17 July 1992

Dr. William M. Mann, Jr.
613 Glenview
Enfield, NC 27823

Dear Bill:

Thank you again for the elegantly-arranged dinner in Halifax. I particularly enjoyed the chance to get to know you and meet your lovely family—how proud you must be of your children, and rightly so!

The gentleman I spoke to you about for membership in the Order is:

Lloyd D. Bockstruck
Dallas Public Library
1515 Young Street
Dallas, TX 75201.

He is one of the top genealogists in the United States, a much-sought-after lecturer, and the pre-eminent genealogical librarian, having developed an extensive, well-balanced genealogical collection at the library there. As I mentioned in Halifax, he has expressed an interest in the Order and has two qualifying colonial ancestors already identified. Lloyd would be a wonderful "catch" for us—I'm enclosing a photocopy of his biographical entry in Who's Who in Genealogy and Heraldry, which illustrates the point.

Best regards,

Helen F.M. Leary, C.G., C.G.L.
17 July 1992

Lloyd D. Bockstruck  
Dallas Public Library  
1515 Young Street  
Dallas, TX 75201

Dear Lloyd:

I'm writing today to Dr. Mann, again urging him to send you an invitation for the Order of the First Families of North Carolina. He's a tad disorganized, so he may not get to it right away.

See you in Phoenix?

Sincerely,

Helen F. M. Leary, C.G., C.G.L.

P.S. Just in case, his address is:
Dr. William M. Mann, Jr.
613 Glenview
Enfield, NC 27823
Mr. Lloyd D. Bockstruck
Dallas Public Library
1515 Young Street
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mr. Bockstruck:

Our mutual friend, Helen Leary, proposed you for membership in the Order of First Families of North Carolina.

Although our Order was instituted and incorporated in 1992 we only recently began inviting others to become members since it was not until a few weeks ago that we obtained tax exempt status from the IRS.

It appears that our Order will be a successful one. On the day it was organized we had about 56 people to become Life Members. In addition to that we are in correspondence with the College of Arms in London in hopes of having the College of Arms grant to our Order honorary armorial bearings. If that cannot be done, we will then have the heraldic devices to be used by our Order designed there. Our having our heraldic devices and membership certificate designed at the College of Arms will be in keeping with North Carolina's heraldic history, for at one time during the proprietary period there was a "Carolina Herald" at the College of Arms to handle all matters relating to heraldry and pedigrees of colonists in the Province of Carolina. That is a little known part of North Carolina's history.

When we have finalized the organizing plans for our Order and have our insignia we will then have the invitations and acceptances engraved.

Sincerely,

William M. Mann, Jr., M. D.
Genealogist, OFFNC
Mr. Lloyd Dewitt Bockstruck  
Dallas, Texas

Dear Mr. Bockstruck:

Enclosed you will find an invitation to submit for registration with the Order of First Families of North Carolina a pedigree establishing your descent from a colonist who was in North Carolina on or before July 12, 1729 and thereafter upon confirmation of your descent from such an ancestor by the Order become one of its members.

Enclosed also is information about the Order and an acceptance of the invitation with your name inscribed on it.

If you accept the invitation to register your pedigree, please validate the acceptance which is enclosed by signing it and return it to us as soon as possible.

After we receive your acceptance you will then be sent a Worksheet Pedigree form with instructions explaining how it should be completed.

Please do not send any money to the Order at this time. Life Membership in the Order is $200.00. That amount should be sent to the Order when you return your completed Worksheet Pedigree form along with evidence establishing descent from the North Carolina colonist through whom you derive eligibility for membership in the Order.

If for some reason the evidence does not prove the descent and if after extending you additional time to supply the needed documents, your descent from a qualifying ancestor is not proven, the $200.00 will be returned to you. The Order does however keep possession of all records sent to it. We therefore recommend that you retain copies of all records which you send to the Order.

If you have any questions about this invitation or this Order please contact us.

Sincerely,

William M. Mann, Jr.
Genealogist, OFFNC
The Officers and Members of the Council of the
Order of First Families of North Carolina
cordially invite
LLOYD DEWITT BOCKSTRUCK
to submit to this Order
prior to the 9th day of May 1995
a Pedigree establishing his Descent from an Ancestor
who was a Colonist on or before
the 12th day of July, Anno Domini 1729
in that part of the
Province of Carolina
which later became the
State of North Carolina
and upon Confirmation of that Pedigree
by the Order
become one of its Members
Order of First Families of North Carolina

1. John Langston
   b
   m
   d ante 20 April 1694

Katherine
   b
   d post 6 June 1699

2. John Langston
   b
   m
   d post 19 December 1747

3. John Langston
   b
   m
   d inter 27 January 1789 and 11 November 1790
   Greenville Co., S.C.

(2) Elizabeth
   b
   d inter 1790 and 22 November 1794
   Greenville Co., S.C.

4. Mary Langston

Joel Smith
Aaron Smith
b 4 February 1789 Spartanburg Dist., S.C.
m 26 August 1824 Caldwell Co., Kentucky
d 12 October 1851 Bond County, Illinois

Mary Laughlin
b 26 January 1796 Pendleton Dist., S.C.
d 12 April 1859 Bond County, Illinois

Joel Rondeau Smith
b 12 October 1826 Caldwell Co., Kentucky
m 23 July 1853 Bond County, Illinois
d 27 December 1892 Bond County, Illinois

Charlotte Ann Hasting(s)
b ca. 1836 Bond County, Illinois
d inter 1859-1860 Bond County, Illinois

Ellen Jane Smith
b 1859 Bond County, Illinois
m 27 March 1879 Bond County, Illinois
d 1881 Bond County, Illinois

William Henry Blankenship
b 1 September 1856 Bond County, Illinois
d 23 July 1936 Bond County, Illinois
Pedigree of Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck

8 William Edward Blankenship
   b 28 May 1880 Bond County, Illinois
   m 16 July 1902 Bond County, Illinois
   d 8 June 1942 Bond County, Illinois

9 Olive Elsie Blankenship
   b 2 December 1916 Bond County, Illinois
   m 2 December 1940 St. Louis, Missouri
   d

10 Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck
   b 26 May 1945 Vandalia, Illinois
   m
   d

11
   b

8 Bertha Elsie Austin
   b 17 November 1880 Bond County, Illinois
   d 1 October 1955 Vandalia, Illinois

9 Harry Earl Bockstruck
   b 13 February 1911 Bond County, Illinois
   d 19 September 1969 Greenville, Illinois

10
   b
   d
Mr. Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck
The Bristle Cone
3955-C Buena Vista Street
Dallas, Texas 75204

Dear Mr. Bockstruck:

Thank you for your letter of November 8th, and this is to acknowledge receipt of your Worksheet Pedigree, the accompanying evidence and your check for $200.00 for life membership in the Order of First Families of North Carolina.

Furthermore, I have examined the pedigree and evidence and have confirmed the descent as established by you. You will therefore find enclosed the worksheet pedigree and two official pedigree forms which should be completed incorporating the minor changes noted on the worksheet pedigree.

I have also enclosed another copy of the small fictitious pedigree on which I have noted in red the adjustments or changes with respect to style when the official pedigrees are typed. Please make the changes noted, especially with regards to the use of capital letters.

The changes noted on the worksheet were noted in pencil since it was beautifully done and did not have to be defaced by my remarks.

Under current genealogical information, I recommend that you give more complete information on your siblings and their descendants - dates and places of births, marriages, etc. and such other biographical information as is appropriate so that we will have available for publication that information should the Order publish chapters on the families of early settlers which chapters extend the family down to the present. It is not necessary to send supporting evidence for that information since we accept the certification at the end of the pedigree as proof of that information.

The thoroughness of your work with respect to the pedigree and evidence made checking your information
a pleasure.

Sincerely,

William M. Mann, Jr.
President & Genealogist
Order of First Families
of North Carolina

P.S. Please return the worksheet with the official pedigree forms. In the past members have forgot to do that.
Mr. Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck  
The Bristle Cone  
3955-C Buena Vista Street  
Dallas, Texas  75204  

Dear Mr. Bockstruck:

It gives me great pleasure to hereby inform you of the approval of your membership in the Order of First Families of North Carolina.

At this time the Order does not have an official certificate to send new members notifying them of their acceptance to membership in our Order.

As of this date you now have the privilege of proposing for membership others to whom you wish invitations sent. Obtaining endorsements is not required as members of the Council of the Order have the privilege of proposing and/or endorsing others for membership in our Order. We therefore use that provision of our Statutes for endorsements since we feel that we can rely totally upon the recommendations of our members.

When one proposes someone for membership, we like for that person's complete name to be submitted if the person is a man. If the person is a married woman we like to have her complete maiden name as well as the complete name of her husband. That is because our invitations as worded are formal. On the other hand, it is not an absolute requirement, and we leave the final decision as to whether or not that is done with the member making the proposal.

Your Pedigree forms were beautifully completed, and we hope that you will be able to attend some of our meetings.

Sincerely,

William M. Mann, Jr.  
President, OFFNC
September 11, 1995

Mr. Thomas Woodcock
Somerset Herald
College of Arms
Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4BT
England

Dear Mr. Woodcock:

As Governor of the State of North Carolina, I approve of the Order of First Families of North Carolina’s request for a Grant of Armorial Bearings from the College of Arms.

We in North Carolina are extremely proud of our rich tradition and significant heraldic history during the proprietary period. I believe that it would be most appropriate for the Order to receive a Grant of Armorial Bearings.

I deeply appreciate your consideration of the Order’s request.

My warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

James B. Hunt Jr.

JBH/acp