



DGS NEWSLETTER

Volume 15, Number 2 (Issue 129)
February 1991

Dallas, Texas

"Pied Piper of Genealogy" to Speak at DGS Spring Seminar

The Dallas Genealogical Society proudly presents Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FNGS, FUGA, FASG, as speaker for the 1991 Annual Spring Seminar to be held on 20 April 1991.

Elizabeth Shown Mills, whose roots spread from the Gulf to the Great Lakes to the 1634 founder of Barnstable, Massachusetts, lives today along Alabama's Black Warrior River.

She has been tracing those roots since the age of eleven, when an eighth-grade teacher assigned students an oral history project entitled, "Who Am I?" Mills's grandmother told her the story of an early Mississippi horse trader named Sam Odom, who swapped off a fine bay mare for a wife—a Choctaw Indian princess. The young Elizabeth was hooked. Since then, genealogy has been both her hobby and her calling and has made her an internationally noted lecturer and authority.

Mrs. Mills, who has been called the "Pied Piper of Genealogy" for the way her audiences follow her from seminar to conference, has a knack for inspiring all who attend her lectures. Weekend tree-climbers swear she could still enthrall them if her topic were "Growing Hydroponic Butter Beans." Her audiences also draw the most experienced professionals, who expect to learn from her new techniques for resolving "impossible" research problems.

While many professional genealogists are known for expertise in their own ethnic group, Mills's knowledge and special appeal touches all types of American families. When the National Genealogical Society brought its annual "Conference in the States" to Fort Worth in 1983, drawing dozens of speakers and a thousand researchers of all ethnicities, Mills was asked to address Spanish, French, and Black research problems. At the week's end, as she waited for the hotel's bellboy to bring her car for a 16-hour drive home, she was greeted by one of the attendees—a young man from an area television station, whose arms were loaded with notebooks of his research on his

African-American lines. Three hours later, the notebooks were folded up, and the young man reluctantly bid her a safe trip, saying, "Write me if you are ever in the Southwest again. I drove 300 miles to hear Alex Haley; I'd drive three states to hear you!"

Mills lectures at a lively pace and keeps interest keen by using actual cases, maps and handouts to show the methods used to find footloose forebears. To quote her audiences, she shows how to put names and numbers together to make real, living people out of ancestors whose lives are buried along a trail of courthouse records.

Making the past come to life has always been a family affair in the Mills household. (Being married to a professor of history makes that inescapable!) Her three children, now young adults, recall "family togetherness" as weekend trips in search of covered bridges and Saturday renovations on their historic home (a nylon-hose house in a silk-stocking district, Mills describes it). Did such lessons in living history have any affect on their lives? Today, one is a certified genealogical record searcher with a master's degree in historic preservation. Another has completed his own first rehab project on a turn-of-the-century farmhouse. The third escaped to New York city at age nineteen to make television commercials! Undaunted, Mills has now begun to work on the first grandchild, who shows genuine potential; at five, he can already recite the names of all ancestors hanging on the family walls.

History, the means by which our present becomes our children's past, has a way of linking generations forever. Studying our roots, Mills says, is the way we come to know and understand this process.

This will be Mills's second time to lecture for a DGS audience. At the Spring Seminar in 1986, she spoke before a sold-out audience. Registration fliers for this year's seminar will be mailed to all members by early March. Return yours early and reserve your seat to hear the most exciting lecturer in the field of genealogy today.

Dallas Genealogical Society

Post Office Box 12648
Dallas, TX 75225-0648

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| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
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Meetings: Founded in 1955, the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) is the oldest organization of its kind in Texas. It is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. The Society meets at the Dallas Public Library, 1515 Young Street, Dallas, Texas, on the 4th Monday, September through May, except for December. Visitors and guests are welcome.

Membership: Individuals, libraries, or societies may apply for membership. Annual dues are \$12 for the calendar year if paid by January 31; after January 31, they are \$14. New Member dues and renewals should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 25556, Dallas, TX 75225-1556, and marked to the attention of the V.P. of Membership. All current members receive *The Dallas Quarterly* and the *DGS Newsletter*.

Newsletter: The *DGS Newsletter* is published nine times a year in January, February, March, April, May-June, July-August, September, October, and November-December. Copy deadline is the 5th day prior to month of publication. All correspondence for the *DGS Newsletter* should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 12648, Dallas, Texas 75225-0648 and marked to the attention of:
Sammie Townsend Lee Newsletter Editor

Editor's Note

Plans have been made and activity set in motion to bring DGS a quality Spring Seminar featuring one of genealogy's top speakers, Elizabeth Shown Mills. This month we focus on the personal side of Mrs. Mills with our front-page story. In March we will focus on the topics, information about the seminar, exhibitors, and other features of the Spring Seminar. Also, we will tell you all about the beautiful, spacious location Madilyn Crane and Margret Pearce reserved for the seminar this year.

DGS receives a large volume of mail each month from genealogical and historical societies, family associations, book sellers, individuals, and others. Most request that we pass their information on to our members. To meet this end, a new feature, "The DGS Mailbox," begins with this newsletter on page 16 and will appear when space is available in succeeding issues. We hope something of interest is there for you. Also, if you have an item, such as a family association reunion or newsletter, that you want to pass on to the DGS membership, send it to the editor, and it will be used as space permits.

There are a number of genealogical societies in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex area that meet monthly at various locations. On page 17 we have listed just a few of these societies and when they meet. Like DGS, each of these societies is dedicated to preserving the records of their area and most support a local library's genealogical collection. All have monthly meetings, interesting programs, and annual workshops. If your society is not included in this list, or if the information is incorrect or incomplete, please call me at home (349-1435) or the library (670-1405) to let me know.

Sammie Townsend Lee, Editor

Long time DGS member and friend Bill Jacoby is recuperating at home after hip replacement surgery on 22 January. Notes and cards wishing him well can be sent to him at his home, 5818 East University Boulevard, # 128, Dallas, TX 75206-4631. *Get well quick, Bill!*

DGS News, Notes, and Reports

It is with regret that we report the resignation of Kelvin L. Meyers as President of DGS, effective 10 January 1991. In his letter of resignation addressed to the Executive Board of the Dallas Genealogical Society, Kelvin stated, "My reasons for resigning are of a personal nature and concern the health of family members." Kelvin went on to express his desire that the DGS Board and the Society "move forward in many great ways." DGS owes Kelvin Meyers a debt of gratitude for his dedication and service to the Society.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the DGS bylaws call for the Executive Vice-President to act as President. Madilyn Coen Crane declined the position, citing her desire to continue with plans for the Spring Seminar. The Board of Directors appointed the next-in-line, Vice-President for Programs, Patricia Law Hatcher, to serve as DGS President through 31 May 1991. Margret Hancock Pearce, who is serving as workshop co-chairman, agreed to fill the Vice-President for Programs position.

From Pat Hatcher, President

Spring is a busy time of year for DGS, with great plans, one of the biggest being our Spring Seminar with one of the most popular genealogical speakers and a great new (to us) facility that will allow us to have more attendees, more displays, more vendors, and more fun!

I'm pleased that Kelvin will remain active in the society and help me in completing this year.

I hope that many of you will use the Annual DGS Book Awards as motivation to get your family information into print. The computer interest group is focusing on this goal at the January and February meetings.

From Linda Rogers, VP for Membership

Have you renewed your membership?

We are now in to the month of February. If you did not renew your dues prior to 31 January 1991, the renewal and new member fee is \$14 for an individual or family membership. A membership form can be found on page 23 of this newsletter for your convenience. We hope you will renew right away so as not to miss any of the issues of the newsletter or the March quarterly.

Another reason for getting those membership dues in right away: publication of the *1991 DGS Membership Roster*. We know you will want to be listed with your ancestors' names. A new roster has not been published since 1986. In addition to names, addresses, and telephone numbers of DGS members, up to eight

surnames being researched by each member will be included with each listing. What a great way to discover if other DGS members are researching the same surnames and locations that appear in your family tree! Also, the roster will include DGS member societies and libraries, exchange societies, the DGS bylaws, and a complete index.

Hurry! To be included in the new roster, your membership dues must be paid for the 1991 calendar year, and membership information and surnames submitted on or before 1 March 1991. Prepublication price for the roster will be \$3 until 1 March 1991 and \$5 after that date. Expected publication date of the roster will be 15 April 1991.

To order your copy of the *1991 DGS Membership Roster*, complete the membership application and roster form on page 23 of this newsletter. If you previously sent in your membership dues, but did not send in your ancestors names and/or did not order a roster, please complete the bottom half of the form, mark on the top half that you have previously paid your 1991 dues (or that you are a lifetime member), and mail to DGS at the address on the form.

Don't delay! This information must be mailed by 1 March 1991. Remember, you can save \$2 on the price of the roster by preordering. More importantly, your membership information will be included in the roster!

From Art Rubeck, Treasurer

DGS Account Balances Report

as of 31 December 1991:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Cash Assets and Bank Accounts | \$17,548.73 |
| Total Other Assets | 405.56 |
| | ----- |
| Total Assets | \$17,954.29 |

From Edwina Dyes, Director of Research

S.O.S. Volunteers needed now! Can you give DGS four or five hours once a week to help with our project of abstracting early Dallas County deed records for publication? A group is now meeting each Wednesday morning at the Dallas County Records Building for this purpose. Arrangements have been made with the county personnel for space and use of the actual deed books. We could use several more teams. If you think you can find time in your schedule for this activity, please call me at 373-0103 for more information.

This is an excellent way to meet other genealogists, and there are no special skills required. Call today and volunteer!

From the DGS Mailbox

Helen F. M. Leary to Speak in Shreveport

The Friends of Genealogy, Inc., P. O. Box 17835, Shreveport, LA 71138-0835, will be hosting its Annual Spring Seminar and Book Fair on 1-2 March. The guest lecturer will be Helen Leary speaking on "Dead Ends and Open Roads." Those who enjoyed Mrs. Leary at the 1990 DGS Spring Seminar may wish to drive to Shreveport for this event. If you missed her in Dallas last year, here's your opportunity to hear one of the most knowledgeable lecturers in genealogy today.

Write the Friends for registration fees and information. A registration notice is posted on the bulletin board in the Dallas Public Library's Genealogy Section.

Dr. George K. Schweitzer to Speak in Plainview

The Hi-Plains Genealogical Society, Unger Memorial Library, 825 Austin, Plainview, TX 79072, is hosting its annual Spring Workshop on 6 April 1991, at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview. Dr. George K. Schweitzer will lecture, in costume, on Genealogy in the Southeastern United States, Obscure Genealogical Sources, and Civil War Genealogy. Dr. Schweitzer's unique way of presenting his lectures makes him one of genealogy's most popular and knowledgeable speakers. If you have not heard him, it is well worth the trip to Plainview.

Pre-registration is limited to 75. For information, registration fees, and details write HPGS at the address above. A registration notice is posted on the bulletin board in the DPL's Genealogy Section.

OTHSA to Meet in Greenville

The Orphan Train Heritage Society of America, Inc. (OTHSA) preserves the history of an era in American from the early 1850's until 1929 when some 150,000 children, many of them orphaned, were "placed out."

Charles Loring Brace, one of the founders of the Children's Aid Society of New York City developed the placing-out system that involved taking groups of "orphans," escorted by "agents," aboard trains to rural America. At pre-selected stops, children would be inspected by prospective parents and perhaps chosen to live with new families. Thus the name, "Orphan Trains." Other institutions followed the same general plan but altered the selection procedure by arranging in advance the families in which children would be placed.

Greenville, Texas, has been chosen as the site for a meeting of Orphan Train Riders, families, and friends on 1-2 August 1991. Greenville is home to a number

of living Orphan Train Riders. Pre-registration will be required as the facility will only hold 60 persons. For information, write to OTHSA, 4912 Trout Farm Road, Springdale, AR 72764.

OTHSA is a central clearinghouse dedicated to preserving all information on the children, institutions, agents, railroads, towns, and families involved in the various placing-out programs. They hope that by hosting meetings around the country, new Orphan Train Riders will be located and others will be given a chance to learn more about this part of history through exhibits, videos, and conversation with the surviving "orphans."

From: *Crossroads*, Volume 14, January 1991, the publication of OTHSA, which has been placed in the Dallas Public Library Genealogy Section's vertical file.

Gowen Family Newsletter

The Gowen Research Foundation, a nonprofit heritage society located at 5708 Gary Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79413, publishes a quarterly newsletter devoted to the surname Gowen, including the various variations of Gowin, Goin, Going, Goins, Goynes, etc.

The December 1990 issue included an article on General James B. Gowen of New York, a hero of the Spanish American War and World War I. Also, included was the will of Lemuel Gowen of Maine, and letters from researchers in Tennessee, Alabama, Nevada, Texas, Virginia, Indiana, and Wyoming.

For more membership information and dues, write to the newsletter editor, Arlee Gowen, at the above address. This newsletter will be placed in the DPL Genealogy Section's vertical file.

Twitchell Family Newsletter

Henry D. Twitchell, Jr., 4 Hawthorne Road, Winchester, MA 01890, sent us a copy of his *Twitchell Family Newsletter*, Volume 1, Number 1, Winter 1990. In his first newsletter consisting of eight pages, Mr. Twitchell addresses the possibility of a family association, continuing the newsletter, variations of the name (Twytchell, Twitchell, Twitchel, Twichell, Twichel, Tuchel, Twitchet, Twitchit, Twitchen), and includes ancestor charts and family group sheets to be completed by family members for updating *The Twitchell Genealogy*. Submitted records will be placed in the New England Historic Genealogical Society. If the surname Twitchell appears in your family tree, write Mr. Twitchell at the above address for information. This newsletter will be placed in the vertical files of the DPL's Genealogy Section.

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Maupin Family Reunion

The Maupin Family Reunion will be held in Williamsburg, Virginia, on 2 November 1991. For details, send a large SASE to Mrs. Dorothy Maupin Shaffett, Secretary, 1819 North 82nd Street, Kansas City, KS 66112.

An update of the *Maupin Family History* is planned for publication in late 1991 or early 1992. The family association is looking for Maupin descendants who would like to be notified of this book concerning the lineage and descendants of the Gabriel and Marie (Hersent) Maupin family who came to America in 1700 and settled in Williamsburg, Virginia. If you have documented lineage data concerning your Maupin line, please send it along with a large SASE to Phyllis J. Bauer, 3312 West Fairway Drive, McHenry, IL 60050.

THC Annual Historic Preservation Conference

The Texas Historic Commission's Annual Historic Preservation Conference entitled, "The Spindletop Century," will be held 25-27 April 1991, in Beaumont, Texas. For information, write THC, P. O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711, 512/463-6100.

Family History Fair

The sixth annual Family History Fair sponsored by the California Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 77105, San Francisco, CA 94107, will be held on 19-20 April 1991. If you have plans to be in San Francisco during this time, this two-day exhibition should be a "must see" for you. It features lectures as well as a wide variety of vendors and organizations presenting products and services to genealogists. Write the California Genealogical Society at the above address for registration information and fees.

Area Societies: When Do They Meet?

Collin County Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 864752
Plano, TX 75086
President: Gwen Neumann
Contact Person: Sue Brown, (214) 612-8412
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at the Gladys Harrington Library
1501 18th Street, East Plano

Duncanville Genealogical Society

President: Ann Comstock
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. at the Duncanville Public Library
103 East Wheatland, Duncanville, TX

Fort Worth Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 9767
Fort Worth, TX 76147-2767
President: Jim McMillen, (817) 461-1599
Meetings: 4th Monday, 7:00 p.m. at the TCOM (TX Osteopathic) Main Auditorium
Fort Worth, TX

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 532026, Grand Prairie, Tx 75053
President: Faye Chism
Meetings: 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m. at the St. John's United Lutheran Church
409 N.E. Fourth, Grand Prairie, TX

Irving Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 151572, Irving, TX 75015
President: Debra McVean
Contact: Joe Sissom, 650-9026
Meetings: 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at the Irving Heritage House
303 South O'Connor, Irving, TX

Lancaster Genealogical Society

220 West Main, Lancaster, TX 75146
President: Harry Stevenson
Contact Person: Geraldine Pape, 227-8773
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. at the Lancaster Public Library
220 West Main, Lancaster, TX

Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 850165, Mesquite, TX 75185-0165
President: Billie Jean Heath
Contact Person: Marjorie Bays, 216-6229
Meetings, 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. at the Mesquite Public Library
300 West Grubb, Mesquite, TX

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 407, Bedford, TX 76095-0407
President: Terri O'Neill, (817) 267-8023
Meetings: 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m. at the Northeast Campus, TCJC, Room 236, ATB

DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**FEBRUARY REGULAR MEETING****DATE:** Monday, 25 February 1991**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.**LOCATION:** Auditorium, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library
1515 Young Street
Dallas, Texas**SPEAKER:** Sammie Townsend Lee**PROGRAM:** *Ten Things You May Not Know about the
Genealogy Collection of the Dallas Public Library*

When Sammie Townsend Lee went to work in the Genealogy Collection of the Dallas Public Library, she thought she was knowledgeable about the collection. After all, she'd been using the collection since before the new building opened, was past president of DGS, and had located many ancestors by using the collection. Yet each week at work brought some surprising new tidbits. For our February program, she will share *Ten Things You May Not Know about the Genealogy Collection*, based on her experiences and questions from patron.

COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP**DATE:** Monday, 25 February 1991**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.**LOCATION:** East/West Rooms, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library
1515 Young Street
Dallas, Texas**Speaker:** Patricia Law Hatcher**Program:** *Preparing Final Copy Like the Pros*

The computer interest group continues with its focus on getting your research into print and the Annual DGS Book Awards. Patricia Law Hatcher will present guidelines on *Preparing Final Copy Like the Pros* with our computers, utilizing the principles she has learned as a writer, editor, and publisher.

DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

1991 CALENDAR

Unless otherwise indicated, DGS Regular Meetings are held in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Street, Dallas, Texas. The Computer Interest Group meets one hour prior to the Regular Meeting in the East/West Rooms across the hall from the Auditorium.

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------|--|
| 25 February | Monday | 11:00 a.m. | <i>Ten Things You May Not Know about the Genealogy Collection of the Dallas Public Library</i> Speaker: Sammie Townsend Lee |
| 15 March | | | Deadline for submitting material for the 1991 DGS Book Awards Competition |
| 25 March | Monday | 7:00 p.m. | <i>How to Find Your Mexican War Ancestor</i> Speaker: Stephen R. Butler |
| 20 April | Saturday | 8:00 a.m. | Spring Seminar - Richardson Civic Center Speaker: Elizabeth Shown Mills |
| 22 April | Monday | 11:00 a.m. | <i>Using Local LDS Libraries</i> Speaker: Art Rubeck |
| 20 May | Monday | 7:00 p.m. | Annual Business Meeting <i>Books for Background Reading</i> Speakers: Members of the DGS Board of Directors |

OTHER MEETINGS, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| 16 February 1991 | Harlingen, TX 502 E. Tyler | Tip-O'-Texas Genealogical Society Workshop Topic: <i>Forth from New England</i> Speaker: Lloyd D. Bockstruck |
| 2 March 1991 | Plano, TX | Collin County Genealogical Society Workshop Topic: <i>Louisiana Purchase</i> Speaker: Lloyd D. Bockstruck |
| 16 March 1991 | Dallas, TX | Computer Council |
| 9:00 a.m. | Infomart | Topic: How to Read Colonial Handwriting |
| 6 April 1991 | Fort Worth, TX 76147 P. O. Box 9767 | Fort Worth Genealogical Society Workshop Speaker: Arlene Eakle |
| 29 May - 1 June 1991 | Portland, OR * | 1991 National Genealogical Society Conference in the States <i>Come to the End of the Oregon Trail</i> |
| 16-21 June 1991 | Birmingham, AL * | Samford University Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research - 27th Annual Session |
| 15-17 August 1991 | Fort Wayne, IN * | 1991 Federation of Genealogical Societies <i>An All American Conference</i> |

*Information fliers may be obtained in the Genealogy Section, Dallas Public Library.

Guide to Resources in the Dallas Public Library Genealogy Collection

Memorials of the Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century South Carolina Land Titles (Microcopy No. 12)

Overview: The Land Memorials are a series of land records unique to South Carolina. A land memorial is a document that traces the history of a piece of land back through each owner to the person who was originally granted the land by the colony, similar to a title abstract. The land memorials were begun in 1731 by the newly seated royal government to facilitate the collection of His Majesty's quitrents on properties granted by the preceding Proprietary and Provisional governments. Beginning in 1756, the property granted by the crown also was required to be included in the memorials. Memorials continued until the Revolution.

Quitrents were a form of taxation on land; therefore, people did not rush to have their property recorded in the memorials. In addition, land held by virtue of a warrant or a survey was not required to be recorded. The land memorials do contain references to previously unrecorded deeds and land inherited by primogeniture and marriage. There are also references to lands granted by North Carolina that fell into South Carolina because of border surveys.

Content: The original memorial books comprise 16 volumes and are housed in the South Carolina Department of Archives and History in Columbia, South Carolina. The fourteen volumes reproduced in the microfilm series are nineteenth-century duplicates of the original books. (The duplicate volumes, completed in 1821, were chosen to be microfilmed because of extensive damage to the original books. The duplicate set of books was created before the original memorials became badly damaged.)

Generally, the memorial lists the memorialist (owner of the land), original grantee (if applicable), number of acres, county or district where the land was located, waterways and neighbors bounding the land, date the land was surveyed, date the land was granted, quitrent, and date the memorial was recorded by the Auditor General.

Location: Memorials - 7 rolls of microfilm (35mm): *SC-AR-M/12, AD 643-649, Auditor General: Memorials (Copies) 1731-1778, Books 1-14*, located with the South Carolina microfilm on top of aisle 3-4.

Index - 5 rolls of microfilm (16mm), A - Z: *Memorials of Seventeenth & Eighteenth-Century South Carolina Land Titles Index*, located with the South Carolina microfilm on top of aisle 3-4

Aids: The five rolls of microfilm index is in one alphabetical sequence. At the beginning of each roll is an introduction to the memorials by Judith M. Brimelow and Joel A. Shirley, explaining about the memorials in detail. The index itself is a computer generated listing.

The first column contains the index entries, such as names of the memorialists, names of persons connected with the chain of title, names of surrounding landholders, names of surveyors, geographic locations, and a few selected subjects. Summaries of individual memorials related to the index entry are listed below the term in chronological order. Each summary gives a description of the memorial and includes the name of the memorialist and, if mentioned in the memorial, the name of the original grantee. Other names appearing in the full text of the memorial, such as neighbors, also are used as indexed entries, but are not mentioned in the summary.

The middle column on the microfilm index is headed "dates" and lists the date of recording for each memorial.

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The last column is headed "entry nbrs" (entry numbers). There are five sets of numbers, which are used for reference purposes. The first two sets refer to the record group and the series respectively and are for reference use by the staff of the South Carolina Archives. The remaining three sets of numbers indicate the volume in which the memorial can be found, the page on which the memorial begins, and the sequence in which the memorial appears on the page. For instance:

TAYLOR, WARD

TAYLOR, WARD, MEMORIAL FOR 200 ACRES 1769/04/26 0030 002 0008 00423 05
ON STEPHENS CREEK, GRANVILLE COUNTY

This indicates Ward Taylor filed a memorial for 200 acres in Granville County, which was recorded on 26 April 1769, in volume 8, page 423, number 5 on the page.

The Art of Writing Queries

Queries requesting information about our families are an excellent way to let other genealogists know what we are doing and to find unknown "relatives" who may be researching the same surnames. You are likely to receive a more successful response if you follow a few simple rules when writing your query.

First, keep your query short, simple, and to the point. Usually, fifty words or less is an acceptable length.

Capitalize all the letters in the surnames that you want to emphasize.

State your problem clearly and be specific by giving full names, dates, and locations. "John Smith of South Carolina" is too vague; "John Smith, born 1850, Edgefield County, South Carolina" stands a better chance of locating information.

Do not go into detailed information or be too vague. Request specific information, such as parents, siblings, birth, death, burial, etc.

Do not use a question mark, "?", to indicate a theory. Use phrases, such as "Possibly," "Probably," or "It could be" to make your meaning clear.

Do not abbreviate words or places in your query. Leave that to the editor.

Neatness and readability count. Do not put your query in the body of a letter. Queries should be typed or printed on a single sheet. A cover letter can be included, if desired. Proofread for typos or errors in the information.

Know and follow the rules regarding the placement of queries in the publication to which you are submitting your information. Observe the format of the editor and use it.

Be sure to include your name and address. Telephone numbers can be added, if desired.

Well-written queries can bring quick and successful results. Write those queries today and good luck!

Successful Query Results

Successful results to queries can come from many directions. DGS member Frances Lindell shares his story of how he helped James A. Morris of Arlington, Virginia, with a query he placed in the *DGS Newsletter*.

"In the May, 1990, *DGS Newsletter*, James A. Morris placed a query requesting information on Job Huguley of Georgia who had died in Dallas County in 1882. As I read the query, I realized I had known two of Huguley's granddaughters several years ago and that one had worked on a family history book. From the Dallas telephone directory I obtained names of several Huguley relatives. My wife Milta and I took pictures of Huguley's grave at the Big Springs Cemetery in Garland and sent them to Mr. Morris. We were also able to obtain the book, *Plano, Texas: The Early Years*, for him.

This was not complicated research, and James Morris appreciated our efforts. He has since contacted some of the cousins we helped him locate."

Writing Award

Margaret Ann Thetford's "Family Tree" column, which appears twice weekly in the *Dallas Morning News*, won the first place award for a Genealogical Column in the Writing Awards given by the Texas State Genealogical Society at their State Conference in Austin this past November. The column previously won third place national recognition by the Council of Genealogy Columnists in the category, Newspaper Columns of General Interest, at the NGS Conference in Arlington, Virginia, last June.

Congratulations, Margaret Ann! It is gratifying to know that Texas and the entire U.S. has discovered what we at DGS have known for years. Thanks for a job well done.

Queries

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

**HARRIS
CARRINGTON
MULLEN
SULLIVAN** Nathaniel HARRIS, born 1812, Orange Co, NC, son of Edward HARRIS and Dicey CARRINGTON. Married 1839, Hinds Co, MS, Martha MULLEN, daughter of Joshua MULLEN and Rhoda. Nathaniel died 1885, Hinds Co, MS. Martha died 1903, Tishomingo, OK, but obituary said buried in MS. Joshua MULLEN died 1856, and Rhoda died ca. 1845-50, Hinds Co, MS. Does anyone know burial sites? Family records say Rhoda was a SULLIVAN. Proof of her parents desired.
Mrs. Sue Harris, 4524 Alta Vista Lane, Dallas, TX 75229

**COOPER
McCLINTON
ANDERS** Seeking information on families of John COOPER, born 1803, NC; died 1868, Little River Co, AR; and/or his wife Nancy McCLINTON, born 1812, SC; died 1860, AR. Their son was George Washington COOPER, born 1833, AR; died 1908; married IN 1854 to Nancy Jane ANDERS, born 1839, AR; died 1906, possibly Hunt Co, TX. Possible parents of John COOPER were George and Rebecca. Can anyone supply information on George or John COOPER? Also, need help with families of Nancy Jane ANDERS. Were David ANDERS, born 1814; died 1899, TX; and wife Sarah, born 1816; died 1891; parents of Nancy? Need additional information on Sarah (maiden name?) and David.
Mary Ellen Ledford, 702 Fouts Drive, Irving, TX 75061

**BLAKE
THOMPSON** Would like to contact descendants of Christopher C. BLAKE who married Catherine THOMPSON, 16 June 1850, in Owen Co, IN. They came to TX in 1851 with children John W., Elijah F., James N., William, and Winfield M. Mr. Blake subsequently married Mary A. Burris, 22 Dec 1867, Kaufman Co, TX. Cannot find family in Kaufman County after 1850. I have a card dated 15 Feb 1918, saying "Henry Blake" was in Amarillo. I cannot find Christopher C. BLAKE anywhere in Texas after 1850.
Mrs. Edith L. Smith, 414 Lincolnshire Drive, Irving, TX 75061

**HARRIS
HOLSTON
PRICE
BURKS** Seeking descendants of William Strong HARRIS, born 1823, GA; died 1903, Mills Co, TX; and his wife, Caroline HOLSTON, born 1825, SC; died ca. 1908, Collin Co, TX. Children: Charles W. HARRIS, born 1848, AL; died 1889, Rockwall Co, TX; married Florence Waller PRICE; and Carrie A. HARRIS, born 1860; died 1892; buried Mullin, Mills Co, TX; married R. L. BURKS.
Jeanette Bickley Bland, 1436 North Cheyenne, Richardson, TX 75080, (214) 231-1226

**SPRADLIN
HULSE
WAMSLEY
WHITE
SCHULTZ
OWENS
FOSTER** Would like to make contact with descendants of James Robert "Bob" SPRADLIN, born mid-1860's, AL; died 4 July 1912, Dallas Co, TX. First listed in Dallas City Directory in 1900. Married Sarah Josaphine HULSE (formerly Mrs. Thomas E. WAMSLEY) in 1904, Dallas Co, TX. Their son, Melvin Francis SPRADLIN, was born 20 Mar 1905 in Dallas. In 1905 only, a James Robert SPRADLIN, Jr., was shown in Dallas, indicating a previous marriage. Also, researching John H. WHITE (Cherokee); Mark, Sophie, and Chloe SCHULTZ; Willie and Anderson OWENS (all of Missouri and Oklahoma); and James F. and Lincoln FOSTER of Oklahoma and Texas.
Tony Spradlin, 6406 Faircove Circle, Garland, TX 75043

Send in your queries today!

DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1991

Check One: New Member _____ Renewal _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

DUES: (Check appropriate line)

Annual, per household (if paid after 31 January 1991) \$14 _____

Sustaining Member (\$13 is tax deductible) \$25 _____

Patron Member (\$38 is tax deductible) \$50 _____

Lifetime Membership \$150 _____

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER: To order, check here and add to dues \$3 _____
Check here, if ordering roster only _____

TOTAL OF YOUR ENCLOSED CHECK: \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER LISTING

Complete this portion as you want your listing to read in the new Membership Roster. For your listing to be included, this form must be returned on or before **March 1, 1991**, with your check or money order for membership dues and the roster made payable to the Dallas Genealogical Society.

Name: _____ Telephone: (____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

SURNAMES: You may submit up to 8 surnames and 1 state for each surname being researched. Example: Johnson, NC.

1. _____ 5. _____

2. _____ 6. _____

3. _____ 7. _____

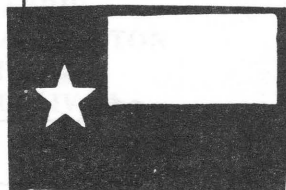
4. _____ 8. _____

MAIL COMPLETE PAGE TO: Vice-President for Membership
DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (or DGS)
P. O. Box 25556
Dallas, Texas 75225

\$9,000

\$8,000

\$7,000



Help Us Raise the Texas Flag!

The Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) 1991 Special Project is to raise the funds needed to purchase the 1920 United States Census and Soundex for the State of Texas when it becomes available in March, 1992, to place in the Genealogy Section of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library (Dallas Public Library). An estimated \$9,000 is needed, and we have less than one year to raise the money. We have enough funds in the special account to purchase the 1920 Texas Census; we are climbing toward the Soundex. Please help us raise the Texas flag even higher on the flagpole! The current National Archives price per roll is \$23, but DGS will accept your tax-deductible gift in any amount.

Gifts can be made to purchase the 1920 Census or Soundex for any state. However, the National Archives will be sending out complete sets for the the entire United States or complete sets of a particular state on 2 March 1992, for orders placed by 1 September 1991. Individual rolls will not be processed by the Archives until a later date.

The following DGS members and friends have made very generous donations to the project: Mrs. Jack C. Allen; Doris F. Crance for New York (in memory of John Alfred and Hedwig Opprecht Frey); Adrienne B. Jamieson; Mildred N. Clark; M. W. Harris; Alline E. McCrary; L. J. Parsons; Billie Polk Moore; George Pettett; Renee Jackson Smith (in honor of Lea Markoff).

If you would like to be a part of the project to "Raise the Texas Flag" to the top of the flagpole, send your gift today to:

1920 Census Project Fund
Dallas Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 12648
Dallas, Texas 75225-0648

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P.O. Box 12648, Dallas, Texas 75225-0648

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Volume 15, Number 2 (Issue 129)
February 1991

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