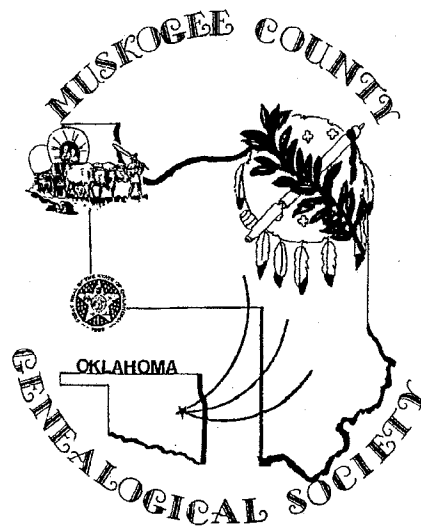


1998



" Centennial Year "
1898-1998

MUSKOGEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
QUARTERLY
Volume 15, No. 1, March, 1998

MUSKOGEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
801 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

PURPOSE

The Muskogee County Genealogical Society was formed in 1983 for the purpose of promoting the general study of genealogy through workshops, seminars, and monthly programs; and to discover and preserve any material that may establish or illustrate the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

OFFICERS

Paul Betow, President- resigned as of January 29, 1998.
Stacy Blundell, Vice-President- now President.
Diane Jones, Vice-President- elected at Board Meeting, Feb. 2, 1998.
Eddie Jeffries, Secretary
Mary Downing, Treasurer
Linda Brooks, Board Member
Joanne Thompson, Board Member
Mary Myers, Past President

MEETINGS

MCGS meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 7:00 p.m. at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The Board of Directors' meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the library. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the MCGS. is open to any one promoting the purposes of the Society. The membership subscription is \$12.00 for individuals and \$14.00 for families living at the same address. All members receive the yearly quarterlies. Members joining after the January membership month will receive all previously published quarterlies for that year.

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly is published 4 times a year: March, June, September, and December. Back issues of the Quarterlies are available at \$3.00 each, plus \$1.50 for postage.

The Society also publishes books of genealogical interest, focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory. A complete list of these books with prices are available from the Society.

SEARCH QUESTIONS BY MAIL

The MCGS will assist with search questions to non-members. Please send your requests with a stamped self-addressed envelope to: The Muskogee Genealogical Society, 801 W. Okmulgee St. Muskogee, OK 74401.

MUSKOGEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

Vol. 15, No. 1

March 1998

"Centennial Year"
1898-1998

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801 West Okmulgee

Muskogee, OK 74401

Vol. 15, No. 1, March, 1998

PURPOSE:

The Purpose of the MCGSQ is to disseminate information and data to promote the general study of genealogy and to preserve any material that establishes and/or illustrates the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

EDITORS

LaWanna L. Blount, Ph.D.

Diane Jones

BOOK REVIEWS

Patricia Hill

USING FACILITIES/ RESOURCES

Mary Branstetter

NEW BOOKS/RESOURCES GRANT FOREMAN COLLECTION

Wally Waits

PRODUCTION

Ron Riede

Vicki Lang

DISTRIBUTION

Eddie Jeffries

Ron Riede

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Mickey Hagan, Vol. 15, no. 1.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editors invite contributions of public records, articles, Bible records, and transcriptions from members and non-members. Contributions can be of a general interest to those studying genealogy and family history or specifically focused on history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families. Neither the Editors nor the Board of Directors of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society take responsibility for errors of fact/ data submitted. The views expressed in articles and reviews are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the Board of Directors, nor the members of the MCGS. The Editors retain the right not to publish material that is inconsistent with the policies of MCGS.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

Persons wishing to submit manuscripts or material for publication in the MCGSQ are requested to send typed double-spaced material with all facts and statistical information referenced as to the source. The Turabian referencing style is preferred. Material that has been previously published must be noted. Send all manuscripts and submissions to: The Editors, MCGS, 801 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401.

AN-QUEST

Members and invited Fort Gibson Genealogical/Historical Society members are invited to submit one free An-Quest (maximum of 75 words) per year. Non-member An-Quests are \$2.00. Further details regarding the An-Quests and the format are in the An-Quest section. Send all An-Quests to Diane Jones at the Society address above.

BOOK/MEDIA REVIEWS

Members are invited to submit Book/Media Reviews. Complete bibliographic details should be included as well as the purchase information. Send all book reviews to Patricia Hill at the Society address above.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

Dear Members,

Upon the resignation of Paul Betow, on January 30, 1998, who was transferred London, I assumed the position of President.

I look forward to working with all of you this year. It looks like an exciting time for all of us with our membership roster growing. One of my goals this year as President is to try to make our membership grow even more and to meet the needs of more of our members, especially those that are unable to come to the meetings. One of these ways is to help members, and anyone that uses the Grant Foreman Room, by providing some handouts and materials informing people about what resources are available there and how to use them. I have been working with Wally to develop these handouts and a map of what is where in the Grant Foreman Room. I have also discussed this with LaWanna, the editor of your Quarterly, and she has informed me that there will be a section in the new Quarterly which is specifically devoted to the use of resources available. We could also publish the map of the Grant Foreman Room in the Quarterly for members to review.

I would also like to see the Society out working with the public more and informing them what the benefits of membership are in the MCGS, as well as our members becoming more informed about who and what groups are in the community and how we can work together more to accomplish our goals.

Another goal that I would like to achieve is to establish affiliation or a pen-pal service with out of state/international genealogical societies and establish reciprocal queries "An-Quests."

The spring workshop is on Saturday, April 18, 1998, from 9:30-3:30, and is being planned by Mary Downing. At this date, workshop leaders will be Wally Waits, Diane Jones and Mary Downing. We hope to see many of our members participate and support this first function of the year.

I am happy to serve as your president, for the remainder of 1998, and look forward to meeting with all of you.

Sincerely,

Stacy Goff Blundell

and from Diane. . .

My name is Diane Jordan Jones, and NO, I do not live at the library. I have become a genealogical addict since I began researching my possible Cherokee Indian ancestry, just before my Dad died in 1993. I have expanded my research and I am now attempting to research both sides of the family at once!

I have a Bachelor of Science Degree from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, OK. Currently I am a librarian at Moseley Elementary School in West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma. One day I wish to do research full-time. I have a special interest in assisting in genealogical research as it relates to hereditary diseases.

I have deep roots in Arkansas and Tennessee. I also have shallow Georgia, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas roots. Most of my earliest ancestors had their feet firmly planted on Virginia soil.

Names I am researching are: Jordan, White, Lutz, Sellers (Sellars), Koontz, Dorsey, Derrow, Layman, Lamon, Baker, Bates, Brooks, Pigg, Underwood, Ramey, Vandiver, Goodner, Clifton, George, Mason, and Langston. The list goes on! AND ON.

Membership in our society is rapidly growing and I hope all of our members will contribute to our quarterly publication. We are very excited about the direction our quarterly is taking. Contributions are solicited for items of interest relating to Muskogee County. Do you have a story about your pioneer Muskogee ancestors. Tell us about them.

I wish to express my view of the importance of using queries in your research. I have had excellent results from queries to which I have responded in my research. In this publication our queries are titled **An-Quest**. Remember each member gets a free one each year. So send yours in. See the format and the guidelines on the **An-Quest** page. I hope 1998 will bring many responses to your "An-Quests".

I also want to say that I believe the Muskogee Public Library, Grant Foreman Collection provides excellent materials and is superior in many respects to the collections of many larger institutions.

My resolution for 1998 includes finding verification of my Grandmother's two marriages, and finding the date of death for my Great Great Grandmother-Sarah Vandiver Goodner.

Let's hear from you!

Meet our President

The Early Years

Name: **Paul Robert Betow**
 Birthplace: Ponca City, OK
 Birthday: May 6, 1960

Parents: Lowell and Wanda Betow
 Brothers: Gary and Joel
 Sister: Beverly

Most favorite memory:
 Chosen to play the wise man in the
 6th grade Christmas play because
 of my height.

Least favorite memory:
 Never being able to climb the rope
 in gym class.

The High School Years

East Junior High School,
 Ponca City Senior
 High School
 1972-1978

Most favorite memory:
 Playing sousaphone
 (tuba) and marching in
 the band during high
 school.

Least favorite memory:
 Expelled from junior
 high school for one day
 for having my hair too
 long.

The College Years

The University of Oklahoma
 Bachelors of Business
 Administration
 Major: Marketing
 Minor: Foreign Language
 Graduated: May, 1982

Most favorite memory:
 Working on the college newspaper
 as an advertising sales person.

Least favorite memory:
 Anytime OU lost in football.

The Career Years

Advertising Salesperson
Oklahoma Gazette
 Oklahoma City, 1982-1983

Advertising Salesperson
Fite-Davis Advertising Agency
 Oklahoma City, 1984

Mail Clerk
Amoco Production Company
 Oklahoma City, 1985-1989

Accountant
Amoco Corporation
 Tulsa, 1990-present

Organizations and Clubs

OU College of Business
 Administration Alumni Council,
 Norman, OK

Key Club Member,
 United Way of Tulsa

Newsletter Editor,
 Promoting Animal Welfare Society
 Muskogee, OK

Amoco Volunteer Program

Hobbies

Collecting stuff...
 Matchbox cars, Coins,
 Milk bottles

Outdoor stuff...
 Mowing the grass,
 Pulling weeds,
 Walking my miniature
 schnauzer,
 Bicycling, tennis

Computer stuff...
 Surfing the internet,
 Desktop publishing

Genealogical and Historical Affiliations

Muskogee County Genealogical Society:
 Treasurer, 1996
 Vice-President, 1997

Member:
 German Genealogical Society, California
 Federation of Eastern European Family History Society, Wisconsin
 Dockery Family Association, North Carolina
 Captain Daniel Little Family Association, Texas
 Oklahoma Historical Society
 Oklahoma Genealogical Society (First Families of the Twin Territories)

Current Surname Research:
 Betow (pronounced Bee-Toe) and Butow, Minnesota, 1860-1880

Clip and Save

Home Address:
Paul Betow
 3709 Canterbury
 Muskogee, OK 74403
 918-687-6726

Work Numbers:
 918-581-4371, Tulsa
 312-616-0938, Chicago

Email Addresses:
 PBetow@aol.com
 prbetow@amoco.com
 lunsford@intellex.com

MEET OUR VICE-PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Members of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society,

I hope this new year finds you all healthy and happy in heart and many leads to follow in your family trees. As your Vice-President this year I would like to help you find the most information that you can with the fastest and easiest ways to learn it. As we all know, history is learning from our past. I have learned that anyone and anything can teach it to you.!

As a mother of two, a Girl Scout Leader, a member of The Friends of the Library in Warner, and an active member of the Keefeton FreeWill Baptist Church Youth Group, my time is very limited for my geno research I would like to see us all use our talents in teaching some simple how to's and reminders to others, some duplicated material for the Grant Foreman Room- so you don't have to wait to look up a clue, as well as some helpful hints in using the Grant Foreman Room so that we are actually researching instead of re-learning what's what!! Hopefully, we will have the beginning of a Geno's Computer Basics Program 101 for those of us who are computer incapable; notice I didn't say computer illiterate, I know what I want it to do. I just don't know how to tell it yet!!!

My research started where my mum left off and it has taken me through many generations, into many lost counties and over the water into five different countries. A few of my researched surnames are: **Goff, Cline, Jones, White, Hampton, Blundell, Ventle, Breshears, Field, Conley and Gilstrap.**

I am terrible with names, unless they are in the past, but I hope to meet each of you and help you with your research. Remember, anything is possible when researching your family history because every branch of a tree can be climbed-sometimes we just got to get a different grip on the bark! don't ever give up, be careful not to delete the wrong file, and if you find a new and/or different approach to research that worked for you-pass it on!!! You never know, you could be cousins!!!

Good Luck and God Bless,

Stacy Kristen Goff Blundell

(Meet other Society Officers in next issue)

DEONE PENQUITE

A Tribute

The members of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society are pleased to pay tribute, in this first issue of the 1998 Quarterly, to Charter member Deone Penquite. It has been through Deone's committed leadership, and selfless service over the past fifteen years that the society has been able to develop to its present stage.

Foundations of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society.

In the early 1980's, Deone, having recently moved to Muskogee with her husband, felt there was a need for a group of people who were interested in genealogical work to meet together to share ideas. In addition, she saw the need for more genealogy materials for the Grant Foreman Room in the Muskogee Public Library. In those early years, Deone, along with Rose Guthrie, Mary Cheissman and Kathy Ogden Hatloy, met in her living room and discussed this need and the current Muskogee County Genealogical Society was formed in 1983. Carol Ellsworth from Gore, a member of the Latter Day Saints was appointed President of this group and she also served as the first editor of the Society's Quarterly. Rae Lindsay served as Vice President, Pete Hagan as Secretary/Treasurer, and Members at Large were: Ray P. Napier, Mary Cheiseman, and Lulu Boggs. The membership of this foundation group totalled 16. The first Society Quarterly was published during that year, September, 1983.

In 1985-86, the third year of operation, Deone served as President of the Society working with other officers: Sheri Siebold, Vice President; L. Maxine Harris, Secretary; Mickey Hagan, Treasurer; and Rae Lindsay and Carole Ellsworth, Members at Large. As the membership began to grow, so did the work of the society. Committees were formed to take on the growing work of the Society: membership, research, publicity and projects, and library. During Deone's Presidency the Oklahoma Soundex 1900 and 1910 was purchased, and the Society's first publication was completed and sold. Another project was the charting of cemeteries and the reading of the cemetery markers.

The Quarterly and Publications

Committed to Society work in the early 1980's Deone began her long involvement on the Society's Quarterly which she has continued until December of 1997. Over those years she continued to work on the quarterly, although she never took the title of "editor". It was through her steadfast commitment and hard work that the Quarterly was consistently published throughout the years. With many of the issues, it was Deone alone who shouldered the complete responsibility and in her quiet, dignified manner she simply produced the Quarterly.

In the early 1980's, before Wally Waits provided professional help in the Grant Foreman Room, Deone provided volunteer assistance and also responded to genealogical concerns of patrons by mail. She also purchased many books for the Grant Foreman Room Genealogical collection. During these early years she began her own productions of materials for the Grant Foreman Room collection fulfilling the need for materials specifically related to Muskogee County genealogical material. Her compilations/ publications are a significant contribution to the collection.

Her publications are:

INDEX TO PROBATES AND GUARDIANSHIPS, MUSKOGEE CO., Muskogee: Muskogee Co. Genealogical Society, 1997.

CEMETERIES OF MUSKOGEE, CO., OK, Muskogee: Muskogee Co. Genealogical Society, Vol. 1, 1988. (with Walter Penquite).

CEMETERIES OF MUSKOGEE, CO., OK, Muskogee: Muskogee Co. Genealogical Society, Vol. II, 1992, (with Walter Penquite).

INDEX OF OBITUARIES AND DEATHS EXTRACTED FROM THE MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX, 1954-1992, Muskogee: Muskogee Genealogical Society, 1996

INDEX OF DEATHS EXTRACTED FROM MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX, Jan. 16, 1930-May 4, 1935, Muskogee: Muskogee Genealogical Society, 1988.

Funeral Home Record Microfilm

One of the great contributions of Deone's is her extensive three year plus project in obtaining records from funeral homes and preparing them for microfilming. These records go as far back as the 1890's, 1920's and some in the 1930's. She collected these Record Books of various funeral homes in the Muskogee area (with permission). She worked with a group of 12 people and with various county agencies, religious, and business institutions, She set up the project for the LDS working with the LDS representative. She wrote reports of her collected data and prepared indices to these funeral records. She also prepared probate and guardianship records for microfilming, preparing cards for each case. In this way she earned about 1000 extra microfilm which was used for census record microfilming. The project would never have been accomplished without her dynamic presence.

Future of Genealogical Society

Deone, involved in all aspects of the society over the past 15 years, believes that the workshops are a most vital and necessary part of the work of the society. For it is the workshops where people get together and share ideas and improve their skills in working on genealogical projects. She believes that Myra Gromley, a Certified Professional Genealogist, a benefactor to the Society, and a fairly frequent speaker to the Society has contributed a great deal to the Society's growth and development; this includes donating many books to the Society.

Deone also sees the Quarterly as becoming even a more important vehicle in reaching out and becoming of more benefit to more people. She believes this goal will be achieved in the near future with the current plans for expanding the Quarterly in a new format, beginning in 1998.

Future Projects

Deone, is also the librarian for the Muskogee Chapter of the DAR, and now compiling baptismal records from the Grace Episcopal Church in Muskogee. She will prepare these records to send to the National Society of the DAR.

Deone will continue to be involved in the Society and is looking forward to her next project. Her new project will be researching and compiling the naturalization records of persons from 1890 into book form.

Deone's loyalty, commitment, and her lasting contributions to the initiation and development of the Muskogee Genealogical Society are truly a great legacy. "Deone has been a guiding light in fostering interest in genealogy in Muskogee County," stated Wally Waits, Genealogy Librarian of the Muskogee Public Library.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Mark your calendars! The MCGS Spring Workshop will be held on Sat., April 18, at 9:30 A.M.- 3:00 P.M. The workshop is free to members, \$5 for non-members. The details of the workshop are on page 46.**

* The Muskogee Public Library will be offering additional help in the Grant Foreman Room two evenings per week:

Tuesday evenings 7:00- 9:00 P.M.- Wally Waits

Wednesday evenings 7:00-9:00 P.M. - Bonnie Tiner

* At the January Board Meeting the Society presented the Muskogee Public Library with \$1, 000 for the purchase of genealogical and historical material for the Grant Foreman Collection. If you have any recommendations for materials give them to Wally.

*Wally Waits will distribute complete lists of new materials in the Grant Foreman Room at the monthly Society meetings.

* The Genealogy Collection in Tulsa Public Library-Rudisell has been moved to the Schusterman-Benson Library, effective as of December 1, 1997. The genealogy collection comprises 2,300 sq. ft. of space. In addition to the genealogy materials of Oklahoma there are 5 shelves of Alabama materials and over 3 shelves of Arkansas materials. The hours of operation are: Monday-Thursday, 10 a. m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Sept.-April).

* Taking the Census in the year 2000 is under debate in Congress. The issue is whether to take a full head count or a statistical sampling. The current trend is toward taking a statistical sampling. However, nothing has been decided at this date. The statistical sampling is cheaper and more accurate. The implications of a statistical sampling indicate that local societies need to publish and disseminate historical records and genealogical materials.

* 17 July, 1997, a news release by the Board for Certification of Genealogists; Washington, DC. stated that the term "preponderance of the evidence", will no longer be used. This term had been used to describe the way that genealogists analyze and weigh the evidence they have collected. The term had become confusing. The Board will still require the applicants for Certified Genealogist (CG) and Certified American Lineage Specialist (CALS) to demonstrate how they have treated the conflicting and complex lineage problems. The literature of the Board is currently being rewritten to describe exactly how applicants are to demonstrate their competence to meet this requirement. The term "preponderance of the evidence" was borrowed from the legal system, when it describes the level of proof necessary in civil trials. Gale Williams Bammon, President of the Board, Certified Genealogist and Certified Genealogical Lecturer, stated that genealogy requires a level of proof for a preponderance-of-the evidence decision that is higher than the level applied by the judicial system.

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY, Vol. 85, No. 3, September, 1997, p. 227.

* The Department of the Army at Carlisle, PA is collecting photos of Civil War soldiers. If you have a photo of such an ancestor send to: Dept. of Army, U.S. Army Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Bldg. 22, Carlisle, PA 17013-5008.

* Fort Gibson Genealogical and Historical Society is accepting pictures and articles for a Fort Gibson and surrounding areas (Illinois District of the Cherokee Nation)) family history book titled: FORT GIBSON AREA PICTORIAL AND FAMILY HISTORY BOOK. Family articles should be approximately 300 words. All histories and pictures should be sent to:

Marcia Elliott, 1422 North County Line Road, East Fort Gibson, OK 74434 or
Rose Guthrie, Rt. 2, Box 776, Fort Gibson, OK 74434. Interested persons should call (918) 478-3345 or (918) 478-4269. Further information is available from the flyer on the bulletin board in the Grant Foreman Room, Muskogee Public Library.

* The T. L. Ballenger Room, Room 126 at Northeastern State University, John Vaughn Library, has limited hours. Check the flyer on the bulletin board in the Grant Foreman Room. The telephone message states the current hours. This library provides a copying machine for public use but reproducing from the roll books is not permitted. The records available are: roll books, report cards, picture albums, obituaries, marriage certificates, phone directories, county histories, and more. Be sure to take a pencil as notetaking with a pen is not permitted. Oh My!

* First Families of the Cherokee Nation, sponsored through the Cherokee Historical Society, is accepting applications for charter life members to people who can trace their relatives to the beginning of the Cherokee Nation. The Charter membership will be offered through December 31, 1998. To be eligible for membership a person must be able to document that his or her ancestor was a lawful resident of the Cherokee Nation east or west before the time of the removal on the Trail of Tears, 1838-1839. Interested persons must complete an official application which can be obtained from the Cherokee National Historical Society, Box 515, Tahlequah, OK, 74465, or call (918) 456-6007.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

* The National Genealogical Society Conference in the States will be hosted by the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies, on 6-9 May 1998, in Denver, Colorado. There will be over 120 presentations, workshops, and computer labs. To receive a conference registration brochure, call 800-473-0050. Flyers with all details of the Conference, including registration forms, are available in the Grant Foreman Room.

* The 1998 National Federation of Genealogy Societies Workshop will be held August 19-22, in Cincinnati, Ohio. More details in the next quarterly. Mark your calendars for this event.

* The second annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference is scheduled for Thursday, July 16-Saturday, July 18, 1998 at Lufkin, Texas. Contact, Dr. Frederick W. Kanke, Community Services 1-409-633-5206. Angelina Community College offered its first genealogy class in the spring semester, 1996. The first annual conference was a result of requests by students for more advanced instruction in genealogy research techniques (see information sheets on bulletin board in Grant Foreman Room).

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

... December "Show and Tell"

At our December 1997 meeting members brought artifacts, genealogical materials, and discussed their current interests and projects.

Diane Jones inherited a tablecloth of her Grandmother's which has many names and dates embroidered on it from the 1930's. When family guests came for dinner they signed their name and the date. Her grandmother, then embroidered all these names and dates on the table cloth. Diane is now retiring the tablecloth to an honored place as a wall hanging to better preserve this unique legacy.

Deone Penquite has an arithmetic book of her ancestors, Robert and John Gaston, of South Carolina, which dates from the 1700's. Deone maintains that it is not computer generated.

Wally Waits using proof of his father's death through an obituary, was able to get a copy of his father's transcripts at the University of Arkansas in 1935. On the University transcripts there was also included his father's high school transcripts.

Barbara Dye told us how she unearthed a whole storehouse of information about her North Carolina ancestors after finding out more about DAR indexes, from Mary Myers' report of the conference seminar at our November meeting. Further details on page 18.

Vicki Lang shared her album of ancestor memorabilia. Her album received an "Honorable Mention" in the genealogy division at the Tulsa State Fair, Sept./Oct., 1997. Vicki also passed around a coal tag found in the mines of Royal Coal Co. of Coal Creek, Tennessee. Vicki, tell us more about this "Genealogy Division" at the Tulsa State Fair.

Mickey Hagan showed us her grandmother's stew pot and albums of her pioneer Muskogee ancestors. Her maternal grandfather is featured in this issue. Her grandmother lived in a covered wagon for 16 years.

B. J. Brooks discussed her current project at the country cemetery of South Bethel at Braggs. Many of the graves are unmarked and there are many people buried there with no markers. B. J. has gone to the funeral homes and has made a list of people with unmarked graves as well as talking to people who have generations of family buried there. The cemetery has no organized plots so she plans to go in the spring and make a map using graph paper. She will try to identify as many people as possible who were laid to rest without markers in this cemetery and compile the findings into book form. Let's hear from you again about your progress on this project!

Linda Brooks drew our attention to the data compiled from the ledger sheets in the Bullitt Foreman home and published in the December issue of the MCGS Quarterly on pages 105- 115. These data were prepared and submitted by Linda Brooks and Virginia Perry.

Virginia Perry told us about her trip to Red Hill Cemetery south of Webbers Falls and her tombstone restoration project. See her article on pages 12 -13.

... and other member activities

To **Mary Branstetter's** surprise and delight, she discovered a photo of her great, great grandmother from Missouri, in the book the HISTORY OF DENT COUNTY, at the Schusterman-Benson Library in Tulsa. She had never seen a photo of her great, great grandmother before. Her index of surnames that she is researching is over 20 pages in length.

Patricia Hill is working on genealogy of her paternal aunts. She has some information that leads her to believe that her great great grandmother, Prudence Blackburn, was the daughter of Jesse James' stepfather. She will be trying to validate this as the last names are different. She has located a "Friends of Jesse James Group" and intends to write to them to see if there are any leads to the linkage. Her father remembers Jesse James' Mom and called her "Aunt Zereldie".

Patricia has validated a linkage with Alan Autry, the actor, of "In the Heat of the Night". He is a third cousin on her maternal side. She has written to him and he did send an autographed photo. His mother and Patricia keep in touch.

Virginia Lawson Long from Mountain Grove, MO, started a weekly column in the local newspaper in 1992 and is still writing it. She became interested in genealogy a few years ago, when her younger brother had asked her to write down some things about her Grandmother, Ella (Wilson) Lawson, as he could remember very little about her. As she started writing down names and dates she wanted to know more and more! She was hooked. So she began researching all of the family lines, as well as those of her husband. A cousin then suggested that she get a genealogy feature started in the local newspaper, for Wright County, MO; so, that was how it began. Since then, she has met lots of cousins, exchanged information and has loved it. Virginia invites anyone who needs records from Wright County, MO or surrounding area to contact her. She would be happy to help! Her address is 2852 Highway MM, Mtn. Grove, MO 65711.

Evelyn M. Flood of Stockton, California, has been a member since 1993. She joined the MCGS because so many people from Newton County and surrounding areas moved to Muskogee County in the early 1900's. She is researching families related in any way to her deceased husband's Flood/Flud families. The surnames are: Burdin/Burdyne, Hefley/Heffley, Sexton, Toriz/Torax, C. Heatham, and R. Rickets. Evelyn also writes a news column "Kinfolks" for the Newton County Times of Jasper, Arkansas. She started this in August 1997. She has accumulated quite a library and specializes in the Civil War era. Evelyn is interested in marriages, cemetery records, school records and census records. Evelyn has collected the Society Quarterlies from 1983-1987. She also has the Complete Quarterly Table of Contents, and the Muskogee County Cemetery Books.

A TOMBSTONE RESTORATION PROJECT AT RED HILL CEMETERY

By Virginia Vann Perry

The broken pieces of my great-grandfather's tombstone first became known to me when my cousin, June Maxfield, brought them to the Vann Family Reunion in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, on June 24, 1988. There were two pieces which simply said William & Vann. They had been found in the well house on the Herman Johnson Vann Ranch, (my grandfather), between Porum and Webbers Falls, OK. The pieces had apparently been there since before my grandfather's death on August 23, 1912. I knew where William Vann was buried because in MUSKOGEE COUNTY CEMETERIES, Volume 1, compiled and printed by Sue Embler and Carole Ellsworth, Gore, OK, 1982, the no. #2 item reads:

(Stone Broken Off and Lost)
Born: Jan. 17, 1832
Was Murdered
Sept. 22, 1852

According to the CHEROKEE ADVOCATE of Oct. 27, 1852 he was murdered between Webbers Falls and Tahlequah, I.T., by Jeter L. Thompson, Johnson Thompson, and John A Bell, on September 22, 1852.

William Vann was born Jan. 17, 1832 in Georgia, the son of Joseph (Rich Joe) Vann and Mary Vann. His only son, Herman Johnson Vann by Sabra Elizabeth Thompson, was born September 8, 1852, a few days before the death of his father.

After the death of my cousin, June Maxfield, the Vann homeplace was sold and the pieces of the stone were moved. It seemed imperative that the name be placed at his burial place before they were lost or knowledge of where they belonged was lost. An employee of Kelly Monument Company in Muskogee suggested a form of cement be constructed and the name placed face up before the stone at the cemetery. The stone was carved and of marble.

On Saturday, November 15, 1997, Ed Henshaw, Bullitt Foreman's grandson, and mastermind of the project, George and Linda Miller, Linda Brooks, Jean Vann and I, met at Love's Station in Webber's Falls and drove to the cemetery. In the cemetery book it is listed as "Cemetery Unnamed #6. The correct name is Red Hill Cemetery and there was originally a Red Hill Church there. There is no road up the hill; it is necessary to circle a pond at the foot of the hill and avoid the cattle in the pasture. The Cemetery is bounded on the north by a wild life refuge. There are numerous graves all over the hillside. Many of these graves have only stones with scratched on names; some scratched in Cherokee. Some graves have been fenced in by the family. The Vann family stones were knocked down and lying in the mud face up. Ed Henshaw had come completely prepared with lumber to make the cement form, 5 bags of cement and even buckets to carry water and a wheel-barrow in which to mix the cement. The stones were washed off and planted upright in cement. The stone for William Vann was placed within the cement form and the name placed before it.

Below the birth and death dates, the stone reads:

"He fled from her sight
like a dream or a story
From the bosom of love
To the mansions of glory"

The stone was carved and signed by T. White, Cincinnati, Ohio. The no. #1 item in Vol. 1 of Muskogee County Cemeteries reads:

· Sacred to the Memory of
Preston T. Mackey
He departed this life by the
explosion of the Steam Boat
"Lucy Walker" on the 23rd of Oct.,
1844. Age 23 years.

He was a son-in-law of Joseph Vann, who also was killed in the explosion of the steamboat "Lucy Walker" and neither Preston T. Mackey's nor Joseph Vann's body was recovered. This stone was carved (signed) by D. Niven of Louisville, KY.

The second stone with no. #1 in the cemetery book is for "Nancy Mackey," wife of Preston T. and daughter of Joseph Vann, a sister to William. The name on her stone was also broken off. Since the William Vann Stone was vandalized before 1912, it is possible hers was also. All pieces had been left on the ground. All of these pieces are now cemented upright. A week later, Jean and I visited the cemetery to see how the stones were faring. Nancy Vann's name was again on the ground, but all three large stones were still upright. We are making progress with our project!



The restored grave markers

NEW MEMBERS

Bonnie Light-Tiner

One of the newest members of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society for 1998, is Bonnie Light-Tiner.

Bonnie was born in California and was a "Navy Brat". Bonnie resides in Tahlequah with her husband Stephen. They have been married for 27 years. Stephen retired from the Air Force after 20 years, and works as an engineer in Tulsa. She has three children and one grandchild. Her daughter, Stephanie, is married to Darrell Daeges. Their son's name is Reece. Her daughter, Jill, is a sophomore at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. Bonnie recently attended the wedding of her son Matthew to Yvonne Mastrogiavanni.

Bonnie has an AA degree in Library Technology. She does research mainly in Arkansas and Oklahoma. She is interested in these names: Light, McCurley, Johnson, Keith, Tiner, Woods, Mays, Cooksey, Jamison, Brown, and Troublefield. Bonnie also has research experience in Cherokee Indian Ancestry.

WELCOME BONNIE! We hope your membership will be beneficial to you. We feel you can contribute a great deal to the Society.

And our first overseas member.....

Barbara Gaskin Godfrey

I am providing a gift membership to my step-cousin, Barbara Gaskin Godfrey, of Foxton, England. Barbara visited my family in Muskogee before she married her husband Eric. She and Eric recently retired, and they have two grown children, Andrew and Caroline. Barbara's uncle, Robert Arthur Jones, was my Dad's (Ray Jordan) Step-Father. Estie Virginia Dorsey Jordan was my Grand-Mother. The name Jones is coincidental. I have no relationship to my "Grand-Pa Bob" Jones. My Dad met the Godfrey family, in Bourne, England, while he was in the service c. 1945. The tie has remained strong since, and we consider these people our kin.

Please read Barbara's **AN-QUEST** in this issue of the Quarterly.

WELCOME BARBARA, and please attend any of our meetings when you can!

Diane Jordan Jones

AN-QUEST

Members and Fort Gibson Genealogical Historical Society members are invited to send one free **AN -QUEST** per year. A \$2.00 fee for non members. Members are invited to send in their **AN-QUEST** with their dues. The Editors reserve the right to refuse to publish any **AN-QUEST** submitted.

A maximum of 75 words is acceptable. Surnames should be capitalized. Give names of interest, location and a time period. At least one full name date and location should be included in each **An-Quest**. **An-Quests** should follow the format in the sample below.

Please send in by April 10, for the June 1998 Quarterly.

Send to:

Diane Jones

Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly

801 West Okmulgee St.

Muskogee, OK 74401

SAMPLE FORMAT

GOODNER* VANDIVER * PIGG* UNDERWOOD

Seek location of Sarah Vandiver Goodner in 1880, Montgomery Co., AR. She was b.1833; husband John C. Goodner d. 1871. Did she remarry? When did she die?
Diane Jordan Jones, 310 No. Edmond, Muskogee, OK 74403-3613.

JONES* GODFREY* JORDAN

I wish to contact anyone having knowledge of my Uncle, Robert Arthur Jones, who was born in England. Uncle Arthur was first married to Louisa, who was also of England. They were both naturalized U.S. citizens in 1905, and resided in Muskogee in the 1920 census, at 715 So. 21st Street. Their only son, Robert F. Jones, was born in Indiana, in 1907. Robert was a brother to my mother Alice Jones Godfrey. I wish to receive information concerning the where-abouts of his son and grandchildren. Please respond to this address:

Mrs. B. J. Gaskin, Bowood House, 37 Fowlmere Road, Foxton, Cambridge CB2 6RT, England.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

The 1997 Workshop sponsored by the National Federation of Genealogy Societies was held September 3-6 at Dallas, Texas. Muskogee Genealogical Society representatives were: President, Mary Myers, Wally Waits, Muskogee Library Representative, and Linda Brooks. This annual conference drew about 900 participants from all sections of the United States. At our November 1997 meeting two of our representatives gave talks on several of the concurrent sessions they attended. Wally Waits reported on "Using Artifacts" and "Doing Railroad Research". He has written a report, on the railroad research seminar which we have included in this section of the Quarterly. Mary Myers, President, reported on the Seminar on "Where to Go to Find What is in The NSDAR Headquarters". The highlights of her report are also presented below. Mary distributed two handouts. Members can obtain these handouts from Mary.

WHERE TO GO TO FIND WHAT IS IN THE NSDAR HEADQUARTERS ADMINISTRATION (Seminar presented by Mary McCampbell Bell)

Highlights of Conference Seminar by Mary Myers

The hours of NSDAR are: 8:30 A. M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday (Library opens at 8:45 A.M.). Library and Seimes Microfilm Center are open Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 P.M, except holiday weekends. There is a \$5.00 fee for non-members, NSDAR observes all federal holidays and is closed to non-members during the month of April for its annual Continental Congress.

The Recommended Guide Book to Society Headquarters is :

Grundset, Eric G. and Steven B. Rhodes. AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH At THE DAR, Washington D. C.: by the Society, 1997. This book can be purchased for \$25.00 from the Office of the Corresponding Secretary General. Frontier Press also carries it.

The NSDAR Headquarters operates through five sections:

1. **Office of the Organizing Secretary General.** This office holds the membership files. You can obtain the national number of a member (active or inactive) to find out if a person has been a member of the organization.
2. **Office of the Registrar General.** This office has the master ancestor card file (closed to the public) of all established ancestors. If you want to know who has joined under a particular ancestor, this office will give you 3 numbers at a time to look at there. If you want to buy a copy of an available application paper you may do it at this office for \$5.00 per set.
3. **Seimes Microfilm Center.** This is where the application papers of all members are (past and present), federal census (1850-1900), Revolutionary War pension applications and special collections are housed. If you have a member's national number, you can look at the papers there or order them.

4. Office of the Librarian General. The DAR Library. You can order items from this section.

5. Office of the Corresponding Secretary General. This section is where you can buy NSDAR publications. Make checks to the Treasurer General NSDAR.

The Dar Ancestor Cards

These cards are kept in the Office of the Registrar General and are not open to the public. These cards contain the following information: birth and death dates and places of the patriot, the place where the person lived, the name(s) of spouse(s), the names of patriot's children who have been established by a descendant with membership in the DAR. A list of all the applicant's membership numbers, the Revolutionary War service and place, and the notes made by staff.

DAR Patriot Index

Information from the ancestor cards are made into the **Patriot Index**. There is a fairly recent one available in 3 volumes. It is constantly being revised, and lines get closed. You should ask the Registrar General before you apply to check to see if the line has been closed.

DAR Library Catalog

This is a 3 volume work that does not go out on interlibrary loan. Vol. 1 has been sold out.

There are limited copies of Vols. I and II. Vol. I is an index of family histories and genealogies (published and unpublished) submitted by members. Vol. II contains state and local histories. Vol. III contains all of the combined records from the card catalog from 1850? to 1991.

Ordering by Mail from the DAR Administration Building

Make all checks payable to Treasurer General, NSDAR.

The Dar Library

Limited photocopying available by mail through DAR Library Research Service. Members pay flat fee of \$5.00 for first five pages of photocopying. Non-members pay flat fee of \$10.00 for first 5 pages. It is then \$1.25 for first page over the initial 5 and \$.30 each page thereafter. The same policy applies for requests for photocopies from the Library file cases. Check all volumes of the **DAR Library Catalog** for holding pre-1991. If the catalog shows that the book is indexed, the staff will be happy to check for specific names. They can not do research for patrons. However, the library maintains a list of researchers who are familiar with the collections. They will send a list upon request. The Board for Certification of Genealogists also maintains a list of genealogists certified to research in the D.C. area. Their address is P.O. Box 14291 Washington, D.C. 20044.

The files of supporting documentation are arranged in alphabetical order by name of the ancestor, *not by the name of applicant*. First find the ancestor's data in the *Patriot Index* and then write to the DAR Library for all supporting documentation on the individual ancestor. Be as specific as you can in describing what you want. The file may contain only an obituary for someone in the 1930's who descends from a different

child than your ancestor. This would not be what you wanted to prove that your ancestor was the child of the Revolutionary soldier. When writing to the DAR library for photocopies, mark your envelope: attention "mail order photocopy".

The Registrar General's Office

To order a set of application papers, send \$5.00 per set of papers and specify either

1. the national number of the member or
2. the name of the Revolutionary ancestor and his data (birth and death dates, if known). Also give the name of the child through which you descend.
3. The papers of an active member of the society are not available to non-members. Please mark your envelope "attention record copy".

Sample Application Form

The sample application form, which Mary distributed with her report indicates that all of the lineage lines submitted by the applicant are verified by DAR genealogists. Applicants must also indicate the ancestor's services during the Revolutionary War and the references for the claim. Descendants are eligible who descended from a man or woman who, served as a sailor, soldier or civil officer, or as a recognized patriot, or who many have rendered material to the cause of American Independence. The sample application indicates that providing wagons for the cause is a legitimate claim for a Revolutionary ancestor. Members interested in applying to the DAR should review this sample application form carefully.

At our December meeting, Barbara Dye told us what happened after she had heard Mary's report. Barbara, just beginning an interest in genealogy, looked through the DAR books that Mary had brought for her report. She found the name of her ancestor, Peter Gilstrap, a Revolutionary soldier, and to her surprise and interest, the name of Ellender Gilstrap Johnson listed as the wife of the Revolutionary soldier, William Johnson. Barbara, enthused and interested about this discovery, e-mailed her nephew and he sent her a great deal more family data related to this North Carolina family. As a result of this, Barbara feels more stimulated to continue to pursue these leads and do further genealogy work.

How about this as an example of how the Society and its programs stimulates the interest of its members!

DOING RAILROAD RESEARCH

Highlights of the Conference Seminar by Wally Waits

Railroad records require the researcher to have an understanding of the history of the particular line your ancestor worked on. This is because knowledge of the railroad's history will lead you to the sources where there might be records on your ancestor.

First, determine whether or not the railroad actually ran through the area where your ancestors lived. At the time your ancestor is supposed to have worked on the railroad or taken a trip on the railroad, tracks may not have yet reached their area. They may have taken another line or worked for a railroad company at a different period in their life. That would mean you might have to search entirely different depositories.

Then determine whether any records for that particular company for that specific period survive. Finding guides of depositories are a good source for this information. Also, footnotes, endnotes and bibliographies of railroad histories often list the holdings of depositories. Here is an example of how a man successfully used railroad schedules when he was looking for a marriage license. He reviewed the train schedules and found the marriage license in the third county where the train had stopped. Were they eloping?

Some Oklahoma source material in the Grant Foreman Collection in the Muskogee Public Library include the following:

Collier's World Atlas and Gazetteer. New York: P. F. Collier & Son, 1937.

Hofsommer, Donovan L., ed. Railroads in Oklahoma. Oklahoma City, OK: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977.

Masterson, Vincent Victor. The Katy Railroad and the Last Frontier. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1952.

Stanger, Lloyd E. Midland Valley: Rails for Coal, Cattle & Crude. David City, NE: South Platte Press, 1996.

Collier's . . . is a good source for seeing where the railroad lines ran during the heyday of railroading. What looks like major road marked on the maps is actually the railroad lines. See the individual maps for the state of interest. While maps of foreign countries show railroads as well, they are too small to be of much assistance, but might still be worth while.

Hofsommer's book is a good indepth study of railroads in Oklahoma. It has an extensive bibliography and footnotes of a more scholarly work.

Masterson's, on the other hand, is written for the general public. While it has a decent bibliography and a few footnotes, it is an example of a good start in your research.

Finally, Midland Valley is representative of what a railroad buff might produce as a first effort. This book is full of photographs and discusses railroad engines in detail, but it will not be much help in pointing a researcher in the direction of where to search. However, don't overlook this because you can see what the station or trains looked like in your ancestor's stories.

MUSKOGEE I.T. PIONEERS

As early as 1805 Thomas Jefferson upon the recommendation of Meriwether Lewis, proposed that a trading post be established in the Muskogee community. As a result, a trading post was established in 1806 by Joseph Bogy in the Three Forks area which resulted in the settlement of Three Forks on the Verdigris River. The town of Muskogee established in 1872 had several thousand inhabitants before incorporation. It was first known as Muscogee, after the Muscogee Creek Nation. On July 19, 1901 the name was changed to Muskogee. The first election was held June 1, 1898, resulting in these choices for the firsts: Mayor, P. J. Byrne, Democrat; recorder, W. R. Shackelford, Republican; attorney, J.H. G. Lieber, Democrat; treasurer, George H. Williams, Democrat; councilmen- P. N. Blackstone, Democrat, W. S. Harsha, Republican, A. W. Robb, Republican, F. B. Seaver, Democrat, and C. W. Turner, Republican. A municipal government was formulated (Smith 1997, 4).

1871- J. S. Atkinson and A.W. Robb built the first store building and sold general merchandise. A.W. Robb and Martha Robb, were the parents of the first white child born in Muskogee, named Miss Jessie. The Robbs and their descendants were prominent families in Muskogee. A. W. Robb was called "the first citizen of Muskogee" (Gideon 1901, 130, 133; West 1974, 92).

April, 1872- Joshua Ross started to sell groceries in a building called the "Red Front" (Gideon 1901, 130).

Major John A. Foreman, a first resident of the town built a windmill and then a steam gristmill and cotton-gin which was the first of its kind in the Indian Territory (Gideon 1901, 131).

1874- Dr. George W. Cummings, was the first doctor and later his associate was Dr. M. F. Williams. They also owned a small drug store (Gideon 1901, 131).

January 18, 1872- The first post office was established at Muskogee Station, James L. Barnes was named as the Post Master (Muskogee Phoenix 3 Aug., 1997, 16).

1874- The first church was built by the Presbyterians and the Reverend John Elliott of Oswego, Kansas was the first minister. (Gideon 1901, 132).

January 1876, the town's first known wedding took place when Miss F. B. Laberelle wed A., J. Maxwell (Muskogee Phoenix 3 Aug., 1997, 16).

June 3, 1885- Bacone College opened with the dedication of Rockefeller Hall, a stone pulpit marks the spot where the founders prayed in dedication of the land. These three men instrumental in the founding of Bacone (Baptist Indian University) were: Almon C. Bacone, Daniel Rogers, and Reverend Joseph S. Murrow (West 1972, 23).

1890- Rev. Father Anandoline was instrumental in establishing the present Catholic church, built in 1890. Father Pole, as Jesuit priest from Osage mission, Kansas, organized the first Catholic society (Gideon 1901, 132).

1875- The first Newspaper, The Indian Journal, was published in the spring of 1875, by Mr. M. P. Roberts. It was later moved to Eufaula. It was destroyed by the fire of 1887. Another Newspaper, the Progress, began by Colonel E. C. Boudinot, in the autumn of 1875 only existed for a short time. The Phoenix, was founded by Dr. Leo E. Bennett succeeded by the Phoenix which was founded by Dr. Leo E. Bennett, and F. C. Hubbard In January 1900 the paper changed hands, and was published by Messr. M. R. Moor, J. Frishman and D. E. Melton (Gideon 1901, 133, 13).

The first United States Commissioner, was Colonel J. G. Tufts. He was prominent in the work in suppression of crime, and promoting education (Gideon 1901, 133).

April 1, 1889- The first United States Court convened. James M. Shackelford, was judge; Hon. Z.T. Walrond, prosecuting attorney; William Nelson, clerk; and Thomas B. Needles, Marshal. James Parkinson, Wagoner, was the first foreman of the jury, and Hon. Pleasant Porter, was the first juror sworn (Gideon 1901, 133-134).

1889- N. B. Maxey arrived in Muskogee with the U. S. District Court. He set up a law practice in Muskogee and was appointed a Judge of the Oklahoma Supreme Court (West 1972, 31).

Colonel Stockton Summerfield Fears was an outstanding lawyer of pre-statehood days in Muskogee. He came to Muskogee with the U. S. District Court. He presented the first civil suit before Judge Shackelford with Judge N. B. Maxey as his opponent. He served in the rank of Colonel in the Confederate army, under General Robert E. Lee (West 1972, 31).

1890- Ridge Paschal, a Cherokee lawyer of prominence who had held a number federal offices and was in legal practice from the earliest days was appointed Shackelford as United States commissioner for the first division, with office in Tahlequah (Gideon 1901, 137).

Rev. S. A. Robertson, and Mrs., A. E. W. Robertson, missionaries, came to the Muskogee area in 1849. Mrs. A. E. W. Roberts was the first American woman to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy. This honorary doctorate was conferred by the University of Wooster, in recognition of her achievements in the translation of the scripture to the Creeks and Seminoles (Gideon 1901, 134).

1885- The Presbyterian Mission Board asked Miss Alice Robertson to head the boarding school for girls for the Five Civilized Tribes. This became Minerva Home. Miss Robertson was assisted by Agnes McCormick. Minerva Home later became Kendall College and then the University of Tulsa. In 1889 Miss Robertson's staff at Minerva Home consisted of: Mrs. Rose Shackelford, Mrs Wayman Crow Jackson, and Mrs. C. O. Jackson (Foreman 1932, 10: 14; West 1972, 33).

1900- Miss Alice Robertson, was the first lady appointed to be supervisor of Creek Schools. Thus, she was the first lady to be appointed to a federal position in the Indian Territory. She was also the first to teach homemaking in the school. C.W. West calls her "a remarkable woman". She later became the first lady to be appointed Post Master in a first class postoffice and became the second woman to sit in the House of Representatives. (1920). She served as a regent of A. H. Yastee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was also the hostess and "cupid" of the Indian Territory (West 1972, 22, 23; Foreman 1932, 10: 15, 17).

1880- Mrs. Laura Harsha came to Muskogee and began her efforts toward temperance which was formally organized to the Women's Christian Temperance Union. The first convention was held in Muskogee on May 21st and 22, 1890. Mrs. Stapler was president, and Mrs. H. B. Spaulding was recording secretary (West 1972, 27, 33).

November 7, 1888- Lodge 28 of the ancient Free and Accepted Masons was chartered. P.J. Byrne was the worshipful Master; James Darby, Secretary; James A. Scott, Senior Warden; W. N. Martin, Junior Warden; A. W. Robb, Treasurer; F. B. Severs, Senior Deacon; Clarence Turner, Junior Deacon; and H. H. Edmondson, Tyler (West 1972,27).

August 11, 1892, The Charter for the Muskogee Commandery, Knights of Columbus was issued from Denver, Colorado. Robert W. Hill was the first eminent commander; Clarence W. Turner, generalissimo; and Dr. Leo E. Bennett, captain general (Gideon 1901, 139).

1888- Dr. A. E. Bonnell opened the first dental office in Indian Territory. He and his son, Albert E. Bonnell Jr. operated the dental office for 91 years. In 1896 Dr. Bonnell married Miss Jessie Weir, who had come to Muskogee in 1888 to teach music at Harrell International Institute. The Bonnells were prominent in community affairs; especially music and Methodism. Dr. Bonnell was elected Vice-President of the American Dental Association in 1929 (West 1972, 29).

1889- Dr. Francis B. Fite brought the latest techniques in surgery to Indian Territory. He also pioneered the idea that infection is caused by germs. He along with Dr. Blakemore and Mr. Cox set up the first Hospital in Indian Territory. He was twice elected Mayor of Muskogee and was Commissioner of Health for Indian Territory (West 1972, 31).

August 1, 1890- The First National Bank was established. The Bank Officers were: R.L. Owen, president; P. J. Byrne, vice-president; C. H. Warth, cashier; and P. M. Ford, assistant cashier (Gideon 1901, 134).

January 1, 1900, The Commercial National Bank was opened. Its Officers were: G. H. Williams, president; J. L. Blakemore, vice-president; and I. B. Kirkland, cashier (Gideon 1901, 134).

1889-? Maddin's Mechanics Band was formed. The members of the band were: W. A. Maddin, Director; Monty Standiford, Charlie Thomas, Monta Chaplan, J. S. O'Brien, John Sanders, Beverly Berry, Dr. A. E. Bonnell, Mr. Meredith of Tahlequah, A. B. Bellis, Jim Swift, and E. R. Rulison (West 1972, 31).

1886- Dr. James O. Callahan came to Muskogee. He was a prominent, respected physician. (West 1972, 24).

D. Stewart Elliott, of Coffeyville, Kansas is named as the first lawyer admitted to the Territorial Bar (Gideon 1901, 135).

August 3, 1890- The First Baptist Church was organized by A. C. Bacone, President of Indian University; David Crosby, a member of the faculty, and Amos J. Essex, a member of the staff of the American Baptist Association. Rev. J. S. Murrow, the Baptist leader of Indian Territory, preached the sermon of organization (West 1972, 34).

Sept. 15, 1882- Mr. Clarence Turner came to Muskogee and purchased J. S. Atkinson's store. After 6 months P. J. Byrne, was taken on as a partner. The Turner Hardware Store was the first of its kind in Indian Territory (Foreman 1932, 18-19).

Dec. 13, 1889- The Muskogee Bar Association was organized. S. S. Fears President; W. L. Hutchings, Vice-President; R. Saris, Treasurer, and H. O. Shepary, Secretary (West 1972, 31).

March, 1891- The Honorable George Washington Stidham died. He was one of the Greek Nations' most honored members. He emigrated to the Creek nation in 1837 and settled at Choska on the Arkansas River. He first held the office of agent's interpreter. He was then appointed a national delegate to Washington. During the Civil War he was elected chief of the Southern Creeks. He was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court of the Creek Nation prior to the adoption of the constitution in 1867, holding this office four terms after its adoption and was chief justice at the time of his death (West 1972, 35).

1891- Edward W. McClure- joined the J. E. Turner Company. Later he opened the "first exclusive" clothing store in Indian Territory. During this time Miss Helen Severs as well as Mrs. Edmondson opened millinery stores (West 1972, 36).

1892 - The religious leaders of Muskogee in 1892 were: Dr. M. F. Williams of the First Presbyterian Church, Reverend M. L. Butler of the First Methodist Episcopal Church South. Reverend David Crosby of the First Baptist Church, and Reverend W. H. Ketcham of the Catholic Church (West 1972, 37).

Col. Mitchell operated the Mitchell House, which was the first hotel in the infant community of Muskogee. It started in a tent with a dirt floor and temporary partitions. Mitchell waited on tables barefooted (West 1998,6).

August 17, 1893- I. W. Singleton is listed in the Muskogee Phoenix as the manager of the Muskogee Preparatory School and D. N. Crane as the principal (West 1971, 40).

1893- Mrs. Jennie McMasters conducted subscription school in the fall and Minerva Home began to admit boys as day students (West 1972, 41).

1893- St. Mary's Hospital, later called Martha Robb Hospital in honor of Mrs. A. W. Robb, was established by Drs. Fite, Blakemore, and Cox, to be the first hospital established in what is now Oklahoma (West 1972, 41).

1894- The Dawes Commission, consisting of H. L. Dawes, Ch., Captain A. S. McKennon, and M. H. Kidd, arrived in Muskogee in January. They received a special delegation of the Creeks, January 23 and went to Tuskahoma to meet with Choctaw leaders on the 25th, to Tahlequah to meet with the Cherokee Council on the 30th, and with the Chickasaws at Tishomingo on February 6. They met with the Seminoles on April 6 (West 1972, 40).

April 4, 1899- Andrew Roberg of Muskogee was issued the first naturalization papers in Indian Territory (Muskogee Phoenix 3 Aug, 1997).

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MEET THE CENTENARIANS

In this issue we feature two genealogical phenomenon; Centenarians, Olga Keith Hall of Kansas, Oklahoma, a half -second cousin of new member Bonnie Tiner; and the well-known Ulmont Farmer of Checotah, who holds the key to the state. Congratulations to both of you!

Olga Keith Hall *

Olga better known as "Auggie" to family and friends, was born on October 22, 1897 in Maysville, Arkansas, the first child of John Bird Keith and Gertie Parmley. Her father, John Bird was one of the first white children born in the state of Arkansas. Olga claims five living generations in her family. Auggie is Bonnie Tiner's half- second cousin.

Maysville is a border town. If you live down town on the west side of the street, you live in Oklahoma. If you live on the east side of the street you live in Arkansas. Maysville is a farming community and was named after Auggie's grandfather Mays.

Olga acquired the name of "Auggie" as one of her siblings could not pronounce the name of Olga, but came forth with "Auggie." which now is used by those who know her.

Auggie attended school in Maysville. Later, she studied to be a teacher and taught school in Oilsprings in Cherokee County which borders Muskogee County.

She married Hoyt Hall at her father's House in Maysville. They had one daughter, Ahnawake, who was born in 1927. Ahnawake married Noel Eugene Winfield and they had two children: Linda Sue and Gregory. Linda Sue Winfield married Robert Jack Looney and had two children: Sunnye Dawn, and Robert "Chell" Looney. Sunnye Dawn Looney married Howard Bradley Rogers and they have one daughter, Rendi Rae Rogers, born in 1996.

Auggie is an avid reader, and even now she reads with a magnifying glass as her eyes are beginning to fail her a bit.

On October 18, 1997, family and friends held a reception at the First Baptist Church in Kansas, Oklahoma to honor her on her 100th birthday.

As a young lady, Auggie was taught that ladies take care of their skin. Through the years Auggie wore long sleeves and hats in the summer time. As a result her skin today is soft and smooth as a baby's skin.

What is the secret of her long life? Auggie believes in living a spiritual, religious life. She attends church regularly.

Auggie lives in Kansas, Oklahoma with her daughter, Ahnawake, and her son-in-law, Gene.

*Interview with Bonnie Tiner, December 11, 1997.

MEET THE CENTENARIANS

ULMONT FARMER*

Ulmont Farmer, of Checotah, is truly a genealogical phenomenon. He holds the keys to the city and to the state, In August 1998, Ulmont Farmer will be 101 years old.

When I called Ulmont Farmer on January 2, 1998, he answered his own phone and in a clear, upbeat voice, talked enthusiastically with me about his background.

He was born in Hartville, Missouri, on a farm and grew up with two sisters and one brother. His sister, Mrs. Ethel McQuillen, is another centenarian. She is 102 years old and lives in Muskogee. She has two daughters both in their eighties. He told me they were not very well at this time.

Ulmont Farmer has lived in Checotah, Oklahoma most of his life except for 5-6 years when he lived in Wagoner, Oklahoma. He says he can remember quite far back when he lived on the farm. He was a farmer for awhile, and then he operated several grocery stores in the Checotah area.

He said the secret of his long life is "giving to the Lord". He became a Freewill Baptist minister while in his 70's. Until recently, he did weddings and funerals. He says he "still gets around". Last year he put in a garden with cantaloupe. In 1997 he still mowed his own lawn, but at the age of 90 he decided to go for a riding mower instead of a push mower. However, it wasn't until he was 96 that he gave up driving an automobile.

He has about 7 grandchildren and about 17 great grandchildren. "I lost count of how many grandchildren and great grandchildren I have" he said. His descendants live around Checotah and near Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. His wife passed away in 1967. He remarried twice and outlived both of his new wives.

He said he still has the keys to the city of Checotah and the state of Oklahoma, which includes Muskogee County, of course. These keys were given to him at a ceremony last August, in front of the People's Bank of Checotah, with a large gathering of family and friends. Senator, Frank Shurden, D-Henretta, Rep. Bobby Frame, D-Checotah, and Checotah Mayor Jay Hayes presented Farmer with city and state proclamations and honors.

The members of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society congratulate you Ulmont Farmer!

* Interview with Ulmont Farmer, January 2, 1998;
Becki Cato, "Family, Community Honor 100 Year-Old." MUSKOGEE PHOENIX, 17
August, 1997, 1,4A.

THE HALLS ¹ AN EARLY MUSKOGEE FAMILY

This is a condensed version of a more detailed story of the Hall family
By Mickey Hooper Hagan, Charter Member of MCGS.



John William Hall
son of Alfred (Al) Hall and Mary (Puss) Cramer Hall

Charles Alfred (Al) Hall
Son of John William Hall and Hattie Alma Butts Hall

Hattie Alma Butts Hall
Daughter of James William Butts and
Nancy (Nannie) Sanford Berry Butts

William B. Hall and Elizabeth Hall.

William B. Hall, born c. 1805 in Kentucky, and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Hall, born c. 1811 in Kentucky, were married in 1827/1828. They lived in Marion County, Missouri and Cooper County, Missouri. William was English and Scotch Irish. Lizzie was part Indian. They had four sons: Alfred, George, James (Jim), and Charles. They had six daughters, Evelina, Elizabeth, Martha, Mary, Melinda, and Eliza. ²

When living in Boonville, Cooper County, Missouri, William was in the gravel and materials business, excavating limestone rock on the Missouri River. All four of William and Lizzie's sons fought in the Civil War. James (Jim) and Alfred (Al) joined the Union side and George and Charles joined the Confederates. Pvt. George Hall was killed at Wilson's Creek, in Missouri on 10th of August, 1861. Alfred (Al) was captured by the Confederates. ³ However, all of the sons, except George, returned from the war.

Alfred (Al) married and had one daughter, Laura, by his first wife. Nothing was known of what happened to his first wife. His daughter Laura always lived with him. His second wife, Mary (Puss) Cramer, was from Cooper County, Missouri. Alfred (Al) was born in 1846 in Marion County, Missouri, and Mary (Puss) Cramer Hall was born c. 1848 in Missouri. They had two sons, John William (Willie) Hall, born 5 November, 1877, in Boonville, Cooper Co., Missouri, and Alfred (Al) Hall born two years later.

Alfred (Al) Hall, Sr. was a successful house and barn builder who stayed very busy at his trade. Alfred, Sr. and his two sons helped build houses for the Creek Indians in Tulsa, Creek Nation, Indian Territory while waiting for the Cherokee Strip Land Run in Oklahoma. They also helped build houses in Dawson, Creek Nation, I. T. John William (Willie) and Alfred (Al), Jr. attended school on Main Street in Tulsa, until time for the opening of the Cherokee Strip Land Run.

Alfred (Al) Sr., made the run in the Cherokee Strip Land Run. The starting line was about 100 miles wide. Alfred had scouted out the land and picked out three places that he would go for. He would make the run on his Kentucky race horse "Tom". Alfred (Al) was dressed in red socks rolled up to his knees and tied his stake flags to his waist within easy reach. He was able to stake his claim on the second site. Alfred (Al) Sr. was never quite satisfied with the second site he claimed in the Run. (Al) Sr. got traveling fever and decided to sell his claim to his neighbor, a bachelor, who had married the old maid to whom he had introduced. Years later Charles Alfred Hall, the grandson of Alfred (Al) Sr. Hall, was living in California and he had met the nephew of the bachelor who had bought the farm from Alfred, Sr. The nephew told the grandson that oil was discovered on the Hall claim and the bachelor had become a very wealthy man.

Alfred (Al) Sr., Mary (Puss) Hall, and their two sons went back to Cooper County Missouri. Alfred Sr. continued to build houses and barns for a living. He began to drink heavily. His family became very worried about him.

They were living in Boonville, Missouri at the time and Willie decided to go to Indian Territory. He packed his bedroll, his clothes and took a tin pot for cooking and a coffee pot. He took ten pounds of beans and ten pounds of rice and some coffee. He put them in pillow cases and tied these bags on his saddle and headed to Indian Territory. When he finally made it to Indian Territory, he met some Pawnee Indians who invited him to stay with them. He liked the Indian life so much that he stayed with them for two years. He attended an Indian school and later attended the University of Oklahoma at Stillwater, where he took Vocational Agriculture and Carpentry.

John (Willie) Hall

John William (Willie) traveled around doing different jobs when he was a young man. He had cousins in Blackwater, Missouri. He worked as a farm hand and also as a carpenter and fence builder. His cousins, Jessica (Jessie) Cormack Wimmer and Ella Shemwell McBee said there was not any young men in Blackwater, Missouri as nice looking as John William and Alfred Hall, Jr. They knew how to dress, and how to dance. The two brothers always wore 4 X beaver Stetson hats and wouldn't settle for anything else. Even as an older man, Willie Hall always stood out in a crowd, because he knew how to dress. In the summer he wore a white Panama hat and white linen suits and Hawaiian shirt. In the spring and winter he always wore a blue pin-stripe suit, white shirt, tie and blackshoes shined very bright. His hat was always the latest in style.

John (Willie) met Hattie Alma Butts when she was sixteen and he was twenty-four. He was working on a farm with a large farm crew. Hattie was a cook and housekeeper for a couple who owned the farm. One day she came into the kitchen and as soon as

she saw John William she knew. It was love at first sight. Later, she went to the cellar and found the biggest, reddest apple. She shined the apple on her apron and gave it to Willie. It wasn't too long after this that Hattie and Willie were married. She was seventeen and he was twenty five years old when they married.

John William (Willie) Hall always said his ancestors were Scotch -Irish and English. He never claimed to be Indian. His Aunt Nancy (Feddy) Cramer Cormack and cousin Ella Shemwell McBee said he was part Indian. John William had medium to dark complexion, black wavy thick hair, and stood five feet eleven inches. His brother Alfred (Al) had a lighter ruddy complexion and brown wavy hair and had a stockier build. He stood about five feet nine inches. The brothers were very close, where you saw one you generally saw the other. John William didn't talk much about his sister Laura Hall. She was his half sister and seven years older than he was. Laura married first, Olli Ryan and had a daughter, Ollie Bell Ryan (Newell). Her second husband was Joseph (Joe) Westly Ross. They had five children: Twin daughters; Margaret Lee Ross (Chambers), and Mary Ann Ross (Thornberry); James Alfred Ross (killed in W.W. I), Susie Mae Ross (Brumbfield), and Josephine Laura Ross (Bezoni). Laura and Joe Ross lived at Boonville, Cooper Co., Missouri and raised their family there. They are buried at the cemetery on the north side of Boonville.

Alfred (Al) Hall Sr. and Alfred (Al) Hall Jr.

Alfred (Al) Jr. married Maggie Goodwin in Missouri. Mary (Puss) Hall, their mother, now began to travel around with her sons. Her husband, Alfred (Al), Sr., was drinking very heavily during this time. It was told by his cousins that Halltown, Missouri was named after him. He would always come home from drinking on Saturday nights standing up in the wagon, driving fast, whipping his horses and shouting as he came across the bridge. Al Sr. died in Checotah, Oklahoma, looking for his wife and family around 1908/9.

West Memphis to Missouri

John William (Willie) and Hattie bought a farm in Sedalia, Pettis County, Missouri and lived there until their first child, Charles Alfred, was born. He later traded this farm for 469 acres in the Arkansas delta land and worked in timber for a living. (probably at Brushy Lake near West Memphis, Arkansas.) John William and Alfred, Jr. built a house and then, started back to Missouri to get Alfred (Al) Jrs.'s wife, Maggie, and his children. This was about in 1904. They were hitchhiking across the state of Arkansas on their way back to Missouri, when they were arrested by the State of Arkansas for vagrancy. They were sent to the prison, known as Tucker's Farm to work out their fine, working in the fields at this truck farm, with armed guards on horseback at their side.

In the meantime, back in West Memphis, Arkansas it had rained so hard and long that the little house was setting on an island, surrounded by water and the women did not have a boat. A kind neighbor, with a boat, brought them groceries until their money ran out and then they sold him their feather pillows and beds until they had nothing left to sell. Mary (Puss) Hall was now very sickly with bronchial problems. Three months went by and the women knew something had happened to the menfolks.

Willie and Al, worked hard on Tucker's Farm and waited for their chance to escape. One day while out cutting wood, they caught the guard off-guard. They sprung on the guard, took his gun, and chased his horse away so he had to walk back to the farm from the woods. They waded down the middle of the creek, to leave no scent for the bloodhounds. Later they obtained some clothes from a kind man, hitched a train to Missouri and got Maggie and the children.

Willie, Al, Maggie and the children returned to West Memphis, Arkansas to find Hattie, and their mother almost starved to death. Most of the food had been given to little Alfred.

Willie, his mother Mary and family traveled over much of the southwest pursuing their business venture in carpentering. They went to Checotah, to visit their mother's sister, Nancy (Feddy) Cormack. They stayed with the Cormack family for quite awhile. Feddy Cormack had one daughter and five sons. Jessie Cormack Wimmer worked as an editor and reporter for the newspaper in Checotah.

In 1908 Willie and Hattie moved to Van Buren County, Arkansas, where they owned land on Woolverton Mountain. Later, they left Arkansas and traveled back to Missouri. They settled around Marshall, Saline Co., Missouri so they could be close to Hattie's family. They continued with the house and barn building while in Marshall.

Jet, Oklahoma

In the summer of 1915 John William (Willie) Hall, Sr. and his friend Charlie Solemburger went to Jet, Oklahoma. They had a barn building contract. Willie sent for Hattie and their three children: Charles Alfred (Al), twelve years; Hazel Elizabeth, ten years old, and John William (Bill), Jr., seven years to come later on the train after he had a house for them. It was a long and difficult trip for Hattie as she had to leave her mother, sisters, and brothers and she also had to leave behind all of her furniture. She could only bring one trunk which contained her household articles and clothing.

The new house in Jet, Oklahoma had two beds and a table, made with a grain storage door laid across two saw horses. About three weeks later, Willie's brother Alfred (Al), his wife Maggie, and their children; May, John, Walter, and Claude came to Jet from Marshall, Missouri. They came in a covered wagon and brought a few of Hattie's household articles. Willie came to help his brother in the carpenter work. Willie's friend Charlie Solemburger left Jet, after the first house had been built. Willie and Al were doing well in their building business venture.

To Hale Center, Texas

They had been in Jet about a year when Willie and his brother Al met a man named Billy Betts, He was planning to move his whole farm to his 80 acres in Hale Center, Texas and he wanted to hire them to do it. for him. He had two teams of mules, two teams of mares, five colts, two horses, and two race horses. The race horses he wanted dropped off at Hereford, Texas, as they were a present to his nephews and were to be delivered to their home in Hereford, Texas. Willie and Al were to take the

heavy farm equipment. Mr. Betts would take the train and take the cows, pigs, and other small animals. Mrs. Betts was to take the Model T. Ford and take the small household articles, and her two nephews and go on to Hale Center. Willie and Al agreed to build Mr. Betts a house, a barn, and other buildings on his farm as well as put up fences. They thought this move to Hale Center to take about a month to a month and a half. The date was around September of 1916. That year Willie and Hattie also had another little girl named Nelly Gertrude.

They packed everything into wagons. Willie and Hattie had two wagons, one for living in and one for carrying the feed, tubs, water cans, and chicken coop with chickens. Al and Maggie also had a wagon to live in. These were large farm wagons with an overjet over the top of them. Willie always had his wagon fixed up like a home. It had a small monkey stove in the front part of the wagon, which was for warmth and cooking. Hattie always had the inside of the wagon papered and painted. After the wagons were packed there were many household articles and pieces of furniture that were left behind. Hattie never forgave Willie for making her leave so many things behind. It seemed that she was always having to go off and leave her prize possessions behind.

On the Trail

With the wagons all loaded, they left the next morning with Willie driving the lead wagon, as he was a born leader. The trail to the Texas Panhandle meant crossing a lot of rivers and streams and with so many wagons the bridge or ferry toll proved to be very expensive. Willie and Alfred and John delivered the race horses to Hereford, Texas, to Mr. Bill Bet's nephews. It took them two days to return to the camp. There was a rigid household schedule for Hattie, Thursdays were wash days and Saturdays were bath days. In preparation for wash day, they camped by a good stream of water on Wednesday evenings. Early on Thursday morning Hattie and the boys would get the iron pot out of the wagon. She would boil the clothes until they were snowy white. Washing clothes was an all day job and every one had a job to do. On wash day Hattie would always have beans, because she could find time to boil the brown beans. On Saturday, bath day, they always camped by a creek or stream of water. Water had to be boiled in the iron pot and the #3 tin tub had to be taken to the coverd wagon and filled with water from the iron pot.

When the wagons traveled south to Canyon, Texas, Willie took the wrong road and they headed down into the Palo Duro Canyon. There they saw the most beautiful rock formation in various colors of purple, orange, brown, green, gray, and white. Some colors were intermingled to make even more colors of yellows and browns. They were all amazed and declared they had never seen anything like this in all their years of travel. When they decided to leave the canyon, they had to take the wagons apart and pull them up over the rim of the canyon with a block and tackle. This was done by four mules doing the pulling. It was long, hard work. All the supplies had to be carried up over the rim of the canyon and the wagons reassembled and reloaded.

After days they headed for the nearest town, which was Clarendon, Texas. After they left Clarendon they headed south toward Silverton. The wind never ceased to blow, and the road became rugged. They had to cross the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River again but it was much wider here than it was in the Palo Duro Canyon.

When they camped, the first thing the men and boys did was to unhook the horses and mules and let them graze. Then Willie always would unfold the wagon sheet which was used for their table. Hattie always had to have a nice tablecloth on top of the wagon sheet and then everybody would sit on the wagon sheet and eat. They had to make potato soup the last part of the trip until all of the potatoes were gone. At the close of the trip they had nearly spent all of their money they had saved in Jet. The ferries had cost a great deal of money and they had to buy feed and hay for all of the animals.

On the way to Quitaque, Texas all the water was alkaline water. All, the men, women, children and animals were nearly dying of thirst. They finally got six buckets of water from a man. Around Quitaque the land was more level with fertile valleys and not too many arroyas, but the wind still blew. From Quitaque, they turned southwest and headed toward Plainview Texas. They had hoped to get to Hale Center before Christmas, but instead had Christmas on the trail. They had one of their hens for Christmas dinner. They thanked the Lord for their blessings and for the good water they had to drink.

Hale Center, Texas

They finally arrived at Hale Center, Texas after Christmas. It had taken them three months to travel from Jet, Oklahoma to Hale Center, Texas. They made a contract to build the farm house and other buildings for Mr. Betts. Willie was to get \$15.00 per day as foreman of the job. Al was to get \$7.50 per day as a carpenter. They built a six or seven room house, a great big barn, chicken house, grainery, two long buildings for cows, three or four hog sheds, tool shed, windmill, and fences. It took Willie and Al a long time to build the house and barn, because little Nelly Gertrude was very sick, and she would'nt let anybody except her Papa hold her. Hattie would have to send for Willie many times when he was building the house and barn. Little Nelly Gertrude died of pneumonia and diphtheria. Nelly Gertrude is buried at Hale Center Texas.

After they finished the contract on the Betts farm, they rented a house. Al lived in the house and Willie and family lived in the corncrib. The men did carpenter work for the whole community. In 1917, while they were living in Hale Center, a big black cloud came up. It was what some people call a Blue Northerner. This blizzard lasted for forty-eight hours. Both families moved into the house together to keep from freeezing to death. They all stayed in one room and made the children go to bed to keep warm. The men put up both stoves in the one room. The snow was blowing so hard they had to stop up the keyhole to keep the snow from blowing in. They burned up all the coal to keep warm. The men chopped down part of the corral and burned the fence posts. The snow remained on the ground for two weeks and the wind never stopped blowing.

Arkansas and Missouri

The next spring, they left Hale Center and headed for Greenwood, Arkansas. Maggie had a brother named Sy Goodwin, who lived in Hot Springs, Arkansas and they stopped to stay and visit him a couple of weeks. While in Arkansas they made shingles, chopped and gathered Kafir corn, and dived for pearls on the White River. They would process the mussel shells and sell them to merchants.

After they left Arkansas, they went to Missouri. Willie got a job driving a freight wagon. His freight route was through Springfield to Sedalia, Missouri. One winter, when he was hauling a load of whiskey on the freight wagon to Kansas City from Sedalia, he and the U. S. Marshal got so cold they were about to freeze to death. Willie took his brace and bit and drilled a hole in a keg of whiskey, got each of them a cup of whiskey. Then he sealed it up with a plug. Whenever he was carrying valuables, money or whiskey, a U. S. Marshall always rode with him, and carried a Winchester or a sawed-off shot gun. This was around 1918.

They moved to Osceola, Missouri and there they had another little girl named Stella Myrtle. When she was about one year old, Willie and Hattie moved to Tahlequah, Oklahoma. They lived there a couple of years.

Tahlequah and Muskogee, Oklahoma

While they are living in Tahlequah, they had another little boy named George Washington. He was a pretty baby but he was not well. He died in Tahlequah with the bolt hives. He is buried in the Greenleaf Cemetery at Tahlequah. After George Washington was buried they headed to Memphis Tennessee, to get a job. While in Tennessee, Willie went to Brushy Lake to visit a friend he knew when they lived in West Memphis, Arkansas. They then traveled to Muskogee, Oklahoma and stayed a while and visited Alfred in Wagoner County.

Back to Arkansas

Then they went back to Arkansas to make railroad ties and clapboard shingles. Where you saw Willie, you always saw his brother Al. They always traveled together, until Al went to California in 1935, where he stayed until he died.

Willie and Al went to Hot Springs, Arkansas to help Al's brother-in-law, Sy Goodwin, to make sorghum. They were to build sheep pens, hog pens, and fences while they were there.

To Muskogee, Oklahoma to Stay

They headed back to Muskogee Oklahoma about 1923. John Hooper hitched a ride with them in Arkansas and rode all the way back to Muskogee with them. When they got to Muskogee, John got off at O. J. Ogden's campground which was located at the store owned by O. J. Ogden. O. J. Ogden knew Willie and always let him in his gate and let him run his horses in his pasture. Ogden's was located on South Cherokee St. close to the present business called Leon James Salvage. Stella said there were covered wagons as far as she could see.

Willie was a close friend of O. J. Ogden and whenever Willie came through Muskogee, he always let him camp inside his gate and he didn't have to camp in the campground. They came to Muskogee quite often because their daughter, Hazel had married Arthur Holloway in 1922. Hazel and Arthur lived in Muskogee and their son Alfred worked in Wagoner County. They camped in Muskogee while Willie looked for a job and wasn't having any luck. He was ready to move on the road again. Hattie had made the tent look real nice and she told Willie that she was not going another step. She liked Muskogee and she was not leaving. Hattie seldom ever talked back to Willie. They got

into a big argument. Willie became so angry that he kicked down the stove, but that did not move Hattie. Then he said he would leave without her and Bill but he would take five year old Stella and they would go by themselves. Hattie got Stella all ready and said "Here she is all packed." Nothing could persuade Hattie to leave. She told Willie that she had traveled around fifteen years of their married life. (married in July, 1902) and she was tired of traveling, and she was setting her foot down. Willie got tired of arguing and decided to stay in the area. That is why he settled in Muskogee and Wagoner County the rest of his life.

Willie and Hattie moved to Ft. Gibson and camped on the Arkansas River, close to Mr. Bill Anderson's property. His brother, Al, stayed in Ft. Gibson, after Willie went back to Muskogee, and worked for the Haworth family. Al's sons Claude and Raymond went to school at Georgetown School and they had a teacher named Mabel Dyer French.

Willie and Hattie rented a house on Hancock Street in the Midland Valley addition in Muskogee. Their next door neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. William Heytz. Later they lived next door to Mr. and Mrs Floyd Heytz. Mrs. Hetz had a small son by a previous marriage named Willie Hooper. Stella always liked little Willie. She would always take him something to eat when he would pass by their house, generally a doughnut or roll from the bakery. They lived there for about three years, until Stella was about eight years old. Willie found odd jobs to do. Stella attended Edison School while she lived there.

Alfred married Audry Davis in November of 1924 and lived in Porter. About 1926 Willie and Hattie moved to Porter, Oklahoma. Alfred and Audrey had a little girl named Helen, and now Stella had two little nieces to play with. Helen was born in 1925, in Wagoner County. Alfred was farming and Willie was also farming. Al was farming at Gibson Station in Wagoner, County. They all enjoyed farming and were very good at it.

Stella was married to her friend Willie Hooper in October of 1932. Willie would ride his bicycle to Porter to see her. Stella was just fourteen years old when she was married. Willie was eighteen. In October of 1995, Willie and Stella Hall Hooper had been married sixty three years.

In 1943 Willie and Hattie retired from farm life and moved to Muskogee and lived the rest of their lives on Fite St. This was the same community where they had lived when Stella was five years old. Willie still loves to sit and visit with his neighbors, and friends would come for miles around to listen to his tales about his life and travels. He always had an interesting story to tell.

I am the granddaughter of Willie and Hattie Hall and I feel fortunate to have been born in their family and I am glad that Hattie would go no farther than Muskogee, Oklahoma.

End notes

1. This story was told to me by John William Hall, Sr. , Hattie Alma Butts Hall, Charles Alfred Hall, John William Hall, Jr., Hazel Elizabeth Hall Halloway, and Stella Myrtle Hall Hooper.
2. See the 1850 Census, Fabius, Marion County, Missouri.
3. I believe he swore allegiance to the Confederates to save his life.

DEATHS
MUSKOGEE INDIAN TERRITORY
1898

6 January

Simpson BENNETT, member of the Indian Police, and well known character, was found dead in his room back of NEW'S billiard hall yesterday morning... his home was about three miles east of Muskogee.

13 January

Mamie HUTCHINGS, youngest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Hutchings, Monday evening last, she was taken ill of pneumonia. She was seven years old. Her sister was Nellie. She will be buried at the city cemetery.

13 January

Hayden MYERS, formerly of Muskogee, and who left for San Antonio, Texas for ill health, died Friday last of consumption.

13 January

A little child of Mr. J. H. LYNCH of the Commercial Hotel, died this past week. This family also lost a promising daughter of about 11 yrs. old having died a few weeks ago.

20 January

J.C. WILKINSON, day turnkey at the Muskogee Jail has gone to Ft. Smith on account of the death of his 13 yr. old daughter, Pearl, who was killed in a cyclone.

20 January

George EDMONDSON, who lived with his brother five miles west of Muskogee was killed Saturday night last, near Illinois Station on the Valley Road, by a freight train. The body was shipped here Monday and taken in charge of by his brother. The deceased was about 37 years old and unmarried.

27 January

S.P. FINLEY, a resident of the N.E. portion of town, died Monday night. He died of a hemorrhage of the lungs before medical assistance could be secured. He had not been subject to such before.

27 January

A dispatch says Carrie ANDERSON, from Muskogee, committed suicide with carbolic acid at Chetopa, Kansas, Monday last. No particulars, but was thought that the girl while working as a domestic was known by another name and her home was Chetopa.

10 February

Memoriam- Christie Dawson DERRISAW, great granddaughter of Rolly McINTOSH, former principal chief of the Creeks and granddad of John McIntosh, of Tullahasee, died of consumption January 18, 1898. Beautiful personal words by her mother, Annetta Dawson. She left a baby.

28 April

Obituary- Mrs. Florience DAVIDSON, died at the home of N.A. GIBSON, Sunday night, aged about 61 yrs. Mrs. Davidson is the mother of Mrs. Gibson, and has been making her home with them. She formerly lived in Memphis where she held membership in the Christian Church. Buried at Greenhill.

12 May

Obituary- Elizabeth G. DuBOIS, consort of B. DuBois, died May 7th, of a lingering illness of four months (consumption). She was the daughter of Richard C. COKER and Eliz. Grace COKER. She was born in Edgefield District, S. Carolina, October 8, 1845. She was married to DuBois in Dadeville, Ala., March 19, 1868. She leaves two children, Reed and Mildred. She also leaves one sister, Mrs. Dr. I.F. Shepard, of Dadeville, Ala; two brothers, W. T. Coker, of Dadeville, and R. C. Coker, of Muskogee. She was a member of the Muskogee Methodist Church for 14 years. She came to the Creek Nation in 1890.

26 May

Mrs. Nora EDLEMAN, who died in Kansas was given a funeral at the Colored Baptist church and buried here.

26 May

Mr. T. B. MCDONALD, brother of A. A. McDonald, of Muskogee, died here at the home of his mother in this city last Friday night. He recently returned here from California where he had been receiving treatment for consumption. His remains were shipped to Ft. Smith (Ark.) for interment.

26 May

The body of Mrs. Bently SPENCER, colored, was sent to Shawnee, O. T. last Wednesday for burial. She died Tuesday at her home two miles west of Muskogee.

26 May

Mrs. Jennie SPENCER, who was brought to this city from Choska a few weeks ago to receive medical treatment, died last Tuesday. Her remains are shipped to Choska for burial. (Choska is in Wagoner County, I. T.).

9 June

DIED -three month old infant of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. MCGILL, Monday.

16 June

Mr. James Ward GORDON, son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Gordon, died Sunday evening of an illness of three weeks. The funeral took place Monday and he was interred in the north part of town

23 June

Mrs. Ella E. NEW, born in Otoe Co. Nebraska, January 26, 1869, died June 17th in this city of cancer of the stomach. Although ill for sometime, her death was unexpected. Mrs. New leaves a husband, Mr. Wm. New and several little children.

30 June

W. W. Crist, of this city, died at Ft. Smith, while on his way to Hot Springs, Ark. He was about 48 years old and born in Iowa. He moved to Muskogee two years ago . . . he will be buried in the city cemetery. He leaves a wife and daughter. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World, Improved Order of Red Men, and Junior Order of the United American Mechanics.

14 July

Miss PONTON, of Gonzales, Texas, who has been visiting her brother at Wagoner, a cattleman of that place, was taken sick with typhoid fever, was brought to Muskogee to receive treatment, however, she died last Sunday and her remains moved to Texas.

21 July

Miss Della CURTS, saleslady at Pattersons, received word of her sister's death, Mrs. C. R. THRASHER, of Oakdale, Calif. last Friday.

21 July

Mr. John DeVINNA, of Versailles, Mo., died Wednesday last, the 13th. He was the father of Miss Devinna of the Patterson Mercantile Co. He was nearly 87 years old.

21 July

Three year old John MARTIN, died of the measles last Monday evening.

4 August

W.C. OLDHAM, an Englishman of about 40 years., died at St. Mary's Hospital last Saturday where he had been taken for treatment two or three days before. It is understood that he came from Nebraska and served on the survey until stricken with typhoid fever. After he was able to travel, less than a year ago he came to Muskogee and worked in clerical work. He was an educated man and had traveled over a considerable portion of the world teaching and writing for the press. It is said he had kinsman of wealth, influence and position in England.

11 August

Desperado of Indian Territory, Will NAIL, member of the Mose MILLER gang. . . shot dead in Braggs area. Body was turned over to friends and relatives in Ft. Gibson and buried in the cemetery there.

11 August

Mr. Edward CULVER received from his son Ed, two or three pictures of himself and companion of the war, since he arrived in New York. One of the pictures is of Culver and Hamilton FISH, taken on the battlefield the night after the battle of Siboney. Fish was dead and Culver unconscious, but they were propped up and a tin-type picture made of them. The bullet which killed Fish was the one which is yet lodged in Culver's lung. They were very close to each other in the fight. Culver arrived in the city this morning.

1 September

Two year old child of Mr. and Mrs. McGEEHORN, died last Tuesday night of congestive chill.

1 September

Infant girl of Mr. and Mrs. James Dickinson, died last Sunday of summer complaint and was buried at the north-east cemetery.

8 September

It's with much regret that the many friends of J.W. McGILL will learn of his sudden illness and death on Thursday evening last. Mr. McGill was an old resident in the Territory and had a host of friends.

15 September

An operation was performed on Tom HICKS, who resides on the GENTRY Ranch, south of Muskogee. Mr. Hicks had been bothered with a strangulated hernia, but the operation had been delayed making his recovery impossible. He died Monday.

15 September

James CONNALLY (Sr.) His death which occurred last Thursday came as a surprise to the citizens of Muskogee. He was taken with a chill on Tuesday at the residence of his father-in-law and never fully recovered having reached the age of sixty. He resided in Muskogee for the past 15 years and leaves a family and several children one who was his son, James Connally, who until recently resided in Muskogee (see August 18th). James Connally Sr. was a Mason, which fraternity conducted his funeral Friday.

6 October

Little son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. HITE died last Sunday evening at this place and on Monday the remains were taken to Denison for interment. (Texas).

3 November

Mr. John HOLLINGBERRY returned from Lawrence, Kansas where he was called by the sudden death of his father from Bright's Disease. The old gentleman, 83, was a highly respected citizen of Kansas.

10 November

Obituary- Barney DuBOIS, of this city, died at his residence last Monday after many months of suffering from an incurable throat and lung. . .he has been ill since the death of his wife, the 7th of May. Mr. DeBois was a Creek citizen and was born in Tallassee, Ala., March 4, 1844. He moved to this country in 1890. He leaves a son, Reed, who is in business in Poteau. . .and a daughter, Mildred, who cared for him.. There are no other relatives in this country. Miss DuBois returned with her brother to Poteau, where she will reside.

17 November

News was received from Tulsa, that Miss Emma DeVINNA, sister to Miss Mary DeVINNA, of the Patterson Mercantile, died last Monday.

24 November

Memoriam-death last Thursday of Miss Lenna BANKS. She has been sick the last four months with consumption. She was a bookkeeper at the Brady Bros. store . . . having lost her mother at an early age she watched over her sisters and brother several years her junior. . .

24 November

A German by the name of Julius STEIN, who had been employed by Geo. ZUFALL's blacksmith shop, was kicked by a horse . . . causing his death last Sunday. He was a single man and had no relatives in Indian Territory.

1 December

Arthur LEWIS, from Las Vegas, N. M. , died Friday night from being run over by the train. His mother came from Las Vegas to be with him until he died. He will be buried here.

22 December

Memoriam- Delilah NEVENS, born in Indian Territory about 1824 and lived in the same place till her death, which took place at her daughter's, Mrs. Simm GARLAND, Dec. 1, 1898. She converted to the Methodist Episcopal Church South in the early years missionaries, with her husband who died several years prior. She leaves two daughters. The remains were lain to rest in the old home graveyard not far away.

22 December

Bert HOLDERMAN contracted a congestive chill while on jury duty and died Monday. He was 29 years of age. He was interred at Chetopa, Kan.

29 December

Memoriam- Bro. Robert S. MONROW, born in Georgia, August 26, 1844. Departed this life at McLain, I.T., December 28, 1898. (copy very faded).

29 December

Mr. J. O. COBB was called last week by wire to Jefferson, OK where his brother, H.C., Cobb was very ill. He left on the first train, but before reaching Lewisville, Texas, his brother had died.

29 December

Mr. and Mrs. H. O. SHEPARD were in Kansas last Monday due to the death of Mrs. Shepard's father, Mr. GRAVES, who used to live here several years ago. . . particulars are not available.

Deaths, 1899-1902 to be continued in subsequent issue....

Source: Sheri Siebold, comp., GENEALOGICAL DATA EXTRACTED FROM THE MUSKOGEE WEEKLY PHOENIX INDIAN TERRITORY 1898-1902, Muskogee: Muskogee Genealogical Society, Vol. III, 1987, 102-153.

Notes of S. Siebold: missing information is indicated with an ellipsis (. . .) information in parentheses by S. Siebold.

PROBLEM SOLVING FOR GENEALOGY

A Talk to Members of MCGS, Jan. 22, 1998, by James R. Voss

James Voss has applied his extensive experience in problem solving and decision making in business, to identifying, and validating ancestors in his genealogical research. He provided us with some excellent examples of all types of problems and how he resolved these problems by using available sources and looking for relationships in these sources. Jim provided us with an overview of the five steps involved in problem solving activities. The steps are: Identify goal, know research tools, develop a plan, implement plan, and follow-thru. He then, took us through each of the steps, with examples of problems and resolutions.

1. Identify your problem/goal or objective: You must ask yourself. Who am I trying to find? Once you have clarified your objective, then you move on to:

2. Know your tools and resources to be able to undertake your research. You should become familiar with, and know how to gain access to the resources and tools available in your locality. You should also check on the history and customs of the area/state for the time frame that you will be working in. In effect, your genealogical research needs a context to give it meaning and enables you to better understand the reasons for the various events that occurred as well as decisions that your ancestors may have made, such as moving to another area. The libraries will have histories of the counties and the states, that you should review. Concurrently, you want to check to see what records are available for you to research such as : Census records, court records, deeds, tax lists, wills, estate/succession records, marriage, petitions, church, private manuscripts, and family genealogies. Once you have an understanding of the various tools and resources available that you can use to establish your relationships, you go on to:

3. Develop a Plan. This becomes your road map to achieve your goal/objective. What are you going to do first? Where are you going to go? Will you start by traveling to several other cities, in the U. S., or will you exhaust the resources in your locality first. Developing a plan enables you to more efficiently carry out your research.

4. Implement Your Plan. Now you proceed to carry out the investigations at the local library, the family history center, and making contact with the families, or any other places that you have determined in your planning. Finally, the last step...

5. Follow-Thru. From time to time, it is important to stop, step back and analyze where you are, where you have been, and where you are going. Take a look again, at what you have done and ask yourself, What else can I do? Where else can I look?

Jim provided us with examples of the problems that he solved as he used court minutes, and census records in order to validate the children of two brothers. He also used court minutes in land deeds in relation to witnesses to the parties involved. He used military records, and called our attention to the fact that there can be mistakes in transcriptions because of how handwriting has changed through time. An example of this occurred during his review of military rolls. He found that the transcription read "dead" when in the original source it was actually "discharged."

Thank you, Jim, for sharing your problem solving experiences with us!

USING FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

RESOURCES AT THE LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Contributed by Mary Branstetter

Mary Branstetter is a volunteer at the LDS Family History Center on Hancock Street in Muskogee. She brings to our attention the various resources available for our use at that facility. In this issue she demonstrated to us how to use the **Periodical Source Index**. In the next issue she will discuss how to use other resources at the Center. Staff at the LDS Center are very helpful and will show you how to use all of their resources. They do not do research for patrons. The hours of the LDS Center are: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:30 to 3:30.

Resources at LDS Center

On Microfiche

Periodical Source Index Annual Volumes 1986-1992
International Genealogical Index (also on computer)
Obituaries from Muskogee Phoenix-1888-1993
All Censuses for Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas
International Genealogical Index (also on CD Rom)
Grazing Drawer- Odds and ends: family histories, cemetery records, immigration indexes, naturalization records, passenger lists, and more!
Roots Cellar- (found in Genealogical Helper)

On CD Rom

Family History Library Catalog (also on Fiche)
Military Index
Ancestor Files
Draft Registration Cards-First World War
Scottish Church Records
Social Security Death Index

In Binders

Native American Register- A Guide to Selected Federal and State Sources
Muskogee Public Library Subject Index of Film and Fiche Magazines.
Indefinite Film on hand. (2 volumes)

The Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

This is an annual index and is a comprehensive place, subject, and surname index to current genealogical and local history periodicals received in the Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. 1986-1995.

There are 5 sections in PERSI: U.S. Place (state or county), Canadian Province, Country (other than U.S. or Canada), research methodology, (record type), and family surname. There are some restrictions on ordering.

Steps in using PERSI (as demonstrated by Mary)

1. First, find the title of the article on the fiche. Each citation has the title of the article, publication, volume, issue, and the year. Here is an example of a citation:

Title of Article	Publication	Vol.	Issue	Month	Year
Halley, Edmond	NYGB	34	1	Jan.	1903

2. Your next step is to find out the complete title of the Publication, indicated as NYGB above. Find the fiche containing the abbreviations code. We look down the alphabetized list and find that NYGB stands for, NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD. We also check to see that it is published in New York.
3. The next step is to see if it is available through the LDS. So we go to the computer and insert the CD Rom, FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG
4. Now we put in the "locality" request for New York and we get different categorical listings. We select the Periodical category.
5. We ask for a full display of the Periodicals. We check the listings for Genealogy Periodicals. There are 27. We work through these until we find the periodical titled, NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD.
6. Next we must check whether the volume we are looking for is available. We are looking for volume 34. We check and see that volumes 1-59 (1988) are available
7. Last we check the Library Holdings to see if it can be ordered. We find that it is available on 26 microfilm reels. Volumes 33-35 can be ordered and the order number is 096 2875.

These annual indexes can be found in various libraries throughout the U. S. A. The Schusterman-Benson library (Rudisell) has the Index in book form vols. 1989-1995.

* * * * *

The Family History Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is the largest family history and genealogical research library in the world. This library was founded over one hundred years ago and is actively engaged in the most comprehensive genealogical research program ever known in history. They have been microfilming records since around World War II. They have over 1.5 m. reels of microfilm and over 200 thousand sheets of microfiche of courthouse, archival and church records. They also have over 195,000 volumes of books. LDS Family History Centers are located in many cities throughout the U.S.A.

However, you need to keep in mind that the information which is compiled is not verified information and you should approach your use of the resources with this in mind. You should not consider your research complete until you have examined the sources and resources at the LDS Family Center. The address of the main library is:

Family History Library of the Church of
 Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
 Genealogical Society of Utah
 35 N. West Temple Street
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84150

Sources: LDS Family Center, Muskogee, OK, and J. Carlyle Parker GOING TO SALT LAKE CITY TO DO FAMILY RESEARCH, Turlock, CA: Marietta Pub. CO., 1989.

BOOK/MEDIA REVIEW

A GENEALOGIST'S REFRESHER COURSE
by Judy Jacobson, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1995.

Reviewed by Diane Jordan Jones

This handy little soft-cover book, 84 pages short, gives a wealth of tid-bits of information for a researcher who needs to be refreshed with odds and ends of information.

The author discusses the reasons for tracing the family tree, how to use primary and secondary sources as evidence, unusual places to search, names on immigration lists, why people emigrated, information about museums, causes of death as well as cures that could kill, calendar date changes, information about hiring a professional genealogist, taking measurements, and evaluating currency as well as passports.

I was interested in the terms and information about illnesses; for instance, chillblains, an inflammation of the skin, occurring in women and children. One cure that was interesting was for teething, to place leeches behind the ears and the gums were also lanced. Another cure was for a dirty sock to be tied around the neck for a sore throat. Cow-manure mixed with saliva was applied as a cure for a bee sting.

Looking at dates, the author discusses that dates prior to 1753 can be misleading. These changes in the calendar have caused confusion. To find a date prior to 1752, eleven days need to be subtracted and an event between January 1 and March 25 must have one year subtracted. An event on January 25, 1740, under the old style calendar, would be dated January 14, 1740, under the new calendar. When researching in books before the adoption of the Gregorian Calendar, the researcher needs to be aware whether the dates were from the old or the new style calendar.

I found this book filled with practical information, and the do's and don'ts to make research more efficient and less time consuming for you and for those assisting you. This little book is useful for a beginning or an experienced researcher to use when searching for material not generally found elsewhere.

An index would be beneficial for a reader to quickly find some needed information. This little book is available in the Grant Foreman Collection of the Muskogee Public Library.



BOOK/ MEDIA REVIEW

AMERICAN TREASURES OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, WQED Video, 4802 5th Ave. Pittsburgh, PA, 1997. Call 1-800-274-1307. Cost \$24.95 plus \$4.00 postage.

Every once in awhile, we need an awe inspiring reminder of our American freedoms, values and heritage. This video cassette gives us just that. We are lifted to the awe-inspiring structure of the National Library of Congress, which "pays homage to our American freedoms," with its 65 acres of floor space, its 110 million items, and 500 miles of shelves, to flavor an exhibition of its treasures. Constructed 100 years ago, at a cost of \$6 million, the Jefferson Building is of a Renaissance style and is considered the grandest building in Washington, D. C.

We are inspirationally moved through a kaleidoscope of artifacts, letters, drawings, books, films, movies, maps, legal and political documents as various authorities in their fields of expertise talk to us. David McCullough, author and historian, reminds us with "History is an expansion of life". "The whole of human experience is available to us."

We are reminded of what happens to a researcher when he begins to interact with a material and begins to formulate questions and becomes in touch with the person within that material. Marvin Kranz, manuscript historian; Robert Shields, reference specialist; and Harry Katz, graphic arts historian, talk about what treasures are; and how important they are for understanding a culture. We view comic books; truly an American invention, baseball posters, cookbooks of the 20th century; and treasures of ingenuity: the telephone, steam boat, automobile, and most importantly, a piece of tin foil that was used by Edison to record and play back sound. Patrick Loughney, a film historian, talks to us about the 1 million films and video cassettes housed in the library, and how they can be thought of as "culture in a can" recording the daily lives of people in time.

Abby Smith, calls our attention to the Declaration of Independence process that has become truly American. Thomas Jefferson gave his third draft to John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. They reviewed and discussed it, and changed a great deal of the language of this great document. This act exemplifies our American process of reviewing, discussing and compromising. We view Native American flutes, simple and elaborate. So, too, we hear the recorded chants of Native Americans. The 5 ft. panels of "The Winter Coat", of the Rola Indians of South Dakota and Nebraska, depicting over 700 years of history; its leaders, epidemics, wars, death and survival are showcased. Debra Newman Ham, historian of Morgan State University, poignantly relates documentation about, and the treatment of, the Black American who needed to learn how to become a part of the political process after his emancipation. Thus, the treasures also disclose flaws and remind us that reviewing history helps us to map the future. We are reminded that the Library of Congress itself is an "embodiment of Democracy based on information."

This video is recommended to better understand the treasures of the Library of Congress, as well as an opportunity to rekindle your Americanism. However, I would have liked to have seen and heard from a Native American, in tribal costume, discuss a bit of Native American history, comparable in length to the African American segment. Also, in a very practical sense, if I go to the Library of Congress, where do I go? What do I do? It would have helped if we had been told about the various divisions or sections, or smaller libraries within this 65 acres of library. I would rate this video as a "must see" for every American, and for libraries to purchase. (L.L.B.)

Muskogee County Genealogical Society
and
Muskogee Public Library

BEGINNER'S GENEALOGY

Workshop

Saturday, April 18, 1998
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(Doors open at 9:00 a.m.)

Muskogee Public Library

801 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, Oklahoma

How and Where to Do Research



How to Use Census Records



How to Research Military and Pension
Records

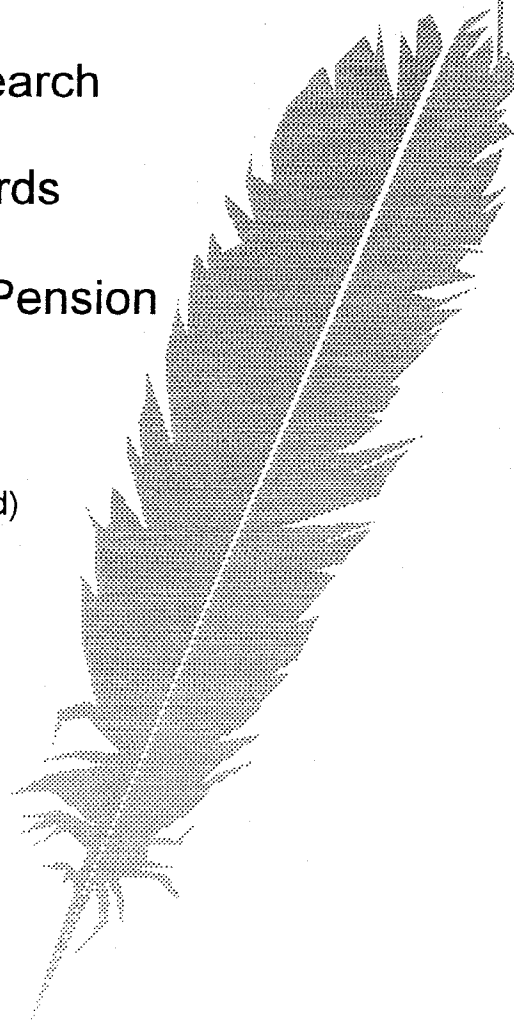


How to Get a CDIB
(Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood)

Registration: \$5 (for non-members of MCGS)
payable at the door

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN (or bring a brown bag and
eat at the Library)

For more information contact:
Mary at (918) 682-7459 or
Wally at (918) 682-6657 Ext. 257



MUSKOGEE COUNTY

