# THE CLF NEWSLETTER

Vol. XI

May 1997

No. 2

President's Message

### Support! Support?

Support means different things to different people. When my son was very young we lived on a relatively busy street, and it was important to keep him away from the danger associated with that street. He never really learned to walk because it seemed that he just went from crawling to running. In fact, I am not sure that he has ever slowed down. One day when he was very small he started off toward the street and I yelled at him to come back. Since his mother's genealogy line is stronger in him, he ignored me completely and continued toward the danger. I yelled again, but again it did not one bit of good. This left me no choice but to run after him and grab him. When I caught up with him, I popped him on the leg, and he immediately expressed his displeasure. Now this form of support was not something that I liked, and it was certainly not something that my child enjoyed, but he never went running off toward the street again.

When we support the Clayton Library with our money gifts to the Clayton Library Friends, we support a library second to none in our area of the country. We are blessed with a wonderful research facility with magazines, books, maps, films, and a staff that I have personally found to be patient and extremely helpful. We spend hours pouring through the materials available in the library or in the family section next door in the Clayton home, and rarely think about what we might be able to do personally for our library. If you are reading this article then you have taken a great step in the support of our library. You have become a member of the Clayton Library Friends and your membership dues enables your Clayton Library Friends board of directors to do things for the library beyond what the Houston Public Library system has in their budget. I want to make sure that you understand how important your dues are and I want you to be sure that you know that we appreciate your help.

If you would like to support the library some more, you can volunteer your time or you can volunteer some more of your money. You can send additional monies to the Clayton Library Friends at our address found in this publication. If you want to volunteer your time, you can let us know in several ways. You can e-mail me at

singletn@hal-pc.org and I will make sure that the appropriate person contacts you. You can also write us at our address and we will be back in touch. If you have some special talents, let us know. If you don't know how you can help but would like to be involved, then we can spend some time with you to show you the different needs that we have. One of the best ways to learn what the Clayton Library has to offer is to take a 'shelving class' and help put the books back on the shelves. Let us know. I will close by thanking you again for your support! Can we help you in the future with your support?

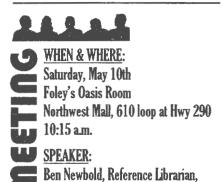
David Bryan Singleton, President Clayton Library Friends

# Nominating Committee to be selected at May meeting

In accordance with Article VI of the CLF Bylaws, a nominating committee for 1998 offices will be selected by the members at our May meeting. Four CLF members will be elected after nominations are made from the floor. These four members, together with a fifth selected by the Executive Board, will form the nominating committee.

The nominating committee has one of the more important duties of our organization in that it must recommend individuals to lead CLF through the next year. As our organization has grown well in excess of 1,000 members, it has become more

(Continued on page 4)



TOPIC:

Clayton Library

Introduction to English Research at Clayton Library: An Overview of Clayton's English Collection

### **CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS**

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

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

#### **OFFICERS**

| David B. SingletonPresident          |
|--------------------------------------|
| Patricia Palmer Metcalfe $1^{st}$ VP |
| Jerry M. Betsill $2^{nd}$ VP         |
| Vivian Hill JordanSecretary          |
| Forrest "Cal" Wolferd, Jr. Treasurer |

### FIRST TERM DIRECTORS

M. Ben Gantt
Elois Gibbs
Charles L. Jensen

### **SECOND TERM DIRECTORS**

Joyce Katherine Baskin Carter Robin N. Bashaw Leon R. Evans

### **CLF NEWSLETTER STAFF**

Donald E. Pusch, editor
Pat Metcalfe and John Dorroh,
assistant editors

### **Annual Membership Dues**

| Individual                | \$10.00 |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Two people (same address) | \$15.00 |

#### **Special Friends**

| Special Friends |                  |  |  |
|-----------------|------------------|--|--|
| Contributor     | \$1 to \$49      |  |  |
| Donor           | \$50 to \$99     |  |  |
| Patron          | \$100 to \$249   |  |  |
| Spionsor        | \$250 to \$499   |  |  |
| Benefactor      | .\$500 and above |  |  |

## Clayton Library Friends Financial Report

January 1 through March 31, 1997

| CHECKING ACCOUNT—Wells Fargo Bank |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
|                                   | \$ 18,261 |
| Unrestricted Funds 5,472          |           |
| Restricted Funds                  |           |
| Binding16                         |           |
| Endowment446                      |           |
| Other1,762                        |           |
| CLF Operating Funds4,985          |           |
| 1997 Prepaid Dues5,580            |           |
| Deposits, total                   | 8,403     |
| Unrestricted Funds3,485           |           |
| Restricted Funds                  |           |
| Binding102                        |           |
| Endowment100                      |           |
| Other576                          |           |
| CLF Operating Funds4,115          |           |
| 1998 Prepaid Dues25               |           |
| Withdrawals, total                | 1,526     |
| Unrestricted Funds176             |           |
| Restricted Funds                  |           |
| Binding0 -                        |           |
| Endowment0 -                      |           |
| Other70                           |           |
| CLF Operating Funds1,280          |           |
| Ending Balance                    | 25,138    |
| Unrestricted Funds8,781           |           |
| Restricted Funds                  |           |
| Binding118                        |           |
| Endowment546                      |           |
| Other2,268                        |           |
| CLF Operating Funds 13,400        |           |
| 1998 Prepaid Dues25               |           |
| ENDOWMENT FUND—Univ. State Bank   | 14,159    |
| Certificate of deposit #112,540   | -         |
| Savings account                   |           |

Cal Wolferd Treasurer



### Other Meeting Dates

Planned meeting dates for the rest of this year are May 10th, August 9th, and November 8th. Meeting locations are still under consideration.

Prospective speaker for the August 9th meeting is Margaret Tufts, Assistant Manager of the Clayton Library, who will be speaking on use of the E-CAT system and access to the Internet.

# "Bodies in Transit"

### BY ELIZABETH NITSCHKE HICKS

The most interesting "body in transit" is that of President Abraham Lincoln.

In cabinet 31, drawer 10, at the Clayton Library there is a very interesting microfilm set from the New York City Municipal Archives entitled "Bodies in Transit." This film contains images of ledgers that record the transportation of corpses within, in and out of, and through New York state and were created in the interest of public health. The time period covered, 1859-1894, saw increased population growth with arrivals of many immigrants, occurrence of various epidemics, and the return of hundreds—perhaps thousands—of soldier's bodies from the battlefields of the Civil War. These records of "bodies in transit" provided public health officials with important information concerning the cause and place of death and the final disposal of the body.

The records are on three rolls of microfilm: roll #1 (1859-1870), roll #2 (May, 1870-1873), and roll #3 (1874-1894). Although there is no overall index, all the names beginning with "A" are listed together within a given year, followed by all the names beginning with "B" and so on. Column headings in the ledgers are as follows:

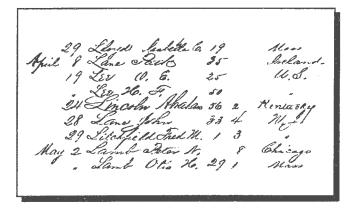
- 1. Date of passage through New York
- 2. Name (of the deceased)
- 3. Age
- 4. Nativity (place of birth)
- 5. Residence
- 6. Place of death
- Disease or cause of death
- 8. Date of death
- 9. Place of interment
- 10. Name and residence of person having charge of the body
- 11. Occupation of deceased
- Remarks (normally the name of the attending physician)
- 13. Now at (this column was added in 1869)

The most interesting "body in transit" is that of President Abraham Lincoln. In the entry for April 24, 1865, we find the following information (in the columns noted above):

- 1. April 24, 1865
- 2. Lincoln, Abraham
- 3. 56 years, 2 months
- 4. Kentucky
- 5. [blank]
- 6. Washington, D.C.
- 7. Pistol Shot
- 8. April 15, 1865
- 9. Springfield, Ill.
- 10. P. Relyea
- 11. [blank]
- 12. [blank]

I am willing to bet you never saw P. Relyea's name in a history book associated with Lincoln. I wonder if P. Relyea was a relative or a Secret Service agent?

Although the place of interment for the majority of the "bodies in transit" was a cemetery in New York state, many—like the body of President Lincoln—were interred in various other states. The places of birth vary even more. Please do not think these records are only for those researching New York ancestors. Take a look at this film, as it is fun and interesting. Who knows, that lost great grandpa you thought had been "beamed up" might be found in these records.





Nominations (Continued from page 1)

and more difficult to identify new or renewing members who would like to take on the responsibilities of these offices. Accordingly, we are publishing this list of duties of officers and asking you to come forward and let us know about your own possible service capabilities. The Executive Board member on the committee is Pat Metclafe. Please call her at (713) 721-7062 or talk to another member of the committee after the selection in May. We would like to know if you are interested in serving as an officer, director, or possibly on one of the committees headed by our board members.

PRESIDENT. The president must have served on the Executive Board. This person leads the organization and represents it to the Clayton Library, the Houston Public Library, and the general public.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT —
MEMBER-SHIP. This person is responsible for the membership renewal campaign from November to February and is charged with maintaining our high membership level and recruiting new members. Membership reports are given throughout the year to the Executive Board and the membership. The 1st Vice President also serves in the absence of the President.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT — WAYS AND MEANS. According to the Bylaws, the purpose of Clayton Library Friends is the "enrichment of the resources and facilities of Clayton Library..." The 2nd Vice President plans and coordinates fund-raising drives within the membership, drafts grant proposals to foundations and corporations, and plans the silent fund-raiser in the library.

SECRETARY. The secretary takes minutes of the Executive Board meetings and the general membership meetings and reads these minutes at the next following membership meeting. The minutes are kept on file for annual examination by our auditors.

TREASURER. The treasurer deposits incoming funds and makes disbursements for operating expenses and for donations to Clayton Library. The treasurer also keeps a set of accounting records, prepares the annual budget, and works with our auditor in preparing the annual financial statements. Knowledge of accounting and the use of computer-based bookkeeping applications is required.

DIRECTORS. The directors assist the president by chairing various committees or by taking on project assignments. These might include gift acknowledgment, organizing seminars,

arranging for speakers and meeting locations, coordinating volunteer activities, or leading special projects. CLF especially needs individuals who have experience in soliciting grants or promoting donations from foundations and other charitable organiza-

tions.

Don't be bashful — if you'd like to be more deeply involved in Clayton Library Friends, let us know what you'd like to do.

Special seminar planned for June 8th, 3 p.m.

We have just learned that Dr. James Ryan of Dublin, Ireland will be in Houston on June 8th and is available to speak to us on Irish Research. Dr. Ryan is the author of *Tracing Your Dublin Ancestors*, (Dublin: Flyleaf Press, 1988), *Irish Records: Sources* 

for Family & Local History (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Inc., 1989), and Irish Church Records (Dublin: Flyleaf Press, 1992).

Because of the short notice, we are still arranging a meeting location. When available, this and other information will be posted on the CLF web page and e-mailed to those CLF members who are on our electronic mailing list. Also, the week before the meeting, you may call (281) 493-2882 and ask David Singleton's secretary for the information or (713) 721-3936 and access a recorded announcement on Pat Metcalfe's business line. Since Clayton Library Friends is not structured to fund seminars such as this, we may 'pass the hat' to provide Dr. Ryan an honorarium.

# Membership Responds!

In the February newsletter, a notice was published asking for donations to acquire microfiche of records from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services. Thanks to the following special "Friends," we have received ALL of the funds needed to acquire this material: Joyce Baskin Carter, Lowell Heinz, Pat Palmer Metcalfe, Robert E. Wickman, James Younglove, and Madeline Long Younglove. Orders are being placed for all pre-1907 birth, death, and marriage records; 1959-1991 death records; 1973-1992 marriage records; and 1965-1984 divorce records. Please check the bulletin board on the second floor at Clayton for the announcement of arrival.

## Georgia Civil War Salt Rolls, 1862-1864

### By Elizabeth Nitschke Hicks

ANY researchers look for records that will provide information and insight into the lives of their ancestors who lived during the Civil War. One excellent source of this kind of information can be found in Clayton Library's microfilm of the Georgia Civil War Salt Rolls, 1862-1864, located in cabinet 29, drawer 6. To understand what these records are, one has to realize the significance of salt. Salt has always been an important commodity, but never more important than during the Civil War period. Since there was no refrigeration, salt was used to cure meat, to tan the leather used to make shoes and other leather goods for soldiers, to set dye in cloth used to make uniforms, and for the many horses and mules that accompanied the troops. In addition, farmers needed large amounts of salt in butchering farm animals for market. With no salt to preserve meat, there was no product to sell. And with no product to sell, there was no money with which to buy necessities. People would be destitute.

The blockade of the coastal waters of the Confederacy made the impor-

tance and value of salt abundantly apparent. As with other scarce commodities, prices soared and there was hoarding by profiteers. Georgia, as well as other states of the Confederacy, passed laws allowing the Governor to seize salt held for exorbitant prices. This salt was then distributed by the county commissioners court in each county. Among the recipients were indigent families and families who fell into the following categories:

- · Widows of deceased soldiers
- Wives of soldiers currently in service
- Disabled soldiers discharged from service
- Families dependent for support on the labor of a soldier currently in service
- Widows having a son or sons currently in the service

Example: For Macon County, we find the following individuals named as disabled soldiers discharged from the service:

Daniel Cook Robert Brady J.R. Holsonbake James Asbury E.M. Waters J.W. McBride James McBride P.A. McBride Total ---- 8

Example: For Fulton County, we find the following individuals named as members of families dependent for support on the labor of a soldier now in service:

Delilah Ledbetter Lizzie Barlow N.A. Webster Total ---- 3

These records are a way to determine civil war service for an ancestor and will provide clues to look for others that will give you a picture of your ancestor's life during the Civil War years. Be sure to check other states for these salt roll records.

### Was your last newsletter late?

As some of you know, the Post Office 'lost' all six sacks of the last newsletter. When over a week had passed and no one had gotten a newsletter, Pat Metcalfe went to the main Post Office and helped them find our mailing—sitting in a hamper in a corner, right where it had been put eight days earlier. They 'expedited' the mailing, but only a portion of the membership received the newsletter before the meeting.

Our target date for getting the newsletter in the hands of the membership is two weeks prior to each meeting. See page 2, for a listing of planned meeting dates.

## SOUNDEX CODES

Were you able to guess the correct soundex codes for the names mentioned in the February newsletter? Here they are:

Hohenzollern H524 Nitschke N322 Pfister P236



| Grigsby        | G621 |
|----------------|------|
| Gutierrez      | G362 |
| Lloyd          | N200 |
| Dorroh         | D600 |
| Alcorn         | A426 |
| De Graffenreid | D261 |
| Vigneaux       | V252 |
| Pusch          | P200 |
| Ng             | N200 |
| •              |      |

# Who were the Huguenots? Part 1

By Vivian Hill Jordan

Member of The Huguenot Society of Texas St. Bartholomew Chapter Houston, Texas

Some knowledge of the background of the Huguenot movement is essential to doing successful research on Huguenot ancestors. In this first part of a 2-part article, we provide a much condensed version of the Huguenot story. In the second part of this article, which will appear in the August newsletter, additional information will be provided on Huguenot reserarch at Clayton Library and a bibliography of the more important Huguenot sources will be published.

The term 'Huguenot' is used to describe a particular branch of the Protestant religion that arose during the Reformation and flourished in France after 1520. Although certainly religious in nature, and aligned with the theology of John Calvin, the Huguenot movement also had very distinct political components, and this put many of its followers in opposition to the French Monarchy. This, coupled with the fact that the Huguenot's Protestant theological convictions were in direct conflict with the Roman Catholic Church, set the stage for serious confrontations between the Huguenots and the French Church-State.

During the reigns of Henry II of France (1547-1559) and Francis II (1559-1560), the Huguenots grew in both number and political influence and came to include many prominent members of the French nobility, including such influential figures as Anthony, King of Navarre. This increase in strength, however, was looked upon as a threat to both the Monarchy and to the Catholic Church and would eventually lead to civil and religious strife that would see many Huguenot families persecuted and driven out of France.

During the reign of Charles IX (1560-1574), the Queen Mother, Catherine de Medici, in alliance with the Catholic Duke of Guise, plotted and carried out what came to be known as the Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre, August 25, 1572. Thousands of Huguenots were killed in and around Paris while they gathered for religious celebration on this important day.

Although there were periods of tolerance towards the Huguenots, most notably during the reign of Henry III, and the actual establishment of Huguenot controlled French cities such as La Rochelle, Huguenot political freedom was eventually eliminated under Louis XIII (1610-1643), and the group's religious freedom was taken away entirely in

# Opportunity to acquire information on Arkansas ancestors

The Clayton Library is seeking to acquire microfiche of the vital records indexes listed below from the State of Arkansas Department of Health, Division of Vital Records. This does not include all of the death, marriage, and divorce records for the years indicated, only the ones reported to the Health Department.

If you would be interested in donating all or part of the funds needed for this material, please contact Liz Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030, (713) 944-1118.

#### **Death Indexes**

| 1914-1923, 48 fiche           | 375.00 |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1923-1933 (not yet available) |        |
| 1934-1940, 66 fiche           | 05.00  |
|                               |        |
| M                             |        |

### Marriage Indexes

| 1933-1939, | 180 | fiche | .175.00 |
|------------|-----|-------|---------|
|------------|-----|-------|---------|

### Divorce Indexes

| 1923-1927, | 18 | fiche | 25.00 |
|------------|----|-------|-------|
| 1934-1939, | 26 | fiche | 35.00 |
|            |    |       |       |

Total for all fiche available to date:.....\$415.00

1685 when Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes.

The act of Revocation of 1685 took away both the civil and religious liberties of the French Huguenots and ushered in a new wave of Huguenot persecution and discrimination. All Huguenot worship and schooling was forbidden, all Huguenot churches were ordered destroyed or transformed into Catholic churches, and all Huguenot clergymen were ordered to leave France within fourteen days. To further harass the Huguenot population, some 400,000 forced "converts" were ordered to attend mass and participate in the Catholic Eucharist. Many of those that refused were condemned to death or imprisoned. As might be expected, there was a tremendous exodus of Huguenot families from France. Of the 1,500,000 Huguenots living in France in 1660, approximately 400,000 left the country in the decade following the Revocation. This exodus resulted in the extension of Huguenot family branches into England, Ger-

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many, Switzerland, and Holland, and would eventually result in links to the English, German, and Dutch colonies of North America.



In the Virginia colony, pockets of Huguenot colonists could be found along the James River and in King William Parish. Notable among these settlements is that of Manakintown, where Huguenot surnames may still be found. Other Huguenot enclaves include Berks and Lancaster counties in Pennsylvania.

Limits on the scope of this 2part article do not permit an indepth discussion of Huguenot ge-

nealogy in America; however, there are ample resources at the Clayton Library with which to pursue that subject, and more information on the collection will appear in part 2.

### **Huguenot Society**

The National Huguenot Society Headquarters is located at 9033 Lyndale Avenue South, Suite 108, Bloomington, MN 55420-3535. The Texas State Registrar is Dr. Melford S. Dickerson, 2105 East Applegate Drive, Austin, TX 78753. In the state of Texas, there are four Huguenot

Chapters: Fleur-de-Lis Chapter in Austin, Navarre Chapter in Fort Worth, St. Bartholomew Chapter in Houston, and the newly established Languedoc Chapter in San Antonio.

### Huguenot Society Eligibility Requirements

Anyone above the age of eighteen years of age, shall be eligible as a Regular Member of the Huguenot Society who is of the Protestant faith, adheres to the Huguenot principles of Faith and Liberty, and is lineally descended in the male or female line from either of the following:

- A Huguenot who emigrated to America or found refuge in some other country between December 10, 1520 (the date on which Martin Luther burned the papal bull *Exsurge Domine* at Wittenberg) and November 28, 1787 (the date of promulgation of the Edict of Toleration).
- A Huguenot who, in spite of religious persecution, remained in France. France, in this context, means any territory lying within the boundaries of the Kingdom of France as it existed on November 28, 1787.

St. Bartholomew Chapter convenes three times a year at the Briar Club for a luncheon meeting. Visitors are welcomed. Please contact the chapter registrar, Helen Jackson, at 783-9228 or the chapter president, Madison B. Wright, at 337-2673. ■

## Microfilm relocation

During the third week in April, portions of the Clayton Library microfilm collection were rearranged to accommodate the addition of twelve new microfilm cabinets. The following items have been relocated to the cabinet (C) and drawer (D) indicated:

C34, D01 Leonardo Andrea Collection (S. Carolina)

Thomas Barnes Papers (Tennessee) Calvert Family Papers (Maryland) Genealogical Notes of Cape Code Families P. H. Cook Papers (Georgia)

C34, D03 Corbin Collection (Massachusetts)

C34, D02

C34, D04-05 Draper Manuscript

C34, D06 Leon Hollingsworth Card File Lee Family Papers

Lovit Hines Collection

C34, D07 McCubbin Collection (North Carolina)

C34, D08 Shane Manuscript Collection

Sprague Collection (Massachusetts)

C34, D09-10 Family Histories

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