon.

Milestones

Congratulations to the Burke County Genealogical Society, which will be celebrating its thirtieth anniversary at a dinner on 12 November.

Congratulations to the Forsyth County Genealogical Society, also formed in 1982, and the thirtieth year of publication of *The Journal of the Forsyth County Genealogical Society*.

Congratulations, Jordan

The National Genealogical Society has a new president effective 1 October 2012. Jordan Jones, former webmaster and current board member of the North Carolina Genealogical Society, will assume the office of president from Ann Hilke, who has served for two years in that capacity. Ann is also a past president of the North Carolina Genealogical Society and a current NCGS board member.

Coming Soon ...

North Carolina Research Series
a webinar series
presented by NCGS



A special preview will be coming soon to the NCGS website (www.ncgenealogy.org):

“Genealogy of North Carolina”
by Helen F. M. Leary, CG (EMERITUS).

In Memoriam

The following NCGS members have recently passed away: Randall Carson of El Centro, California, on 7 February 2012; Barbara Hudgens of Cary, North Carolina, on 20 September 2012; and Jane Smith Hill of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on 2 April 2012.

2012 Annual Meeting and Fall Workshop Wrap-Up

If you did not attend the recent Fall Workshop and Annual Meeting on Saturday, 13 October, you missed out on a fun and informative day. Dick Eastman (of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* fame) entertained and informed the 93 attendees well, as he spoke on "Genealogy in 2013 and Beyond." His extensive experience with using computer and web technologies in genealogical research allowed him to speak authoritatively on topics of interest to the attendees. He shared his knowledge of cloud computing, digital techniques for record keeping, and Google search techniques. He also gave his predictions for what the world of family history might look like in ten years.

The day-long seminar was held at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh, and included a hot buffet lunch prepared and served by Rave Catering. NCGS also made every attendee a member for the day so they could avail themselves of the new 10% member discount on NCGS publications.

The door prizes were one of the fun features of the day. Because of the center's policy that only the sponsoring group could sell products on-site, vendors were invited to send flyers, special offers, and/or door prizes to be distributed to attendees. Nineteen door prizes were awarded during the breaks. During the annual meeting, the NCGS board awarded two memberships to workshop attendees: a 12-month membership to a non-member registrant (Carol J. Smith of Cary, North Carolina) and a 12-month renewal to a current member (Dave Lucey of Wake Forest, North Carolina).

At the annual meeting, held during the luncheon, minutes from the 2011 annual meeting were approved, board members were introduced, and the third quarter financial report given by treasurer Judith Hinton was accepted. President Victor Jones gave his report for the year. Members voted on and passed a proposed change to the bylaws allowing board members to reside outside of North Carolina. Ann Hilke, chair of the nominating committee, presented a slate of officers who were elected: Carolyn McCulley, secretary; Judith Hinton, treasurer; Mabel Dillard, director; Jordan Jones, director. Terry Moore was elected as a nominating committee member. They will take office on 1 January 2013. Certificates of appreciation were given to Jordan Jones, webmaster; Terry Moore, secretary; and Lucinda Glover, program chair and director.

Pam Toms, chair of the awards committee, presented the annual awards for outstanding work in the family history field as it relates to the North Carolina genealogical community. See the article beginning on page 5 for names of the winners and their accomplishments.

Welcome, New Members

We are glad you joined the North Carolina Genealogical Society at this exciting time. You are part of an organization that is committed to preserving the genealogical process through education and partnerships with genealogical societies and libraries throughout the state.

Ricky Jay Allred, Concord, North Carolina
Lori Jackson Black, Matthews, Virginia
Debra Bruns, Aurora, Illinois
Robert B. Carter, Moses Lake, Washington
Robert Alan Clark, Arlington, Virginia
Nolan and Gloria Clark, Cary, North Carolina
Emily W. Collins, McDonough, Georgia
Evan Crow, Culpepper, Virginia
Margaret Daugherty, Mascoutah, Illinois
Dollie Davis, Rock Hill, South Carolina
Louise Dawson, Raleigh, North Carolina
Sarah Elam Edmondson, Screven, Georgia
Frank Farmer, Sunset Beach, North Carolina
Lewis Feuerstein, Holly Springs, North Carolina
Doris Moody Fort, Hope Mills, North Carolina
Vickie Sue Gallimore, Apex, North Carolina
Charles S. Gordon, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Randolph Harr, Durham, North Carolina
Col. Darryl Harrelson, Los Angeles, California
Cheryl Kaelin, Carrollton, Kentucky
Judy A. Kiilehua, Corona, California
Catherine Brantley Koepke, Sanford, North Carolina
Edward C. Lipman, Cary, North Carolina
Cathy Mall, Mount Pleasant, North Carolina
Linda McCauley, Mt. Vernon, Kentucky
Joyce Monroe, Raeford, North Carolina
Sharon Nuckles, Royse City, Texas
Tricia Oakley, Smithfield, North Carolina
Ann Carlton Oppenheimer, San Antonio, Texas
Gary Lee Parker, East Hampton, New York
Thomas A. Phelps, Fort Mill, South Carolina
Diana L. Reints, Yucaipa, California
Bonnie Lee Samuel, Urbandale, Iowa
Charlotte and Swinson Schipman, Pensacola, Florida
Ginger R. Smith, Durham, North Carolina
Carol J. Smith, Cary, North Carolina
Debra Lyn Taylor, Durham, North Carolina
Margo Lee Williams, Frederick, Maryland

2012 NCGS Award Winners

The 2012 NCGS Awards were presented at the NCGS annual meeting during the Fall Workshop on 13 October 2012 at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. Eight individuals and societies representing northeastern, Piedmont, and western North Carolina were recognized for outstanding publications and personal contributions to the North Carolina genealogical community.



The award for excellence in periodical publishing for a newsletter published by a local North Carolina genealogical society went to Bob Peaseley, editor of *Mecklenburg E-Messenger*, the newsletter of the Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society. Accepting the award for Mr. Peaseley was Lynn Bancroft. This monthly newsletter, which went electronic in March 2011, communicates news of the society to its members. Newsletter highlights include its upcoming program notes, reviews of the previous month's programs, news from the Carolina Room of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library, and reviews of selected titles from the society's Archives Room collection. Editor Peaseley was commended "for moving the OMG Society into the realm of electronic publishing."

The award for excellence in periodical publishing for a journal published by a local North Carolina genealogical society was presented to *Carolina Trees & Branches*, published by the Family Research Society of Northeastern North Carolina. Accepting this award was Chris Oakley. This quarterly journal lives up to its goal to include at least one article specific to each of the seven northeastern counties in which it collects information—Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank, and Perquimans, all "part of the original Albemarle County, the first organized and settled area of the Carolinas." This journal publishes a good mix of articles including

2012 NCGS Award Winners
l-r: Jeanne Murray and Lynn Bancroft (accepting for Bob Peaseley); Dorothy Hocutt; Terry Moore; Chris Oakley; Margo Lee Williams; Larry Crawford; and Betsy Dodd Pittman
Photo by NCGS member Phillip Heavner

abstracts, case studies, family stories, and instructional pieces. Through its journal, this society is doing an admirable job in publishing over 300 years of the history of this area whose "past is one of [its] greatest resources."

The award for excellence in web presence for a freely accessible website promoting North Carolina genealogy went to the Albemarle Genealogical Society website at <http://library.earlibrary.org/ags/>. Dorothy Hocutt, Currituck County Library genealogist, accepted the award. The Albemarle Genealogical Society, which serves Currituck and Dare counties, and the East Albemarle Regional Library teamed up to launch the AGS website in April 2012. Making genealogical resources specific to the area available to everyone on the Internet, this website already features the beginning of what will be an index to every name in Currituck County Library's extensive genealogy files on the state's earliest settlers, indexes to two private genealogy collections,

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2012 NCGS Award Winners

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Currituck and Dare county Bible records, family stories from contributors, and recent AGS newsletters. This young website is off to a good start in reaching genealogists near and far with online access to local, often unique, genealogical resources in the Currituck-Dare region.

The award for excellence in publishing for a book, or set of books, of abstracts or transcriptions of original North Carolina primary source material

went to John Anderson Brayton for *Annotated Transcriptions of Colonial Currituck County, North Carolina, Wills*. This excellent, well-documented work covers 167 Currituck County wills signed before 1760 or included among the Secretary of State loose wills. Reading wills from the very late 1600s and early 1700s is a challenge. Transcribing these early wills would have been an arduous enough undertaking alone, but the compiler has gone far beyond that level of difficulty. He researched extensively in several repositories, including the Virginia counties of Norfolk and Princess Anne, for records to support and more clearly identify many individuals (especially spouses) or more fully explain a specific will. John Brayton's full transcriptions and the added bonus of thoroughly researched annotations will help genealogists read these wills and, in many cases, learn of other resources for further research.

The award for excellence in publishing for a book of secondary source material relevant to North Carolina was shared by two winners. Larry Crawford accepted the award for *Macon County Cemeteries, Volume II (West of the Tennessee River)*, published by the Jackson County Genealogical Society. This well-done cemetery volume includes locations of and directions to over seventy cemeteries with practical comments, such as instances when "permission must be obtained" and alternate names of a particular cemetery. Gravestones are arranged by row numbers so that one can "see the cemetery neighborhood," and there is an every name index. Jackson County Genealogical Society was commended for the significant work involved in transcribing these grave inscriptions and for producing a great resource book,

which is a valuable contribution to Macon County and western North Carolina genealogy.

The second co-winner in this category is John Anderson Brayton for *Order of First Families of North Carolina Ancestor Biographies Vol. 1 "The First Two Hundred."* Brayton is the genealogist for this society. This excellent, well-written work features detailed biographies of the first 200 families on the roster of the Order of First Families of North Carolina, which requires that one's ancestor must have resided in North Carolina on or before 12 July 1729. Using his extensive knowledge of colonial Virginia and North Carolina, as well as numerous county and state records, published abstracts and transcriptions, Bible records, published sources, and some family genealogies that he considers "worthy of citation," Brayton has expanded upon the members' original research submitted for eligibility, explored the origins of each family, and added all known children and their spouses. Though limited to the first 200 established ancestors of this society, the value to researchers tracing very early North Carolinians not among this number cannot be underestimated when one considers the many others with whom these colonists and their families have interacted.

The award for excellence in publishing for a book of family history relevant to North Carolina

went to Margo Lee Williams for *Miles Lassiter (circa 1777-1850) An Early African-American Quaker from Lassiter Mill, Randolph County, North Carolina: My Research Journey to Home*. Margo Williams's engaging story begins with a few of her mother's stories and carries the reader with her as she meets previously unknown Randolph County relatives. Her research odyssey leads her to a Lassiter family and a man named Miles Lassiter. Ms. Williams discovers that he was a free person of color and, even more to her surprise, a Quaker in Randolph County, one of very few African American Quakers admitted to formal membership in North Carolina. This well-written work closes with a genealogical summary of Miles and his descendants, including brief biographies of his children. The research skills and techniques which the author has utilized should serve as examples for other genealogists to use "to better understand the

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2012 NCGS Award Winners

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lives of their ancestors.” Margo Williams has bestowed Miles Lassiter his rightful place in history and left an amazing legacy for his descendants.

The award for outstanding contribution to NCGS by a member for an individual whose work with the NCGS has been outstanding was given to Terry Moore. Terry began her volunteer work with NCGS by assisting the Program Committee at society workshops. In 2007 she agreed to become secretary, taking on more than the prescribed tasks for this position. She helped transport numerous boxes of older, disordered society files and did most of the work involved in laboriously sorting through them, paper by paper, to determine which the society should retain. Following through with this process, Terry developed a retention system and organized all the society paperwork to ready the files for storage. Terry has served as the society’s liaison with the North Carolina State Archives’ Private Manuscript Archivist to develop guidelines for the internship program established by the Frances Wynne Fund and she drafted the agreement between the Archives and NCGS. She has also been an auditor on the Loose Estates project. Terry’s attention to detail, her organizational abilities, and her aptitude for staying on top of matters have been immensely valuable in helping the NCGS board run more smoothly and efficiently.

The award for outstanding contribution to North Carolina genealogy for an individual whose outstanding genealogical contributions have greatly enhanced the study of family history in North Carolina was given to Betsy Dodd Pittman. Respected as “a professional genealogist with exacting standards,” Betsy regularly travels to the North Carolina State Archives to search for records and has done genealogical research in nearly every North Carolina county on many different families. Her primary focus, of course, is Burke County. Betsy has copied 340 extant Burke tax lists and all 277 Burke election records. Back home in the Burke County Court House she has surveyed and inventoried records

in the Register of Deeds and Clerk of Court offices. The wealth of data she has gathered from these record searches has helped establish transcription, abstraction, and publication projects of the Burke County Genealogical Society. Betsy Pittman joined the Burke society shortly after its organization in 1982. She has served as vice-president and program chair, president for three years, publicist for seven years, and society advisor since 2004, and has been made an Honorary Lifetime Member. She has contributed close to 300 entries to the *Journal of Burke County Genealogical Society* in the form of transcriptions, abstracts, and instructional articles. Three of Betsy’s journal articles received D. T. Smithwick Newspaper & Magazine Article Awards from the North Carolina Society of Historians. She is a devoted volunteer in the North Carolina Room of the Burke County Public Library. On the state level, she has been involved in the North Carolina Genealogical Society by serving on the Board of Directors and as Book Review Editor. The North Carolina Society of Historians honored Mrs. Pittman with the 2005 Historian of the Year Award—West “for her numerous and extensive contributions to the preservation and dissemination of North Carolina historical records” and recognized her as “the epitome of what a researcher should be.” In nominating Betsy Pittman for this award, Gale Benfield, Curator of the North Carolina Room of the Burke County Public Library, expressed gratitude to Betsy for her willingness to share her expertise; for the guidance, direction, and continuity she has provided; and for her leadership from which all in the Burke County Genealogical Society have “learned and benefitted.”

Certificates of Appreciation

The NCGS Board also expressed its thanks to three individuals who have served in several capacities in the society and are leaving their positions.

Certificates of Appreciation for Outstanding Performance and Commitment were awarded to Lucinda Glover for her work as program chair, Jordan Jones as webmaster, and Terry Moore as secretary.

North Carolina Loose Estates Indexing Project Update

As of 25 September, the North Carolina Loose Estates Indexing Project volunteers have completed the following:

- Number of indexed estate records: **122,940**
- Number of total images: **2,984,447**
- Number of counties completely indexed: **23**
- Number of additional counties near completion: **39**
- **The project is 54% complete.**



Explore the results for yourself at <http://bit.ly/nc-loose-estates> or log onto the FamilySearch website at <https://familysearch.org>, click on All Record Collections in the Browse by Location section, then type “North Carolina, Estate Files” in the search box.

Thank you, Volunteers!

We want to thank the following volunteers who have contributed their time and effort to the North Carolina Loose Estates Indexing Project during 2012:

Betty Carrier	Pam Mayer
June Chambliss	David McCorkle
Susan Felix	Terry Moore
Sharon Gable	Pam Pearson
Cherie Gardner	Renate Sanders
Debbie Gurtler	Mary Thomas
Tom Hebert	Pam Toms
Victor T. Jones Jr.	Beverly Watson
Jerry Kern	Judy Watts
Rosalie Lamb	Carol Williams
Judy Lockhart	

We Need You! Can you help with the project? All you need is a computer and Internet access. Tools have been created to assist indexers:

- ▶ An online video tutorial on the indexing software (called “waypointing”).
- ▶ A North Carolina Loose Estates Wiki to answer data entry questions.

Please contact Vickie Scott, 1st Vice President/Publications Chair, at victoria.p.scott@gmail.com.

CDs from the North Carolina Genealogical Society



~~Price: \$45 (plus s/h)~~

Special Introductory Price

\$40

plus s/h

North Carolina Research: Genealogy & Local History, 2nd Edition
edited by Helen F. M Leary, CG, FASG

This CD contains the revised second edition of the book (©1996) that set the standard for state research guides with its award-winning 1980 first edition.

~~Price: \$30 (plus s/h)~~

Special Introductory Price

\$25

plus s/h

Abstracts of Vital Records from Raleigh, N. C., Newspapers, 1799-1839
by Lois Smathers Neal

This CD includes thousands of marriage and death notices from across all of North Carolina, which were abstracted from the *Raleigh Register*, *Minerva*, and the *Star*.

Visit the NCGS website
at <http://www.NCGenealogy.org>

and click on the **Store** button at the top of the page to purchase your CD today.

Volunteer Corner



NCGS resembles a puzzle with many people fitting their volunteer pieces together to make the organization a complete picture. Join in the effort and consider volunteering for one or more of the opportunities below:

Are planning to attend the regional workshop, which will be held on 6 April 2013 at the Yanceyville, Caswell County, North Carolina, Central Ruritan Building? Consider helping in one of the following ways:

If you consider yourself a people person, then consider the following:

- Be a Greeter. Stand in the foyer near the registration desk to point attendees to lecture room and restrooms. You will need to arrive early to get in position.

If you like to work behind the scenes, then consider the following:

- Be a Packet Stuffer. Meet at a spot in Raleigh, designated by the Program Chair, to prepare the packets for the workshop. This will most likely be done in the afternoon before the workshop.
- Be the NCGS Sign Handler. Obtain the orange directional signs from the person storing them, set them up in strategic locations very early on the morning of the workshop, remove the signs at the end of the workshop, and deliver to the person storing them.

If you enjoy the *NCGS Journal* and would like to be a part of that publication, then consider the following:

- Submit carefully researched and well-documented case studies and methodological articles as well as source material and fillers.
- Submit transcriptions and abstracts of original documents of NC genealogical significance.
- Act as a second reader to help decipher difficult signatures in North Carolina legislative petitions at the North Carolina State Archives, once per quarter.
- Proofread the galley copies of the *NCGS Journal* once per quarter in advance of the publication deadline.

If you would like to be part of an effort that would benefit people everywhere with North Carolina ancestors, then consider the Loose Estates Indexing Project:

- Help create a decedent surname index of all extant loose estate records in conjunction with FamilySearch and the North Carolina State Archives. This can be done from a volunteer's home who has Internet access. Training is provided. [See this issue of the *NCGS News*, page 8, and the NCGS website for more information.]

If you would like to be involved with the organization part of NCGS, then consider the following committees:

Publications Committee

- Serve on the Publications Committee, which makes decisions and investigates new ideas for society books, website content, and CDs for sale. Volunteers will brainstorm ideas for publication content—be it for printed matter or on our website—and will help develop and enter content on our website. Meetings are conducted online when possible.

Nominating Committee

- Help identify members willing to serve in various positions.

Program Committee

- Assist with planning and implementation of programs and workshops.

Webinar Committee

- Volunteer to train for and deliver upcoming NCGS webinars planned for late 2012 and early 2013. You must have reliable Internet access and a curiosity in this new delivery form. Training is required and offered for all those interested. [See page 6 in the September 2012 issue of the *NCGS News* for more information.]

There is something above for everyone! Consider how you would like to serve. If you have an interest or skill not listed above, let me know. I look forward to hearing from you.

Mabel O. Dillard, Volunteer Coordinator
Osborne.gen45@yahoo.com

Vital Records: The Screws in Genealogical Research Part 2, Marriage Records

by Terry Moore, CG

The first part of this article, "Vital Records: The Screws in Genealogical Research, Part 1, Birth Records" appeared in the September 2012 issue of NCGS News. Part 2 continues the discussion of vital record research in North Carolina with information about marriage records.

"Love and marriage" did go together like a "horse and carriage," but sometimes proof of the marriage can be difficult or impossible to locate. Marriage bonds or banns were required in North Carolina from 1741 through 1868. Parties to be married either filed a marriage bond in the bride's county of residence with the clerk of court or posted banns in a church for three weeks announcing the intended marriage. Marriage banns are not included in the marriage bond index as these records are owned by the respective churches and are not public records.

The statewide North Carolina Marriage Bond Index 1741-1868 was compiled from the original marriage bonds in possession of the North Carolina State Archives in 1978 and is available to researchers on microfiche at the State Archives, on *Ancestry.com*, and on *FamilySearch.org*. Not all North Carolina marriage bonds were included in this index. Some were not in possession of the Archives when the index was created, and some bonds have just not survived. Be sure to look at the original bond. The bond can be used as evidence that a marriage bond was taken out and from this we assume that a marriage took place. If an entry is not found in the index, it is not evidence that a marriage did not take place in North Carolina, because the index is not complete.

The Granville County marriage bonds were obtained by the Archives after 1978 and a separate index to them is available in Brent Holcomb's *Marriages of Granville County, North Carolina 1753-1868*.¹ Some of the Montgomery County marriage bonds have been included in the microfiche index but others were found after the index was compiled. They are listed separately in an abstract of Montgomery County marriage bonds compiled by Debbi Blake.² For example, the Montgomery County marriage of Calvin Macon and Mary Ann Boyd in 1867 is not listed in the North Carolina marriage bond

index but is found in the separate Montgomery County index.³ The marriage of Isaac Macon and Martha Jane Dunn, 1865, however, is in both indexes. Copies of bonds have been found filed in other miscellaneous places. For example, the marriage of James Birkhead and Charity Muse in July 1790 was not listed in the North Carolina Marriage Bond Index⁴ but a record of the marriage was noted in a North Carolina Supreme Court file.⁵

The North Carolina Marriage Bond Index is a useful tool. Instead of searching for marriage bonds county by county, a search can be made on a statewide basis. If a marriage bond is not found for a couple, a North Carolina marriage should not be discounted. Use this great index, but exercise care in your conclusions.

On occasion, marriages can be found in the county marriage register and not with the bonds themselves. Sometimes the marriage registers begin early in the county while other counties begin after 1868. The registers and bonds usually do not include the names of parents, but marriage licenses after 1868 usually do. Check the register to determine the date of the marriage, then the marriage licenses, often organized by date, to discover the names of parents. The marriage licenses after 1868 are available on microfilm at the North Carolina State Archives and most of the originals can be found in the individual County Clerk's or Register of Deeds office.

FamilySearch.org

On the *FamilySearch* homepage under "Browse by Location," click on "United States," then on the left side of the page click "North Carolina." A list of North Carolina databases will be displayed. A camera icon next to the title indicates there are images of the records. Click on a database to search. Before putting information in the search boxes, take time to click on "Learn more" for a description of the collection. Know what you are looking at. The county where your ancestor lived, married, or died may not be included in the collection.

Continued on next page

Marriage Records

continued from previous page

“North Carolina Marriages, 1759-1979,” on *FamilySearch.org*, includes entries primarily from the International Genealogical Index.

Images of Davidson County, North Carolina Marriage Licenses 1867-1871, and death certificates 1914-1984, are available on *FamilySearch.org*.

Images of “North Carolina County Marriages 1762-1979” include licenses, marriage applications, marriage bonds, marriage certificates, marriage packets, and cohabitation registers, at *FamilySearch.org*.

Ancestry.com

When searching marriage records on *Ancestry*, just as on *FamilySearch*, it is best to know if the records needed are included in the collection.

- Under the search tab, click on “Card Catalog”
- Next, click on “Birth, Marriage, Death”
- On the next screen click on “USA”
- Click on “North Carolina”
- Click on “Marriage and Divorce”
- At the top of the list you will find “North Carolina Marriage Bonds, 1741-1868,” and “North Carolina Marriage Collection 1741-2004.”
- Click on “North Carolina Marriage Collection 1741-2004.” Scroll to the bottom of the screen and each county covered in this collection with the years covered is listed.

Happy searching.

End Notes

¹ Brent Holcomb, *Marriages of Granville County, North Carolina 1753-1868* (Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1981).

² Debra A. Blake, *Montgomery County, North Carolina Marriage Bonds* (Raleigh, North Carolina, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1995). (Also found in the 1996 and 1997 North Carolina Genealogical Society Journals.)

³ Debra A. Blake, *Montgomery County, North Carolina Marriage Bonds* (Raleigh, North Carolina, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1995), 38.

⁴ North Carolina Marriage Bond Index 1742-1868, Groom’s Index fiche no.3, page 615, 1113, North Carolina State Archives search room, 109 East Jones St., Raleigh, NC. Attachment 5

⁵ James Birkhead and Charity Muse, marriage record (1790) North Carolina Supreme Court Files, Case no. 2580, James Birkhead et ux vs. Mildred Colson et al, June 1838, North Carolina State Archives Search Room, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. Attachment 6

Members Corner

Hello Members! I hope you all had a successful summer of research and are now settling into fall. It is a busy fall for NCGS as we are working to bring more information and services to you. Here’s a glimpse of what we’re doing:

1. If you attended our workshop on 13 October, you heard that we now offer members a **10% discount** on just about everything in our store, including books, CDs, and workshops. (This discount excludes new memberships and membership renewals.) Now you can save on materials such as Helen Leary’s book, *North Carolina Research*, to help you navigate through researching in North Carolina. With the holidays coming up, you might want to give an NCGS gift to a genealogist you know.
2. The newest feature NCGS is adding is our web-based education, the **North Carolina Research Series**. This promises to be a great series presented by some of our state’s most renowned genealogists. Some of you may have seen a preview of the series at the Fall Workshop on 13 October. The date for the release of the full version of the webinar will be announced on our website and in future issues of the *NCGS News*.
3. **Is it time to renew your membership in NCGS?** The membership renewal date for members who joined after 1 January 2012 is the date you joined the society. All members who joined the society prior to 2012 will continue to renew by 1 January of each year. The renewal date for members who allow their membership to lapse will be the date that NCGS receives your renewal payment.

We thank you for your membership and your continued support of NCGS. Remember, giving the gift of a membership is a great way to further support our society and gives the recipient a wealth of information.

Visit our website at <http://www.ncgenealogy.org> if you would like more information on membership in NCGS. Or, if you have any questions, e-mail me, Cindy Born-Mylo, Membership Chair, at members@ncgenealogy.org.

The deadline for the next issue of the NCGS News is Saturday, 15 December.

Accessions at the North Carolina State Archives

November 2012

Contributed by Debbi Blake, Public Services Branch Supervisor, Office of Archives and History

This is a partial listing of accessions at the North Carolina State Archives. For a complete listing please see our website: <http://www.dcr.state.nc.us>. **Please be aware that not all of these records are currently available for research.** Cards will be placed in the card catalog or entries made in the appropriate finding aids when these items have been arranged and are ready for research. The phrase “ATM” that appears at the end of certain accession entries indicates a listing has been accessioned previously, but is being accessioned again because either new material has been added or there has been a change in accessioning data.

Private Collections (including account books)

LEONIDAS POLK DENMARK PAPERS. Addition consisting of correspondence to and from L. Polk Denmark; historical and biographical sketches; delayed birth certificates; and some printed material concerning the Polk family; and a small quantity of material concerning related families; 0.25 cubic foot.

HEWITT A. BROWN CUMBERLAND/HARNETT COUNTY COLLECTION. A portion of the papers concern various Cumberland County individuals and families (as early as 1794), some of whom became residents of Harnett County when it was formed in 1855, and these include land grants, indentures, tax and other receipts, and miscellaneous materials; two slave bills of sale. A portion includes a 1918 letter regarding enlistment in the US Navy and material concerning the Gifford family, whose members who saw military service from World War II until circa 1980, then retired in Erwin, NC; and about fifty small photos and negatives of the family and scenes reflecting military life. Quantity: 1 box.

IDOL-WELCH FAMILY PAPERS. One CD copied from a 40-minute cassette (donated originally to the High Point Museum): an audio recording made of Verta Idol Coe in 1981. At the age of 90 Mrs. Coe described via the recording everything she could remember from the nineteenth and early twentieth century, touching on schools, churches, families, and details such as the night electric lights were turned on in High Point; 1 CD.

MCPHERSON & OLD LEDGER, 1800-1834. One bound volume of photostatic color copies of the McPherson & Old Ledger, 1800-1834 (Original day book, diary, and ledger

housed in Special Collections, Joyner Library, East Carolina University); 1 volume.

BAGLEY DAY BOOK AND DIARY, 1860-1880. One bound volume of photostatic color copies of Bagley Day Book and Diary, 1860-1880. (Original day book, diary housed in Special Collections, Joyner Library, East Carolina University); 1 volume.

BENSON FAMILY PAPERS. The Benson family papers, circa 1859-1937; 2011, consisting in the main of Thomas E. Benson's personal, family, and business letters, and legal, financial, and business items (indentures, court notices, a land survey, receipts for taxes, estate settlement, sales invoices, store accounts, IRS still surveys (1870s), crop assistance application, 1879; 1881 Knight of Honor certificate (Whitakers), booklet, etc., most from either Edgecombe and Halifax counties; and a small quantity of Lucian H. Benson papers, Warren County, including a tax receipt (1906), 3 tobacco warehouse accounts (1915, 1936, 1937), a personal memoir of the L.H. Benson family by granddaughter, Juanita K. Coley, 2011; copies of two family photographs, circa 1895, and 1906; and copies of family genealogical research. Quantity, ca. 1 box.

BARBEE FAMILY OF NORTH CAROLINA PAPERS, 1785-1924. Papers of the Barbee family of Chatham County, 1785-1926, including land records, estate records, legal documents, 5 slave bills of sale; agreements; a group of Civil War era letters from William A. Barbee to his wife and other family; letters from family members in Arkansas and Mississippi; and 9 account ledger books. A small portion of the papers concern Walter Jackson Barbee (1886-1968), a US Army sergeant during WWI, and include miscellaneous writings, personal and business correspondence, photographs, and some postcards. Circa 1.25 cubic feet.

SLAGLE WYCKOFF FAMILY COLLECTION. Slagle Family Collection, Brevard, NC (Transylvania County), 1920-2000, consisting of photographs, slides, genealogical charts, and a narrative pertaining to the A.L. Logan Slagle family and ancestral lines including Ball, Davis, Allison, and Freeman families of Western North Carolina. A small number of photos depict travel around North Carolina, Washington, DC, southwestern US, and WWII.; 3 cubic foot.

WILLIAM HENRY HOWERTON FAMILY PAPERS. Material pertaining to Dr. William Henry Howerton (elected NC Secretary of State in 1872) and his family, including three handwritten reminiscences of Howerton's daughter, Frances

Continued on next page

Accessions

continued from previous page

Jones Howerton; eight photographs; a manuscript letter written from Cuba, 1898, during the Spanish American War; a teaching certificate, 1917, and other material, circa 1861-1917; 0.25 cubic foot.

CAIN-HINTON FAMILY PAPERS. Cain and related family of Orange County letters, ca. 1833-1914, and other material such as poetry and writings, bills and receipts, and land related papers; and the Hinton family papers of Wake County, ca. 1892-1958, including some personal letters, patriotic and hereditary society material of Mary Hilliard Hinton, and miscellaneous papers; and Cain-Hinton family miscellaneous material, 1803-1969, including an 1883 scrapbook. Ca. 8 boxes.

WHARTON JACKSON GREEN EUROPEAN TOUR JOURNALS. Journal in two volumes of a tour of England, Ireland, France, Prussia, Austria, Italy, and Egypt made in 1858-1859 by Wharton Jackson Green, his wife Esther Ellery Green, and her friend Adeline Currier. First volume dated 21 July 1858–10 March 1859; second dated 18 March 1859–22 May 1859; 2 volumes.

“This Day in North Carolina History” Initiative Launches

The Department of Cultural Resources has unveiled a project that focuses on “This Day in North Carolina History.” Working in conjunction with the North Carolina News Network (<http://www.nenn.com>), brief essays will be broadcast every day, accompanied by a blog at <http://www.ncdcr.gov/thisdaync>.

“We’re excited about this initiative, because it allows the Department of Cultural Resources to showcase the wonderful stories that make up North Carolina history,” said Cultural Resources Assistant Secretary Jennifer Woodward. “This is a great way to illustrate the many offerings that are found within the Department.”

From North Carolina leaders, to figures in the arts, to important dates, to historical happenings from the mountains to the coast, “This Day in North Carolina History” tells North Carolina’s story every day. Contributors include the Office of Archives and History, the Division of State Historic Sites, the State Library of North Carolina, the North Carolina Arts Council, and the NCPedia project.



Last Saturdays Genealogy Workshop Series

Join the Government and Heritage Library and the State Archives of North Carolina on the last Saturday of the month for free quarterly genealogy programs. All programs will be held at the Department of Cultural Resources Building, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. To register, or for more information, please call (919)807-7450 or e-mail slnc.reference@ncdcr.gov.

Last Saturdays Schedule

26 January 2013, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Researching Your Revolutionary War Ancestors: Using Revolutionary War Records and Materials in the State Archives and State Library

We will discuss using Revolutionary War military records, including pension records, pay vouchers, land warrants, and other print and electronic resources to help you with your research.

27 April 2013, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Researching Your Civil War Ancestors: Using Civil War Records and Materials in the State Archives and State Library

We will discuss using Civil War military records, including both Confederate and Union resources: pension records, service records and troop rosters, and other print and electronic resources to help you with your research.

27 July 2013, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

What Happens to Your Stuff When You Die? Researching Probate Records

Learn how to research probate records for North Carolina as well as other states including Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee.





North Carolina Genealogical Society

12-Month Membership

___ New ___ Renewal

The membership renewal date for members who joined after 1 January 2012 is the date you joined the society. All members who joined the society prior to 2012 will continue to renew by 1 January of each year. The renewal date for members who allow their membership to lapse will be the date NCGS receives your renewal payment.

Individual Membership (1 year \$40.00) \$ _____
(Includes 2 free queries per year in *NCGS News*.)

Family Membership (1 year \$45.00) \$ _____
(Includes 4 free queries per year in *NCGS News*.)

Patron Membership (1 year \$100.00) \$ _____
(Includes 4 free queries per year in *NCGS News*.)

Society and Institutional (1 year \$40.00) \$ _____
(Society and Institutional memberships include *Journal* and *NCGS News* subscriptions only.)

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- *NCGS News* will be e-mailed to all members.
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NCGS Subscriptions Sign-Up Link

Sign up for NCGS e-mail news and announcements at <http://eepurl.com/dGyM2>. (*This URL is case-sensitive*).

You can choose from:

- *NCGS News* (newsletter): This bimonthly newsletter provides information of interest to genealogists researching North Carolina ancestors as well as news about NCGS events and projects.
- NCGS Webinar Notices: Learn about webinar offerings as they become available.

These are independent subscriptions. Choose one, or both, as desired. You may also opt out of the subscriptions at any time.

These subscription lists are available to both members and non-members of the society. The NCGS subscription lists will not be sold or shared with any other entity.

Change In How Members Receive Workshop Registration Flyers

Efforts to keep membership fees from rising prompted a decision at the July NCGS board meeting: Workshop registration flyers will no longer be sent in a separate postal mailing. Rising costs of both printing and postage spurred the change.

Workshop (program) registration flyers will always be found in the *NCGS News* newsletters, which are published bimonthly, as well as online at the NCGS website (<http://www.ncgenealogy.org>).

For example, both the July and September issues of *NCGS News* contain the flyer for the Fall Workshop. In addition, a copy of the Fall Workshop flyer can be found on the NCGS website. As always, registrations may be paid through the bookstore on the NCGS website (<http://www.ncgenealogy.org>).

The deadline for the next issue of the *NCGS News* is Saturday, 15 December.

Upcoming Events

6 April 2013—**NCGS regional workshop**, cosponsored by the **Caswell County Historical Society**, will feature George G. Morgan. It will be held at the Central Ruritan Building in Yanceyville, North Carolina. Watch the NCGS website and the *NCGS News* for more information as it becomes available.

8 June 2013—**NCGS regional workshop**, cosponsored by the **Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library**, will feature J. Mark Lowe. It will be held at the ImaginOn Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. Watch the NCGS website and the *NCGS News* for more information as it becomes available.

26 October 2013—The second annual **Department of Cultural Resources Family History Fair** will be held in downtown Raleigh. This year the State Archives of North Carolina will join the Government and Heritage Library in sponsoring the free event. The day will be full of speakers presenting on various genealogy topics. In the lobby of the building will be a vendor fair and activities for all ages. Details will follow in the coming months. If your organization is interested in participating, or you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Rebecca Hyman, Outreach Librarian, Government and Heritage Library, (919)807-7450 or rebecca.hyman@ncdcr.gov.

8–11 May 2013—The **National Genealogical Society** (NGS) will host its 2013 Family History Conference, Building New Bridges, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference hotel, the LVH-Las Vegas Hotel & Casino, is currently accepting reservations by calling 1-800-635-7711. Further information about the conference can be found on the NGS website at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

21–24 August 2013—The **Federation of Genealogical Societies** (FGS) will host its annual conference, Journey Through Generations, in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Details can be found on the FGS website at <http://www.fgs.org>.



Is it time to renew your membership in NCGS?

Please be sure to renew your membership prior to the end of your existing one to ensure receipt of the next issue of the *NCGS Journal*.

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