



# DGS NEWSLETTER

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March-April 1993

Dallas, Texas

## 1993 Spring Seminar: Something for Everyone!

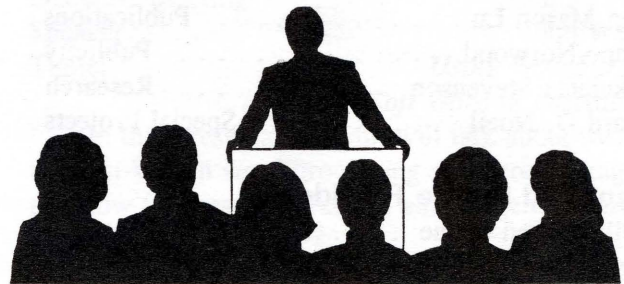
The 37th Annual DGS Spring Seminar is just around the corner — Saturday, 27 March 1993 — and everything is on schedule! Have you booked your seat to hear James L. Hansen? One of America's top genealogical lecturers and educators, he will be speaking on *The Draper Manuscripts: What They are and How to Use Them*, *Naturalization Records and Passenger Lists*, *Research in Territorial Records*, and *What to Do When You Hit a Brick Wall*.

The fun and activities will begin with registration at 8:00 A.M. at the comfortable and spacious Richardson Civic Center (North Central Expressway and Arapaho Road) in far North Dallas County. A registration form is on page 47 or a brochure is available in the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library. If you need more information, contact Bruce Moseley at 235-6010.

### Our Speaker

James L. Hansen has been the reference librarian and genealogical specialist at the library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin for nineteen years. He has taught beginning and advanced genealogical research courses over Wisconsin's Education Telephone Network and has published a handbook for an introductory correspondence course on genealogy offered by the University of Wisconsin Extension. He is a nationally known speaker, having lectured at ten consecutive National Genealogical Society annual conferences and at the National Archives' Institute on Genealogical Research.

This is Jim's first time to speak at the DGS Spring Seminar, and we encourage you to hear this talented genealogical educator. Information about his lecture presentations is on page 30.



### Our Exhibitors

An extra added attraction of each DGS Spring Seminar is the large display of genealogical books and materials available for inspection and purchase. DGS attracts exhibitors from all over the United States who turn the Richardson Civic Center's concourse into a genealogical marketplace filled with books, forms, charts, maps, preservation materials, photographic materials, computers and related products and services, novelties, free brochures, and free advice. Attendees can buy goods and services, or obtain information on a variety of subjects. Ample time will be provided during breaks and lunch for you to browse this popular attraction. Bring your checkbook!



## DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 12648 DALLAS, TEXAS 75225-0648

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

### Executive Board

#### Officers:

Barbara Roberts Baylis . . . . . President  
 J. Bruce Moseley . . . . . Executive Vice President  
 William E. "Bill" Benson . . . . . VP for Programs  
 Dorothy Odom Bruce . . . . . VP for Membership  
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 John V. Wylie . . . . . Computer Interest Group  
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#### Appointed by the President:

Madilyn Coen Crane . . . . . Parliamentarian  
 Kelvin L. Meyers . . . . . Arrangements

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

#### The object and goals of this Society are to:

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

#### Meetings:

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

#### Membership:

Individuals, libraries, or societies may apply for membership. 1993 annual dues are \$15 for the calendar year if paid by January 31; after January 31, they are \$18. New member dues and renewals should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 25556, Dallas, Texas 75225-1556, and marked to the attention of the Vice-President of Membership. All current members receive *The Dallas Quarterly* and the *DGS Newsletter*.

#### Newsletter:

The *DGS Newsletter* is published bi-monthly. Contact the editor for permission to reprint any material contained in the *DGS Newsletter*. Copy deadline for the May-June *DGS Newsletter* is 1 April 1993. All articles and correspondence for the *DGS Newsletter* should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 12648, Dallas, Texas 75225-0648 and marked to the attention of the Newsletter Editor.



## 1993 DGS Calendar of Events

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

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

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

### Monday, 22 March 1993

DGSCIG Meeting: 6:00 P.M.  
 Regular Meeting: 7:00 P.M.  
 Speaker: Patricia Law Hatcher  
 Topic: "Gosh, This Looks Familiar" —  
*The Resource Survey*

How often have you pulled a book off a shelf, checked the index, found the reference—and discovered you had looked at it before? DGS lecturer Pat Hatcher will outline a simple, effective, step-by-step procedure to identify what's available on a local or family—and to avoid repetitious research.

### Saturday, 27 March 1993 37th Annual Spring Seminar

Time: 8:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.  
 Location: Richardson Civic Center  
 Speaker: James L. Hansen  
 Topics: (1) *The Draper Manuscripts:  
 What They Are and How to Use Them*  
 (2) *Naturalization Records and Passenger Lists*  
 (3) *Research in Territorial Records*  
 (4) *What to Do When You Hit a Brick Wall*

### Monday, 5 April 1993

DGSCIG Meeting: 6:30 P.M.  
 Speaker: Members of DGS  
 Topic: *A Variety of Views:  
 What We Learned at GenTech*

A panel of DGS members who attended GenTech in January will bring you their observations, and tell you what they learned at the computer oriented conference.

### Monday, 26 April 1993

DGSCIG Meeting: 10:00 A.M.  
 Regular Meeting: 11:00 A.M.  
 Speaker: Mary Reid Warner  
 Topic: *Developing Your Research Skills*

Mary Reid's talk on the techniques necessary to develop fully the skills needed for genealogical research was voted as one of the best lectures at the 1992 DGS Fall Symposium. Mary Reid has agreed to repeat her lecture for those who missed it at the symposium and for those who asked to hear it again!

### Monday, 10 May 1993

DGSCIG Meeting: 6:30 P.M.  
 Speaker: John Wylie  
 Topic: *Using WordPerfect  
 and Microsoft Word in Genealogy*

In this presentation John will talk about two of the best-known word processing software packages, and how their capabilities can aid the genealogist.

### Monday, 24 May 1993

DGSCIG Meeting: 6:00 P.M.  
 Annual Business Meeting: 7:00 P.M.

29 May 1993                      24 July 1993  
 26 June 1993                    21 August 1993

### 1993 Summer Lecture Series

Four day-long seminars will be held in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library. Topics and speakers will be announced at the 1993 DGS Spring Seminar. Brochures available in April.

### Saturday, 13 November 1993

#### 6th Annual DGS Symposium

Dallas Convention Center, featuring conference-style programs with a variety of speakers and exhibitors. Brochures available in September.



## DGS NEWS

### The President's Message

by Barbara Roberts Baylis

We are into the middle of February and activities have not slowed down for DGS! We are all looking forward to Saturday, 27 March, at the Richardson Civic Center. The speaker will be JAMES HANSEN. Thanks to BRUCE MOSELEY for the wonderful Spring Seminar he has planned and to all those working on this important educational project!

Thanks to SAMMIE LEE for stepping in to co-edit the *DGS Newsletter* with LINDA ROGERS. The Newsletter should be back on schedule shortly. SAMMIE is also busy working on the Summer Lecture Series, which I am sure will be "sold out" shortly after being announced. In SAM'S "spare time," she is working on a talk for the Federation of Genealogical Societies to be given in August. DGS has reason to boast, for both SAM and PAT HATCHER have been asked to speak at the FGS August Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. Congratulations to both of these members, as being asked to speak at a National Conference indicates you "have arrived" in the genealogical community!

JAN McFARLAND is busy working with the Feasibility Committee, and they will have some exciting announcements coming soon. Be sure and attend the March DGS meeting for more details!

The Focus Committee, consisting of Library Staff and DGS members, meets once a month. The purpose of this committee is to promote communication between staff and genealogy patrons. We hope to have good news coming soon from this committee to DGS members!

As you can see, DGS is a busy, active, exciting group. Hope you have paid your dues for 1993! It will be a very good year!

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### Back By Popular Demand: *The DGS TOTE BAG, that is!*

Did you miss buying a handy DGS tote bag several years ago? These durable off-white canvas bags, imprinted with the DGS Logo, have been reordered and will be available at the Spring Seminar for \$10, tax included.

### Treasurer's Report

by Laurie Goggan Wharton

#### Assets as of 15 February 1993

Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking-NationsBank	\$16,867.84
Money Market-Bank One	4,899.86
Bulk Mail Deposit	486.00
Life Member Investments	
MMF-Cash Equivalent Fund	2,003.90
Note-U.S.Treasury	<u>5,403.12</u>

**Total** \$29,660.72

#### Funds as of 15 February 1993

Operating Fund	\$14,850.72
Life Member Fund	8,950.00
Bulk Mail Fund	486.00
Publications Fund	<u>5,374.00</u>

**Total** \$29,660.72

### Membership

by Dorothy Odom Bruce

— 19 February 1993 —

Regular Members	560
Libraries	14
Life	<u>62</u>
<b>Total DGS Membership</b>	<b>636</b>

Welcome to the 99 NEW MEMBERS in DGS! Membership fees are now \$18.00 per year for regular memberships. Also available are Sustaining memberships at \$25.00 (\$10.00 is tax deductible) and Patron memberships at \$50.00 (\$35.00 is tax deductible).

Life memberships are per individual, and the 1992-1993 Executive Board has set these fees. If you wish to become a Life Member of the Dallas Genealogical Society and are under 65 years of age, the fee is \$500.00. For those 65 years of age and older, the fee is \$300.00.

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



## DGSCIG

by John Wylie

By now most DGS members are familiar with the Dallas Genealogical Society's Computer Interest Group (DGSCIG). This column will review highlights of DGSCIG happenings and provide other information of value to those using, or contemplating using, computers to assist their genealogical efforts.

### Sources of Help

Dallas is blessed with many opportunities for the computer genealogist to get help. In this and future columns, I'll review a few.

- **DGSCIG:** Many Dallas-Fort Worth area genealogical societies host Computer Interest Groups. You can usually find out about these at your local or branch libraries. Of course, the DGSCIG is one of the largest and most active. We meet twice per month, September through May, excluding December, on the second Monday at 6:30 P.M. and fourth Monday one hour prior to the regular DGS meeting. [See specific schedules and program information in this issue on the DGS Calendar, page 27.] We also have a disk library where hundreds of genealogical related software programs can be purchased for \$2 per disk.
- **SuperSaturday:** On one Saturday each month over sixty-five computer interest groups meet at INFOMART (on Stemmons—I-35E—at Oak Lawn) for free meetings. Four of these specialize in genealogy. The Genealogy CIG meets at 9:00 A.M., the Personal Ancestral File Users Group meets at 10:00 A.M., the ROOTS Users Group at

11:00 A.M. (for two hours), and the Brothers Keeper Users Group also at 11:00 A.M. See the signs at the entrance for locations. SuperSaturday varies each month; call 234-2667 for the date each month. All events are free. A large computer flea market is held in the basement. These monthly events are fascinating to almost anyone, whether using a computer or not, as there are many present who will help with virtually any computer question.

- **Publications — Periodicals:** There are a number of national publications specifically for the computer genealogist. Perhaps the best known is the *Newsletter of the National Genealogical Society Computer Interest Group (NGSCIG)* which is now published in the bi-monthly *NGS Newsletter*. The NGSCIG can be joined by contacting NGS at 4527 17th Street, North, Arlington, Virginia 22207-2363. Also of great value is Ancestry's *Genealogical Computing*. Our own Art Rubeck is a contributing editor of this fine publication. Ancestry can be contacted by calling 1-800-531-1790.
- **Publications — Books:** A book of particular value to those getting started in computer genealogy or for those considering changing software is *Selecting Genealogy Software*, by Joan Lowrey and Donna Prezcha. Another valuable tool is the second edition of *Computer Genealogy*, edited by Richard A. Pence. Both of these books are available at the Heritage-Preservation Emporium genealogy store on Stemmons at Motor Street (630-1197).

I'll cover more of the many resources in future columns.

## A Note About Registration

Want to help the person in charge of workshop registration a little? Here's how:

- Use a #10 envelope so there is little folding. *Everything you fold, has to be UNFOLDED.*
- Use no staples! *Everything you staple has to be UNSTAPLED!*
- Write or print clearly and plainly.
- Read ALL instructions, and fill out forms completely.
- IF you wish a confirmation, send a self-addressed stamped postcard with the event and date on the

reverse. Then the registration committee will only have to mark the date received and their identifying stamp.

- If tickets or information is expected in return, use a self addressed stamped envelope (try a #9, unfolded). *Don't forget the STAMP!* Every time you forget, it costs the society 29 cents, which in turn takes away 29 cents from the library or other organization being supported.

These tips will help anyone having to open thousands of envelopes per year—or at least 700 for our Spring Seminar—and works for most society memberships or event registrations. Other organizations will thank you, too.



## 1993 Spring Seminar: Lecture Topics

James L. Hansen, reference librarian and genealogical specialist at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, will begin speaking shortly after 9:00 A.M. His topics truly include something for everyone:

- ***The Draper Manuscripts: What They Are and How to Use Them***  
George Rogers Clark, the Battle of Kings Mountain, Simon Kenton, the French and Indian War, Daniel Boone, the Revolution in the west, and thrilling events on the frontier: all topics extensively covered in the Draper manuscript collection. If you had ancestors in the "trans-Allegheny" west between 1750 and 1820, this fascinating collection (available on microfilm at the Dallas Public Library) should be on your research list. Jim's presentation will tell you how to use this collection as a resource in this genealogically difficult time and place.
- ***Naturalization Records and Passenger Lists***  
We all have immigrant ancestors, and one of the most difficult genealogical tasks is making that jump across the ocean to the "old country."

Naturalization records and passenger lists are the key records documenting that jump and, hopefully, providing clues to immigrant origins. Jim's presentation will describe the records and their availability, and he will suggest how they can be used to make that leap a successful one.

- ***Research in Territorial Records***  
Whether it was Mississippi Territory in 1815 or New Mexico Territory in 1907, if your ancestors were in a state during its territorial days, you probably have a genealogical problem; but just because your ancestors were pioneers does not mean there were no records. The process of territorial government created special records, and special resources and techniques are often necessary to identify and use them. Jim's presentation will describe those records and how to use them effectively.
- ***What to Do When You Hit a Brick Wall***  
We all have problem ancestors who seem to have simply crawled out from under a rock. However, just because an ancestor presents a problem doesn't mean that there is no hope of a solution. Jim will suggest a variety of research techniques and resources that can be applied to just about any genealogical problem and suggest how to go over, under, around, or through that genealogical brick wall.

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## Gourmet Box Lunch or Brown Bag

Those attending the Spring Seminar who wish to obtain a box lunch at the Civic Center will be delighted to hear that this year the food will be catered by Spice of Life, a well-known Dallas gourmet caterer. Jan McFarland, Leslie Collier, and Bruce Moseley sampled the offerings of numerous caterers before declaring Spice of Life to be the best. For \$6.50 inclusive, a box lunch and drink will be provided. Payment must be included with your registration.

If you prefer to bring a lunch, vending machines for drinks are available in the Civic Center.

Tables will be provided in the Civic Center for your dining convenience.

## Volunteers

Part of the fun of attending a DGS Spring Seminar is to pitch in and help with one job or another. It's a way to meet people, get to put names to faces, and socialize.

DGS can use your help at the registration tables, at the DGS books and forms table, or just "directing traffic." If you would like to be one of the ones wearing an "Ask Me" button on Saturday, 27 March 1993, call Bruce Moseley, 235-6010, or Dorothy Bruce, 239-4901.

If you can't commit now, but may be available that morning, report early at the registration table and ask how you can help.



## 1993—Year of the Volunteer

The January-February 1993 (17:1) issue of the *DGS Newsletter* began a series highlighting DGS volunteers. The dedicated men and women in the Dallas area who volunteer many hours of time have been the key to the success and growth of our society.

Each issue in 1993 will highlight another of these tireless people. While recognizing a few of the wonderful volunteers during the coming year, it should be understood that there is no way to cover all who generously give of themselves. Each volunteer is appreciated and vital to DGS. To each one, we say *thanks*.

### Helen Mason Lu

A name synonymous with DGS is Helen Mason Lu. She has seen the smaller society of around 300 members blossom into the mighty organization of close to 1,000 members that it is today. The earlier days saw a struggling group of dedicated genealogists who found themselves lucky to break even on a workshop. The first year of Helen's membership, the society gave \$500 to the Dallas Public Library. Barely over 20 years later, a gift in the amount of \$10,000 was presented to the library in honor of Helen.

Her love of genealogy began when she decided to learn more about the people named in the records handed down through her father's family. That was no easy task in those days. Census records were available but the tool used by researchers most often—indexes—were *not* available. She knows firsthand that *research* means to *search*. The first five years of her genealogical endeavors were spent reading census records on microfilm, one page at a time.

Helen's spirit of volunteerism sprang from a desire to make the world of genealogy easier for others. She saw a great need to establish records for others searching for ancestors in the Dallas area. She began the project adopted by DGS of recording and publishing transcriptions from area cemeteries. Her dedication to this project has seen the publication of over 600 pages of data in three volumes with two more volumes close to completion. These many lines of entries represent

more than just ink on paper. They represent many hours in the grueling Texas sun, carefully reading and transcribing inscriptions, then recording and proofing the entries for final compilation. Helen is careful, however, that everyone realize this project is not a one-woman show. There are many volunteers who have given of themselves to make these publications possible.

During her almost 25 years of membership in DGS, Helen has served in a variety of positions on the executive board. Her very first position was that of VP for membership. Throughout the years, she has served as president on three separate occasions, the last term being 1989-1990. She has served as secretary, newsletter editor, editor of the *DGS Quarterly*, and executive vice-president. She is recognized as a guiding force behind many of the DGS publications for sale (marriage records, probate records). Helen is well-known as a speaker at DGS meetings and seminars. She has expanded her love and knowledge of maps into informative lectures for DGS and area societies. During her own research, Helen saw the value of church newspapers. She has published *Texas Methodist Newspaper Abstracts*, *South-Western Presbyterian Newspaper Abstracts*, *Texas Presbyterian Newspaper Abstracts*, and *Texas Baptist Newspaper Abstracts*. In character with her generosity and love of DGS, she has donated these publications for sale by the society.

Helen and husband, Dr. J. L. Lu, are the proud grandparents of Joshua Herbert Remington, born 26 January 1993 to their daughter, Cynthia.

### Tell Us How We are Doing

Your editors are interested in hearing from you. If you have articles you want to see, or suggestions for DGS or the library, please let us know. Letters to the editors will be published as space permits.

This is *your* society, let it work for *you!*



## DGS People

### TSGS Writing Awards Won by DGS Members

DGS member Brenda Burns Kellow of Richardson, Texas, was the recipient of the top writing award presented by the Texas State Genealogical Society in their 1992 Writing Competition. The awards were presented at the banquet of the annual TSGS conference in Austin, Texas, on 6 November 1992.

Brenda was awarded a \$300 check for Best Writing Entry for her family history on her ancestor, Charles C. Stibbens. Stibbens was a soldier of the Battle of San Jacinto and a citizen of the Republic of Texas. In addition to the top award, the book also won a first place certificate in the category of a book on family history. A copy of Brenda's book, now in its second printing, has been placed in the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library.

Another first-place award recipient was DGS past president Chan Edmondson. Volume 12 of Chan's project, *Revolutionary War Period Bible, Family, Marriage Records*, received a first place award in the category for a reference book. The genealogy section also owns this very helpful collection. Chan's ongoing project lists Bible records

and other records showing family connections located in the *Selected Records From Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files*.

In this same category, Nova Lemons book, *Pioneers of Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory*, received the second place award. Nova's book received a DGS writing award last March in the category of a book on local history or genealogy. The book is a part of the permanent collection of the Genealogy Section.

Barbara B. Wylie was awarded a second place certificate for her family publication, *The Brixey Bulletin*. Copies of the newsletter are located in the Genealogy Section's vertical files.

Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck and six other Texas newspaper genealogy columnists were awarded special distinguished merit awards by TSGS president Marynell Bryant for their contributions to genealogy.

Congratulations to these DGS members and to all the other winners and recipients in the TSGS awards.

## News from the Library

### Staffers Receive Promotions

The month of February found three Genealogy Section staff members receiving much deserved promotions. Lea Markoff received an upgrade to Librarian 10. Lea has been with the Dallas Public Library for fifteen years, thirteen of those years in the Genealogy Section. She serves as Lloyd Bockstruck's assistant.

Gerri Brannan has been promoted from the section's senior page to the position of part time Library Associate 8. Gerri has been with the Library for over ten years, with about half that time spent paging in the Genealogy Section. She will now be working with the public answering patron's inquiries and questions.

Victor Aguilar moves into the position of senior

page for the section. Victor has been with the Library for just over a year. In that time, he has become a favorite of the regular patrons of the section.

We congratulate these hard-working library staffers on their promotions and wish them well.

### Sign-In Please

Soon patrons of the Genealogy Section will be asked to register on a "sign-in" sheet upon entering the section and to sign-out when leaving. The register is being placed in the section by DGS, who will use the information to evaluate the section's usage and growth. A questionnaire is also being

[Library News continued on page 43]



## Beginners Corner

### Using U.S. Population Census Records

by Madilyn Coen Crane

The first U.S. Federal Census taken of the population was established by the federal law of 1 March 1790, as mandated by the U.S. Constitution.<sup>1</sup> *Black's Law Dictionary* defines "census," as "The official counting or enumeration of people of a state, nation, district, or other political subdivision."<sup>2</sup> This article will prepare the beginning genealogist in the process of census record research. The following four steps will be covered: preparation, locating the proper census, using the census information, and using census data to find additional family records. The population census records are easy to use, and the success rate in finding an ancestor is excellent.

#### Preparing to Use the Census Records

The federal population census is taken every tenth year. The census records available to researchers start with the 1790 schedule and include originals and/or copies of all schedules that have survived through the 1920 census. To use the census records, you need as many names, dates of birth, death, and places of residence as you can locate. If you take a beginner's class, your instructor may suggest that you start with yourself, then gather information about your parents, grandparents, and so forth.

The census records are available on microfilm by census year, and by county within each state. If you know the name of the city where your family lived, you will want to check an atlas to determine the county where the city is located. In a beginner's class you learn to use the *Handy Book*,<sup>3</sup> or a similar publication to determine the date a county was organized. You need to look for your ancestor's records in the county that existed during the time they resided in that area. If you do not have living relatives to provide you with information, try to obtain a copy of the birth or death record of the ancestor's name you know. Most birth and death records provide the name of the parents and either their place of birth, or where they were living. The

information is a clue to help you find census data about your family. To find your ancestor in the census records, you need a name, state, county and census year.

#### Locating the Available Census Records

The U.S. population census schedules are available to researchers on microfilm, and sometimes in printed form, in various libraries and archives throughout the United States. Large libraries and archives with a genealogy collection will typically have census information for a given area or period. Few will have the complete census collection. The National Archives and all the regional branches of the National Archives have the federal population censuses for all states, 1790 to 1920. If the census records you need are not available in your area, check with your library to see if the microfilm can be obtained by interlibrary loan. You may want to contact the National Archives at 301/604-3699 about their microfilm rental program or write to the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408. [See page 36 for area information.]

Once you determine the ancestor's name, census year, state, and county of interest, you will want to check the available printed and microfilm indexes. This includes the Soundex coding system and any printed versions of the census records. A typical index of a census schedule will be printed by state and census year. The content of an index will usually provide a surname, first name, county, township or district of residence, and a page number.

The page number shown in the index is sometimes the difficult to match to the page numbers on the roll of microfilm. The number printed on the schedule, or the number printed with a rubber stamp, will usually agree with the page number in the index. The numbers used for indexing should be at the top of each page in the census schedule. If the information in the index does not match with the page you find on microfilm, check a few pages before and after. Try to determine how the index was compiled. If you cannot find the page listed in the index, locate the beginning of the section for the township or district, which is typically in



alphabetical or district number order. This procedure saves you from looking through the schedule of an entire county if you have a limited amount of time to research.

The "Soundex Coding System" was developed so surnames could be found that may have various spellings. To obtain detailed information about the Soundex Coding System, consider reading the section concerning census records in *The Source*.<sup>4</sup> If you use the Soundex information, make sure you are familiar with the rules used for setting up that soundex. [See Soundex Coding Guide on page 36.]

Example: The 1880 Soundex only includes families with children age 10 and younger (the 1880 census schedule contains information on all people or families regardless of age). Each Soundex code contains the first letter of the surname and a three digit number. The Soundex code is then used to locate the roll of microfilm containing names with your code. To use the Soundex Code you need to know the state in which your ancestor lived. The information in the Soundex will help you find your ancestor in the census schedule and provides good basic data. The Soundex data does not contain all the information available in the census schedule.

Use all indexes, Soundex coding, printed versions of the census, and any other finding aids as a tool to help you with your research. *Do not expect indexed information to be complete or even correct!* If the ancestor is missing in the indexes or missing in the Soundex, that does not mean the ancestor is not in the census schedule.

### Using the Information Provided in the Census Records

Now the excitement begins because you have found your ancestor in the census schedule! If you are using census schedules for 1850-1920, you will have your ancestor's name, age, sex, color, occupation, birthplace, and, of course, the probable spouse and any children. Deciding how you will record this information is one of the most important decisions you will make using census records. In any occupation, hobby, or field of interest, the importance of a recommended procedure is not always evident. Until you have spent a certain amount of time researching your family, the same is true in genealogy. If the information in the census schedule is going to be used as a supporting document of a lineage, you need to have a

photocopy of the microfilm record. Usually a copy of the census schedule is used to join a patriotic society or as supporting evidence to prove a lineage in a genealogical publication. If you are using the census information to trace your family for your personal enjoyment or to document your ancestors for your personal use, you need to consider the following recommendations:

1. **Locate and use a printed form for recording the information contained in the census schedule.** Try to purchase a form that contains a space for all the information available for the census year you are using. Because of the number of items you need to copy from the census schedule, using a form is necessary and helpful.
2. **Copy everything for the family unit exactly as it is written.** As an example: You may have been told your ancestor's name is "Elizabeth." You find her in the 1880 census as "Eliza, age 25." In the 1870 census you find the same family with "Mary, age 15." You change the "Eliza" to Elizabeth and "Mary" to Elizabeth when you copy the census schedules, because you were told that was her name. It is probable that you will eventually discover your ancestor's name is "Mary Elizabeth" and her nickname, "Eliza." If you only look for "Elizabeth" in other indexes or records, you may miss records pertaining to her.
3. **Copy every person listed with your family, even if the surname is different and even if the notation indicates laborer, hired hand, or some other occupation.** The odd surname may take on a new meaning later in your research, as a child from a previous marriage, a relative, or someone who is close to the family in some way. The odd surname may be the link that connects other documents to your family. Write it all down!
4. **Copy every identifying item listed on the page of the census schedule where you find your ancestor.** This includes: the state, county, township or district, city, the date the census taker recorded the information, the family dwelling number, enumeration district (E.D.) number, sheet number, line number, and page



number. When you start analyzing your data, all of this information will be important to you!

5. **Set up a file for your census records. The file should contain a copy of every census record you have transcribed or abstracted.** The census file may be in a binder or in a file folder, but keep a complete set of your census records in one location. File the census records by state, county, then by census year, and in the order the information is listed in the census schedule. In the beginning you are looking for a limited number of family members in the census records. Later your research may reveal your great grandfather's sister living two houses away, or on the next page you find your grandmother's parents. Setting up a special file for your census records will save you hours of work as you continue to compile information about your family.

The information found in the census schedule concerning an ancestor will usually lead to the next census schedule you need to use. Take the information you have and use it as a stepping stone to the next record.

Example: I found my great grandfather, Salathiel Coen, in the 1900 and 1880 Census in Livingston County, Missouri, which is on the east side of Daviess County, Missouri. In 1880 Salathiel was 29 and his oldest child was 6. I checked the 1870 census for Livingston County, Missouri, but could not find Salathiel. My father was born in Jamesport, Daviess County, Missouri. He told me his father, Orville, was born nearby on Salathiel's farm. I

decided to look for Salathiel in the 1870 census for Daviess County. I did not find Salathiel as the head of the household, but I did find him with his father, Thomas Coen. The census records showed Salathiel was born in Indiana. I checked the 1860 Census Index for Indiana and found a Thomas Coen in Franklin County. I found Salathiel, age 9, which matched his age in the other census records, in Franklin County, Indiana, in 1860 with his father.

### Using the Census Records as a Clue to Find Other Records

When using census records as a clue to find other records, consider the following: An older family member does not appear in the next census. Check the probate records (did my ancestor die) and cemetery records (can I find a burial record). Look at the tax records (did he move and if so when) and land records (did he sell his land and move or perhaps I'll find a settlement of his estate). When a child is not listed in the next census, look for a marriage record or possibly a death record. These are just a few ways you can build a research plan with the census records. Your research will benefit from using not only the population census records, but other census records (i.e., state, county, mortality, and so forth) and documents that have information about our ancestors.

In a short time I found what seemed to be a wealth of information about my family. Over the years of researching and attending "How-to" lectures, I have learned how to find more than I ever dreamed was possible in the census records. Often I return to find clues that provide the information I need to solve different family relationships.

*About the Author: Madilyn Coen Crane is currently serving her second term as parliamentarian of the Dallas Genealogical Society. She is a past editor of the DGS Quarterly and has served as Executive Vice-President for Workshops. She is a vice-president and co-founder of the Genealogical Institute of Texas and is the author of several family histories.*

### Notes:

1. William Thorndale and William Dollarhide, *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1988), xiii.
2. *Black's Law Dictionary*, Fifth Edition, s.v. "Census."
3. *The Handy Book For Genealogists United States of America*, Eighth Edition, (Logan, UT: The Everton Publishers, Inc., 1991).
4. Arlene Eakle and Johni Cerny, eds., "Census Records," *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing Company, 1984), p 90-129.



## The Soundex Coding System

The Soundex is an index in which heads of household and persons of different surnames in the household are listed by a letter and number code. Soundex is used for the 1880, 1900, 1910 (partial), and 1920 census.

### Soundex Coding Guide

To search for a particular surname, you must first determine its code. A Soundex code must be a letter followed by a 3-digit number, such as C-625. The letter is the first letter of the surname; therefore, no number is assigned to the first letter of the surname. The three numbers are assigned to the remaining consonants of the surname according to the coding guide below. When consonants are not available, up to three zeroes may be added

The number	Represents the letters
1	B P F V
2	C S K G J Q X Z
3	D T
4	L
5	M N
6	R

The letters **A E I O U W H Y** are not coded.

These are the vowels and the word "why."

### Examples:

- A surname yielding no consonants, as LEE, would be L-000.
- The surname COOK would code as C-200, with two zeroes added.
- The surname SMITH, would code as S-530, by adding one zero.
- Not more than three digits are used; therefore ANDERSON would code A-536 (additional consonants are disregarded).

When key letters or equivalents appear together or one key letter immediately follows or precedes an equivalent, the two are coded as one letter, by a single number. For example:

- MILLER would code as M-460. The double "L" is coded as a single letter.
- LLOYD would code as L-300. Again, the double "L" is not coded. (In this case, the "L" is used as the code's letter.) Only the "D" is coded, adding

two zeroes.

- SCOTT would code as S-300. Both the "S" and "C" have the same equivalent value; therefore, the C is not coded. The double "T" is coded as a single letter with a value of "3" and two zeroes are added.
- Another example of this would be McGEE, which is coded M-200. The "C" and "G" have the same equivalent value and are coded as a single letter.

### Information Found

Several surnames may have the same code. Cards are arranged alphabetically by given name of the head of the household. What information do you need from the Soundex card to locate your ancestor on the census record?

- Once you have ascertained that this is indeed the ancestor you are seeking, make a note of the county or parish in which the family is located.
- Next you will need the following numbers appearing in the upper right-hand corner of the card: enumeration district (E.D.) number, sheet or page number, and line number, if given. (On the 1910 Soundex, the "sheet" number usually refers instead to the visitation number that is listed in the left-hand column of the census.)

This information takes you directly to the census entry for the family listed on the Soundex card.

### Census Availability in Dallas/Fort Worth

The Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library owns all the extant decennial U.S. Census from 1790 to 1910. The 1920 census is available for Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, and the military and naval personnel census.

The Regional Branch of the National Archives located in Fort Worth owns all the extant decennial U.S. Census from 1790 to 1920 and all available Soundex.



## My Most Interesting Ancestor

### Rebecca Towne Nurse 1620-1692

by Barbara Roberts Baylis \*

In 1992 America commemorated the 300th anniversary of the infamous Salem Witchcraft Trials. My tenth great grandmother, Rebecca Nurse, was a victim of the witchcraft hysteria in Massachusetts in 1692. Rebecca was one of twenty wrongly persecuted residents of Salem Village. These people suffered death rather than confess a lie. The trials lasted nine months, but the effect lingered years into the future. Under English law a person found guilty of witchcraft, who continued to profess innocence, received a sentence of hanging. If one admitted to being a witch, the reward was life. However, the state confiscated all the property of the professed witch. Refusal to enter a plea meant a cruel punishment of being crushed to death. Giles Corey was the only convicted person who met his death in this manner. Of the nineteen hung, who pleaded innocent, thirteen were women and six were men.

Salem Village was not a democratic community by today's standards. These early settlers did not comprehend the idea of personal freedoms. The people were superstitious; the majority could not read. They had no understanding of germs resulting in disease. All bad happenings were blamed on Satan and his followers. Salem residents failed to see their greatest enemies were pride, envy, animosity, and the need to control. All injustice has roots in this basic nature of people. These qualities were epidemic in 1692.

Focusing on Salem Village in February of 1692 finds the town divided on the call of a minister. After much debate, Rev. Parris, a failed merchant from Barbados, was called. He brought to

Salem Village his family and a slave, Tituba. Tituba entertained young girls of the village (mostly 12 to 14 years of age) with games of Voodoo. The girls, one by one, became sick and hysterical. The doctor attributed this to evil spirits. Rev. Parris pressed the girls to tell who afflicted them. The girls began to name ladies of their village.

Rebecca was 72 years of age when accused of Witchcraft by the girls. Rebecca and her husband, Francis, were respected community leaders. They owned one of the finest farms in the area. Rebecca was a member of the First Church of Salem. A very religious lady, her conversation was laced with quotations from the Bible. She was tried and found innocent. When the girls became hysterical in court, the judges asked the jury to reconsider. The second verdict was "Guilty!" At risk of being accused themselves, forty of the most prominent families of the area signed a paper asking for Rebecca's release. Lives of the citizens of Salem Village and surrounding towns fell under the power of mere children. After nine months of confusion and fear in New England, the creditability of these girls was questioned. In fact, when they began to accuse some of the most prominent citizens of the colony, the actions of all involved were questioned.



Rebecca Towne Nurse Homestead



The trials stopped but not in time for Rebecca or her sister, Mary Esty. They both were hanged. Mary Esty gave a powerful statement of her faith when she said:

*"The Lord above knows my Innocency...as att the great day will be known to men and Angells. I Petition to your honours not for my own life for I know I must die and my appointed time is sett but the Lord he knowes it is that if it be possible no more Innocent blood may be shed..".*

Rebecca died on July 19, 1692, still declaring her innocence. She had stated:

*"I can say before my Eternal father I am innocent, & God will clear my innocency."*

In 1696 Rev. Parris resigned his position as minister, leaving Salem Village never to serve a church again. In January 1696, a dozen witchcraft trial judges signed a statement admitting the trials to have been a tragic mistake. January 14, 1697, was declared a "Day of Fasting and Prayer" by Governor Stoughton. In the Proclamation, he asked God to forgive "all the errors of his servants and people" during the late tragedy. In 1706 one of Rebecca's chief accusers, Ann Putnam, made a public confession to her lies. God honored Rebecca's faith and cleared her name.

Many books have been written about Salem and the injustice of the trials of 1692. Arthur Miller's play, *The Crucible*, and the movie, *Three Sovereigns For Sarah*, have also told Rebecca's story. Each generation studies man's inhumanity to man and yet continues to have "witch-hunts." History has shown a legacy of times which man cannot be proud. Only cultural, social, and political issues change, man does not.

I documented my relationship to Rebecca through Massachusetts Town Vital Records. She is my most interesting ancestor because of the way in which she demonstrated her strong Christian faith. I admire her ability to refuse to lie even though she faced death. Her story is documented through Court Records of Essex County, Massachusetts. Her home stands today in the city of Danvers (previously called Salem Village). Her actions stand as an example to her

descendants. Danvers historian, Charles Tapley, stated it best when he wrote:

*"Thousands of women in every generation seem to be very like Rebecca in interest, activities and common sense. Her uniqueness does not consist in her being an extraordinary woman but in the extraordinary way in which she met an overwhelming experience....she met even death itself with an independent though meek spirit exhibiting nobility and integrity."*

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### \* About the Author

*Barbara Roberts Baylis has been a member of the Executive Board of the Dallas Genealogical Society for five years and currently serves as President. She is the president and co-founder of the Genealogical Institute of Texas. She is a well-known local genealogical lecturer and in 1992 was a lecturer at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. She is a professional photographer who has won several local and national awards and has photographed two covers of nationally published books. The photo of the Rebecca Nurse homestead is by Barbara.*

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Perley, Sidney. *The History of Salem, Massachusetts, Volume III, 1671-1716*. Salem, MA: n.p., 1928.

Tapley, Charles Sutherland. *Rebecca Nurse, Saint but Witch Victim*. Boston, MA: Marshall Jones Company, 1930.

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## Barbara Roberts Baylis Ahnentafel Chart

### 1st GENERATION

Barbara Carol ROBERTS: b 7 Aug 1937  
Longview, TX  
sp: Robert Vernon BAYLIS: b 1 Sep 1936 AR

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### 2nd GENERATION

Horace Nelson ROBERTS JR.: b 30 Sep 1918  
Longview, TX; m 7 Aug 1936 Shreveport, LA;  
d 22 Mar 1946 Sonora, TX  
sp: Edna Mae WILLARD: b 7 Dec 1917  
Natchez, MS

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### 3rd GENERATION

Horace Nelson ROBERTS SR.: b 8 Jul 1881  
Lynn, Mass; m 25 Apr 1912 Dallas, TX;  
d 15 Nov 1928 Longview, TX  
sp: Ezra Floy WILLIS: b 23 Mar 1888 Ennis, TX;  
d 5 Dec 1957 Longview, TX

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### 4th GENERATION

*1875*  
Horace Albert ROBERTS: b 15 Aug 1853 ,NH;  
m 7 Apr 1912 Dallas, TX; d 17 Aug 1928 ,RI  
sp: Emma Francis WAITE: b 3 Dec 1854  
Lynn, Mass; d 29 Aug 1944 Block Island, RI

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### 5th GENERATION

Benjamin N. WAITE: b 7 Sep 1824 Lynn, Mass;  
m 6 Mar 1849 Lynn, Mass; d 25 Dec 1900  
Lynn, Mass  
sp: Mary A. TARBOX: b 28 Apr 1829  
Lynn, Mass; d 25 Jul 1893 Lynn, Mass

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### 6th GENERATION

John: b 12 Jun 1791 Lynn, Mass; m 30 Jun 1816;  
d 16 Apr 1861 Lynn, Mass  
sp: Mary BELL: b 2 Dec 1787 Danvers, Mass;  
d Lynn, Danvers, Mass

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### 7th GENERATION

Daniel BELL: b 8 Oct 1762; m 28 Oct 1784  
Danvers, Mass; d 28 Jul 1810 Danvers, Mass  
sp: Mary Hannah VERY: b 25 Sep 1758  
Salem, Mass; d 9 Sep 1839 Danvers, Mass

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### 8th GENERATION

John VERY II: b Salem, Mass; m 30 Dec 1747  
Salem, Mass; d Salem, Mass  
sp: Elizabeth NURSE: b 12 May 1727  
Salem, Mass (COUSINS)

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### 9th GENERATION

Benjamin NURSE: b 20 Feb 1685/1686  
Salem, Mass; m 4 Sep 1714 Salem, Mass;  
d Aft 1736  
sp: Sarah BOSTON: d Salem, Mass  
(Parents of Elizabeth Nurse)  
Hannah NURSE: b 22 Jan 1687 Salem, Mass;  
m 31 Oct 1709 Salem, Mass; d 1720 Salem,  
Mass  
sp: John VERY I: b Salem, Mass; d 1720 Salem,  
Mass (Parents of John VERY II)

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### 10th GENERATION

John NURSE: b 17 Aug 1677 Salem, Mass;  
d 1 Dec 1719 Salem, Mass  
sp: Elizabeth VERY: b 17 Aug 1677 Salem, Mass

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### 11th GENERATION

*1695*  
Francis NURSE: d 22 Nov 1665 Salem, Mass  
sp: Rebecca TOWNE: b 21 Feb 1621  
Gt. Yarmouth, England; d 19 Jun 1692  
Salem, Mass

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### 12th GENERATION

William TOWNE: b 18 Mar 1599 Gt. Yarmouth;  
m 25 Apr 1620 Gt. Yarmouth, England;  
d 1673 Topsfield, Mass  
sp: Joanna BLESSING: b Abt 1595 England;  
d Abt 1682 Topsfield, Mass



## Look Again—What Did You Miss? Revolutionary War Pensions

By Patricia Law Hatcher

How often do you skip reading an introduction because you *think* you know about a particular record source? If you skip an introduction, you may miss valuable genealogical information about your family. A case in point is the Revolutionary War pension files on microfilm. *A Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives* says, "This introduction contains an excellent explanation of the eligibility requirements of the various resolutions and acts of Congress, 1776–1878." In addition to this explanation, the introduction to M804 contains the following informative text (italics added):

The "SELECTED RECORDS" in files containing *more than 10 pages of records, except those portions of them having no apparent genealogical value (such as attestations or endorsements)*, have also been reproduced in another microfilm publication, Selected Records From Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files (Microcopy 805). *Records in files containing 10 or fewer pages of records were reproduced in Microcopy 805 in their entirety . . .*

What does this tell us? There are actually two sets of National Archives Revolutionary War pension files on microfilm.

- Publication M805, *Selected Records From Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files* is 898 rolls. In general, this microfilm contains a *maximum* of 10 pages (sheets, some are front and back) from the file. *This is the version available in its entirety in the Genealogical Collection of the Dallas Public Library.* It is also the version from which the National Archives routinely makes copies in response to an order on form NATF 80.
- Publication M804, *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files* is *three times* larger, 2,670 rolls. This version is available in its entirety at the regional archives in Fort Worth and at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City (and on loan through the Family History Centers). Individual rolls can be rented or purchased from the National Archives or from the American Genealogical Lending Library (AGLL).

What does this mean to you as you *Look Again* at the genealogical research you have done? This is best illustrated by examining examples from my own family history. We'll begin with pension file W4221, for Daniel Harper and his widow, Mary (McAllister) Harper. Daniel served from New Hampshire and received his pension in Ohio, as did his widow. I am descended from their eldest son, Greeley Dustin Harper. The following chart compares the contents of the two microfilm series. (The numbers refer to the microfilm frame number.)

M805 #399	M804 #1193	Description
377	351	card
	352	"Selected Records"
378	353	Pensioner's roll
379	354	Widow's roll
380	355	1818 Daniel Harper declaration
	356	" page 2
	357	back of 356
381	358	1820 property schedule
382	359	" page 2
	360	" page 3
	361	back of 362
383	362	1840 Mary Harper declaration (her X)
	363	Greeley Harper attestation (signed)
384	364	Family rec
385	365	" page 2 (back of 364)
386	366	typed response letter
387	367	" page 2
	368	"Nonselected Records"
	369	Mary Harper rejected slip
	370	Daniel died 3 Aug 1839 pd slip
	371	1844 Mary Harper roll
	372	typed info letter
	373	" page 2
	374	"DAR" inquiry letter
	375	typed "not found" letter
	376	"DAR" inquiry letter
	377	"DAR" inquiry letter
	378	widow slip
	379	back of 380
	380	1849 Mary Harper declaration
	381	back of 382
	382	1844 Mary Harper declaration (her X)
	383	Mary Harper roll & pmt
	384	back of 385
	385	1844 letter from lawyer
	386	1840 final pmt to Mary for Daniel
	387	back of 388
	388	1840 letter from lawyer
	389	back of 390
	390	1844 letter from lawyer
	391	back of 392
	392	1820 Jonathan Cass deposition (signed)
	393	" page 2
	394	" page 3
	395	1820 Peaslee Eastman deposition (signed)
	396	back of 394
	397	back of 398
	398	1844 letter from lawyer

The 11 frames in the Selected Records (M805) for Daniel Harper are typical: the card, roll(s), declaration(s), a typed letter responding to a query (usually from a DAR applicant from the 1920s and 1930s), and—when you're very lucky—a Bible record or something similar. Let's examine the family record in this file. It is written on both sides of a tall, narrow unlined sheet of paper, jagged on one edge, which does not appear to be from a Bible at all, but rather from a notebook, possibly written for the specific purpose of taking it to court.

Now note the arrangement of the pages on the Nonselected microfilm (a total of 48 frames).

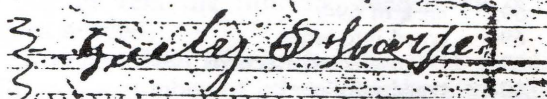


Several pages following the card that says "Selected Records" do not appear on the Selected microfilm! In general, these are the backs of pages, or the final page of the application, containing the clerk's recording information. However, frame 363 is different. It is a single sheet of paper:

*Greele D. Harper of lawful age, . . . says that he is the son of Daniel Harper late of said County deceased & Mary Harper his wife, that he has seen his father write and is well acquainted with his handwriting, that the annexed paper containing the family Records of his said father was taken from the family Bible of his said father (printed at Edinburgh Sct 1795) and that said Record is in the handwriting of his said father.*

Greeley D. Harper

The microfilmer evaluated this paper as *having no apparent genealogical value (such as attestations or endorsements)*. As a descendant, I certainly don't feel that way. I now know that this was a Bible record, that they owned a Bible, that Daniel himself wrote these entries, and I have Greeley's signature (he died intestate, therefore there was no original will, where I most commonly find signatures).



Now let's turn to the Nonselected Records. Many of them are pretty boring. Letters from attorneys trying to prod the government (in some files these contain useful information, but not here), more letters to and from genealogical researchers, administrative slips of paper, and more depositions. On his 1818 pension application, Daniel states that he is 53 (i.e., born in 1765) and enlisted in February 1781 (i.e., at age 16). However, Daniel was actually born 10 Mar 1766, according to Massachusetts vital records, and therefore enlisted at the age of 14. This discrepancy caused the DAR to "correct" my application, ignoring the vital records I had submitted with it. Therefore, I was quite interested to read Jonathan Cass' statement that "*I have some faint recollection of a lad by the name of Harper Joining the Company (as a Recruit) . . . he joined the army at so late a period of the war a lad just entered his seventeenth year.*" We can only speculate how Daniel, then "*in his 55 year*" residing in Meigs County, tracked down Cass, then residing in Muskingum County, who had "*not to my knowledge seen [him] . . . since the army was disbanded in the year 1783*" and "*called on me last evening for my deposition . . . so correctly relating events and circumstances which took place at different times and places.*" From this we get two pictures, one of the 14-year-old lying about his age to get into the final months of the war, and another of the two old soldiers, reminiscing about the events they participated in forty years earlier.

Now let's look at the file W6960 for Asa Dains and his widow, Jane (Kasson) Dains. Asa served from Connecticut and moved to Vermont before finally settling in Ohio.

M805 #244	M804 #731	Description
27	095	jacket
	096	"Selected Records"
28	097	Pensioner's roll
	098	back of 099
29	099	1832 Asa Dains declaration
30	100	" pg 2 (Asa's mark, Jesse Halsey signed)
31	101	" page 3
	102	back of 103
32	103	brief
	104	back of 106
	105	back of 106
33	106	1845 Jane Dains declaration
34	107	" page 2 (Jane's signature)
	108	" page 3
35	109	Widow's roll
36	110	Jacob & Jesse Halsey's statement
37	111	" page 2 (both signatures)
38	112	typed info letter
39	113	" page 2
	114	"Nonselected Records"
	115	widow &c slip
	116	widow's roll
	117	pay slip
	118	"
	119	widow's roll
	120	back of 121
	121	1850 widow's application
	122	" page 2
	123	" page 3 (her signature)
	124	back of 126
	125	back of 126
	126	lawyer's letter
	127	" page 2
	128	lawyer's letter
	129	lawyer's letter
	130	" page 2
	131	cover slip
	132	lawyer's letter
	133	1853 lawyer's letter for heirs
	134	" page 2
	135	1846 letter from govt
	136	" page 2
	137	widow's brief
	138	widow's pmt
	139	widow's pmt
	140	back of 141
	141	1845 Canterbury town clerk
	142	back of 143
	143	1849 lawyer's letter
	144	" page 2
	145	" page 3
	146	" page 4
	147	back of 148
	148	brief
	149	" page 2
	150	" page 3
	151	back of 153
	152	Obadiah Walker deposition
	153	" page 3
	154	back of 157
	155	1832 amendment to Asa's declaration
	156	" page 2 (his mark)



157	" lawyer's letter
158	back of 160
159	deposition Sam'l & Mary Kasson (signed)
160	" page 2
161	lawyer's letter
162	" page 2
163	letter from DAR applicant
164	" page 2
165	" page 3
166	response to 163
167	response to descendant
168	letter from SAR applicant
169	letter from DAR applicant
170	response form

Again, the contents of the films are fairly typical, 13 frames in series M805, 76 frames in series M804. Asa Dains' declaration [099] describes his service and residences since the war. Jane had no proof of their marriage, hence the statement [110, 111] signed by Jacob and Jesse Halsey. (Jesse was my ancestor, married to Asa's daughter Nancy, which is mentioned nowhere in the statement.) It gives a date for the arrival of Jacob and Jesse in Ohio and an account of their early friendship with Asa, stating,

*... though older than any of Asa Dains children were considered young people & went together in the same social circles with their older children. . . Deponents further state that they were acquainted with some of the early settlers of Meigs County who were acquainted with said Dains & wife before their removal to Ohio (which must have been some 10 years before deponents know them on their removal to Belpre in 1801) and that they verily believe that if the said Asa Dains & Jane Dains had not been legally married & their said childrens birth had not been legitimate that deponents would have been, in the free conversations between the early settlers, informed of such fact & that they would at least have heard rumors & suspicions to that effect.*

In addition to this picture of pioneer life, the documents in selected records contain signatures or marks for Jesse Halsey [100, 111], Jacob Halsey [111], Jane (Kasson) Dains [107], and Asa Dains [100]. What more could one want?

I had assumed that Jane didn't know to contact the town to get her marriage records, but this was not true, as is evidenced by the "not found" response from Canterbury [141]. I can imagine her frustration at the letter, since the marriage is, indeed, recorded in Canterbury. Obadiah Walker, like the Halseys, was an early settler at Belpre, Washington Co., Ohio, and makes statement that their oldest son Jephthah is at least 65. His statement is of interest to Walker descendants.

There are, also, documents of interest to collateral relatives—the *signed* statements of Samuel and Mary Kasson and the lawyer's letter. According to the letter [161, 162], "*The only person who saw them married and was by her known to be living was a brother of Mrs Dains residing some 100 miles distant—her son visited the old gentleman procured*

*his testimony to the fact of his being present & witnessing the marriage.*" Again, we have a picture of events in the lives of these people that would be unavailable from the dry statistics. Genealogists will also identify with the problem the lawyer described. (In fact, I had already encountered the problem of *Dains* being misread as *Davis* in a published marriage abstract.)

*In your letter 2d inst her name & also her husbands was spelled "Davis" It is Dains as the family spell it—it is spoken commonly as Dean if written Dean by a large portion of their acquaintance but by many as they write it Dains.*

These records are a reminder that we should search the files of all collateral lines, because therein we may locate such things as depositions by our direct ancestors. Such a search for other members of the Harper family produced the following rejected file for John Harper R4627:

M805	M804	Description
#399	#1193	
450	692	card
	693	"Selected Records"
451	694	1818 John Harper declaration (signed)
	695	back of 694
452	696	typed info letter
	697	"Nonselected Records"
	698	typed info letter
	699	back of 701
	700	1818 Ezekiel Rand deposition (signed)
	701	endorsement of 700
	702	1818 Enos Lake deposition (signed)
	703	endorsement of 702
	704	"Rejected" jacket
	705	1927 letter from DAR applicant
	706	" page 2

There are two interesting things to observe here. The Selected section contained only two pieces of paper, yet there are items in the Nonselected section. The "10-page rule" mentioned in the National Archives' introduction cannot *always* be relied upon.

The second observation is that not all useful information in the files was generated 150 years ago, as shown by the letter from the DAR applicant. She is seeking proof that Oliver Harper is the son of Lieutenant John Harper and provides the following information "*Oliver Harper was born in Cheshire Co N.H. Died and is buried at Darien N.Y. It is said the militia to which he belonged was called out at the firing at the Fort at Sacketts Harbor which was 10 miles from his home in the War of 1812.*" Obviously, this information might be useful to a descendant of this branch of the family.

A search through the other records for Dains located voluminous files for Castle, his brother Jonathan, Jesse, Abraham, and Ephraim Dains. These collateral relatives of Asa resided in Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Delaware, and Ohio, and the records will be quite helpful in untangling relationships.



In summary: How should you *Look Again* at the pension records in your file? First, look at the M805 microfilm in the Genealogy Collection (don't rely on the copies in your file). Count the *sheets* that appear to be in the file. If there are ten sheets, you will definitely want to look look at the microfilm of M804 in one of these ways:

- Plan a visit to the National Archives Regional Center in Fort Worth.
- Buy the appropriate microfilm roll from the National Archives (the library can order it, or you can do it yourself) or from AGLL.
- Rent the appropriate microfilm roll from the National Archives, from AGLL, or through a local LDS Family History Center (hint: these are catalogued under United States-Military Records-Revolution, 1775-1783-Pensions on the microfiche card catalogue).

Do *not* write the National Archives and ask for all the records in the Nonselected file—you may find yourself spending a small fortune for copies of numerous letters to hopeful DAR descendants and the backs of pages. It will be much less expensive to buy or rent the film and then make only the copies needed.

*Broaden Your Horizons.* The good genealogist will spot a number of other ideas here to utilize in their own research. We aren't satisfied to describe our ancestors by the dates and places of their birth, death, and marriage(s). We want more. We want people. The reality is that usually we don't find lengthy, fascinating, anecdotal biographies written by our ancestors.

Instead we find odd pieces of paper here and there, generated by their lives. With those pieces of paper we can, however, like a child creating a papier mâché figure, build that ancestor. The key is to locate documents that give us glimpses of their lives. That is the great potential of these files. Therefore, consider the following plan:

1. If an ancestor served in the Revolution, but did not have a pension, identify others who served in his unit, if you can.
2. Note the names of collateral kin and neighbors *for whom* your ancestor might have given a deposition, regardless of age. (Jesse Halsey was born in 1777, for example.)
3. Using *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*, by Virgil D. White [973.34 W588g], and series M805 at the Dallas Library, search for persons with pensions who might be allied with your ancestor.
4. Plan a trip to the National Archives branch in Fort Worth and check the complete files for any remaining names.

We are very lucky to have series M805 at the Dallas Library. It allows us to do much searching and copying at our own convenience (and less expense). However, we should follow through by checking M804 when a file is found on M805.

[*This article is an expansion of a portion of a lecture "Look Again—What Did You Miss?" presented by Pat as a DGS program in January of 1992, at the Texas State Genealogical Society 1992 Conference, and at the DGS 1992 Fall Symposium.*]

## Library News [continued from page 32]

developed by DGS on usage of materials, which patrons will be asked to voluntarily complete.

## Watch-Dogs

Genealogy Section staff members are finding more and more cases of vandalism and theft of books, microforms, and other materials from the collection. We need to turn all our honest DGS members, who use the collection on a regular basis, into watch-dogs. If you see anyone cutting or tearing pages out of books, putting books into bags or satchels, or just generally handling books in an unprofessional manner, notify a staff member as soon as possible. Please don't confront the person yourself; a staff member will be delighted to do so. Recently, security caught a patron leaving the building with a valuable heraldry book. The Library will prosecute "book-lifters."

As our collection continues to grow and patronage continues to increase, we can expect to see more of this type of dishonesty. You can help by just being an extra set of eyes.

## Lost and Hopefully Found

Have you misplaced some photographs you took of a Bible record that was probably too fragile to duplicate on a copy machine? Someone has. Three photographs were found by staff in the Texas/Dallas Collection. The photographs of a family Bible were left in the department in early February. The records concern the 1858 Bible of the Isaac Jackson family with connections to Isaac Clemons/Clements family. Does this sound familiar? If so, contact Sharon Van Dorn on the seventh floor. If the photos go unclaimed, they will be placed in the vertical files in the Genealogy Collection under the surname *Jackson*.



## Bulletin Board

*Do you have information you would like to share with other genealogical researchers in DGS? Have you found a "good deal" in genealogy, a rare library, a new source? If so, send the information to us. Space permitting, we will print timely items that the editors feel are of interest to our readers. This column is your forum for exchange. Please send original information only and include the source.*

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

## Photos of Your Civil War Ancestors

The US Military History Institute maintains a collection of 80,000 photos of Union and Confederate soldiers that may possibly include one of your ancestor. You may ask to have the collection checked for up to 10 names at one time by supplying names, states from which they served, regiments, and companies. If a picture is found, you will be sent a copy of the picture along with the information about ordering a print.

If you have a picture of your Civil War ancestor, it can be added to the collection. The Department of the Army would like to have any photos of Civil War veterans. They will make a copy of your original and return it to you, along with a complimentary print. They will also accept a non-returnable negative. Please include: name, rank, unit, dates of service, and dates of birth and death. The veteran does not have to be in uniform, and may have other family members in the picture. If you contribute a picture, write first for a free, franked mailing label.

Address: Curator; Department of the Army; US Military History Institute; Carlisle Barracks; Carlisle, PA 17013-5008.

## Cuban Roots

The Cuban Index to over a million names has been created by genealogist Peter Carr to preserve data and provide help to others in that difficult-to-search country. The cost is \$5 per surname per decade and takes about 10 working days. If you have

Cuban ancestry, you may receive no information or hundreds of pages; the average being at least one page of information with more than ten different entries.

DGS member Bernie Coffey discovered through the Cuban Index that he is related to Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand, as well as to Cuban revolutionary Ignacio Agramonte.

Address: Peter Carr; P.O. Box 11251; San Bernardino, CA 92423.

## Genealogical Trip to Germany

Leaving from Chicago on Thursday, 10 June, and arriving in Hamburg the next morning, is a 2-week trip designed to bring researchers closer to the home areas of their German forefathers while allowing sufficient free time for individual family research. Home base will be Neumunster in central Schleswig-Holstein. Also visited will be Molfsee, Lubeck, Fehmarn and the Probstei, the Kiel region, the Dithmarschen and Eiderstedt, the island of Fohr, and Apenrada in Denmark. The cost, based on double occupancy, is \$2,499.

For information: ASHHS Germany Tours; P.O. Box 313; Davenport, IA 52805-0313. For a reservation, requiring a deposit of \$150: Group Operations; AAA Travel Agency; 2900 AAA Court; Bettendorf, IA 52722; 319/332-7400.

## Confederate Museum Stamp

Celebrating 100 years as the oldest continuously operating museum in Louisiana is the Confederate Memorial Hall, 929 Camp Street, New Orleans. The museum is applying for a commemorative stamp and seeking public help for this cause. All friends of the museum are asked to write a letter in support of the application.

Address: Mr. Jack Rosenthal; Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee; 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW; Washington, D.C. 20260-6700.

## Ohio Maps

The Ohio Department of Transportation has available a series of genealogically valuable maps at low cost. The maps range in size from 8.5 by 11-inch county maps for 25 cents to a 42 by 46-inch



## Bulletin Board continued

wall map of Ohio for \$3.50. The individual maps of Ohio's 88 counties, which show township, range, section, roads, and watercourses, go up in size to 34 by 39-inches for \$1.50 each. Other type maps of the state are available in various sizes and prices.

Specifics and ordering information may be obtained in the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library or by writing: Ohio Department of Transportation; 25 South Front Street, Map Sales; P.O. Box 899; Columbus, OH 43216-0899.

## Missouri County Records

The best deal around! Missouri researchers may order microfilms of original county records from the Missouri State Archives for \$5 per roll. If donated to the DPL Genealogy Section, these films are tax-deductible. The catalog and order numbers for specific records is on microfilm in the Missouri microfilm drawer in the Genealogy Section.

The copy of the order form may be had at the service desk or by writing: Missouri State Archives; Reference Services; P.O. Box 778; Jefferson City, MO 65102. The form must be used when ordering.

## Bulletin Board — Events

### 21 March — James Douthat to Speak in Shreveport

The Friends of Genealogy, Inc. of Shreveport, Louisiana, will host a mini-workshop featuring James Douthat, owner of Signal Mtn. Press. Beginning at 2:00 P.M., his topics are "Virginia Records Are a Push Over," "Southwestern Virginia," "Virginia Militia System," and "The Three States of Tennessee." Cost is \$5. For information: Friends of Genealogy, Inc.; P.O. Box 17835; Shreveport, LA 71138-0835.

### 1 May — Annual Seminar of the Friends of Genealogy, Inc.

Father Donald Hebert will speak at the annual seminar in Shreveport on using church records and on civil records in courthouses. Also, Desmond Walls Allen will speak on using maps in family research and on picking up a problem line. Pre-registration, \$25 before April 20; \$27.50 afterwards. Includes continental breakfast and lunch. Address: same as above.

### 5-7 August — FGS Conference St. Louis, Missouri

The 1993 Conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) will have more than fifty nationally-known lecturers and over 120 sessions. This year's theme is "Gateway to the

Past."

For a conference brochure: Federation of Genealogical Societies; 1993 Conference in St. Louis; P.O. Box 3385; Salt Lake City, UT 84110-3385.

## Event Calendar

### 2-5 June — NGS Conference Baltimore, MD

1993 theme: "A Chesapeake Homecoming."  
Conference Brochure: 1993 NGS Conference in the States; 4527 17th Street, North; Arlington, VA 22207-2399. (Brochures available in the DPL Genealogy Section.)

### 13-18 June — Samford Institute Birmingham, AL

Six week-long courses are offered at the 29th Annual Session of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research on the campus of Samford University. Brochure: Marilyn Miller Morton; SU IGHR; Samford University Library; Birmingham, AL 35229; 205/870-2780

### 26-30 July — Genealogical Institute of Texas; Dallas, TX

Six week-long courses offered at the Richardson Civic Center, plus research opportunities at the Dallas Public Library and Fort Worth Regional Branch of the National Archives. Brochure: Mary Reid Warner; GIT; P. O. Box 799004-118; Dallas, TX 75379; 214/233-9248. (Brochures available in DPL Genealogy Section.)



## 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 2648, Dallas, TX 75225-0648.

**KILBOURN  
KILBOURNE** Is anyone aware of any work(s) done on the KILBOURN(E) family living in the Dallas area in the 1800's to early 1900's? Interested in the family, where they lived, etc. Will remunerate for copying the necessary information.  
**Steve Lech, 3541 Oakwood Place, Riverside, CA 92506-1830**

**ROPES  
BREELAND  
ELLIS** Seeking information on Samuel and Mariah (BREELAND) ROPES married in Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., OH in 1822 and appearing in census there in 1830. Mrs. Mariah ROPES appeared in the mid-1830's in Fulton Co., IL where she married Jacob ELLIS in 1839. After having one child she left Jacob in 1848 and returned to Hamilton Co.  
**Anne McGuffey, 1805 Taylor, Cedar Hill, TX 75104**

**HAWKINS** Seeking information on Drewsellar HAWKINS born 01 Sep 1898 in Grand Prairie, Dallas Co., TX.  
**Zane Peche, P.O. Box 767, Ft. Washakie, WY 82514**

**BUSHNELL  
CORZINE  
COLLINS  
RAUCH** Seeking information from about Louise J. (BUSHNELL/CORZINE) COLLINS, born 1889 in Godfrey, IL and died after 1953; William Franklin COLLINS, born 1888 in IL and died ?; Nellie (BUSHNELL) RAUCH, born 1893 in Godfrey, IL and died after 1953; Ira RAUCH, born ?, died ?.  
**Harry W. Starr, III, P.O. Box 495, Carlinville, IL 62626**

**LEDFORD  
FERGUSON  
GASKINS  
HUGHES  
PICKERING  
DORRIS** Need help with families of Solomon H. LEDFORD, son of Solomon and Jane (PICKERING) LEDFORD, born 1826 KY, died 1892 Harrisburg, IL. M/1 Rachel FERGUSON 1848 in IL; M/2 Rachel Stiff GASKINS 1870; M/3 Julia Gaskins HUGHES 1891. Children of Solomon, Jr. were Oliver Perry, born 1849 IL, died 1923 OK; Emily Anna Jane, born 1843 IL, wife of William DORRIS; Timothy, born 1855 IL, died 1939 IL; George, born circa 1860 IL; William, born 1864 IL; Ida born 1869 IL; Ora born 1872 IL; Cora born 1874 IL, died OR; Seigle born 1878 IL; Pearl born 1881 IL, killed in WWII 1951; Charles born 1885 IL. What happened to this family?  
**Mary Ellen Ledford, 702 Fouts Drive, Irving, TX 75061-4126**

**DUNCAN  
HAWK** Seeking information on Alexander DUNCAN, born 1791 PA. Enlisted in War of 1812 from Westmoreland Co., PA. He married Elizabeth HAWK 1813 in Westmoreland Co, moving to Armstrong Co. (Madison Twp) ca. 1820. Alexander died in 1843. They had at least 10 children, nine of whom were Maria, George, Jacob, John, Simon, Alexander, Samuel, Jonas, and Nathan. Will exchange info.  
**Tad Duncan, 4505 Carmel Lane, Rowlett, TX 75088**



# DGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1993

Check One: Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Annual, per household . . . . . \$18 \_\_\_\_\_

Sustaining Member (\$10 is tax deductible) . . . . . \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Patron Member (\$35 is tax deductible) . . . . . \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership, per individual (inquire of Treasurer)

For New Members - Surname Exchange: Each new member may submit up to 8 surnames and 1 state for each surname being researched. Example: Johnson, NC. Surnames are printed in the Membership Roster or its update.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to DGS and return today to a DGS Board Member or  
Mail to: Membership; Dallas Genealogical Society; P. O. Box 25556; Dallas, TX 75225-1556

[Rev 2/93]

## DGS Spring Seminar Registration Information

Enrollment will be limited to 700. PREREGISTRATION IS STRONGLY ADVISED. Registrations mailed after 15 March MUST include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. See page 25 and 30 for seminar information.

↓ PREREGISTRATION FORM ↓

### 1993 Spring Seminar featuring James L. Hansen

Saturday, 27 March, 8:00AM-4:00PM

Dallas Genealogical Society  
Richardson Civic Center

Please use one form for each person (copies permitted).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Dallas Genealogical Society  
and Mail to:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$22, preregistration (postmarked by 15 March)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$27, after 15 March

\_\_\_\_\_ \$6.50, box lunch

\_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose SASE for confirmation

Are you a DGS member? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

1993 Spring Seminar — Dallas Genealogical Society — PO Box 25556 — Dallas, TX 75225-1556



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