



# THE Clayton Advocate

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Contributions, both private and corporate, are the lifeblood of any n o n - p r o f i t organization such as Clayton Library F r i e n d s .

Acquisitions, maintenance, programs, and administration all depend upon the generosity of donors such as the members of the Friends and local foundations and organizations who recognize the importance of preserving our genealogical history.

We are pleased to acknowledge the recent \$10,000. contribution by the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Foundation to be directed toward the acquisition of Southern Port Passenger Lists. This collection, in its entirety, will cost approximately \$30,000. and certainly provide outstanding research opportunities for those whose ancestors arrived in such ports as Charleston, Miami, New Orleans, Galveston, etc. When making tax-free donations, family honorariums and gifts in memory of loved ones, please consider giving to the Clayton Library Friends. Your gifts may be directed to the purchase of acquisitions, or unrestricted to be used for programs, maintenance, and administration as you desire.

On August 14th the CLF general meeting program will be a presentation by former CLF president and treasurer, Lt. Col. (ret.) Don Pusch. Don is in the final throes of publishing his new book and will discuss his extensive research techniques and materials utilized in both the new book and his previous tome *The Log of the Flute Rhinoceros, 1752* where he actually translated and corrected a previously inaccurately transcribed ship's log.

Your attendance, participation, and support of CLF programs are vital to the ongoing success of Clayton Library Friends.

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## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

### **Clayton Library Friends Statement of Activities**

**January 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010**

#### **Income**

Unrestricted Contributions	11,748
Temporarily Restricted	22,004
Renovation Project	250
Membership Dues	11,245
Interest and Dividend Income	139
Seminar Ticket Sales	4,835
Other Income	0

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 50,221</b>
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#### **Expenses**

Current Programs	46,667
Administrative & General	11,754

<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 58,421</b>
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Net Operating Revenue	-8,200
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### **Clayton Library Friends Statement of Financial Position**

**As of June 30, 2010**

#### **ASSETS**

##### **Current Assets**

Bank Accounts	455,466
Accounts Receivable	5,045
Other Current Assets	1,602

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 462,113</b>
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<b>Other Assets</b>	<b>835,202</b>
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<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,297,315</b>
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#### **LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

##### **Liabilities**

##### **Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable	0
Other Current Liabilities	0

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
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<b>Equity</b>	<b>1,297,315</b>
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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 1,297,315</b>
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Ed Harris

## **The Clayton House Renovation Project**

The Clayton House renovation project is just about complete. Only a few minor issues remain to be resolved. We are anticipating that the final walk-thru inspection will occur in the near future, and hopefully it will be completed by the time that you receive this newsletter.

## **The Paver Project**

The pavers have been created and are currently in storage in Houston. Engravestone has submitted an installation price to CLF. The site preparation work required bids to be solicited since the Clayton Library is a City of Houston property. Bids for a General Contractor were prepared, sent out, and on June 25th Workman Construction became our general contractor for the paver project.

The installation process will be coordinated with the general contractor and the Clayton Library Manager so as to keep interference minimal for library patrons. The permit from the City of Houston has been obtained and it is anticipated that installation will be completed by the time you come to our next CLF meeting in the carriage house.

## **Oops, THEY Had A Problem!!**

An apology to those of you who receive the 'mailed' copy of the CLF newsletter. On April 29th the May issue cleared the Post Office for delivery. Then, for 2 ½ weeks, the Post Office apparently misplaced ALL three of our mail trays. On the 18th and 19th of May, well after the general meeting, everyone – in-town and all over the U.S. – received their newsletters. The PO has no idea what happened.

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

# Deciphering the Codes to Genealogical Data

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Saturday, August 14 at 10:15 a.m.

Speaker: Donald E Pusch

CLF General Meeting

Carriage House Meeting Room at the Clayton Library Complex



Don will discuss the 1752–1753 campaign of the *Chariot Royal*, the French vessel that brought to New Orleans the last French governor of the province of Louisiana, Louis de Kerlérec. After a three-month layover in New Orleans, the *Chariot Royal* brought the outgoing governor, Pierre-François de Rigaud, marquis de

Vaudreuil back to France.

This talk will serve as an introduction to his forthcoming book, *The Logs of the Chariot Royal, 1752–1753: A detailed account of the Chariot Royal's Louisiana Campaign as recorded in the Ship's logs* (Petite Presse, 2010). Included will be details of the voyage, the ship, information about the crew and passengers, and comments on the forty Louisiana-bound soldier-recruits that were aboard, several of whom later put down roots in Louisiana.

This presentation should be of special interest to persons having French ancestors who originally came to Louisiana as soldiers. Many of these men came to the colony on ships such as the *Chariot Royal*.

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Don is a past president, treasurer, and director of the Clayton Library Friends and served as the organization's newsletter editor from 1992 to 2001. A

retired Air Force officer and aerospace engineer, he has, for the past ten years, focused his energies on historical research and writing, primarily on topics related to the French sailing navy of the eighteenth century. A long-time student of the French language, he does most of his research in French archival sources.

Combining his knowledge of the French language with an interest in cryptography, Don recently brought to light the war-time cipher code used between 1755 and 1763 by the last governor of French Louisiana, Louis de Kerlérec. The results of that project were published in the article, "*Kerlérec's Cipher*," *Louisiana History*, fall 2008. Book-length works include *The Naval Service Dossier of Jean-François Le Large, Capitaine de Brûlot, 1712–1761* (Petite Presse, 2003), *The Log of the Flûte Rhinocéros, 1752* (Petite Presse, 2008), and *The Logs of the Chariot Royal, 1752–1753* (Petite Presse, 2010).

Several of his articles on French colonial history have appeared in local and regional journals. Of note was his article for *Le Réveil Acadien*, "*The Capture of the Chariot Royal*," which received the 2002 Editor's Award from the Acadian Cultural Society. A major work now in progress is the translation of the ship logs of the frigate *Opale* and the flute *Fortune*, French naval vessels that sailed in convoy from Rochefort to New Orleans and return in 1758–1759.

Don is a native Houstonian with genealogical roots that extend over into East Texas and Louisiana. His service in the Air Force took him far afield, but he returned to Texas in 1986, and since that time he and wife Laura have made their home in Seabrook.

## Manager's Message

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Welcome to the warm weather everyone! We at the library hope that your summer so far has been a safe and happy one and full of discoveries in your family history pursuit. Often during the summer schedules change, and at the library we are no exception.

### HOURS CHANGE AT THE LIBRARY

I am pleased to announce that yes, the Houston Public Library's administration heard everyone's comments about the library being closed on Friday. Being responsive to the genealogical community, Clayton Library is now open on Friday!!! We are closed on Sunday and Monday. The library hours are as follows:

Sunday, Monday – CLOSED  
Tuesday 10am – 6pm  
Wednesday 10am – 8pm  
Thursday 10am – 6pm  
Friday, Saturday 10am – 5pm

Understanding that many people make Clayton a destination, we hope that the change in hours allows for travel plans for many of our researchers who travel from afar to visit us.

These new library hours are going to be the hours into the foreseeable future, not just for the summer.

### NEW SHELVING AT THE LIBRARY

Other changes that have occurred in the library include our shifting of materials onto the new additional shelving that has been installed. This shifting project is now finished, thanks to the entire staff of the library. This is one of the most visible changes you can see in the library because there are now shelves where there used to be research tables along the north side of the first floor of the main library.

In most regular public libraries, collections are “weeded” or culled for materials that are in bad

shape, out of date, or in need of replacement. At Clayton, we do not “weed.” We keep almost everything. We add to the collection, and we replace book for book the materials that are in bad shape, that might have a new edition, or that have been cumulated into a lesser number of volumes that offers the same information - as in the case of the “Passenger and Immigration Lists Indexes”, an annual source that is cumulated every five years or so.

Because we very rarely do cull our shelves, we had run out of room on our shelves to place even the thinnest of books in some areas. Therefore, we had to add shelves and shift the ENTIRE collection. Over a period of five months, the Clayton staff moved all of the books in our collection. This resulted in moving the “Foreign” section and part of the “USA” collection to these new shelves. Many of you might remember that the “Foreign” collection used to be located near the reference desk. This section of books is now at the back of the library on the new shelves.

The last few sections of these new shelves house the beginning of the “United States” collection. This collection then wraps around to the original shelving and follows through with the familiar organization of alphabetical by state, then counties alphabetical within that state, and then periodicals published in that state. Each state follows in alphabetical order with Wyoming being the last state. Wyoming now resides where the “Foreign” collection did previously.

We do look forward to having you visit the library with our new hours and our new materials organization. As always if you have a question, please ask a staff member or call us at 832-393-2600. We appreciate all the support the Clayton Library Friends offers the library, and we hope you enjoy it!

Happy Searching!

See you at the Library –

Susan Kaufman

# Acquisitions Committee Report

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The Acquisitions Committee met with Clayton management on May 22, 2010 and discussed our goals for the rest of this year. Sue Kaufman and Lesley Douthwaite indicated that they are interested in acquiring more 20th century records. They are going to let us know which collections they would like for us to focus on. Additionally, we plan to continue purchasing materials to satisfy our donors' restrictions.

For our members researching Pennsylvania, New York, or California ancestors, we will have some new books for you to examine in the near future. We have also ordered a few books for Native American and Jewish research. Those of you interested in early 20th century Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana marriages should check out a couple of rolls of microfilm that have just been added.

Have you seen the books of New Mexico church records that we ordered last year? They are back from the bindery and they really look nice. We are acquiring a nice collection of material from our neighboring state to the west.

The list of family histories donated by generous authors is fairly lengthy this quarter. An author that we contacted a couple of years ago was kind enough to include Clayton in the list of libraries he chose to receive part of his inventory when he closed up shop. We are grateful for Bill Lee's generosity as well as that of the other authors who provided copies of their work to Clayton.

If you would like to purchase a copy of one of the family histories still in publication, contact Karen Acker, at [ackertk@gmail.com](mailto:ackertk@gmail.com) or 281-358-0893, to obtain the information needed to do so. Karen Acker

*Descendants of Deacon John Parmenter*

by Glenn E. Wright, Gale Stroud and Gerrie Jones Yates

*Hapner in the West*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Hoshaw and Hushaw in the West*

by Bill and LaVonne Lee

*Juday and Judy in Indiana*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Juday and Judy in the West*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Juday and Judy in the Pacific Northwest*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Knoop and Knopf in the Pacific Northwest*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Knoop and Knopf in Missouri and Parts of Iowa,*

*Indiana and Ohio*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee (2 copies)

*Oswald and Oswald in Parts of Illinois, Indiana and Iowa*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in the Desert Southwest*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Parts of California*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Idaho, Montana and Parts of Colorado*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Nebraska, Utah and Wyoming*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Washington*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Nevada*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Missouri*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Oswald and Oswald in Kansas*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Some Achenbach, Aughenbaugh and Aughinbaugh  
in the Western States*

by Bill and LaVonne Lee

*Some Fodge and Fudge, Vol. II*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Some Fodge and Fudge, Vol. III*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*Some Fodge and Fudge, Vol. IV*

by Bill and Lavonne Lee

*The Hickman Family History in seven volumes*

by H. Thomas Howell

*Zumwalt in the Desert Southwest*

by Bill and LaVonne Lee

*Zumwalt in Oregon*

by Bill and LaVonne Lee

*Zumwalt in Parts of California and Texas*

by Bill and LaVonne Lee

*Zumwalt In Parts of Missouri and Illinois, Vol. II*

by Bill and LaVonne Lee

# List of items Returned from Cataloging/Processing -- April - June 2010

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## USA

*2001 alumni directory Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
367 S577 USA*

*American history told by contemporaries, volume  
one: Era of Colonization, 1492-1689  
973 H325 USA*

*Disruption of American democracy  
973 N621 USA*

*Great migration: immigrants to New England,  
1634-1635, volume six, R-S  
325 A549 USA*

## Arkansas

*Biographies of Van Buren County, Arkansas,  
volume 2*

## Kansas

*Kingman County history: Kingman County,  
Kansas and its people*

## Kentucky

*Historical sketch of St. Paul's Church, Louisville,  
Kentucky: prepared for the semi-centennial  
celebration, Oct 6 1889*

## Massachusetts

*Mayflower Families through Five Generations  
Descendants of the Pilgrims...*

## Ohio

*The History of Montgomery County, Ohio,  
containing a history of the county;...*

## Oklahoma

*1995-1997 yearbook: Presbyterian women of the  
First Presbyterian Church... [Tulsa]*

## Pennsylvania

*Modest Mennonite Home [Lancaster]*

## Tennessee

*Chester County, Tennessee, 1882-1995: history  
and families*

## Texas

*Cemetery records of Norheim Cemetery, Norheim,  
DeWitt County, Texas*

*Soda Spring Community: Comanche County,  
Texas cemeteries*

## Virginia

*Hunter's Tavern, A Landmark in the Community,  
Spout Spring, Appomattox*

## Family

*Family of James and Caroline Bell [Bell]*

*Bright family history [Bright]*

*Morgan Bryan (1671-1763): a Danish-born "Irish  
immigrant" and some of his antecedents and  
descendants, volume 1 [Bryan]*

*Carney Chapel: the story of Stephen Carney and a  
mountain chapel [Carney]*

*John Conner "1790 - 1839": a pictorial history of  
the John Conner family [Conner]*

*Debolts in America: the Debolts of Fayette and  
Greene Counties, Pennsylvania [Debolts]*

*Family of Balsler Hupp [Hupp]*

*Two furnished rooms and a little back porch  
[Kibbl--]*

*Descendants of David Long of Kent County,  
Maryland [Long]*

*Mock family research notes [Mock]*

*From the old country: a Naumann, Rarisch,  
Schmiedgen, and Krause family history*

*Shockley celebration of life and family: Shockley  
descendants, volume one [Shockley]*

*Willson Trail of Thomas and Jean Willson and  
their descendents [Willson]*

**The CLAYTON ADVOCATE deadline for the NOVEMBER issue is OCTOBER 1, 2010.**

**What have you found at Clayton? We welcome any articles related to Clayton Library, or it's collections.**



# Angels Report

Thanks to a donation by Mary Anthony Startz to the Angels Program, we have a great start for 2011 subscriptions for Clayton. Mary's donation was made in honor of her parents, Mary Ann and Donald C. Long.

We depend upon donations by Clayton Library Friends for the renewal of those periodicals the library wishes to receive on a timely basis. Please earn YOUR wings by sponsoring one or more of the following periodicals.

<i>Alabama Genealogical Society Magazine</i> \$15.00	<i>Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> \$30.00
<i>Argyll Colony Plus</i> (NC Scottish Heritage) \$30.00	<i>Indiana Genealogist</i> \$30.00
<i>American Canadian Genealogist</i> \$50.00	<i>Internet Genealogy</i> \$28.00
<i>Annals of Wyoming</i> \$20.00	<i>Irish Roots</i> \$35.00
<i>Arkansas Family Historian</i> \$25.00	<i>Journal of the Afro-American Hist. &amp; Gen. Society</i> \$45.00
<i>Blue Grass Roots</i> (Kentucky) \$25.00	<i>Kith 'n Kin</i> (Sandusky, Ohio) \$10.00
<i>Carolina Herald and Newsletter</i> (South Carolina) \$8.00	<i>Le Raconteur</i> (Louisiana) \$15.00
<i>Carolinas Gen. Society Quarterly</i> \$18.00	<i>Les Voyageurs</i> (German-Acadian Coast Hist. & Gen. Soc.) \$15.00
<i>Central Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> \$25.00	<i>Lifelines</i> (New York) \$30.00
<i>Chicago Genealogist</i> \$25.00	<i>MASOG</i> (Journal) and <i>Past Times</i> (newsletter – Massachusetts) \$25.00
<i>Clarke County Hist. &amp; Gen. Society Quarterly</i> (Alabama) \$20.00	<i>Maine Genealogist</i> \$20.00
<i>Ceske Stopy</i> (Texas Czech Gen. Soc.) \$25.00	<i>Marissa Hist. &amp; Gen. Society</i> (Illinois) \$20.00
<i>Der Blumenbaum</i> (German genealogy research) \$35.00	<i>Mississippi River Routes</i> (Vicksburg Gen. Society) \$25.00
<i>Families</i> (Ontario Genealogical Society-Canada) \$50.00	<i>Northeast Mississippi Hist. &amp; Gen. Soc. Quarterly</i> \$20.00
<i>Family Tree Magazine &amp; CD</i> (monthly-United Kingdom) \$95.00	<i>Rhode Island Roots</i> \$25.00
<i>Flint Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> (Michigan) \$15.00	<i>Ross County Genealogical Society Newsletter</i> (Ohio) \$15.00
<i>Foothills Inquirer</i> (Colorado) \$20.00	<i>Shelby County Hist. &amp; Gen. Society</i> (Alabama) \$20.00
<i>Genie</i> (ARK-LA-TX Assn.) \$20.00	<i>St. Louis Gen. Society Quarterly</i> (Missouri) \$35.00
<i>Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> (statewide) \$35.00	<i>South Dakota Gen. Society Quarterly</i> \$23.00
<i>Georgia Settlers</i> (multiple east Georgia counties) \$20.00	<i>Tap Roots</i> (East Alabama Genealogical Society) \$25.00
<i>Goingsnake Messenger</i> (Cherokee-Oklahoma) \$15.00	<i>The Times</i> (Central North Carolina) \$20.00
<i>Greenville County Genealogical Society Journal</i> (South Carolina) \$21.00	<i>Topeka Genealogical Soc. Quarterly</i> (Kansas) \$25.00
<i>Houston History</i> (UH Center for Public History) \$25.00	<i>Upper SC Gen. &amp; History</i> (Piedmont) \$20.00
<i>Idaho Genealogical Society Journal</i> \$30.00	<i>Vermont Genealogy</i> (Vermont Gen. Society) \$25.00
	<i>Wisconsin State Gen. Society Newsletter</i> \$30.00

Donations for binding are always welcome. Checks should be made payable to CLF, and mailed to Attn: Liz Hicks, Angel Chair, CLF, PO Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078.

Donations can be made in honor of or in memory of someone(s) and will be acknowledged in *The Clayton Advocate*. Upon request, a bookplate can be placed in the bound periodicals at the end of the year.

Questions? Please contact Liz at (713) 944-1118 or e-mail: [erootrot@usa.net](mailto:erootrot@usa.net).

# Volunteer Opportunities

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Volunteers are always needed to support the various services offered at the Clayton Library. Volunteer opportunities range from short-term to long-term projects, from working on a scheduled shift to working on an “as needed” basis, and from working with the public to working “behind the scenes”. In other words, there is something for everyone! Volunteer opportunities are currently available in the following areas:

- Digitization
- Clayton House Volunteers
- Docents
- Shelving
- Special Projects

More details about each of these volunteer opportunities may be found on the Clayton Library Friends website ([www.claytonlibraryfriends.org](http://www.claytonlibraryfriends.org))

under the “Volunteer” tab. Please check this website from time to time, as current requests for volunteers are usually posted there.

Another option is to add your name to the “Special Projects volunteer pool”. Special projects vary widely and may include projects such as inventories, indexing, photocopying, etc. Here’s how it works: the library sends the volunteer pool an email detailing the upcoming project, and then members of the volunteer pool can reply to the email if they are interested in participating in the project. It’s that simple! If you would like to sign up for a specific volunteer opportunity or would like to add your name to the Special Projects volunteer pool, please contact Steven Bychowski, Clayton Library Volunteer Coordinator. 832-393-2600 or [steven.bychowski@houstontx.gov](mailto:steven.bychowski@houstontx.gov).

# Membership Report

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Do you realize that many people right here in Houston have never heard of Clayton Library? They think that you find all your answers on the internet. We all know that is not true, so spread the word! Let everyone know about our world-class library, right here in our own city, with free parking, and friendly, expert help to guide you. It’s fun to meet new friends with a common interest, and maybe you’ll find a cousin or two you were not aware of.

We are so fortunate to have had fellow genealogists with the fore-sight in 1987 to form this great support group--Clayton Library Friends. Why not bring a friend to the next meeting and/or to Clayton library

and encourage them to become a member of the “Friends”. Or, perhaps you’d like to give them a "gift" membership. Our membership is down, in spite of 41 new members so far this year. Dues and donations are very important for us to achieve our goals, and our membership numbers are a very important part of the documentation that we must supply when applying for grants to enrich the collections.

Our next meeting is Saturday August 14th with registration beginning at 10:15. Bring a friend, and enjoy the light refreshments and the company of people with similar interests.

Patricia Phillips

# Welcome New Members

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Clayton Library Friends would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members: **Janell Katherine (Weiman) Blue, Michael Brownell, Darol**

**Lee Dimmick, Mary Jo (Caldwell) Hoover, Elizabeth Sargent, Elsa M (Aldrich) Schmieder, and Linda K Worsham.**



# **Boots On the Ground: Getting Help from Genealogists on Location** *by Emily A. Croom*

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Genealogists can't visit every courthouse, cemetery, or archive that might contain ancestral records. However, this limitation shouldn't keep us from making progress. Let examples below encourage you to branch out in your research efforts. As a member of

the Association of Professional Genealogists ([apgen.org](http://apgen.org)), I visit the APG website frequently, especially for help in large cities. This is often money well spent, for all of us. I also use library and archive researcher lists, when available. One rural South Carolina librarian didn't know what a researcher list was. When I explained, she replied, "Oh, we don't have anybody like that, not since Bill died and Bob moved away." She didn't tell me the nearest town had a genealogy library and a willing researcher, whose services I soon used.

A favorite example developed after I found at Clayton Library a book of tombstone abstracts that included a small cemetery in rural Kentucky. I eagerly copied the data on my target family. At home, I realized the dates and ages reported for the parent couple weren't logical. So I called the public library in the town nearest the cemetery and asked for a copy of their researcher list. The pleasant voice on the other end replied, "I'm it." I told her I needed someone to go to the cemetery to photograph the two stones and send the photos to me. She volunteered to do it that weekend and emailed the photos, which showed exactly how the book compiler got it wrong. The librarian wouldn't take money for her efforts, so she and the library got copies of my books that they didn't already have.

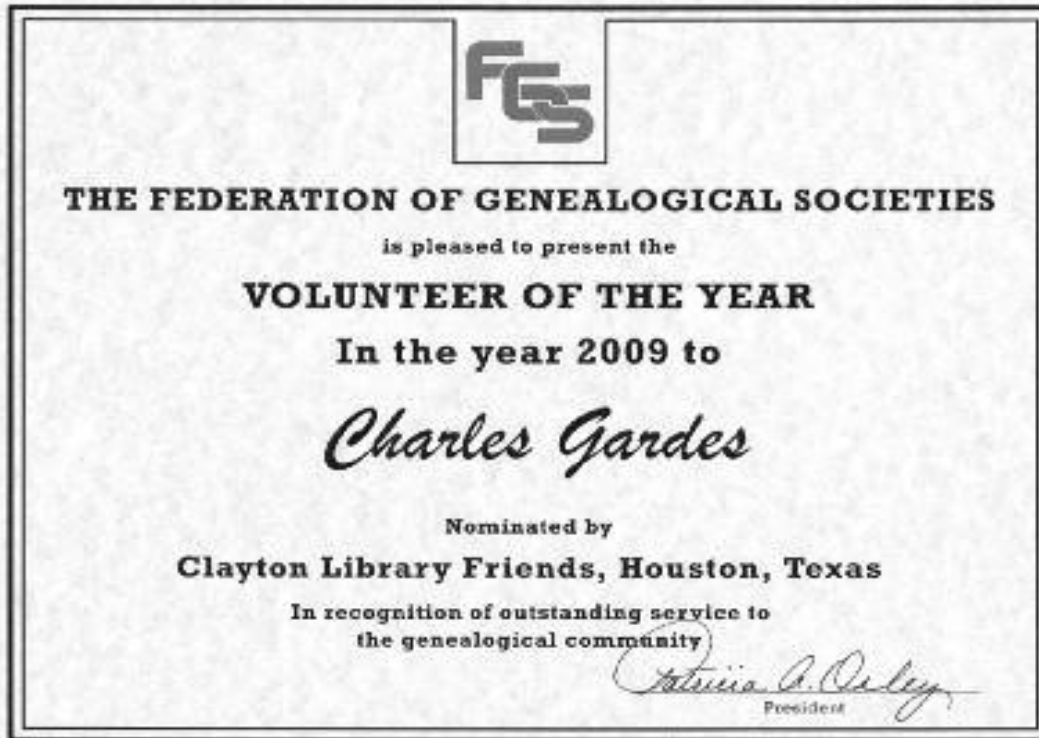
For an heir search, I needed to determine whether a certain Isaac had any children. I was able to hire a Florida researcher to get Isaac's death certificate. The informant was not a relative but someone at the community services office in Isaac's town. Isaac had no obituary that might have named children. After several phone calls, I learned that Isaac had lived for years at an assisted living center, so I called the director. When he understood why I was calling, he told me he had known Isaac for years and didn't recall Isaac ever mentioning children or getting visits from any. However, he gave me the name and address of a woman who used to visit Isaac and other residents. Unfortunately, she had passed away several years before my need to talk with her. Luckily I found her obituary online. It named her son, and I called him. After I shared the reason for my call, he told me many stories about Isaac, whom he'd known since childhood. He said he never heard Isaac mention children, nor was Isaac ever married, so far as he knew. I spoke again with the director of the assisted living center, who felt this new information was likely correct. Such encounters can work in genealogy as well as in heir searches.

Recently I wanted a copy of an 18th-century record and found a published reference to its location. After an unsuccessful attempt by a researcher at that repository, I called two county courthouses where the record might have been created. The clerks said they'd never seen it. I phoned one county's historical society. An enthusiastic volunteer offered to go to her courthouse and look. The next day she found the record, in the original court book, written in 1793, but the book had been rebound and given a new title. No wonder it was hard to find. I gave the society a donation in the volunteer's name in appreciation of her efforts.

Remember, you don't have to travel your genealogy path alone. There are nice folks out there who can help.

## Well-Deserved Recognition for a Job Well Done!!

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Charlie Gardes was the Project Manager for the renovation of the Clayton Campus.

## The Irish are Coming .....back!

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Saturday October 16th Bryan Trainor and Fintan Mullan are coming from Ulster, Ireland. The program will expand and build on Irish/Scots-Irish research from their visit 2 years ago. This will be new material and not repeat, and not dependant upon having

attended their first visit. Whether you are a new or seasoned researcher you will find something to aid your Scots/Irish research. A registration form is available on-line, at the library, and in this newsletter.

## Family Tree DNA

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At the CLF Annual Meeting, Saturday November 13th, our speaker will be a representative of Family Tree DNA, a Houston-based DNA research lab. Founded in 2000, Family Tree DNA was the first company to

develop the commercial application of DNA testing for genealogical purposes, something that had previously been available only for academic and scientific research.

### CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS NEWSLETTER STAFF

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## Writing Your “Swan Song” by Alice Braud-Jones

A recent and unexpected accidental death in our family once again reminded me of the importance of assuring our “personal affairs” are always in order and frequently updated. This includes not only wills, legal, financial, and personal papers, but also instructions regarding our preferences upon demise. In particular, a well written and often reviewed/updated obituary, a “Swan Song” is of inestimable importance. It is the final opportunity to share our story, in our own words, in an environment (hopefully) devoid of grief and tragedy. A personally authored “Swan Song” removes the burden of reconstructing an entire life in a moment’s notice from grief-stricken family, friends, and colleagues,

When an automobile accident recently took a member of our family, leaving our daughter and grandchildren without their husband and father, it fell upon me as family historian to write the obituary. Thankfully many shared moments had been captured during personal discussions, including the difficulties of his young life, abandonment as a small child and at age 12 the responsibility of attending to his single parent’s regular chemotherapy visits and ultimate death, later adoption by members of the Mormon Church, and the kindness experienced at the hands of those good people throughout his life. In the immediate dark days following our son-in-law’s death, I listened to reminiscences of his older children, siblings and close friends. It was only then his “Swan

Song” could shed a small glimmer of light on the constitution, goals, accomplishments, and benevolence of this young man. An inadequate document to be sure, which would have been much richer if authored in the first person prior to this devastating event.

With only a few blank spaces such as date, cause of death (not always necessary), place, etc. left for completion, a personally authored “Swan Song” can celebrate an individual journey, detail goals, events, dreams and achievements, express appreciation, and delineate various chapters of a life. A “Swan Song” should be frequently updated and specific as to names, dates, places, events, for family history purposes. Additionally, a “Swan Song” should be written in more than one version to provide venue specific and pertinent information to local newspapers, professional publications, academic institutions, national publications, e-zines etc. It should also include concise instructions with respect to where the various versions are to be published, with name, address and telephone of each venue.

A personally authored “Swan Song” is one of the kindest gifts one can leave their loved ones, and hopefully it will not be needed for many years to come.

*written in memory of Dr. Jay Arlyn Workman (1966 – 2010)*



### **In Memoriam**

We were saddened to learn of the untimely, accidental death of former CLF Board Member and strong CLF supporter and donor, **Samuel Stowell Lusk**. On July 5, 2010 Sam was fatally injured in an automobile accident in Idaho while driving to Salt Lake City to do genealogy research. This past January Sam completed two terms as the Volunteer Coordinator for Clayton Library Friends. His cheerful personality will be sorely missed by his genealogy friends.

**CLAYTON LIBRARY FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**

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## **CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS MEETINGS**

**Saturday – August 14, 2010**  
**General Meeting**

***Deciphering the Codes to Genealogical Data***

Donald L. Pusch, Lt. Col. (ret.)

The 1752-1753 campaign of the *Chariot Royal*, the French vessel that brought the last French governor of the province of Louisiana to New Orleans.

**Saturday – October 16, 2010**  
**Scots/Irish Genealogical Seminar**

***The Irish are Coming ... Back!***

Brian Trainor and Fintan Mullan from the  
Ulster Historical Foundation

**Saturday – November 13, 2010**  
**Annual Meeting and  
Election of Officers**

**Representative of Family Tree DNA**  
a Houston DNA research lab

**The Irish are Coming.....back!  
Clayton Library Friends  
Presents  
Scots/Irish Genealogical Seminar**

**10:15a.m. - 3:30p.m.  
Saturday, October 16, 2010  
Clayton Library - Carriage House**

**Brian Trainor and Fintan Mullan  
Ulster Historical Foundation**



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**Donation:**

\$30.00 until September 15<sup>th</sup>

\$40.00 - September 15<sup>th</sup> - until October 10<sup>th</sup>

Optional Lunch - \$10.00 with registrations received by Oct.10, 2010

**Mail Registration To:**

Clayton Library Friends, P. O. Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks to: Clayton Library Friends and note "Irish Seminar"**  
For More Information Contact: [president@claytonlibraryfriends.org](mailto:president@claytonlibraryfriends.org)

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**Lunch Sandwich Choice: (circle one)**

Turkey      Roast Beef

Veggie      Tuna

**ON**

White      or      Wheat

Amount Included: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_