



CLF NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4

February 1990

No. 1

From The President Ginny Toney

A new column for the Newsletter begins this month entitled "What's in the Library". It is intended to help CLF members become acquainted with "gems" hidden away on the shelves or in a cabinet. Our first contributor is Mary Smith Fay. We are grateful for her time and effort on this. Please contact me if you know of a "hidden" research aid in the Library which could serve as the subject of this column.

CLF is going to participate in Houston's International Festival on the week-ends of March 24-25 and March 31-Apr 1. The theme of the festival will be the United Kingdom. We will have a booth in "This is Houston" on Smith Street from 10am-6pm. If you would like to help please call Chia Greer at 668-4500.

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First Vice-President James Younglove

Please look at your mailing label on this newsletter. If it doesn't have 1990 on it, this will be your last newsletter unless you follow these instructions carefully. Renew your membership by sending a check for \$10 (\$15 for two persons at the same address) made out to Clayton Library Friends to CLF, PO Box 271078, Houston TX 77277-1078.

Your membership is very important (see the Treasurer's Report) to CLF in its support of Clayton Library.

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Treasurer's Report Ruby Dusek

The 1989 books are undergoing the annual audit process. CLF gave Clayton Library \$5,090 during 1989. A full report will be in the next newsletter.

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What's In The Library Mary Smith Fay

Most of us think that it would be useless to look for an ancestors' name in the papers of a body as august as the Continental Congress. We think that family tradition would have told us if an ancestor had been a delegate to any Congress. However, there are many other reasons why we might find facts on our forbearers in such papers.

Consider where your people were during this time. The first of these pre-Federal Government Congresses began in Philadelphia on 5 September 1744 and ended 26 October 1774; the Second convened there 10 May 1775 but met successively for the next six years in a number of cities, becoming the Confederation Congress on 2 March 1781 under the Articles of Confederation. For seven more years it met in different cities

holding its last session on 11 October 1788 in New York City.

Many papers from local officials and private persons, not only in the Colonies but also in the Territories are in the collection. As the delegates moved from city to city they met many ordinary citizens, received many letters giving opinions and asking for favors while they selected boarding houses, employed help and saw to it that bills were paid. All the while, they were following in detail the Battles of the American Revolution and coping with Indian problems.

A problem of long standing was solved when I found copies of letters of Joseph Allicocke in these files which identified his ten children. Allicocke was a Tory and these letters were placed into the files as evidence after they were intercepted. A short article in the January 1990 issue of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record (121:32-33) describes the finding of this information.

The five volume every-name index to the Papers of the Continental Congress 1774-1789 is in the United States section on the first floor of Clayton Library and the papers themselves, some 50,000 documents, are on microfilm upstairs. Read the Introduction in the first volume carefully before proceeding.

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Endowment Fund Report Margaret Whiteley

During the 1989 year a total of \$3,669.87 was contributed to the Endowment Fund. These lasting and highly appreciated gifts contribute to the long term growth of the collections of Clayton Library. When you plan your estate please consider the Income Tax and Estate Tax

advantages of a Charitable Trust or a Testamentary Trust. Information on these types of planned giving is available on request.

Gifts from the following were received during December 1989:

Mr. and Mrs., J. William Toney in honor of Mrs. Sigrid Foster

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Stewart, Miss Aileen Whiteley and Miss Tommie Whiteley in honor of Mr. Wynne Louis Creekmore

Col. and Mrs. M. P. Gregory in honor of Mrs. Charles William (Sally) Geelan.

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Fund Raising Committee John Kirtley

A grant of \$100,000 has been secured from Houston Endowment to provide Clayton Library with the following equipment:

Map Cases, Chairs, Computer Tables, Checkpoint Security System, Video Cassette Recorder and Monitor, Five Terminals for the On-Line Catalog, LAN Workstations, Flatbed Text Scanner, Planetary Camera, Laser Printer and Accelerated Indexing System.

We deeply appreciate the support of Houston Endowment in providing these enhancements to the facilities at Clayton Library.

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Meeting Notice

The next meeting of CLF will be May 19th at 9:30 a.m. at the DRT Log House located across from Hermann Park very close to Ben Taub Hospital. It will feature a Silent Auction of genealogical materials

and a Barbecue Luncheon. Look for more details in the next newsletter.

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Ways and Means Committee
Mildred Tarchiani

During 1989 the Committee raised a total of \$4,309.45. The Committee expresses its sincere thanks to Mrs. Betty Evans for providing a beautiful setting for the Silver Tea. The October Luncheon and the Christmas Tree provided a total of \$2,229.11 which was committed to acquisition of reels of the 1900 and 1910 Census/Soundex microfilm. The Valentine Tree has garnered a total of \$160.00 to date. The next fund raising activity will be the Silent Auction at the May meeting.

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Volunteers

Among the the advantages of CLF membership are the opportunities in the volunteer program managed by Pat Cochran. Participating in this effort assures you that the time you donate will be put to use exactly where it is needed in the Clayton Library. Please call Pat at 721-1898 for more information on how you can participate.

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Yearbooks

The 1990 year book should be in the mail some time during March.

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Please bring materials you wish to donate for the Silent Auction to Clayton Library and deposit them in the marked box in the Clayton Friends' room (behind the main desk). All proceeds will be used to buy census/soundex microfilm for

Clayton Library. For further information call

Louise Krohn 721-3540 or
LuAnn York 438-1147 or
Ginny Toney 493-6993.

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Checklist

Next meeting:

May 19, 1990
9:30 a.m.
DRT Log House

International Festival:

Mar 24-25, Mar 31-Apr 1
Smith Street, Downtown

Clayton Library:

9 - 9 Mon - Wed
9 - 5 Thur - Sat

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS
Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research
5300 Caroline
P. O. Box 271078
Houston, Texas 77277-1078

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