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President's Message

Welcome to a new year of genealogical research opportunities! We have lots of new things in store for you this year.

Our newsletter has a new look and will come to you every month, providing you with more timely information. Anne Merrell is the new editor. She also writes our [blog posts](#) and creates other content for our website and social media.

I hope you will take advantage of our educational events to expand your knowledge about research methods in general and North Carolina resources in particular. We are holding a

[Virtual Conference](#) in March, offering four new [webinars](#) throughout the year, and featuring Judy Russell as the keynote speaker at our 2020 Fall Conference in Raleigh on November 6 & 7.

Our *NCGS Journal* editor, Diane Richard, has four very interesting themed issues planned for this year. Read the [Journal Jottings](#) to find out more. Consider [contributing to the journal](#) by submitting photos, articles, or genealogical tidbits relevant to North Carolina.

We are working on a new series of research guides focused on North Carolina research and records starting with a Guide to North Carolina Vital Records. Follow us on [Facebook](#) or subscribe to our [blog](#) to be the first to know when this guide and future guides are published.

Our board welcomed two new directors at our November meeting. William Cox of Hendersonville, NC and Sandra Watts of Boomer, NC were appointed to fill open positions. Lori Thornton of Morristown, TN joins our board this month as a director to take the place of Jennifer Daugherty who was elected 2nd vice president at the annual meeting. I am looking forward to working with them and appreciate their willingness to serve!

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable year tracking down your elusive ancestors!

- Laurel Sanders
NCGS President



Upcoming Live Webinar: [“On the Road Again: Are Your Ancestors Hiding in Road Records?”](#)

Diane L. Richard, MEng, MBAA will present a live members only webinar **tonight, January 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM EST**. Join us to learn how road records provide incredible insight into the creation of our road infrastructure. Crews were often assigned based on where they

lived in relation to the roads in the community and included not only the foreman or overseer but also individuals who worked on or maintained the roads. There are few records that document a neighborhood like road records do.

Register for the Live Webinar

- *Would you like to have access to live and recorded webinars?*
- *Are you looking for educational resources on North Carolina genealogy?*
- *Would you like access to discounts on workshops, conferences, and purchases in our online store?*

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, consider joining NCGS today.

Join NCGS

Registration Open - NCGS 2020 Virtual Conference!

NCGS is pleased to announce the 2020 Virtual Conference for North Carolina family history researchers around the world. It will be held on **March 13-14, 2020**. Registrants will have access to eight lectures by seven experts. The live presentations will be recorded and made available to registrants for a six-month period.

Additional details including the lecture descriptions and schedule, speaker bios, and registration information are available at ncgenealogy.org.

[Download the 2020 Virtual Conference Flyer](#) to share with friends.

Register for the Conference

Volunteers Needed

Are you interested in publishing? Help us serve the North Carolina genealogical community by contributing your knowledge and skills to our book and periodical publishing efforts.

1) We are looking for a person to **manage book and periodical publishing and distribution**. The ideal candidate will have some experience with self-publishing using online sites such as IngramSpark and will be interested in helping promote our publications.

2) We are looking for a **project manager for a book on North Carolina bible records**. Previous writing and publishing experience would be helpful.

Please contact [Laurel Sanders](#) if you are interested in or have questions about how you can help with NCGS publications!

NCGS *Journal* Vol. 45 #4 Released

This issue of the journal is as much about what records do not survive as about what records still survive. These records help us advance our genealogical research into family and community members. We know that toll roads, bridges, and ferries existed to give individuals alter-native transportation options either as a necessity or convenience; no different than today. Though we cannot document who paid tolls, we can appreciate the existence of roads, bridges, and ferries, and wonder which of our ancestors used them. Consider, “did my ancestors use this toll bridge?”

Please join us as we investigate these travel options important to our ancestors.

[Read NCGS Journal](#)

Journal Jottings

Happy New Year! Bet you haven't heard that yet. Another year means four more issues of the journal and many opportunities for you to join in the fun and share a family image, story, neat resource or anything else related to your Tar Heel ancestors.

Planned 2020 Themes

1. April-May-June 2020 on African American Research
2. July-August-September 2020 on Boundary Changes
3. October-November-December 2020 on Migration

Do you have any photos your African American ancestors? Have you come across a neat

resource (beyond the census) that documents those who have migrated elsewhere and yet claim NC as a birth-place? Do you have examples of how boundary changes affected the records that pertain to your ancestors?

These stories, images, and more would be welcome contributions to the NCGS Journal.

Please send your contributions for any of the three listed topics to journaleditor@ncgenealogy.org. Submissions are due one month before the journal's publication window. March 1st is the deadline for the April-May-June issue.

Continue Reading Journal Jottings

2020 Awards Season Begins

January 1st was the start of the new NCGS Awards season. We will accept nominations in multiple categories until August 15th. This year's recipients will receive a plaque, full registration to the conference, and a guest luncheon. The awards will be announced at the Fall Conference Luncheon.

Individuals are awarded each year to recognize and encourage the efforts of those who contribute to the realm of North Carolina genealogy.

NCGS Award Nominations

Consider a Bequest to NCGS

A bequest is one of the easiest and most meaningful ways to make a gift to the North Carolina Genealogical Society. Gifts of any size made through a bequest help ensure that NCGS receives valuable support that will benefit genealogists and historical researchers far into the future. Donors can make a bequest by including a provision for NCGS in their wills or trusts. Donors can choose to give a specific dollar amount, specific property, or a percentage of their estates. Your bequest is a gift not just to the Society, but to all genealogists, historical researchers, and to your own posterity. For more information about bequests, contact our treasurer at treasurer@ncgenealogy.org.

Donate to NCGS



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