

CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4706 Larado Place,
Orlando, Florida 32806

Phone: 277-2459
October, 1974

Mrs. Edgar Train White, Jr., President	Mrs. Theodore Ochs, Asst.
Mr. James D. Eller, Sr., Vice President	Corres. Secretary
Mrs. John Vernon Hinely, Rec. Secretary	Mr. Emerson Thompson Ander-
Miss Minnie Witham, Corres. Secretary	son, Jr., Treasurer
Miss Beatrice Eller, Historian	
Councilors: Mrs. Alice H. Rupe and Mr. Woodrow W. Hintenach	

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Premature? No. It's OUR New Year - the Central Florida Genealogical and Historical Society.

In September we celebrated our Fifth Birthday Party and had the annual installation of officers and councilors at the lovely home of members Mr. and Mrs. John Vernon Hinely. Our thanks and deep appreciation go to them and their daughter, Darlene, for an enjoyable evening.

Now since this is our New Year, let us make some customary resolutions. You've heard of the Five Year Plan? Ours will be the Quarterly Year Plan. The next issue we will be able to tell you how successful our first quarter was and our plans for the second quarter.

Unlike the countries will Five Year Plans, we are asking All members to participate and become active. In order that All members may participate, there will be a Suggestion Box at the meetings for your convenience, but if you have gripes, include a solution.

Our October meeting will be a covered dish Harvest Supper, Thursday, October 24, 1984, College Park Woman's Club, 714 West Dartmouth, at 6:00 P. M. (Turn west off Edgewater on Dartmouth). Mrs. Barber, Chairman, Committee Members: Mrs. Joseph Warren, Mrs. Alton J. Nolle, Mrs. Leona Henkel.

Come prepare to share your knowledge and your ideas - make it a Harvest Time evening.

MEETINGS

October 24,
1974

November 21,
1974

December 19,
1974

(home of
Mrs. Edgar Train White, Jr.
Reservation before
noon Monday December 16
Tel 305-277-2459
Gift exchange

MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Ann M. Adams,

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Margaret Holbrook (Mrs. W. L.)

[REDACTED]

13

Mr. Emerson Thompson Anderson, Jr.,

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Betty Hughson (Mrs. C. Wally)

[REDACTED]

C-5

Mrs. Kathleen B. Barber,

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Mary Jane Knisely,

[REDACTED]

148

Miss Beatrice Eller

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Lorna Lindstrom (Mrs. Chester A.)

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Joyce Ford (Mrs. Charles W.)

83 [REDACTED]

Miss Ebba Lofgren,

[REDACTED]

65

Mrs. Ethel F. Hansen,

71 [REDACTED]

Mrs. Thelwyn M. McHugh (Mrs. Francis I.)

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Lorraine R. Hanson (Mrs. A.R.)

46 [REDACTED]

Mrs. Dorothy McPeck (Mrs. E. K.)

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Leona Henkel,

C-14 [REDACTED]

Mr. Alton J. Nolle,

[REDACTED]

C-22

Mrs. Bonnie L. Hinely (Mrs. John /Vernon)

54 [REDACTED]

Mrs. Helen W. Nolle (Mrs. Alton J.)

Same

C-23

Mr. John Vernon Hinely,
Same

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Genevive Ochs (Mrs. Theodore) Member N. 14
72

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Phylles Potter,

[REDACTED]

Mr. Marcus G. Rankin,
[Redacted]

Mrs. Mary Virginia White
[Redacted]

4-2
C-24

Mrs. Morean M. Rankin (Mrs. Marcus)
Same

Mrs. Estelle Warren (Mrs. Joseph Sr.) 89
[Redacted]

C-2

Mrs. Alice H. Rupe,
[Redacted]

Mrs. Eileen R. Willis (Mrs. Richard P.)
[Redacted] H-1-28

C-26

Mrs. Marion Schuneman (Mrs. L.)
[Redacted]

Mrs. Flora B. Willis,
[Redacted] 99

Mr. Beldon H. Slater,
[Redacted]

C-1

Mrs. Peola I. Stuart (Mrs. Z. T.)
[Redacted]

Miss Minnie F. Witham,
[Redacted] 59
Route 2
Box 32

Mr. A. R. Taylor,
[Redacted]

Mrs. Marcia Wright (Mrs. Donald)
[Redacted]

The trivia of today is the treasure of tomorrow. A letter today is just a communication, but 100 years from now it becomes a treasure. Be mindful what you do with trivia.

Searchers of Long-Lost Kinfolk in the mid and far west should see "Linkage for Ancestral Research" by Mrs. Mary June Reeder, 2900 Espanola N. E., Albuquerque, New Mexico. An outstanding aid with an Index to Queries published in cooperating magazines, the names of participating organizations, their journals, how to order copies and rates, as well as information wanted by organizations, what is for sale, books, offers for assistance, etc., etc. One year's subscription (4 issues) is \$3.00. Order from Mrs. Reeder.

RESEARCHING IN DELAWARE

The Dutch were the first settlers in Delaware, having established a camp on the Delaware River in 1631. The Swedes began migrating in 1638 and settled south of what is now Wilmington. The Dutch and the Swedes did not get along, and there was open warfare between 1651 and 1655, when the Swedes were finally routed from their Fort Christina.

Then the Finnish people began coming over in Swedish ships in 1656. But in 1664 the British forces moved in and took possession of the area. From then on, a polyglot population settled, some from other colonies in the new world. The Irish began arriving in 1698. Also among the nationalities settled in Delaware were Italians, Poles, Russians and Germans.

Delaware ratified the Constitution and became the first state in the Union on 7 December, 1787. It was considered a slave state, but nonetheless, they fought on the Union side in the War Between the States.

Delaware was first divided into three counties, each of which were further divided into districts called hundreds (townships). This was a British pattern, of course.

Records in Delaware are scattered. Some are in the Archives of New York state. After 1681 records were stored for a period in Pennsylvania, and then some were put in both places. Land records from 1785 are in County Court Houses, and there, also, wills can be found from 1800.

Births, deaths and marriages are kept in the Bureau of Vital Statistics, State House, Dover, but the records begin in 1881. Some marriages were recorded as early as 1847, and births were kept from 1861 to 1863. All marriage records before 1790 are from unofficial sources, as are all births and deaths before the Civil War period. There is no complete coverage before 1913, despite the national law requiring it in 1911.

Deeds and mortgages are county records, and since they are only three counties, such records should not be difficult to find.

There has been publication of some collected records by the Genealogical Publishing Co. on Baltimore. One of these is a calendar of New Castle County wills from 1682 to 1800. (Published 1969). The Public Archives Commission of Delaware published a calendar of Kent County wills from 1680 to 1800, in 1944, and a Sussex County record from 1680 to 1800, in 1964. The Commission has also published military and naval records from early Colonial times to the close of the Rebellion.

Sources in Delaware include:

Public Archives Commission, Hall of Records, Dover, 19901
 Historical Society of Delaware, 6th & Market Sts., Wilmington, 19801.
 University Library, University of Delaware, Newark, 19711.
 Wilmington Institute Free Library, 10th & Market Sts., Wilmington, 19801

Delaware Dept. of Hist. & Cultural Affairs, Hall of Records, Dover 19901
 Lewes Hist. Soc., Lewes 19958
 Milford Hist. Soc., 501 N. W. Front St., Milford 19963
 Duck Creek Hist. Soc., Smyrna 19977.
 Eleutherian-Mills-Hagley Foundation, Greenville, Wilmington 19807
 Fort Delaware Society, Box 1251, Wilmington 19899
 Hist. Soc., of Delaware, 505 Market St., Wilmington 19899.

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A STRANGE MATTER OF CENSUS: Did you know that parents sometimes changed their children's names as they grew up? It was really not unusual. Either the child objected to the name bestowed upon it, or from some whim the parents decided they had not chosen for the best. In the old days, nobody had to prove their birth for Social Security or other legalities.

Here is an example from Gasconade County, Missouri: On the 1860 census, George Baxter is listed with his wife Amanda (Cuthbertson - third wife). Children are given as:

Mary Ann born July 1858
 Robert C. born May, 1860.

Subsequent census reports show the child born in 1860 as Richard Wesley.

* * * * *

Progress may be coming to the ancient "rites of burial." In Pompano Beach, Donald Wells became bored with reading carved dates and epitahs. (Why he does it if he become bored, he doesn't explain). Donald designed and is producing a screen for a tombstone, showing scenes from the deceased's life, together with a tape recorded voice.

Considering the devastation of cemeteries today, when vandals take some sadistic pleasure in "busting" the glass over the picture placed on a tombstone, and the traffic of antique dealers in customary stones, it would be a real hazard to go modern.

* * * * *

Did you know that a Medeival sport of kings and nobility, long out of fashion, is becoming very popular today? It is the joust, of what was once referred to merely as "the tournament." You will recall that Francis I, King of France, was wounded in the eye in a joust with Montgomery on 29 June, 1559, and died of the wound 11 days later.

"Mounted Knights" of today, hailing from the Carolinas, Virginia, Maryland and Louisiana, are matching their skills this month at a National Jousting Tournament in Washington, D. C. Do you want to joust, like the knights of old? Write the State Development Division, 1900 Washington Street East, Charleston, South Carolina.

THE NEW ENGLAND ADVENTURE

The celebration of our bi-centennial status is nearing. We are not only interested in genealogy, but in history, as our organization name indicates. It is a fitting occasion to look into some pertinent eras in the development of our nation.

At the time of the Revolution, Southerners were long established planters. Their tobacco and indigo found ready markets abroad. Land was cheap and labor cheaper, and the Southerner had for himself a satisfactory way of life.

But the New Englander had no such advantages. Even by 1740 most of the land in the northern seaboard colonies had been taken up. Growing seasons were short, and while garden, game and fishing provided food, there was little to provide income. Tea was nice to have, but it had to be bought, and when King George had become demanding, we all know it went into the sea, whether the fishes liked it or not. The colonies gained their independence. But the New Englander had cause to wonder whether it was such a great idea after all. There would be no money from home, or any kind of sustenance from Mother England. Indigence spread like a creeping paralysis.

And then one day John Ledyard came home to see his mother, who lived in Groton, Connecticut. He had not been home for many a year. In fact he had been a seaman on Captain Cook's ship when he made the attempt to sail around the world. Cook lost his life, as we know, but Lt. Gore brought the ship safely back to England. John Ladford was a Corporal of the Marines under Gore, and he was on a British ship near the end of the Revolution. He jumped ship at Long Island and made his way home to mother.

John had many stories to tell about Captain Cook's journey, and among other things he told the funny story of their stop-over in China. The crew men on the ship had some old worn out furs on their bunks. When the Chinese saw them, they set up a chopsticks hullabaloo. At any price, the Chinese would have those furs. The crewmen got them from the American Indians on the Northwest coast. It was cold weather, and furs were a blessing to the crew, who could sleep toasty warm for having traded a few trinkets with the aborigines.

The Chinese immediately saw the advantage of furs. Their houses were flimsy, and who could make up a roaring fire in cold weather in a house of rice paper partitions?

Ledyard, however, was no man of business. He liked to explore and he had a notion that a ship could go to the Northwest by way of Cape Horn, trade trinkets for furs, sail across the Pacific and trade the furs for tea, silks and spices. Then the ship could return by the Cape of Good Hope - England's customary route - and back to New England.

Such a course was not much considered. The British had already established themselves in India, and the route was around the foot of Africa both ways. Ledyard tramped all over the colonies hunting somebody who

would finance a trip on his proposed route. He said it was as good as a Northwest passage, which was much sought after in those days.

However, too many schemes had failed. The Darian expedition had failed, the South Sea Bubble had burst, La ws had impoverised France with his schemes, and business men were not going to be taken in on any more schemes. But Ledyard had stirred up considerable interest in trading with China.

Robert Morris decided to take the chance in 1783. Certainly things were bad in the New England colonies. Old soldiers were both old and broke. Old sea captains could no longer man the British merchant men's vessels. There was unrest, and even rebellion in Massachusetts. The federal government was as impoverised and unable to cope as the rest. Merchants would have to do something to stay in business.

But if a ship should go to China, what could it take to interest the Chinese? They considered all white men barbarians, and said they already had all the refinements of life. But if the barbarians wanted to buy their tea and jade and silks and ivory and pottery, well the Emperor would tolerate a limited amount of that.

Those American sailors who had been to China on English ships had a passable knowledge of the customs in that far off land. And one thing they remembered was that the Chinese set quite a store by ginseng. It was used for a medicine, and might be worth three to four hundred dollars an ounce. Well, the American woods was full of ginseng roots that could be had for the difging. It was quite as silly to the New Englander as e fact that the Northwest Indians set a store by bright shiny nails, and would trade heaps of fur pelts for a handfull of nails. But if the Chinese wanted ginseng, New England could supply it.

When Robert Morris loaded "The Empress of China" with ginseng and sent her on her way to the orient, he fair instatuted the China trade. Major Samuel Shaw, an officer in the Revolution, took the ship to Canton. Apparently the Emperor had overlooked ginseng when he said, "Our Empire produces all that we ourselves need. Your mechanical toys do not interest me in the least. But since our tea, rhubarb and silk seem to be necessary to the very existence of the barbarous western peoples, we will, imitating the clemency of heaven, who tolerates all sorts of fools on this globe, condescent to allow a limited amount of trading through the port of Canton."

The "Empress of China" docked in New York on 10th ay, 1785, and those who had subsidized the journey were \$30,000.00 richer. In 15 months they had earned 25% on their investment while sitting smugly at home.

This was too good a thing not to attract imitators, and it could not be kept a secret. It was a blessing both economically and culturally. In 1785 some merchants gathered at a Coffee House in New York, and as they sipped their brew, they discussed the possibility of getting at least 15 people to subscribe \$5,000. each for a venture into China trade. As matters worked out, they could. John Vanderbilt would take 2 shares, and others followed his example to the extent they could afford. They advertised in the "New York Packet" on 20 October, 1785 for quantities of ginseng. They also collected furs. It was not a large cargo the the "Experiment" took to Canton when it sailed December 15, but it was products wanted by the Chinese.

Salem was not slow to take advantage of this new bonanza. It was primarily a maritime area anyway, and boat building was one of their assets. Even as the "Empress of China" was rounding the Cape, she sighted Salem's "Grand Turk." Salem's method was to peddle along the way, and there might be four or five turnovers of cargo en route to China. By 1788 the "Grand Turk" had doubled its capital. Their cargo might consist of Baltic iron, Maderia wine, ginseng and even such homely products as candles, women's shoes and handkerchiefs. These products, sold along the way, provided specie to buy in Canton.

Ports up and down the coast followed suit. From Providence, Rhode Island to Martha's Vineyard, ships set out for Canton - the only port allowed by the Emperor.

In due time, as the sailors became more familiar with what was along their routes, such enterprises as going after the wild peppers that grew in abundance on the northwest shores of Sumatra, took shape. The peppers cost nothing but the gathering, and all Salem chose to buy and sneeze over pepper.

All this import of products from the east had a very cultural effect on New England. Ladies in silks were entertaining at teas, and their guests sipped from lovely cups of willow ware. Mashed potatoes must be swimming in butter and heavily sprinkled with pepper. Sometimes it was imported Mocha that graced the meal. If it was an evening supper, the table might be lighted by a Chinese cloisonne vase transformed into a kerosene lamp.

Grace and culture spread as the China trade prospered. No longer was rough furniture, carelessly pegged together, to be tolerated in the home. Ladies must have small tables inlaid with mother-of-pearl or ivory, fine rugs, such refinements as carved teak bird cages replete with brilliantly plumaged singing birds and finely carved elephants and camels of ivory reposed on delicate corner what-nots. All this new grandeur probably led to the custom of closing off the living room, except for special occasions, when finery could be displayed with no spots on the rug or chips in the delicate vases. Boston was off on a course of becoming the culturally elite center of the nation. And all these accoutrements brought refinement in manners and behavior.

The China trade reached far into the bowels of society with its prosperity. Young boys 14 and 16 were soon taking their chances as sailormen. A chance it was, for sailing the seas had its hazards, and many a "Poor Tom" ended his days early with an oriental fever, or at the bottom of the sea that swept all overboard in a raging storm. Pirates infested the China seas and made off with both brig and cargo, with little regard for the lives of the crew unless ransomable. One Captain reported he had buried 12 of his crew and had himself been sick five months. Another Captain had the temerity to report home a third time reporting the loss of his entire crew! A Parson might announce "Pray for Mary. Her husband is dead and her brother at sea."

But those who survived the dangers and rigors, whatever their station, prospered. Fine homes began appearing where one room log cabins formerly stood. The fortunes of such men as John Vanderbilt and Jacob Astor related to the China trade, and many a Captain retired to build himself a mansion to harbor his rheumatism in his old age. Everybody from the subscriber to the sailor improved his station and his abode. Some of these homes still

exist. They were so well built that moderns vie with each other to possess them, despite the plumbing and electric wiring drawbacks.

Of course it would all come to an end. The War of 1812 was a direct result of the China trade. Then too, China reached a saturation point with furs and ginseng. Possible cargos narrowed as the seas became more infested with perils. But by this time New England had proved equal to the challenge of finding prosperity and establishing a high caliber of culture. The industrial revolution was yet to come. The China trade was the bridge between the rupture with Mother England and the machine age for New England.

Bibliography:

Trade with India and China, Alexander Hamilton, American State Papers, Vol. I. Papers of the Sloop Experiment, New York Hist. Society.
Annals of Salem, Joseph P. Felt, Salem 1845.
Historical Sketch of Salem, Osgood and Batchelor, 1879
Early Relations Between the United States and China, Kenneth Scott Latourette, New Haven, Conn. 1917
Sea Power and Its Relation to the War of 1812, Capt. A. T. Mahan, Boston 1905
Americans in Eastern Asia, Tyler Dennett, New York, 1922.

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NO WORKEE, NO SOUPEE

There is such a thing as dereliction of duty. Then there is responsibility and moral obligation. Jesus Christ is said to have put forth the idea that one should do as he would be done by. The By-laws of our Society say something or other about the aims of the organization, and one of them has to do with helping each other.

Ye Ed has repeatedly asked members to report their experiences in research, so they can be shared with others. Which of you has done this? Nobody. We are grateful indeed for experiences presented at meetings. But not all of our members can come to meetings, and not every member can come every time. These people all pay their dues. THEY ALL RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER. If these experiences are printed, a member can sit down in an easy chair and read them. We have no illiterates.

Apparently the membership is stone deaf, whereas Ye Ed thought it was she. Despite this problem, Ye Ed does converse on the phone, and can read fairly well. It is not my practice to go around hitting people over the head to get their attention. But nobody contributes anything toward gathering material for the NEWSLETTER except the gracious gesture of Mrs. Eileen Willis in supplying library data and a president's message.

It is a discouraging job, and I move that we amend the By-Laws and discontinue a newsletter members will not support.

MY SUMMER CLEANING

Ye Ed did learn some things about research on three genealogy jaunts this summer. The jaunts covered considerable mileage from Providence, Rhode Island to the Georgia Border, and over into Tennessee, Ohio and Kentucky.

One of the salient things noted about New England, is the plethora of cemetery information available. Cemeteries are usually ancient, and for the most part, well kept. New Englanders appear to have more respect for their dead than Southerners, who blithely tear down cemeteries, cast the tombstones in an old well, plow up the final resting place of their honored pioneers, and plant corn and tobacco. In Kansas they do not tear up old cemeteries. But you may have to drive through the alfalfa field, stumble through the corn rows and try to find the tombstones amongst the thorny brambles, while watching closely for rattlesnakes.

Be that as it may, researchers in New England are "cemetery lucky." In Providence I found a bonanza in a cemetery that greatly enhanced my quest of a descendant of Roger Williams. There stood stone after stone, telling me who was the son of who, who was their daughter and who was her husband. It is better than reading an old genealogy, because there is little doubt of the accuracy.

The contrast in Surry County, Virginia was definitely noticeable. There stood the remains of an ancient church, whose plaque announced it was erected in the early 1600's and burned in 1885. The oldest stones were illegible. This leads me to wonder if the southern air is more destructive, or the stones less durable. I believe the former is true, as I found soft sandstone in excellent preservation in Tarrytown, New York, with the dates and quaint epitahs very readable, though dating from the 1600's. In Surry County legibility began in the early 1800's. A rainstorm was incipient, and I could not stay to catalogue the cemetery. As I proceeded in the down pour, I saw cemeteries I yearned to visit. But I am not one who is fond of walking around in the rain.

In the Surry County court house, I was asked to show my driver's license, and the information was all carefully copied down. This is a "Sign of the Times." Genealogy has become popular, and thieves are among its followers.

The State Library in Raleigh, North Carolina makes no bones about the hazard each patron presents to them. So many records have been stolen that the researcher is allowed nothing but pencil and notebook. My carrying case was confiscated for the duration.

At Salisbury, North Carolina I was greeted with the news that the Erwin file I had partially copied in 1970, had disappeared. That was a refined way of saying it had been stolen. I agreed to re-copy my notes and replace what material I had available. I later did this, and found my gesture greatly appreciated. Each of us indeed should look upon ourselves as custodians of all records. If ever there was an area where charitable gifts and preservation of the gifts of others is in order, it is in our chosen field. Once lost, many records are irretrievable. To fully realize the damage of sloth and destruction in past ages, try researching in "The Old Dominion" in the 1600's. Let it not be said of our members that we have stolen and destroyed records, but rather, the antithesis.

Virginia State Library is a puzzle. From Florida to New York I have heard rumors of the indexing program of early records that has been in process at Richmond for some time. But I was told when I went there, that no such program exists. Yet, in New York I was able to obtain information from this card index!

William and Mary College Library has a long period of yearly publications put out by Virginia State Library, covering materials received during each year. There I found note of some early records on merchants in the colony of Virginia in the 1600's. I carefully copied down all the data relating to the filing of these records in the archives. But at Richmond, the Library denied they had them! It was their own publication I had drawn from. Puzzle me that.

I was again impressed with the falacy of depending on an index. In Surry County, Virginia, I went through the books page by page, trying to decipher the deplorable handwriting of the clerk incumbent in the mid 1600's. I found three pertinent documents not in the index. For calling this to the attention of the clerk, I got some free xerox copies of two documents! With xerox copies at their present cost in court houses, maybe it is a good idea to tell the clerk what isn't in the index. In Abingdon, Va. there is a Power of Attorney very essential to my studies, which I could not find in the index. Page by page examinations are laborious, but I have found them rewarding.

All Kentucky court houses I have visited have been manned by plus ultra courteous people. Bravo if you have research to do in that state.

What have you been doing all summer?

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The Orlando Public Library (Mrs. Willis) has supplied us with the news of the availability of the Draper Manuscript Collection on microfilm. This valuable data is housed at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Included are volumes 1 to 3 of the Rudolph Ney manuscripts. This is Marshall Ney of Lee's legion in the Revolutionary War. Also included are Waighstill Avery and Silas McDowell. These have been microfilmed, and the list and prices appear on the next page.

This prestigious collection is a mine of historical information on North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, South Carolina, Alabama, and many first-person accounts, biographical and historical. Those of us who have had access to the Virginia papers realize that some errors have been made. Mr. Draper has sometimes used "word of mouth" information which may not be true, and sometimes unverifiable. But these are excellent guides to documentary research, nonetheless.

Florida State University has the whole set. And then of course you can consider buying any of these films and presenting them to the Orlando Library! The address of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin is:

816 State Street,
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

MICROFILMS OF THE DRAPER MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

12

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