



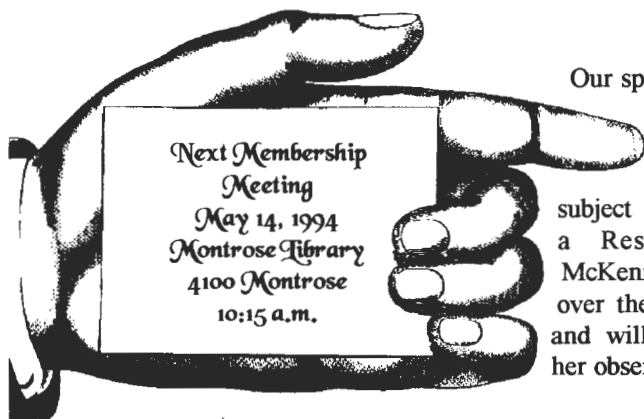
Clayton Library Friends: Host Society for the
1994 National Genealogical Society
Conference in the States, June 1-4

THE CLF NEWSLETTER

Vol. VIII

May 1994

No. 2



Our speaker for the May 14th meeting will be Mrs. Betty McKenney, who will talk on the subject of "Getting Ready for a Research Trip." Mrs. McKenney has traveled all over the states doing research and will be sharing some of her observations.

President's Column

Edmund Traverso, in his book, *Immigration: A Study in American Values*, observed that "the study of history is one of many ways that man organizes his experience in order better to understand himself." If properly conceived, this is not a search merely for facts or trends but a "search for human understanding." In this study, man cannot expect to find all the answers. Much we wish to find may be inaccessible or rooted in uncertainty. The assumptions we may begin with stem from our own biases and interests and may affect our conclusions.

Can we not make the same observation in regard to our study of genealogy? Like historians, genealogists must use certain tools to analyze reality and decide what materials are relevant to one's particular investigations. We must frame hypotheses and ask the right questions. How do we go about this task most effectively? Our answers must come primarily from source material, the raw material from which the historian and genealogist alike work.

Where do we obtain these source materials? The answer is, of course, from many places: the courthouse, the family trunk, the archive, the cemetery. But, I believe most will agree that the bulk of our research time is spent in the library. For the majority of us, this means Clayton Library.

Grant received for Kentucky tax lists

We have some good news for anyone researching Kentucky ancestors! The Fondren Foundation has awarded Clayton Library Friends a grant for \$6,000 for the purchase of the complete microfilm collection of Kentucky tax lists. The lists, filmed by county, range in dates from 1787 to the 1880's. There are approximately 400 rolls of film in the set, and all are to be acquired through the Fondren grant. Watch for more information on the Kentucky tax lists in future issues of the newsletter.

Our sincere thanks to the Fondren Foundation for this generation contribution to the Clayton Library collection. Special thanks are also in order to Executive Board member Ann Reed, who contacted the foundation and wrote the grant proposal. ●

Census drive yields \$5,990

As of March 28th, the membership response to our Census Campaign Fund has yielded \$5,990. This amount, together with the matching gifts for which we will apply and other contributions received during the first quarter, will provide the library

approximately \$8,000 with which to purchase new census microfilm. Initiated on March 1, the Census Drive went extremely well, and we are considering having an annual "theme" drive for other material that would enhance the library's research collection. Our sincere thanks to everyone who supported this effort. ●

(Continued on page 2.)

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

P. O. Box 271078
Houston, Texas 77277-1078
Established 1987

Clayton Library Friends is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization under IRS Code 501(c)(3). The sole purpose of CLF is to enrich the resources and facilities of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research.

OFFICERS

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- Margaret Grigsby Mottley 1st VP
- Ruth Chambers Lewis 2nd VP
- Kathryn Holloway Strack ..Secretary
- Robert L. Lowry, Jr. Treasurer

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- John Dorroh
- Ann Brittain Reed

SECOND TERM DIRECTORS

- Carolyn Dowden Grimm
- Glenn E. Sewell
- William R. Swearingen

CLF NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Donald E. Pusch

Annual Membership Dues

- Individual..... \$10.00
- Two People (same address) .. \$15.00

Special Friends

- Contributor \$1 to \$49
- Donor \$50 to \$99
- Patron \$100 to \$249
- Sponsor \$250 to \$499
- Benefactor \$500 and above

President's Column (continued)

We Texans are particularly fortunate to have a superior genealogical collection in our own backyard. Known for having one of the finest genealogical collections in the country, Clayton Library did not attain this standing without the efforts of dedicated staff members, patrons, and friends over many years. However, in order to maintain this position, the collections at Clayton must continue to grow. The raw materials from which we draw our facts and conclusions are only there because someone cared.

Won't you help by contributing to that growth? Your membership in Clayton Library Friends is a first step. We are now over 700 strong, an all-time high. Our member volunteers are contributing their time to the library and working on special projects, and our Board of Directors and committees are focused on building the collection through fund raising and the solicitation of grants and gifts-in-kind. We need you and your ideas. Come join us!

The Friends are almost ready to welcome the international genealogical community to Houston June 1-4 as we host the National Genealogical Society's Conference in the States. Our volunteers for this conference, headed by Host Society Chairman Trevia Wooster Beverly, have given untold hours preparing to make it the best possible experience for our guests. Won't you join us in showcasing Clayton Library at that time? I urge your support of and attendance at this event. There will be something for everyone, from the "greenest" novice to the most advanced researcher. And, we didn't forget fun—you'll be glad you came!

Karen Stein Daniel

Membership

New memberships and renewals continue to pour in, thanks, in part, to the efforts of active members, who, on their own, have taken membership forms to local groups and have made sales pitches emphasizing the importance of Clayton Library Friends. This worked particularly well for Liz Hicks and new member Joan Evans who recruited 31 new members at the CLF booth set up at the Houston Genealogical Forum's workshop on February 5th. Special thanks are also in order to Mic Barnette, whose column in the *Chronicle* has brought attention to Clayton Library and boosted the public's interest in genealogy; this has, in turn, increased the number of people joining CLF. Our sponsorship of the NGS Conference and the associated publicity generated for that event have also helped promote CLF. Current membership now stands at 732.

Special thanks are in order to Jim Younglove, Robert Lowry, Jr., and Norman Crook for their advice and work in getting the yearbook organized and published (and for the supplement that appears in this quarter's newsletter). Anyone not receiving a copy of the yearbook should notify me, and I'll mail them one. My number is (713) 789-5766.

Margaret Mottley

Revised committee assignment

Ginny Toney, who has been heading up the publicity committee, has decided to step down from this post due to personal commitments. CLF Director Glenn Sewell has agreed to serve in this post. Please give Glenn your support and suggestions.

Clayton Library Friends

Treasurer's Financial Report

(For the period 1/1/94 through 3/28/94)

CHECKING ACCOUNT—First Interstate

Balance at 1/1/94\$5,742

Deposits:

Membership, 1994..... \$2,310
 Membership, 1995..... 10
 Contributions (general)..... 8,757
 Contributions (census)..... 5,990
 Total Deposits 17,067

Withdrawals:

Clayton Library \$2,025
 Audit and Tax Service -0-
 Newsletter Printing 146
 Bulk Mail Deposits 450
 NGS Meeting -0-
 NGS Mailing..... (94)
 Office Supplies -0-
 Post Office Box Rental..... -0-
 Postage/Mail Misc..... 62
 Publicity -0-
 Yearbook Printing..... -0-
 Misc. Expenses 55
 Misc. Printing 141
 Clayton Brochure Printing 345
 Total Disbursements 3,130

Balance at 3/28/94 19,679

Liabilities

Restricted Funds for Clayton 7,192
 Census Contributions 5,990
 Total Liabilities 13,182

Checking Account Unrestricted Funds 6,497

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT— Bank One 4,961

ENDOWMENT FUND—University State Bank

Certificate of Deposit 5,240
 Savings Account 2,780 8,020

Robert L. Lowry, Jr., Treasurer

Fogle-West project completed!

On March 1st Clayton Library Friends volunteers completed a project to prepare a name index to the library's collection of Fogle-West funeral home records. In-work for several years, the project involved inputting

Over 28,600 records input

over 28,600 records (29 file drawers) into a computer database. Twenty three volunteers have worked on the project, most recently under the direction of Margaret Mottley, who has led the effort for the last two years. Information in the database includes the name, title (Mr., Miss, Sgt., Dr., etc.), sex, age, and date of death of the individual and information describing the content of the record. Many of the file folders found in this collection contain death certificates, obituaries, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous documents.

Computer disks containing the Fogle-West database have been turned over to library manager Maxine Alcorn together with a summary of the project and a list of the volunteers who participated in the effort. We understand that a bound print-out of the database is being prepared for use by library patrons.

The following individuals worked on this project: Janet Anderson, Trevia Beverly, Tommie Bosworth, Carolyn Cannon, Eugene Davis, Bettye Green, Carolyn Grimm, Cliff Hayes, Keith James, Bruce Koons, Virginia Lloyd, Gloria McGettigan, Roy McGettigan, Pierre Mommessin, Margaret Mottley, Don Pusch, Cathleen Shoemaker, John Ullian, Carol Walker, Robert Walker, Margaret Whitely, Joanne Whitfill, and James Younglove. ●

Library slide presentation created

CLF Director Bill Swearingen has assembled a 25-minute sight and sound presentation for use in showcasing the Clayton Library. The presentation, on 35-mm slides, was recently loaned to the Southwest Texas Genealogical Society in Uvalde and to a group in the Luling/Lockhart area. Bill plans to continue to evolve and update the presentation and would like to work with other CLF members to augment it with slides taken at the upcoming NGS conference. If you know of a group that would like to use the presentation or if you would like to help with its development, contact Bill at (713) 589-8947. ●

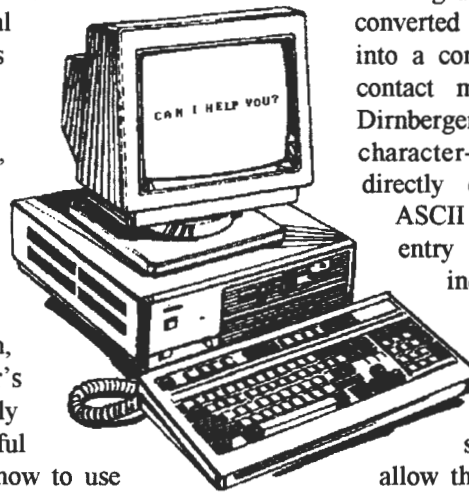
NGS Conference to feature computer learning center

Don Pusch

ARE you thinking about getting into computer genealogy, or are you already into it but totally confused by all the software packages? Help is on the way! At the Houston NGS Conference in June, Clayton Library Friends will be setting up a computer learning center as a resource for the display and demonstration of computer software of interest to genealogists. The center will be located in room 301F at the George R. Brown and will be equipped with personal computers on which conference attendees can sample a large variety of software. Loaded will be most of the top genealogy programs, including Roots IV, Sesame, Family Tree Maker, Family Tree Journal, Family Scrapbook, Personal Ancestral File, Cumberland Family Tree, Everyone's Family Tree, My Family Record, Family Treasures for Windows, Relativity, MacRoots II, Reunion, Family Origins, Family Roots, Brother's Keeper, The Master Genealogist, Family Edge Plus, and many others. Plenty of helpful volunteers will be available to show you how to use these programs, but you can also come in and browse through them on your own. At scheduled times throughout the conference, experts (including many of the software developers) will be on hand to demonstrate these programs and to answer questions.

We will also be conducting formal demonstrations of new products and software, and several of the local genealogy-oriented computer bulletin board operators will be on hand to show you how to go "on-line" with your family history searches. A detailed schedule of activities will be provided in the welcoming package, and schedule updates will be posted at the entrance to the learning center. Please plan to drop in to the computer learning center and see how technology can be put to work on your family history research.

There is still time to volunteer to support this (and other) segments of the Houston NGS Conference. If you have computer skills, are familiar with one or more of the genealogy programs mentioned above, and could spend a half day or more in the learning center as a volunteer, please call Don Pusch (713) 326-3278 or Ruth Czigan (713) 471-1421. ■



Technology applied to Glenwood Cemetery records project

Bill Swearingen

AS some of you may know, the Clayton Library Friends has been involved in a project to assist the Glenwood Cemetery in placing its existing (and future) burial records on a computer database. The Glenwood staff has been transcribing the records using a Panasonic Jet Writer II word processor and has prepared typescripts through the letter M. Unfortunately, the resulting data cannot (at a reasonable cost) be converted into a file format that can be put into a computer database. Now, thanks to a contact made through CLF member Larry Dirnberger, we have access to a scanning and character-recognition system capable of directly converting the typed sheets into ASCII text. This can then be processed for entry into a computer database for indexing and sorting. To avoid this type of "double" work in the future, we have loaned the folks at Glenwood an IBM 8088 personal computer and are setting up the necessary software to allow them to keypunch the remaining data directly into a database. When completed, this project will benefit both Glenwood Cemetery and the Clayton Library by producing a complete name listing that will be cross-referenced to the lot and section number of the burial plot. ■

✓ Gifts-In-Kind

We have received approximately 70 gifts-in-kind for Clayton Library during the first quarter. (Our goal for 1994 is 600 books.) If each CLF member were to donate just one book or one magazine issue, we would exceed our goal very easily. If you would like to donate a book to Clayton Library, you can do this in several ways: give the book to any board member, bring it to the next CLF meeting, mail it to the CLF post office box, or bring it to the library. If you bring the book to the library, be sure to complete a book-donation form, noting your telephone number and mentioning that you are donating through the Clayton Library Friends.

(Continued on next page.)

Gifts-In-Kind *(continued)*

Special thanks to Mr. R. G. Musgrove of the Houston Genealogical Forum who donated many books and wrote an article in that organization's newsletter asking their membership to help CLF meet its 600-book goal for 1994. ●

We were saddened to hear of the death of Ernest Allan Grimm, husband of CLF Director Carolyn Dowden Grimm. Mr. Grimm, 66, passed away March 7, 1994 after a brief illness. Services were held March 10th at the Houston National Cemetery. For those desiring, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Conference to feature Texas-style barbecue with an appearance by Sam Houston IV

Ginny Toney, hospitality chairman for the Houston NGS conference, reports that plans are coming together for a really terrific Texas-style barbecue feast at the George R. Brown on Thursday, June 2nd. The event, which will start at 6:00 p.m., will include beef, chicken, and sausage barbecue, door prizes, entertainment by the Lone Star Cowboys, and a special appearance by Sam Houston IV, a great grandson of General Sam Houston. This will be a great opportunity to welcome our out-of-town guests and showcase our Houston-style hospitality.

The Lone Star Cowboys, all native Texans (and proud of it!), will perform traditional vocal and instrumental pieces in the *Texas Heritage Music Style*, a combination

of bluegrass, folk, Tex-Mex, and cowboy themes woven around the social and ethnic heritage of the Lone Star State. CLF member David Singleton will perform as part of this group.

Sam Houston IV is well known for his enthusiasm for Texas and his interest in the most famous hero in Texas history. Through his talks to Texas school children, public service organizations, historical societies, and other groups, he has, for many years, been a major promoter of Texas heritage and the preservation of Texas historical sites.

If you don't have your barbecue ticket ordered, please do so by calling Ann Reed, (713) 465-6097, or Ginny Toney, (713) 493-6993. ★

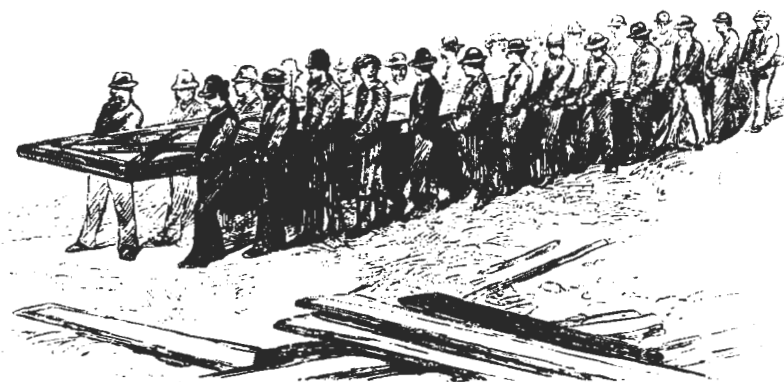
□ WHAT'S IN THE LIBRARY

Alabama 1907 Census of Confederate Soldiers

Glenn Sewell

Do you have an ancestor who fought for the South in the Civil War and was living in Alabama in 1907? Then look that person up in the printed volumes of *Alabama 1907 Census of Confederate Soldiers*, published by The Gregath Company of Cullman, Alabama. The material in these volumes is compiled and indexed from microfilm in the Alabama State Archives, and the collection covers the majority of Alabama counties, with one or two counties per volume. There are approximately 30 volumes, all scattered throughout the Alabama section. Call numbers are of the form **976.1 Xnnn ALA**, where **Xnnn** refers to the specific

volume; for example, **976.1 B657 ALA** covers Blount County; **976.1 E48 ALA** covers Elmore County. The information available in these volumes includes the postal address of the veteran, date and place of birth, date and place where first entered service, rank upon entry, the regiment and company, the duration of term(s) served, and re-enlisted information. If you are unable to find your ancestor in the 1910 census, this may offer an alternative. Also, if you can find the person you are looking for, the information on his military service may lead you to other valuable data. ●



>>>>>Volunteers still needed!<<<<<

Volunteers are still being signed up to help with the National Genealogical Society Conference, June 1-4. Your talents can be put to good use both at Clayton Library and at the conference site. If you are interested, please contact John Dorroh (office: 713-498-2603 or home: 713-781-2741) or Trevia Beverly (713-864-6862).

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