

CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Orlando, Florida 32810  
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Mrs. Betty Hughson, Corres. Sec.  
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YOU REALLY ARE MY ANCESTOR!

WELCOME, 1971 ! May you be interesting and highly productive! May you hold many worthwhile genealogical finds for our Society members!

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You will all be pleased to hear that Mrs. John Steffans Has very graciously consented to hold a Spring session of genealogy research classes. Having enjoyed and benefited from Mrs. Steffan's classes last year, we look forward with pleasant anticipation to the ones forthcoming.

Not too long ago I was reading a booklet published in 1968 by the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research. The booklet was created from a transcript of a workshop talk given by Raymond Martin Bell. There were several statements made which I found very interesting, and which will help those researching Pennsylvania and possibly Virginia.

As you know, many people of German ancestry settled in Pennsylvania. In searching for the given names of your ancestors, remember that their second name is the name frequently used more often than their first name. If a man's name was John Henry - he would have been called Henry. So if you are looking for John Rumph and find Henry Rumph you just might have the right ancestor. In the olden days most German men had three names and used the second name as their call name. This is also true for women.

At one time Southwestern Pennsylvania was claimed by Virginia as well as Pennsylvania, so the records overlap from about 1775 to 1781. You can find Virginia wills in the Washington County, Pennsylvania Deed Books. If you are looking for someone who lived in Washington County, Pennsylvania you may find him in one of three counties:

Ohio, County seat now is Wheeling, West Virginia  
Monongalia, County seat now is Morgantown, West Virginia.  
Yohogania (no longer in existence). This section was a Virginia County which now longs to Pennsylvania. The Court records still are in existence.

Ohio and Monongalia Counties both were created from the Districk of West Augusta, which originally belonged to Virginia.

"You will find that many people who ended up in Virginia or in the Carolinas originally came into Pennsylvania, through what was then called Lancaster County," says Mr. Bell.

So if you are searching for Pennsylvania people, you may have to go all the way to Richmond, Virginia!

The following abstracted definitions of terms from this booklet could help us all.

"Inmate" A renter. A man who could not afford to own his own farm was called an Inmate.

"Unseated" A non-resident land owner.

"Freeman" Just what it says; an unmarried man, over twenty-one and single. All single men had to be taxed. When they got married they disappeared from tax rolls until such time as they owned property.

(as can be seen, the tax lists, therefore covered only about two-thirds of the real population

-Betty Hughson

## THE DIGORY SARGENTS

Due to the lack of articles for this issue, we will insert one of the Sargent Indian stories, and if this doesn't bring in the articles, next issue we may have to write another one.

The story is concerning my sixth great-grandfather, one DICORY SARGENT (or SERJENT, as he spelled it). Records on him first appear as a soldier in the King Phillip's War. In the rolls of Boston, men under Captain Daniel HENCHMAN at Mendon in November, 1675, under Captain William TURNER at the same place in 1675-6; and under Lt. Nathaniel REYNOLDS, at Chelmsford, in June 1676.

On November 11, 1675, he took the oath of Allegiance in Boston. His name appears in "A List of Persons Belonging to the South Company of Boston, Liable to Watch, in October in 1679."

On 13 October 1693 he married Constance James of Boston. The marriage was performed by Rev. Cotton MATHER. To this couple was born one child, a daughter named Martha, born about 1694. Digory's wife Constance died between 1694 and 1696, as he married a second wife in 1696, Mary PARMENTER of Sudbury, Mass. Digory Sargent's ancestry is unknown, but Mary PARMENTER's can be traced back five generations, to a George Parmenter of Little Yeldham, County Essex, England, who was born 1580.

Shortly after their marriage, Digory and Mary moved to Worcester, Mass., where they were among the early settlers of that town, in company with John WING Geprge LENSON, Peter Gouling and Jacob LEONARD. The town previously was settled by a few families in 1665, when six or seven houses were built, but was soon deserted on account of Indian hostilities in connection with King Phillip's War, which raged at that time. From the view of the second settlement, when the whites returned with Mr. Sargent and others, the settlers prospered well until 1701, when the Indians resumed hostilities on the frontier towns, and Worcester was again depopulated. All the settlers fled except Mr. Sargent and his family. He determined to remain and brave the dangers of the Indian foe. He was not molested until 1703-4.

The following particulars of his death are preserved; When the Indians surrounded his house, Sargent seized his gun to defend himself. As he was retreating to the staircase, he was shot down by the savages. Upon seeing this, they rushed into the house and completed the work of death with their tomahawks, and tore off his scalp. They seized his wife, Mary, and the five children, and began a rapid retreat westward. Mrs. Sargent, overcome with grief and fatigue, impeded their progress. As they ascended the Tataasset or Tatnuck hills, a chief stepped out of the file of Indians, and, while pretending to be looking for game, came up behind Mrs. Sargent in an unsuspecting moment, and deprived his sinking captive of life at a single blow. The children were taken to Canada by the Indians, where they remained a long time before they were redeemed by their friends.

The children of Digory and Mary Sargent are; John (my direct line), born 1696-7, Daniel, born 1698, Mary, born 1700, Thomas, born 1701-2, a son born 1703. All of these children were born at Worcester, Mass.

Well, there is a similar story concerning Digory's son, John, so unless the members send in a flood of copy for the next issue, they may also have to read it.

## DISCREPANCIES IN DOCUMENTS

A little over a year ago I visited a cemetery in Maryland and located the graves of my Grandmother and Grandfather Donoho. I noted down the dates on the gravestones and went about my business feeling so lucky, as I would have no trouble finding their death certificates, to obtain further information. On this same day I also visited a very old cemetery called the Donoho Cemetery, now located in some woods outside the town in which my grandparents were buried. In this old cemetery I found the graves of my great-grandparents. Incidentally, the oldest grave in this small graveyard was from 1865, while the newest one was 1939. A span of 74 years, and there were only seven marked graves.

I ordered a copy of the death certificates for my grandfather and grandmother, using information obtained from the graveyard. My grandfather's came back immediately - showing that he had been a widower, born in 1868. Actually, according to the gravestone dates and a census also located, he appeared to have been born in 1860, and he was divorced, not a widower. His daughter was evidently too proud to admit that he had been divorced when she gave information to the doctor for his death certificate. The only information I obtained concerning my grandmother was that there was no record of her death in the files of the City of Baltimore, where she lived at the time of her death. I then looked up family records and secured the name of her second husband - Lang - and sent another request for a death certificate. That time I received it. She had remarried, but her children buried her next to my grandfather, under the name of Donoho!

In checking the two death certificates further I found that both showed that at least one set of their parents was born in Wicomico County, Maryland. This was impossible; Wicomico County was not formed until 1867. Even the grandparents were not born in Wicomico County, but in Somerset County.

Most of us feel that official documents of this type are always current and that they can be used as proof of birthdate or birthplace or parentage. As you can see, this is not always true.

- Betty Hughson

## CEMETERY CURIOSITIES, PART I

In Westport, Connecticut, the Kalabury family had a cemetery plot in the Green Farms Congregational Church Cemetery. By 1956 all but one grave site had been used. Two of the boys were digging in the unused area when they were surprised to come upon a coffin disinterred it to try to learn who had been buried there. It was an expensive coffin and not very old, and inside they found the body of a man unknown to them! He seemed to be about 50 years of age, and was dressed in an expensive suit.

The brothers put the coffin back in the grave and then started complaining to the cemetery authorities and to the police. They were so insistent that finally the police decided to work on the problem. They disinterred the casket and found the skeleton of a man whom the experts said has been dead for 50 years.

But the brothers protested that this was not the coffin they had dug up, and insisted they had found a body, not a skeleton. The authorities would not let the coffin be removed, because they said they had no burial permit for it, and therefore they could not authorize its removal. And there the mystery stands.

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In the days of witch hunting, Colonel Jonathan Buck, who founded Bucksport, Maine, found a witch to prosecute. As usual, the victim was an old lady living alone, with eccentric habits. No amount of torture could make her confess to being a witch. But Colonel Buck pronounced the death sentence.

Before her death, the old lady said that when Buck died she would put her foot print on his tombstone, as proof that he had murdered without cause. When he was buried, his tombstone was chosen from a particularly nice block that had no flaws. But the footprint appeared. The family took the stone out and put in another one. Again the footprint appeared. And there the footprint remains.

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Near Staunton, Virginia, is Samuel Frame's farm, about seven miles out of the town. Anyway it was Samuel's farm in 1870, when he did his usual chore of taking his wheat to Palmer's Mill to be ground into flour. He was following a custom of the countryside. But on September 22, he dreamed that a "bright lady" came to him and advised him to take his grain out of there, because the mill would be destroyed. Samuel did so, and hurriedly warned his neighbors to do the same. But nobody would give credence to such a flimsy pretext. A terrible storm came up that night, and the ensuing flood carried away the mill and all that was in it.

Samuel is buried on his farm, and on his tombstone is the legend, "Samuel Frame, buried on this farm. He was warned by an angel in a dream, September 22, 1870, to remove his wheat from Palmer's Mill, now Spring Hill, which he did the following day."

- These are from "STRANGE WORLD," by Frank Edwards, Ace Books, NYC 1964

The following are the surnames which some of our members are researching. Please send in the names you are researching, so we can try to be of help to you too.

Betty Hughson:                   APPLEGARTH: Maryland  
                                  YOUNG:           Maryland  
                                  WILSON:          Maryland  
                                  HUGHSON, HASKIN, REEDICK TIKE,  
                                  POOL:            Canada  
                                  BRINSFIELD, HURLEY, HARDING, DONOHO:  
                                  GWINN or GUINN: Maryland

Alice H. Rupe:                   George HINKLE or HENKEL: New Market,  
                                  Virginia 1804-25  
                                  CALDWELL, SPENCER and PATTERSON:  
                                  West Virginia  
                                  COFFEE: Virginia  
                                  LYKENS, LIKENS or LYCANS: Phila-  
                                  delphia, 1820's.

Shirley Sargent:               MARTIN and WILSON: Pittsburgh, Canada.  
                                  (Can anyone furnish me with any infor-  
                                  mation on Pittsburgh, Canada?)  
                                  CARRIGAN, RILEY, LARDER, LEIGH and  
                                  MCDONOUGH: New York State

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#### HELPFUL BOOKS

OLD CHEROKEE FAMILIES - Genealogical tables, index to individuals named, 39 mixed-blood families; individuals of hundreds of affiliated families. 274 pps. \$3.95. Order through the University of Oklahoma Foundation, 900 Asp Ave., Mz. 3, Norman, Oklahoma 73069

ESTATE RECORDS 1761 and DEED RECORDS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, Pa. By Bell, 1967, \$2.00. In a speech before the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, Dr. Bell urged his audience to publish their material. If only in mimeographed form, in order to preserve records and to disseminate information to as many interested persons as possible. For years Dr. Bell has followed his own excellent advice.

BACKTRACKING IN BARBOUR COUNTY. A Narrative of the Last Alabama Frontier, by Walker. Published by The Lietz Press, Richmond, VA, in 1941 and reprinted by Eufaula Heritage Association in 1967. This book is historically recommended, although the index is not complete.

FROM RAFT TO RAILROAD - A History of the Town of Greene. Chenango Co., N.Y. Cochrene, 1967, 175th anniversary. A genealogical quarterly says "good appendix, of especial general value." Lists vets of RW, 1812, CW buried there.

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Mrs. Mary Bellenger again very kindly arranged that our November 19th Pot Luck Supper could be held at the Baptist Terrace. We had a most delicious assortment of food, and had an enjoyable evening of "show and tell," viewing the collections of personal historical materials brought in by the members. An amazing amount of good historical material is available, and we think it would be worthwhile to have a more expansive display for public viewing.

The Christmas party was held at 8:00 P. M. on December 17th, and the walkway to the College Park Woman's Club was lined with luminaries made and lighted by members. Another attractive decorations were left for us by club members having a previous Christmas party, so a festive holiday atmosphere was evident throughout the room.

We had as our guest Mr. Howard W. Couchman, a handwriting analyst. He spoke to us on the potential value of character analysis of handwriting in connection with job placement, psychoanalysis, as a pleasant hobby, and as a possible insight into the personality and temperments of our ancestors as revealed through their letters and papers. From the numbered slips of paper he had passed out earlier he gave a short reading on each one's handwriting. He also analyzed some old family letters brought by some of the Society members, which we found very interesting.

Gifts were exchanged and carols were sung by some, while others visited and chatted as the refreshments were being prepared. The evening came to a close on a gracious, warm friendly note to the beautiful sounds of Marry Christmas! May all the best Blessings of the New Year be yours." - and so gain - our Christmas party was over.

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Here is an important day to remember: It is our annual Card Party. Table Donations: \$1.00 per player. There will be prizes, of course, and refreshments.

This is our one money making affair of the year. Be an early bird and start now to get your tables lined up. Contact all your card playing friends and get their promise to play. Let's have a lot of guests for an evening of fun.

Please contact Mrs. Leona Henkel, at 425-5372, between the hours of 2:00 and 5:00, to make reservations. And, Members, please also advise Mrs. Henkel just what manner of help you are willing to contribute to make this party a success. We will need decorators, kitchen help, refreshment contributions and door and table prizes. With the organized assistance of all the members, this should be a truly successful event, since we are planning this far ahead.

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We have had inquiries as to the annual subscription rate of our Newsletter. It is, of course, a part of your membership subscription rate. For anyone who is currently unable to be a member, or who lives out of town, the Board has decided that the subscription rate will be \$1.00 per annum (issued quarterly). We thank the interested inquirers.

Without meaning to be too repetitious, it does look like an exciting year ahead for us. An item about the Society appeared in the "Hush Puppies" column of the Orlando Sentinel, and mention was made of the anticipated genealogy classes. From just this article we have had about twenty inquiries.

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Message from our President:

It was a pleasure and an honor to represent the Central Florida Genealogical and Historical Society as a guest on the Loris Ashwell Radio and TV shows. I hope the programs were found informative and will result in effective publicity for the Society.

I wish to personally extend my sincere appreciation to Miss Ashwell for the privilege of having the opportunity to introduce the Society to her listening audience. I also want to thank Mrs. Rupe and Mrs. Dietz for their help and support.

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#### MEETING INFORMATION

January 28th - 7:30 P. M. - Orlando Public Library Auditorium

February 25th - Same time, but to be announced as to where.

March 25th - to be announced.

Board Meetings are scheduled as follows:

January 13th - 8:00 P. M. at Mrs. Allyn's  
February 10th - 8:00 P. M. TBA  
March 10th - 8:00 P.M. TBA

Jan
Thur. 28

Feb.
Thur 25

March
Thur 25