

Vol. 31, No. 2

Larry W. Cates, Editor

Spring, 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Ann Basnight

2007 is a busy year for NCGS! By the time this newsletter reaches you, we will have already completed our Eastern Regional meeting in Elizabeth City. Thanks to the Family Research Society of Eastern North Carolina for their work in organizing this event. It has been a pleasure to work with and get to know North Carolina's local societies as we arrange workshops in different areas of our state.

We also get to meet with societies that are willing to host a meeting of our Board of Directors. If your local society would be interested, please contact me for details. In 2006 we met with the Wilkes County and Beaufort County Societies and will be meeting the Old Meck Society in late April this year. These meetings give you an opportunity to become acquainted with the officers and directors and observe the behind the scenes work of governing the Society.

Our next opportunity for expanding our genealogical education will be in Raleigh on June 30th at our 2nd Annual Speakers' Forum. There is more information elsewhere in this newsletter concerning this opportunity. This occasion will allow local societies to find new speakers for future programs and workshops.

May 16th through 19th, the National Genealogy Society will present its annual Conference of the States in Richmond, VA. This would be another way to further your genealogical skills. Whether you can go for one day or the whole conference, it is an enlightening experience. Go to <u>http://www.ngsgenealogy.org</u> for more information and a schedule.

Many opportunities for volunteer work are currently available at a variety of levels in our organization-- from letter mailings to computer work. If you have any time and an interest in helping, please contact me. Along those same lines, we are always looking for ideas to promote our society. If you have ideas or are good at marketing, we could use your expertise in assisting us with a marketing plan. Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers from all across the state!

IPOD NOT REQUIRED

Terri Hopkins

Thanks to a fellow NCGS Director, I now know that I don't need an IPOD to listen to a podcast.

What is an IPOD? It is a small portable audio and/or video player (depending on the model) made by Apple the company that makes MAC computers and other electronic devices.

What is a podcast? According to an on-line dictionary, a podcast is an audio or video file, like a radio program or music video that is distributed over the Internet for listening on mobile devices or personal computers... regardless of the company that made the device. Using the radio program analogy, podcasts are recordings of each program broadcast. They are often distributed by electronic subscriptions so you can acquire each new episode as it becomes available online or when you access the Internet. New episodes may be posted to the Internet on a regular schedule (daily, weekly or monthly) or sporadically. The goal is to create audio or video content that the audience can listen to when, where and how they want.

There may be a fee for some podcast subscriptions but many are free. Podcasts can be downloaded from the Internet using free software and then played on any MP3 player or on your computer using a media player. You can also burn them to a CD to play in your car, home or on a portable audio CD player.

I discovered that North Carolina Public Radio offers podcasts on their website (<u>www.wunc.org</u>.) There, you can learn more about podcasts and a free program they suggest you use to access or subscribe to their podcasts. The program can be used for subscribing to other podcasts as well. This is not the only program that can perform this function. You may already have a program embedded in your own computer or portable audio/video device.

Why do you care? There are several genealogy podcasts freely available for download from the Internet. What could be better than listening to a genealogy program any time it is convenient for you? And then you can keep the file so that you can play it again or share it with others. Better yet, you can create your own podcasts and share them on-line with others who have an interest in what you have to say.

If you have a favorite genealogy podcast, let us know. We'll share the list in our next newsletter. Send the podcast web address to <u>webmanager@ncgenealogy.org</u>. I'm not against IPODS. I simply want you to know that you can access online audio and video files without additional expense.

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 encourages and expects its members to uphold high moral standards in their use of electronic media, in their research, and in their interaction with fellow genealogists and other persons. Ethical behavior by individuals will reflect well upon our organization, as well as the field of genealogy, generally.

****** NCGS NEWS

Newsletter of the North Carolina Genealogical Society (Est. 1974)

Vol. 31, No. 2

Spring, 2007

Larry W. Cates, Editor

NCGS News is published quarterly by,

North Carolina Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1492 Raleigh, NC 27602 e-mail: <u>info@ncgenealogy.org</u> www: <u>http://www.ncgenealogy.org</u>

Memberships run on a calendar year basis and cost \$40 for individuals and institutions, \$45 for families, and \$100 for patrons. A \$5 discount is available on renewals received by December 1^{st} of the preceding year.

Second Annual Speakers Forum	
presented by the	
North Carolina Genealogical Society	
Saturday, 30 June 2007	
At the Wake County Commons Building	
4011 Carya Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610	
(Directions – http://www.wakegov.com/locations/commonsblddg.htm)	

NCGS members and archivists from the North Carolina State Archives will give lectures on a variety of topics. Topics include: organization, census, land, wills and estates, African American research, and the Civil War.

Registrants can choose from two lectures during each of the five time slots. An optional lunch is available for \$10. Registration is from 8:00 until 8:30. The program is from 8:30 until 4:30.

Walk-ins welcome, however lunches and the workshop packet may not be available. **Refund Policy**: Full refund if withdrawal precedes early registration date. Between then and workshop day, a prorated refund may be made. No refund may be made if withdrawal is on or after the first day of the workshop.

For more information: http://www.ncgenealogy.org or email info@ncgenealogy.org (See Workshop Schedule on reverse)

Registration	1 Form
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MEMBER - North Carolina Genealogic	cal Society:	NON-MEMBER:	
\$30.00 (one day)	\$	\$35.00 (one day)	\$
Before June 20, early bird discount of \$5	\$	Early bird discount of \$5	\$
Box Lunch @ \$10.	\$	Box Lunch @ \$10.	\$
Registration amount:	\$	Registration amount: \$	
	Registration amount from a 2007 membership dues Individual \$40 Family \$45 Total Due & Enclosed:	above \$ \$ \$ \$	
Name:	Member No.:	Email:	
Address:			
City: State: _	Zip Code:	Phone: ()	

Method of Payment: ____Check or Money Order ____Credit Card (VISA or MasterCard only) Send form to: NCGS Spring Workshop, P. O. Box 1492, Raleigh, NC 27602-1492. Checks should be made out to "North Carolina Genealogical Society".



Credit Card order will not be processed if form below is incomplete.

Print Name on Credit Card	Signature	Mastercard, Visa
Credit Card Number		Anter and Spectra $(1,2,2,2,3)$ and $(1,2,2,3)$ and $(1,2,2,3)$ and $(1,2,2,3)$ and $(1,2,3)$ and
Expiration Date (mm/yyyy)		3 Digit Card Verification Number

3 Digit Card Verification # (See example to the right)

Second Annual Speakers Forum Workshop Schedule

8:00-8:30 Registration

8:30—9:30 Using Land Records to Assemble Families, *Monica L. Hopkins*. (Intermediate)

Land records are an underutilized resource when it comes to putting families together. Explore what the land can tell you about your ancestor if you look closely.

8:30—9:30 Wills and Estates of the Rich, Famous and Ordinary: Understanding the Probate Process. *Terry Moore*. (Beginner/Intermediate)

What a will or estate record can tell you about your ancestor and his/her heirs.

9:30-10:00 Break

10:00—11:00 Looking for Scots Heritage Becomes a Lesson in the History of Wake and Johnston Counties, *Diane Richard* (Beginner/Intermediate)

Though many are familiar with Joel Lane and others who are famous for the founding of Raleigh, what of the less renowned families who populated Wake County when it was formed from Johnston? This is a tale of the Morris and Rench families and the footprints they left (or didn't leave) on the Wake County landscape.

10:00-11:00 Making Sense of a Sloppy Census: Strategies for Handling Erroneous Records Jeff Haines, CG

(Intermediate/advanced)

Elizabeth Toussiger does not appear on the 1860 census. Or was this 76 year old white woman the same person as 36 year-old mulatto Eliza Porcher? Learn what to do when you suspect that you may be dealing with erroneous records.

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30—12:30 How to Research Your Civil War Ancestor at the North Carolina State Archives: Case Study Using Thomas Basnight. Chris Meekins (Intermediate)

Researchers will learn of the major collections in the North Carolina Archives related to Civil War service. Also, by studying a soldier named Thomas Basnight, researchers will see how to use a multitude of records to establish if a person with a certain given name is identical to the one who served as a soldier.

11:30-12:30 Get Your Genealogy Out of the Filing Cabinet. Melanie Dalton Crain (General)

Publishing your complete family history is a daunting task that many of us never accomplish. But you don't have to start with a book. Discover the many surprising, easy and successful paths you can use to share results.

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30—2:30 Breathing Life into Dry Bones: An Exploration of Loose Court Papers in North Carolina. Larry W. Cates (Intermediate—Advanced)

This lecture will examine the uses of loose criminal and civil action papers in genealogical research. These sources provide powerful insight into the lives of common people, unlock doors to relationship and geographic origin and are particularly useful when seeking ancestors absent from major record categories. The types of papers, their method of generation, typical content and location and the best means of accessing them are discussed with numerous examples.

1:30-2:30 Early Land Grant Research, Yates Mill Area, Wake County, NC. Jim Jones (Intermediate)

This lecture will include a discussion of the historical context of royal charters in early North Carolina, how to obtain a land grant, how to measure land, how to interpret the description in the metes and bounds system, the genealogical value to be found in the original grant records, and assembling individual grants into a larger neighborhood.

2:30-3:00 Break

3:00—4:00 The Ties That Bind: African American Genealogy Earl Ijames (Beginner/Intermediate)

African American Genealogy is the focus of this lecture. Research in the nineteenth century with a special focus on the pre-1870 era will be emphasized.

3:00-4:00 Ordinary or Courtroom-Where Was the Information Found? Ann Basnight (Intermediate)

This lecture shows how to use the Court of Pleas and Quarter sessions records to find genealogical information. Finding pertinent information about an ancestor in a historical period when records were scarce.

(See obverse for registration form. See succeeding article for biographical notes on lecturers.)

DIRECTORY OF PRESENTERS: 2nd Annual NCGS Speakers' Forum

We have a great line-up of emerging genealogical lecturers participating in our Second Annual Speakers' Forum, June 30th. See the accompanying subscription form for a lecture schedule. Here are a few details about each participant:

Ann Basnight taught in the public schols of North Carolina for thirty seven years. She would like to teach adults in genealogy. She has been actively doing genealogy for seventeen years and has served in various positions on both local and state levels. Currently, she is president of NCGS. She has attended national conferences since 1999 and has been to three institutes in Washington, DC and Birmingham, AL.

Larry W. Cates is a contract research agent specializing in North and South Carolina records. He holds degrees from UNC-CH and UNC-Greensboro, serves as editor of the NCGS *News*, is Clan Genealogist of the Clan MacRae Society of North America, and is editor of the Randolph County Genealogical Society *Journal*. He is a past editor of the *Guilford Genealogist*.

Melanie D. Crain teaches at local genealogy workships, edits family newsletters and has worked as a volunteer at North Carolina State Archives. She is a DNA project administrator and a member of several genealogical and lineage societies. An English degree supports much of her research and writing.

Jeff Haines is a Certified Genealogist and has been a professional in the field for more than fifteen years. He specializes in families of the Carolinas and the Caribbean. He is currently editor of the *North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal*. He has served the genealogical field in many roles, including as president of the APG.

Monica Hopkins has been pursuing genealogical research since the mid-1980's

and is currently Director of Programs for the Georgia Genealogical Society. She is a member of NGS, APG and several state and local socieites. She has taken Advanced Methodology and other coursework at IGHR and is currently pursuing certification with BCG.

Earl Ijames, a reference archivist at the North Carolina State Archives, helps researchers navigate the extensive holdings at the State Archives in Raleigh. In 2001, Earl received the prestigious Jefferson Davis Medal for Historical Research presented by the United Daughters of the Confederacy on "Colored Confederates."

James P. "Jim" Jones and wife Diane, have lived in Cary, NC, for 20 years. They have two adult children and three granddaughters. After 35 years of service, Jim retired from IBM in 2004 to focus on his U.S. colonial history and North Carolina genealogy interests and to spend more time with his family. He researches and lectures on selected genealogy and historical topics of personal interest.

Chris Meekins has served as a reference archivist for the North Carolina Archives for five years. He is a Civil War scholar, currently seeking a PhD at UNC-Greensboro and a practicing genealogist with over 20 years' experience. He was born and raised in Elizabeth City, NC.

Terry Moore is a Certified Genealogist and graduate of the University of Kentucky. She is currently Secretary of NCGS and past president of the Wake County Genealogy Society. Terry has been involved in genealogical research for 28 years, the last 12 as a professional specialist in N.C. research.

Diane Richard is the principle of Mosaic Research and Project Management and a member of APG. She has been researching for almost twenty years, professionally for the last two years. She is currently 1st Vice President of the Wake County Genealogy Society and Coordinator for the Wake GenWeb site.

PREVIEW OF THE FALL ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP--2007

Ann Hilke

Many of you out there, I am sure, are interested in attending our Summer Speakers' Forum and getting to know some new faces on the North Carolina lecture circuit. But don't forget that we are also planning an outstanding fall program with established lecturers of national reputation.

The 2007 meeting will be held 2nd and 3rd of November at Brier Creek Country Club in Raleigh, NC. This year's theme will be "A Method to Our Madness: Genealogical Problem Solving."

Tom Jones, Ph. D. CG, and CGL will be our main speaker. Tom is NGS Quarterly editor, Board for Certification of Genealogists trustee and past president, and Association of Professional former Genealogists trustee. He is a professor of education at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. In 2004, he received APG's Grahame T. Smallwood, Jr. Award of Merit. He was the 1997 and 2002 winner of the National Genealogical Society Award for Excellence for articles published in the NGS Quarterly.

Jeffrey L Haines, CG, will give one lecture each day during our two day conference. Jeff is the new editor of *The North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal.* He is past president and former trustee of the Association of Professional Genealogists and co-founder of the North Carolina Chapter of APG.

Terry Moore, CG, will give one talk on Friday. Involved in genealogy for twenty eight years, Terry has spent the last ten years as a professional researcher. Currently, she is past-president of the Wake County Genealogical Society and began her duties as Secretary for NCGS on 1 January 2007.

Helen F. M. Leary, CG (Emeritus), will end our day on Saturday with a presentation. She has been the featured speaker at many national, state and local conferences. She was editor and contributing author of North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History and a contributing author to Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers and Librarians.

Please plan to join us in November.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FROM THE 2006 NCGS ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP

Terri R. Hopkins

Our speakers were very gracious in granting us permission to share their bibliographies from last November's workshop with you. Unfortunately, due to considerations of space, we were unable to include them with our general report on the workshop in the Winter issue of the *News*. We redress that omission now by presenting them here, as the second part of that report:

The following is a compiled listing of the bibliographies used to support the seven lectures. I've combined the references into a single listing to save space in this newsletter, since many were referred to in more than one lecture. Successful genealogical research demands that you have access to a number of these references. If you don't own a copy, they can usually be found at public libraries, local genealogical or historical libraries, etc.

MONOGRAPHS

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- Dick, Everett, The Dixie Frontier: A Social History of the Southern Frontier from the First Transmontane Beginnings to the Civil War. Norman: Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1993. Originally published by Knopf in 1948.
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1993, 1994, 1995, Eighth Printing 1996. The 3rd Edition is now available.

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- Hofmann, Margaret M., Colony of North Carolina, 1735-1764: Abstracts of Land Patents. Weldon, N. C.: Hofmann, 1982.
- Hone, E. Wade, *Land & Property Research in the United States*. Ancestry, Inc: Salt Lake City, 1997. This book discusses several sources for land transactions and alternate locations for finding those transactions including tax lists.
- Jackson, Ronald Vern. *Early North Carolina*. 7 vols. Bountiful, Utah: Accelerated Indexing, 1980.
- Jillson, Willard Rouse. The Kentucky Land Grants, A Systematic Index to All of the Land Grants Recorded in the State Land Office at Frankfort, Kentucky 1782-1924. 2 vols. Originally published by the Filson Club, 1925. Reprinted in two parts Baltimore: GC, 1971.
- Leary, Helen F.M., ed., North Carolina Research, Genealogy and Local History. Second Edition. Raleigh: North Carolina Genealogical Society, 1996. This volume provides a wonderful history and background for poll taxes. In two instances, specific references were made to "Tax and Fiscal Records" and "County Court Minutes," both written by Winslow, Raymond A. Jr.
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understanding the importance of adequate documentation of manuscript resources.

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PERIODICALS

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- Watson, Alan D. "Ordinaries in Colonial Eastern North Carolina," *The North Carolina Historical Review*

Volume XLVI, Number 1 (January 1968).

WEB RESOURCES

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- The North Carolina Constitution with Historical Notes – NC State Library <u>http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/nc/s</u> <u>tgovt/preconst.htm</u>
- North Carolina Process of Legislation Steps to follow a law through committees and legislature. Prepared by the North Carolina Supreme Court Library <u>http://www.aoc.state.nc.us/www/co</u> upright/library/liblegh.html
- A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1776-1875 <u>http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amla</u> <u>w/lawhome.html</u>
- Ordinances and Resolutions Passed by the State Convention: North Carolina. Convention (1861-1862) [Electronic Edition] Raleigh: Syme & Hall, Printers to the Convention, 1861. (Part of UNC's "Documenting the American South" collection) <u>http://docsouth.unc.edu/ncord/menu. html</u>
- Stay Law. An Act to Provide Against the Sacrifice of Property and to Suspend Proceedings in Certain Cases. Raleigh: The Assembly, 1861. (Part of UNC's "Documenting the American South" collection) <u>http://docsout.unc.edu/staylaw/menu</u> .html
- LDS Family Search

http://www.familysearch.org

RootsWeb

http://searches/rootsweb.com/

- Ancestry (commercial)
- http://www.ancestry.com
- NUCMC http://lcweb.loc.gov/coll/nucmc

AFRICAN GENEALOGY POSES CHALLENGE

Tammy Wilson Public Information Officer Catawba County Library System

Many of today's genealogists owe at least part of their enthusiasm to the success of Alex Haley's *Roots*. In the wake of the blockbuster novel and 1977 miniseries, Americans began family quests en masse.

The interest continues along with the debate as to whether Haley fictionalized, even plagiarized, his novel. By definition, *Roots* was a work of fiction, but an engagingly successful one. His use of oral tradition and imagination wove a masterpiece of American storytelling, making him the top-selling American author of African ancestry.

Haley's search for his roots was primarily a quest for identity—a passion shared by Americans of all backgrounds, but the fact that his story was based on oral history highlights the importance of family legends and storytelling. Searching ancestry of mixed-blood and/or African heritage poses extra challenges, particularly before 1865. Slave marriages were not officially recorded, and births and deaths were generally not recorded either, though there are ways around these obstacles.

Most African immigrant ancestors were among the 400,000 arriving between 1741 and 1810, though some appeared as early as 1619. Most of these slaves came into British North America from a narrow strip of land in West Africa including the present-day countries of Angola, southern Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, Gambia, Sierra Leone and Benin. Others were from what is now Mozambique.

An excellent website, <u>http://www.rootsweb.com/~rwguide/lesson2</u> <u>5.htm</u> outlines sources and general information for African descendants seeking their family origins. Because slaves were considered property, they did not have recorded surnames, though old documents can offer important clues. Assuming a slave family remained with a white family for an extended period, the servants' names may appear in diaries, ledgers and deeds. In short, the black family's story often parallels the white family.

Effective searching requires a grasp of American history of the period. For example, an estimated 10 percent of black Americans were already free when the Civil War began in 1861. Adding to the complexity of the research is that many enslaved individuals had racially mixed background including African, Caucasian and American Indian ancestors.

Most plantations in Catawba County, however, were little more than farms with modest houses. Few held large numbers of slaves and almost none would have fit the image of a white-pillared mansion.

While the servants often adopted the surname of their owner at emancipation, many secretly retained the surname of the slaveholder of their original ancestor, a confidence not revealed until after the Civil War. Knowing this name is vital to those seeking their immigrant ancestor.

Some federal and state census records before 1865 include names of slaves along with their slaveholders. First names and ages and location pinpoint where an individual lived.

The Rhodes Room, located on the ground floor of Catawba County Library in Newton, has several primary sources for those seeking African roots. The Catawba County slave schedules of 1850 and 1860 are an excellent source for those with local ancestors. The schedule, created for tax purposes, lists servants by age, sex and color.

Other local sources include deeds and family files and, of course, myriad online sources including narratives of former slaves transcribed by the WPA in the 1930s. The federal census is an important source as well. It lists individuals of all races starting in 1850. These records are now available through 1930. Researchers are welcome to visit the Rhodes Room open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

ACCESSIONS AT NC STATE ARCHIVES Spring Quarter 2007 Debbi Blake

This is a partial listing of accessions at the Archives. For a complete listing please see our web page <u>http://www.dcr.state.nc.us.</u> 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 'FOR RECORD ONLY' that appears at the end of certain accession entries indicates that that 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.

COUNTY RECORDS (microfilm copies)

<u>Hyde</u>. Tax list, Mattamuskeet Drainage District, 1915, 1918-1919; 1 reel.

<u>Moore</u>. Real estate conveyances, 1996, 1999-2000; 42 reels. Record of deeds, 1775-1778; 11 reels. Deeds of trust, 1975-1979; 9 reels; 62 reels.

Rowan. Guardians books, 1764-1830; 4 reels, 35mm. negative microfilm.

COUNTY RECORDS (Copies of Original Records in Archives Custody Microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah)

<u>Mecklenburg</u>. Record of Wills, 1876-1967; 30 reels, 35mm. negative microfilm.

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Theodore and Barbara Loines Dreier Black
MountainCollegeCollection.Correspondence, photographs, publications,
flyers, and various other materials relating to

the earliest days and history of Black Mountain College; 27 cubic feet.

BIBLE RECORDS

<u>Austin-Langdon</u>. Lonnie Benton and Louie C. Langdon Austin family Bible records, 1855-1955; Johnston County; 5 pp. photocopies.

<u>Bosworth</u>. Plat and deed of Jonathan Bosworth's land (1835); Stanly County [then Montgomery County]; 4 pp. (with list of legatees), plus 1 p. note.

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GENEALOGY IN A VIRTUAL WORLD

Rhonda B. Trueman

Just when you thought you had mastered the use of the Internet, email, electronic newsletters, message boards and instant messaging for genealogy, along comes a new challenge. Genealogy now has a place in a virtual online world known as Second Life. Begun as a multiple user online "game" in 2003, the users of Second Life now number 3.3 million people from around the globe.

In this virtual world you are represented by an avatar, which has been described as a "cartoon" figure. Your avatar navigates the virtual terrain; interacting with others, exploring, and learning in this 3-D world created and built by its users. Second Life has a library built and staffed by volunteers and where you find libraries and librarians you are bound to find genealogy resources. The Genealogy Research Center was created by a small group of librarians. It has grown from a few links to Internet resources housed in the main library into its own building in Second Life with volunteers that build resources, create exhibits for display, and provide seminars--all within this online environment.

You may be thinking, "How could a computer game help me with genealogy?" That is an excellent question and one which the genealogists on Second Life are trying to explore and answer. Right now the resources are basic, but they serve beginning genealogists by providing ideas and instruction for research. The exhibits draw interest to genealogy. This month's exhibit is on African-American research. Events and seminars have the potential of reaching genealogists of all skill levels and in all areas.

Imagine being able to hear a speaker like Craig Roberts Scott, CG discussing the research of Civil War or Revolutionary War military records without ever leaving your home! Craig has pioneered genealogy seminars in Second Life and has generously given these two presentations before groups of 30-40 people. In March he will deliver a presentation on researching Military Pension Papers.

Another notable member of the Genealogy group on Second Life is Drew Smith, MLS, who is on the editorial board of the *Digital Genealogist*. He just published an article in the *Digital Genealogist* on genealogy in Second Life, "Genealogy in 3-D: A First Look at Second Life."

If you have an inclination to explore new worlds, experience new things, and see what this is all about, you can go to http://www.secondlife.com to see if your computer and your Internet access meet the system requirements to run the program. At this site, you can download the program and create an account (basic account is free, no payment information required). Once you have connected to Second Life you can use the search feature to look up the Genealogy Research Center and visit this virtual facility. If you want to find someone in Second Life to ask questions or get help, try searching for Abbey Zenith. That is my avatar's name. I am a librarian on Second Life as well as in real life, and I'll be glad to help you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

16-19 May 2007 **Richmond**, VA The 29th Annual National Genealogical Society "Conference in the States" will be held in conjunction with local hosts-the Genealogical Fairfax Society, the Genealogical Research Institute of Virginia and the Virginia Genealogical Society at the Greater Richmond Convention Center and Richmond Marriott Hotel in downtown To register on-line, go to Richmond. www.ngsgenealogy.org. To request a conference brochure, contact Jeanne Lund at Lund@ngsgenealogy.org.

30 Jun 2007 Raleigh, NC NCGS' Second Annual Speakers' Forum will be held at the Wake Commons Building in Raleigh, NC. This year, we will have two separate tracks with five different time slots. See this issue for details and registration.

15-21 July 2007 Washington, DC The National Institute on Genealogical Research will be conducted at the National Archives. The 2007 program concentrates on commonly used immigration, military, land, cartographic, African-American and non-population census records. It also explores lesser known Federal records useful to family historians. Attendees will spend one day at the National Archives at College Park. Evening sessions at the Library of Congress and the DAR Library are optional. Enrollment is limited. Application brochures will be mailed in February 2007. The class fills very quickly. Tuition is \$350 for applications postmarked by May 15 and \$400 thereafter. For more information about the 2007 program or to obtain an application brochure, visit the Institute's website:

www.rootsweb.com/~natgenin/

e-mail to <u>NatinsGen@juno.com</u>, or write to NIGR, P.O. Box 724, Lanham, MD 20703-0724.

15-18 August 2007 Fort Wayne, IN The Federation of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference entitled, "Meeting at the Crossroads of America" will be held at the Allen County Public Library. Additional details may be found at <u>http://www.fgs.org</u>.

8-12 Oct 2007 Salt Lake City, UT The Seventh Annual British Institute sponsored by the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History will be held at the Family History Library in downtown Salt Lake City. The Institute is a week-long series of lectures concerning British genealogy with opportunities to examine microform copies of original records held by the Library. More information about lectures and instructors can be found as the date approaches at the Society's website: http://www.isbgfh.org or send an e-mail to isbgfh@vahoo.com.

2-3 November 2007 Raleigh, NC NCGS' annual meeting and workshop will be held at the Brier Creek Country Club in Raleigh, NC. This year's theme will be "A Method to our Madness: Genealogical Problem Solving." Our principle speaker is Tom Jones, Ph. D., CG, and CGL, editor of National Genealogical the Society Quarterly, trustee and past president of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, and Association of Professional former Genealogists trustee. He is a professor of education at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Other speakers include Jeffrey L. Haines, Terry Moore and Helen F. M. Leary, who will each present one lecture. Keep your eyes trained on these pages for further details as the date draws near.

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