



OCTOBER 1989

CLF NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3

Published Bi Monthly by Clayton Library Friends

No .5

Our library's Clayton Home now has its historical marker. The dedication was on Saturday, October 28. Mrs. Susan Clayton McAshan a daughter of the Claytons and Mrs. Susan Garwood Knapp a great granddaughter unveiled the marker at the ceremony. Steven Fox gave the building history of the house. Clayton Library Friends served refreshments at the Guest House following the ceremony. In connection with the dedication of the marker we have reviewed elsewhere in the newsletter the book, Will Clayton: A Short Biography.

Still on the calendar for 1989 are the annual meeting at the Clayton home on Saturday, November 18, (3RD SATURDAY—NOT 2ND SATURDAY) and the Silver Tea at Betty Evans' home on Sunday, December 17. The primary business at the November meeting will be the election of officers. The nominating committee's report (listed below) was mailed to the membership early in October. Nominations may also be made from the floor. Committee chairman reports and a report on CLF acquisitions will also be given at that time.

The Nominating Committee announced the following slate:

President-----Virginia Simms Toney
1st Vice President-----James N. Younglove
2nd Vice President-----Mildred Clark Tarchiani
Secretary-----Mary Evelyn Scheirman
Treasurer-----Ruby Vigneaux Dusek
Directors (Two-Year Terms)
-----Patrick F. Cochran
-----Mary Ann Phillips
-----Margaret Whiteley
Director (*One-Year Term)
-----Clarence Smith
-----*To finish unexpired term of H. H. Meredith

The Ways and Means Committee did a wonderful job planning and executing the luncheon and fashion show at Vargo's in September. Over 120 reservations were made and the revenue to CLF was \$1,309. They are busy now with plans for the Holiday Silver Tea on December 17 at the home of Betty Evans. In addition to the beautiful Christmas decorations there will be

organ music by Clarence Smith during the two hours-2 to 4 p.m.

ILYNE OLSON - EDITOR

FROM GINNY TONEY — PRESIDENT

The success and future of our organization depends on each and everyone of YOU. YOU ARE A KEY PERSON! To stress that point, please read the following story. Permission to reprint granted by the Pasadena Weekly Journal of Business, Pasadena, California.

YOU ARE A KXY PXRSON

Vxvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works vxry wxll—xxcpxt for onx kxy. Yqu would think that with all thx othxr kxys functioning propxrlly, onx kxy not working would hardly bx noticxd; but just onx kxy out of whack sxxms to ruin thx wholx xffort. You may say to yoursxlf—Wxll, I'm only onx pxrson. No onx will noticx if I don't do my bxst. But it doxs makx a diffxrxncx bxcausx to bx xffxctivx an organization nxxds activx participation by vxvryonx to thx bxst of his or hxr ability. So the ntxt time you think you arx not important, rxmxbxrx my old typxwritxr. YOU ARX A KXY PXRSON!

Please answer and return the enclosed **questionnaire**. We want your opinions, ideas, and suggestions.

BI-MONTHLY MEETING

9:30 A.M. - SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 18
OLD CLAYTON HOME
(Election of Officers and Directors)

HOLIDAY SILVER TEA

2 TO 4 P.M. - SUNDAY - DECEMBER 17
1410 WEST BROOKLAKE DRIVE
LAKESIDE ESTATES
(Acceptances call 524-4368 or 774-5088)

FROM EVA CUNNINGHAM

—MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

1990 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS NOW UNDERWAY! (1989 membership-586.)

—PLEASE RETURN the enclosed membership form as soon as possible. —INVITE friends to join (give them a copy of the form), and —CONSIDER CLF memberships for gifts—birthday, Holiday, etc.

Dues are due January 1 and deadline for listing in yearbook is February 1. Annual dues are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for two persons at the same address

Please indicate on the renewal form if you would like to work on the mailing, telephone, yearbook, or hospitality committee. This is a great way to get to know other members.

FROM MILDRED TARCHIANI

—PROJECTS PLANNING COORDINATORS

Mark your calendar—Our Silver Tea will be held at the home of Betty Evans on Sunday, December 17, 2 to 4 p.m. Invitations including a map and directions will be in the mail in the next few weeks.

Our gratitude to Special Events Chairman Judith Trammell who was in charge of our successful and enjoyable luncheon and fashion show at Vargo's on September 14. Thanks, too, to her committee—Ruby Dusek, Betty Evans, Joyce Naumann, Ann Reed, Odile Roberts, Harriette Young, and Barbara York—and to all who supported this event by their participation and/or special contributions.

FROM CLIFTON TAYLOR - TREASURER

As of September 30, 1989 the balance in our general fund was \$7,653.40 and the balance in the CLF Endowment Fund was \$2,655.13. A complete Treasurer's report will be given at the November meeting.

FROM PAT COCHRAN

—LIBRARY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS COORDINATOR

-Hours of reported volunteer service reached a total of 834, with the addition of 39 hours by six volunteers in September. Maxine Alcorn is reviewing the priority of various volunteer service projects. Suggested items include lists of related names in the vertical files and family history books.

—The Vertical Files Project is nearing completion. Much credit is due to this hardworking group—Zina Betsill, Peggy Gregory, Lilas Johnson, Jane Ohrt, Cathleen Shoemaker, and Bessie Wendt, Joanne Whitfill, and Harry Wilkinson. —Thanks to Avis and Harry Brister for the updated Slide Presentation about Clayton Library. —The table-top boxes with paper slips are welcomed by library patrons. Thanks to those who

provide paper (and surplus pencils).

Rose Mary Fritz, Janet Anderson, and Clarence Smith have completed the initial phase of indexing the "Family History Books Without a Surname in the Title." Peggy Gregory typed this information into an Apple-Works data base from which five notebooks were printed. This information was sorted into the following categories: I—Surname (Shelf) Index, II—Related Surname Index, III—Author Index, IV—Author Index (Abbreviated), and V—Title Index (Abbreviated). Eric Nye and Margaret Whiteley assisted in the preparation of the computerized data for the hard copies. George Pardue and Cliff Taylor transferred the Apple files to the MS-DOS computer. The notebooks are available at the Information Desk.

Betty Stokes has prepared a similar data base on the MS-DOS computer for use in inputting the data from the Fogle West funeral home records. **We need volunteer typists** to input this data on a Zenith laptop. (Please call Pat Cochran, 721-1898.)

FROM T. NORMAN CROOK — BYLAWS COORDINATOR

The Bylaws Committee has received a recommendation that the requirement in Section 6.3 that a...LIST OF THE NOMINEES BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE BE SENT TO THE MEMBERSHIP BY OCTOBER 15...be changed to read that thelist be sent at least two weeks prior to the annual (November) meeting. This would allow the listing to be included in the regular October newsletter, avoiding the expense of a special mailing (which occurred this year), and still give the membership ample time to consider the nominees.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee would like to have suggestions of other things that may be problems. We will consider all of them and make recommendations for changes early next year.

FROM MARGARET WHITELEY

—ENDOWMENTS COORDINATOR

As of October 25, 1989 the **Endowment Fund** reached \$3,200. Contributors to the fund, since the last newsletter are Demos Automotive, Margaret Whiteley and Exxon Corporation matched funds given earlier by Eva Cunningham, and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Stewart.

HONORARIA/Endowment Fund

Patrick Cochran, by friend, anonymous
Col. M.P. and Peggy Gregory
(50th Wed. Anniversary) by Lilas Johnson

MEMORIALS/Endowment Fund

Charles David Whiteley Hamilton
Alfred J. Knapp
by Lawrence A. Hamilton

FROM HENRY H. MEREDITH, JR.

— GIFTS, DONATIONS, AND MEMORIALS COORDINATOR

The following contributors gave in support of the September luncheon and fashion show: Dr. Herbert Allen, Arthur Christensen, Ruth Czigan, Mrs. M. Hendrix Davis, Suzanne Fleisher, Ema Horton, Carleton Hughs, Dr. Mavis P. Kelsey, Rosemary Long, Lee McCulley, Pauline McCullough, Dr. Margaret Rose McLelland, Mildred Newell, Mary J. Paez, Catherine Ponder, Yelive Ramsey, Elizabeth Reap, H. Lei Red, Mrs. Joe Rollins, Myron Steves, Dr. Louise Strong, Mrs. Karl ten Brink, W. T. Thagard, Virginia Simms Toney, Belva Walker, and Mrs. Howard Warren.

A gift was received from Ella and Renata Wunderlich and Quentin Naumann's earlier gift was matched by Exxon Corporation. The following gifts were given as honorariums and memorials:

HONORARIA

Beatrice Groginski
by Jewish Genealogical Society
Margaret Whiteley
by Clemence Whiteley

MEMORIALS

Matthew Gordy
by Lloyd and Betty M. Pape
Lee Simons
by Bill and Lillian McNutt

MEMORIAL BOOK FUND

Frank Westmoreland
by James A. and Janet H. Anderson
Paul C. and Rachel Whiteley Creekmore
James Monroe and Marguerite Kennedy
Whiteley
James M. and Dorothy Deadwyler Whiteley
Robert S. Whiteley
by Clemence Whiteley

Will Clayton: A Short Biography

This book which is found in the Family History Section of the library (929.2 G244) was written by Ellen Clayton Garwood, one of the four daughters of Will and Susan Vaughn Clayton. It was published by The University of Texas Press in 1958 which was the year the Claytons offered their home on Caroline Street to the Houston Public Library. Mrs. Garwood does an excellent job of leaving for future generations an insight into the life of her father who rose from humble beginnings in Mississippi (where he was born in 1880) to a role of prominence in the cotton business and national and world affairs. At the age of 14 Will Clayton left school and became the fastest typist and shorthand writer in Jackson, Mississippi. He did court reporting and typed for men who stopped at the local Armour Hotel. His first encounter with a prominent political figure was that

same year when he typed a speech for William Jennings Bryan. When he was 16 he went to New York to work for the American Cotton Company because he had typed for Jerome Hill, a cotton merchant, who had been in Jackson and was with this round-bale company in New York.

Back in Jackson in the summer of 1897 he met his future wife, a young lady from Clinton, Kentucky. He proposed to her while she was attending school in Washington, D.C. in 1899 and they were married in 1901. Three years later he started Anderson Clayton and Company in Oklahoma City with his brother-in-law, Frank Anderson and Frank's brother, Monroe Anderson. In 1915 Anderson, Clayton and Company became worldwide and began building compresses and warehouses in port cities. Will Clayton chose to move his family to Houston the next year. He emerged into the national political arena when he was appointed a member of the Committee on Cotton Distribution for the War Industries Board during World War I and served as a "dollar-a-year man" under Bernard Baruch.

By 1936 Clayton had attained such prominence in the cotton business his photograph appeared on the cover of Time Magazine with "Cotton's Clayton" as the caption. His service in Washington started again in 1941 when he was named Deputy Federal Loan Administrator and Vice President of the Export-Import Bank. Because of his work our nation was able to stockpile rubber from the Philippines and other critical materials prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. In December of 1944 he was named Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs and accompanied Truman and Byrnes to the Potsdam Conference later that year. This set the stage for the important role he played in the formation of the Marshall Plan.

An interesting sidelight is the mention made in the book of Clayton's conference in Italy in 1946 with Ambassador Tarchiani, who was the father-in-law of CLF's second vice president, Mildred Tarchiani. You may enjoy looking at this book when you are at Clayton Library.

By Ilyne Olson

IN MEMORIAM

Vernon W. Garrison

Margaret Nealon Jongbloet

1990 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS - P.O. Box 271078 - Houston, TX 77277-1078

(PLEASE PRINT)

DATE _____, 19____

Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms./Dr. _____

As appropriate, indicate maiden name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phones: Home AC _____ / _____ Bus. AC _____ / _____

ANNUAL DUES: Individual-----\$10, Two persons at same address-----\$15

(DUES DUE January 1, 1990.....DEADLINE for yearbook listing is February 1, 1990)

(Make check payable to Clayton Library Friends and mail to address above.)

____Renewal, ____New Membership PAID \$_____, Cash_____, Ck.# _____

Would you like to work on a committee?? _____

or on an in-library service project?? _____

List your interests, talents/skills, computer or career expertise that you could make available to Clayton Library Friends _____

=====

____Clayton Library Friends was organized in 1987 as a volunteer support group for Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, 5300 Caroline, Houston, Texas.

____Clayton Library Friends obtained the grant from Houston Endowment Foundation that furnished the library, and purchased new microfilm readers and other state of the art equipment.

____CLF is seeking additional grants, endowments, gifts, donations, and memorials.

____CLF qualifies for the matching funds program offered by many companies.

____Your gifts to CLF are a great way to honor a friend, remember a loved one, benefit Clayton Library, and are tax deductible

____We have many ideas--always subject to approval of Clayton staff--of ways CLF can serve and contribute to Clayton Library. We are sure you have ideas, too, --SO JOIN US !!

CLF QUESTIONNAIRE

WE NEED YOUR OPINIONS AND IDEAS TO EVALUATE PAST CLF ACTIVITIES AND PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO FILL IN THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS, P.O.BOX 271078, HOUSTON, TX 77277-1078.

1. HOW MANY MEETINGS HAVE YOU ATTENDED THIS YEAR_____.
2. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH MEETING DATE AND TIME?_____.
3. IF NOT WHAT IS YOUR PREFERENCE?
4. HAVE PROGRAMS INFLUENCED YOUR DECISION TO ATTEND_____ OR NOT TO ATTEND_____.
5. OTHER FACTOR(S) THAT INFLUENCED YOUR ATTENDENCE:
6. SUGGEST WAYS TO IMPROVE MEETINGS:
7. DO YOU LIKE BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS_____. DO YOU PREFER TO MEET ____2 TIMES, ____4 TIMES, OR ____TIMES EACH YEAR.
8. DO YOU FEEL THE BOARD IS KEEPING THE MEMBERSHIP WELL INFORMED?
9. CHECK THE FUND RAISING EVENTS YOU ATTENDED
____BBQ, ____ORGAN RECITAL, ____LUNCHEON/STYLE SHOW
10. DO YOU THINK OUR FUND RAISING IDEAS HAVE BEEN ADEQUATE THIS YEAR_____. WHICH EVENT(S) SHOULD BE REPEATED.
11. WHAT ARE YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR FUND RAISING?
12. SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING NEWSLETTER.
13. DO YOU HAVE TIME TO VOLUNTEER?
14. LIST YOUR VOLUNTEER SERVICE PREFERENCES.
____COMMITTEES, ____IN SERVICE LIBRARY PROJECTS
15. LIST YOUR INTERESTS, TALENTS/SKILLS, COMPUTER OR CAREER EXPERTISE THAT YOU COULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO CLF.
16. HOW DO YOU THINK WE COULD BETTER ACHIEVE CLF'S GOALS/PURPOSES AS A SUPPORT GROUP FOR CLAYTON LIBRARY

USE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS--please refer to question number.

NAME (OPTIONAL)_____PHONE _____