



# THE CLF NEWSLETTER

Vol. XI

November 1997

No. 4

## November 8th meeting to include election of officers for 1998

At the November 8th general membership meeting of the Clayton Library Friends, an election will be held to fill five officer and three director positions. The nominating committee, consisting of John Dorroh, Art Allee, Pat Cochran, Ruby Dusek, and Pat Metcalfe, has proposed the following candidates for these offices:

President .... Patricia Palmer Metcalfe  
1st VP .....Martha Anderson Burg  
2nd VP.....Elizabeth Nitschke Hicks  
Secretary .....Joyce Baskin Carter  
Treasurer.... Forest "Cal" Wolferd, Jr.  
Director.....Phyllis Gough Huffington  
Director..... J. Albert Pruett, Jr.  
Director..... Jesse Lee Vaughan, Jr.

**Patricia Palmer Metcalfe**, nominee for President, is currently serving as CLF First Vice President. Pat is also an assistant editor of *The CLF Newsletter*. She has been a genealogy merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts for a number of years. As a member of the Houston Genealogical Forum, she is currently serving as co-librarian of that organization's portable library of exchange journals and audio tapes. Her educational background includes a degree in education and advanced degrees in textiles research and counseling and guidance.

**Martha Anderson Burg**, nominee for First Vice President, is a fifth-generation Texan and has been active in genealogy for the past 15 years. She became interested in family research by helping her son to become an Eagle Scout with the genealogy merit badge, and her interest grew from there. She has been active in Clayton Library Friends and in the Houston Genealogical Forum for the past several years and served as Registration Chairman with the Forum in 1997. Born in Orange, Texas, Ms. Burg has been a real estate broker in Houston since 1979.

**Elizabeth Nitschke Hicks**, nominee for Second Vice President, has been active in CLF for a number of years. She has served as CLF First Vice President and membership committee

## Mary Smith Fay named A.S.G. Fellow

At the October 1997 meeting of the American Society of Genealogists (A.S.G.), Clayton Library Friends charter member Mary Smith Fay, C. G., was named a Fellow of the Society and formally recognized for her contributions to genealogy. Mrs. Fay is the first Texan to be so named and one of only three living A.S.G. Fellows ever to be elected from the South—most are Yankees! Founded in 1941, the A.S.G. is limited to fifty living members, chosen from family historians throughout the world based on the quantity and quality of their published works. Mrs. Fay has been a Certified Genealogist since 1974 and served until recently as secretary of the Board for Certification of Genealogists. This past April, she was appointed by Mayor Bob Lanier to serve on the Houston Public Library Board. ■

chair (1995-1996), coordinator of volunteers (1997), and since 1994 she has headed the CLF "Angels" program, a very successful effort that has expanded the library's collection of periodicals. She is a frequent contributor to *The CLF Newsletter* and is a contributing editor to *Tree Talk*, a publication of the Cherokee County (Texas) Genealogical Society.

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### NEXT MEETING

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### WHEN & WHERE

10: 15 a.m.  
Saturday, November 8th  
Concourse Meeting Room  
Houston Public Library (Central)  
500 McKinney Avenue, Houston  
(Opposite City Hall)

### SPEAKER

Emily Croom

### TOPIC

The Territorial Papers

**CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS**

P. O. Box 271078

Houston, Texas 77277-1078

Established 1987

*Clayton Library Friends is a tax-exempt, 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. Singleton.....President
- Patricia Palmer Metcalfe .....1<sup>st</sup> VP
- Jerry M. Betsill .....2<sup>nd</sup> VP
- Vivian Hill Jordan.....Secretary
- 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**

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

**Clayton Library Friends  
Financial Report**

July 1 through September 30, 1997

<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT—Wells Fargo Bank</b>	
Starting Balance.....	\$ 27,844
Unrestricted Funds.....	9,504
Restricted Funds	
Binding.....	977
Endowment.....	546
Other.....	2,080
CLF Operating Funds.....	14,697
1998 Prepaid Dues.....	40
Deposits, total.....	1,987
Unrestricted.....	442
Restricted	
Binding.....	33
Endowment.....	- 0 -
Other.....	717
CLF Operating Funds.....	760
1998 Prepaid Dues.....	35
Withdrawals, total.....	5,437
Unrestricted.....	3,496
Restricted	
Binding.....	- 0 -
Endowment.....	- 0 -
Other.....	1,552
CLF Operating Funds.....	389
Ending Balance.....	24,394
Unrestricted.....	6,450
Restricted	
Binding.....	1,010
Endowment.....	546
Other.....	1,245
CLF Operating Funds.....	15,068
1998 Prepaid Dues.....	75
<b>ENDOWMENT FUND—Univ. Bank</b> .....14,177	
Certificate of deposit #1.....	12,540
Savings account.....	1,637

Cal Wolferd, Treasurer

**“New Materials” listing now available**

Electronic Finding Aids volunteer Patti Thompson completed work in September on setting up the New Materials list on the Clayton Library Finding Aids homepage. Loaded so far are listings of the microfilm, microfiche, books, and CD ROM acquisitions for June and July 1997, and August and September acquisitions will be added soon. To see these lists of newly acquired research materials, go to the following World Wide Web URL:

<http://sparc.hpl.lib.tx.us/hpl/ml002.html>



## Southwest Louisiana Records

by Rose Mary Fritz and Ruby Dusek

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In this 41-volume set, Rev. Hébert has published abstracts of church and civil records from 13 civil parishes in southwest Louisiana.

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In the Clayton Library is a well worn set of books occupying some ten feet of shelf space in the Louisiana section. These are the *Southwest Louisiana Records* published by the Rev. Donald J. Hébert. Those Louisiana researchers who have not yet discovered this resource are in for a treat when they do. As Elizabeth Shown Mills said, with this set of books you can map out your whole family faster than Grandpa courted Grandma!

In this 41-volume set, Rev. Hébert has published abstracts of both church and civil records in the 13 civil parishes of Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion. (Parishes in Louisiana are the equivalent of counties in most other states.) While some civil records are abstracted in this work, it is important to keep in mind that not all of them are included, only records of known genealogical value, such as marriage and succession (probate) records. Others, such as conveyance (deed transfer) records, which many times contain important genealogical information, were not included. To get an accurate picture of the scope of each volume, it is important to read the introductory material in each.

While this set is tremendously useful, one should remember that the entries are abstracts and not intended to give complete information. The researcher is advised to use these volumes as a guide to the location of the original records and documents and to consult the originals wherever possible.

The collection begins with the earliest records of the Attakapas and Opelousas districts and advances, for the most part, in chronological sequence. It ends with volume 41, which contains records for 1909. As Rev. Hébert's research continued, some records were uncov-

ered which, chronologically, belonged in earlier volumes. This was corrected by publishing these early records in supplements in many of the later volumes. To make a complete search for the information you need, it is therefore necessary to check not only the appropriate volume but also the supplement section of each volume that follows.

The information given in these books is arranged alphabetically by surname. Each entry gives the date of the event and the location of the record together with a reference to book and page or record number of the original document. It is thus possible to easily obtain a copy of the record in full to verify the information given in the abstract. Because the abstracted information is alphabetically arranged, the volumes are not indexed.

Baptismal records are entered under the surname of the infant. In some instances the entry shows the date of birth; in others, the date of baptism and the age. Also given are names of both parents, including the surname of the mother and, in some cases, places of origin of the parents. For example:

FARK, Anne (George of Georgia & Adelaide Artgreve of SM) b. 19 Jan. 1798 (SM Ch.: v. 5, # 60)

In the case of a marriage, the event was entered twice, once under the groom's surname and again under the bride's surname. To get the full information, including parents of both the bride and groom, it is necessary to check the entries under both surnames. In most instances the mother's full maiden name is given. For example, under the groom's surname:

BUSHNELL, Eusevio of Connecticut (Jean Vinegent & Ana Gluenerk) m. 23 April 1792 Marguerite Makortti,

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

wid. of Barnes Patricio (Opel. Ch.: v. 1, p 39)

And under the bride's surname:

MCCARTY, Marguerite (Jean & Marguerite Makleinra) m. 23 April 1792 Eusevio Bushnell of Connecticut (Opel. Ch.: v. 1, p 39)

Taken together, the baptismal and marriage records of the children in a family can often be useful in constructing the family's migration pattern.

Death records from the parish churches give the name of the deceased, date of death or burial, and sometimes additional information such as age or place of residence or birth. For example:

DUMESNIL, Pelagie m. Charles Hebert d. 18 Sept. 1815 at age 28 yrs. (SM Ch.: v. 4, #984)

Succession records, such as the following, give further information about the family.

DUMESNIL, Pelagie m. Charles Hebert, 5 children: Severin-13 yrs.; Adelaide-11yrs.; Sostene-9 yrs.; Joseph-7 yrs.; Ursin-6 yrs. Succ. Dated 16 Feb. 1819 (SM Ct. Hse.: Succ. # 321)

While the abstracts of birth, marriage, and death records are certainly the main strength of this work, there is more, a little something extra—*lagniappe*! Scattered among the volumes are numerous features that add clarity and depth to the picture we are developing of our ancestors and the times and places in which they lived. They include such things as maps of the state of Louisiana for the time period of each volume (showing the development of civil parishes and dates of their establishment), parish histories and pictures of courthouses, brand books and cattle brands, maps of land owners, tombstone inscriptions, election returns, court transcripts, histories and pictures of various Catholic and Protestant churches, lists of jurors, records of First Communion and Confirmation, biographical sketches and pictures of prominent residents and public officials, among others. Also included are transcripts and photocopies of numerous original records and documents. Several features dealing with "Black" or slave records may be of interest to those researching African-American ancestry. A complete listing of features appearing in volumes 1 through 33 is given in volume 33. Check them out!

Volume 1, published in 1974, covers the time period from 1756 to 1810. This covers principally the Spanish Colonial period—which ended in 1803 when Louisiana was sold to the United States—and the Territorial period.

The earliest records are those of St. Martin de Tours Catholic church at Attakapas Post (1756) and St. Landry Catholic church at Opelousas Post (1776). Only Catholic church records are given in the first volume, since it was the only church established in the area. Do not assume that your Protestant ancestors who might have wandered into this Catholic country are not to be found in Catholic records. The law of the colony recognized as legitimate only those marriages witnessed by a Catholic priest. Baptism of all children was required to ensure their right to inherit property. Your Protestant ancestors might have complied with these requirements but did not necessarily convert to Catholicism.

Marriage and succession records were the only civil records included in this volume. Civil records dealing with the sale of land or notarial acts or donations were not included. Some of these were included in later volumes. Also included in volume 1 is a brief history of Acadiana, which includes a list the early governors of Louisiana and a bibliography.

Most of the records abstracted in this first volume were originally written in French or Spanish. This led to some interesting spellings or translations of the English names. Stephen, for example, might be rendered as Estevan or Etienne; James as Santiago or Jacques; Young as Yong or Lejeune. In addition, many of the English speaking families moving into the Spanish province did not know how to spell their own names. Local priests and officials struggled with the spelling of these strange sounding names. For example, we find Hargrave spelled several different ways, including Hartgrave, Argros, and Hergrot. Keep in mind that the documents were, in many cases, translated from French or Spanish to English and then abstracted. It is wise to check all possible name spellings when looking for an individual. Rigid adherence to the spelling used by current generations of your family will surely slow the progress of your research. Check the table of name variations at the beginning of this and other volumes to aid in finding the person you seek.

Volume 2, covering the period from 1811 to 1830, takes us into Louisiana's early statehood. The presentation of abstracts continues as in volume 1, except that a deceased parent is indicated by a "d" preceding the name of the parent. Also in volume 2 is "An Introduction to Black Genealogy." This is interesting reading for all, since it illustrates the power of the Catholic church in early Louisiana. Volume 2 also contains the St. Landry Parish Brand Book (1810-1832) and records of the Academy of the Sacred Heart Archives in Grand Coteau, Louisiana. These include baptisms, vows, confirmations, lists of religious, and deaths.

Volume 3 covers 1831 to 1840, a period that saw the

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development of the western part of St. Landry Parish and its separation as Calcasieu Parish in 1840. This volume contains entries from the Register of Blacks, St. Landry Church, Opelousas, and also features an 1839 map of land owners on Bayou Courtableu and Bayou Teche.

Volume 4 contains abstracts of pension applications for veterans of the War of 1812 and tombstone inscriptions from Vandenburg cemetery and Ferguson cemetery, Bayou Chicot.

Volume 7 covers the Civil War years of 1861 through 1865. As the slaves were freed, they took surnames of their choosing, often those of families in the area. As freedmen, their records were entered among the main body of records of church registers rather than in separate slave registers. Rev. Hébert says that in the previous six volumes he "generally omitted most slave entries because so little genealogical information was possible." Slaves, both Negro and Indian, were usually identified in the early registers only by a given name, with very little information useful in tracing family ties. He also declared his intention to continue to selectively omit records that gave little or no genealogical information.

Volume 8 contains "How Slaves Got Their Names" as well as tombstone inscriptions from Franklin, Patterson, Centerville, and Jeanerette.

Volume 9 contains plat maps for Acadia Parish ca. 1890 with lists of landowners and also maps and landowners in the Southeastern District of Louisiana. This volume also contains photocopies of "Acts of Marriage Information" from St. Peter's Church, New Iberia, 1770-1865. These acts were interrogations into the couples freedom to enter into a marriage. They give much interesting information about place of origin, parents, previous marriages and religion.

Volume 10 contains some records of Louisiana families from St. Anthony Catholic Church, Beaumont, Texas. Many Louisiana families migrated into eastern Texas and established themselves in the Beaumont area.

Volume 15 contains baptism records from Immaculate Conception Church, Lake Charles, 1833-1880, records collected in a special volume that escaped the fire of 1910.

Volumes 18 and 19 contain cattle brands of St. Martin Parish.

In the introduction to volume 33, Rev. Hébert announced that the publication of *Southwest Louisiana Records* was complete with that volume. By popular demand, however, the publication of additional volumes has proceeded and continues to the present. Volume 42, covering 1910, is due out this fall.

When Father Hébert was in Houston in May 1994 for the NGS Conference (hosted by Clayton Library Friends), he spoke of volumes 1 and 2 being redone into 5 volumes. Volume 1 would become volumes 1-A and 1-B, with the larger volume 2 becoming volumes 2-A, 2-B, and 2-C. Volume 1-A was scheduled to be ready by the end of that year.

The plan was to use the original version and simply add to it. Unfortunately, the early volumes, although typed, were not in computer readable media, and scanning them did not work well. As a result, preparation of the revised volumes was like starting over again, requiring much more typing and proofing to ensure the accuracy of the entries.

Volume 1-A came out in July of 1996. This volume was worth waiting for, covering the years 1750-1800, a good part of the Colonial period. It is very important to read the 44 pages of "Introductory Notes" before using this book, because the notes explain so much. The notes are followed by six pages of abbreviations. These 61 pages are in addition to the 1,009 pages of actual records and appendices.

The new information includes the addition of the names of the paternal and maternal grandparents, sponsors in baptisms, and witnesses (if the signature was legible) in marriage contracts and at marriages. Occupations, places of origin, and other little bits of great interest are added. If the event took place in someone's home, the location is sometimes given. Also, the priest's name is given. This can be helpful in accounting for the difference in name spellings, which vary depending on the nationality of the priest. Best of all, there is an "everyname" index!

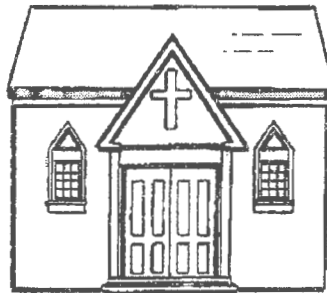
There are many times when the original French or Spanish words are written out as well as translated, giving the reader familiar with these languages a feeling of actually seeing the record.

Of interest in some marriage records is a separate record of "marriage investigation regarding the freedom to marry." This adds much information concerning the previous marriages and places of residence of the couple. Some of this was given in volume 9 of the original series.

Maps of the West Indies and of the Mississippi Valley French forts are included (with dates of the founding of the forts), as are maps of the French provinces and the present French departments.

Appendix A, pages 805-819, is a listing of the Malaga Settlers who arrived in 1779, taken from the Papeles Procedentes de Cuba, legajo 576, F/600, Archivo General de Indias, Sevilla, Spain. The names, ages, and occupations of the settlers is given, along with the names and ages of

(Continued on page 6)



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spouses and children.

Appendix B, pages 820-827, is the 1781 Census of Attakapas. This lists the head of the household, number of individuals living in the household, the number of animals, and the number of arpents of land each owns.

Appendix C, pages 828-835, titled "Documents and Maps," includes the 1797 Census of the Opelousas District, Father Pedro de Zamora's 1795-1796 funeral accounts, and maps showing details of the Attakapas District, early French and Spanish settlements, the Opelousas area and adjacent prairies of south-central Louisiana, the lower Mississippi River and Bayou Lafourche areas, and Louisiana French westward migration 1850-1950 patterns.

The everyname index, ages 836-1009, is a most wonderful addition. The approximately 6,253 records produced an index of 9,354 names. Through this, the user may find an ancestor's earlier presence in the area as a witness, sometimes at a young age. In this way, the index is a big help in constructing relationships and neighborhoods.

Volume 1-B, covering the years 1801-1810, came out in February of 1997. It lists 5,368 records from church and civil archives and indexes about 9,452 names in 1,010 pages.

Appendix A, pages 742-752, is titled the Missionary Journal of Father Michel Bernard Barrier, 1803-1809. Fr. Barrier traveled all around the area. This is actually a list of many of the dates and places or homes where he performed his duties. The last page of this appendix is a list of English translations of common French terms found in record abstracts.

Appendix B, pages 753-761, is a list prepared by Father Barrière of Acadians and non-Acadians emigrants. The first four pages lists Acadian emigrants and spouses coming to Attakapas 1805-1809. The next five pages is a list of the origins of the principal families who were not Acadians.

Appendix C, pages 762-802, is a historical sketch of the Opelousas Post.

Appendix D, pages 803-821, is a mixture of documents, maps, and translations, together with the cattle brands of St. Landry Parish, 1810-1832.

Appendix E, pages 822-827, contains abstracts of articles on Acadian history.

Appendix F, pages 828-839, shows the Acadian migration with a map and different years on each page.

The "everyname" index is included in pages 840 to 1,010.

Volume 2-A, covering 1811 through 1818, came out in late August of this year. Volume 2-B is expected in mid-October and Volume 2-C in late December 1997. Clayton Library has them all on order. Even though you might have researched the original set, it is definitely worth your time

to research these revised and expanded early volumes for the additional information they contain.

In a recent conversation with Rev. Hébert, he said a CD-ROM version of all of the *Southwest Louisiana Records* books is half completed and should be out by the end of this year or early next year. It will be on one disk!

Clayton Library also has twelve volumes of *South Louisiana Records*, the "red" books, published by Rev. Hébert and covering the parishes of Lafourche and Terrebonne. A CD-ROM version of these records is also in work. Researchers in other parts of Louisiana often wish Father Hébert covered all of the state instead of just Southwest and South Louisiana!

Even after using these books for many years, we are amazed to find so many interesting pieces of information tucked away in them. Just when you think you've exhausted your research in the Hébert volumes and are convinced there is nothing left to be found, a new and valuable peices of information will emerge. This is an amazing set of books, and we are grateful to Father Hébert for his work—over the past 25 years—in publishing *Southwest Louisiana Records*. ■

## Funding still needed for Tennessee land grant film and Texas death index microfiche

In the August newsletter, we announced plans to purchase the 46-roll collection of Tennessee land grants from the North Carolina State Archives. To date, the membership has responded with donations totaling \$375. This is approximately \$175 short of the total purchase price, and we would like to once again encourage the membership to donate funds for this acquisition. The collection contains the original Revolutionary War warrant papers on file at the North Carolina Archives and covers the period 1783 to 1797.

We are also seeking to purchase microfiche of Texas death indexes for the years 1992 through 1996 at a cost of \$10 per year, \$50 total.

If you would like to contribute funds for the purchase of this film or microfiche, please contact Elizabeth Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030, (713) 944-1118. ■

## World War I Selective Service System draft registration cards

By Charles L. Jensen

Some of us are old enough to remember ancestors or other relatives who were young men during the "Big War." Others may have been too young to have known these individuals. In either case, if you are seeking information on them, the World War I draft registration cards may be a big help. Clayton Library now has available 76 rolls of draft registration cards for Texas and 69 rolls for Louisiana.

On May 18, 1917, Congress passed the Selective Service Act, authorizing the President to increase the size of the military. The Selective Service System (SSS) was a decentralized one under which the Provost Marshal General formulated policy and transmitted it to the governors of the states and territories. Management and administration of system was a state and local government responsibility.

The SSS consisted of 52 state or territorial offices, 155 district boards, 1,319 medical advisory boards, and 4,648 local boards. The later were set up for counties, but large cities were handled as political subdivisions separate from the county. If a city or county had a population over 30,000, additional boards were created on the basis of one per 30,000 population. The boards were responsible for registering men and classifying them. Consideration was given to the need for critical skills in certain industries and agriculture and for special family situations. The boards also handled appeals, determined the physical fitness of the registrants, and determined the order in which the selected individuals were called. The boards even put the men on trains to the appropriate military base when that was necessary.

There were three separate registrations. The first took place June 2, 1917, for men between the ages of 21 and 31. The second was June 5, 1918, for those men who had

turned 21 during the previous year. On September 12, 1918, an expanded registration was performed for men between the ages of 18 and 45. This final registration is the one that is most likely to have picked up your ancestor, because it encompassed a much wider age range. Those men who had registered before, however, were not required to register again. It is important to know that some individuals joined the military before registering and thus would not have been on the list.

The cards for the three registrations are slightly different and are described at the beginning of each roll of film. They are called red, blue, and black cards or red-ink, blue-ink, and black-ink cards. But don't worry about this, because all the cards are filmed in black and white. The cards for the three registrations differ somewhat in their information content. There was also some variation in the cards from one district to another. There are actually two cards for each registrant: The registrant filled out a "Registration Card," and the registrar filled out a "Registrar's Report." All of the registration cards ask for the registrant's full name, address, age in years, date and place of birth, race, citizenship, occupation, marital status, and signature. Some ask for the registrant's father's date and place of birth, number and kind of dependents, prior military service, and grounds for exemption. The registrar's report gives a physical description of the man, including body type (tall, medium, or short; slender, medium, or stout) and color of hair and eyes. It also asks if he is missing limbs or eyes or has any other physical disability. There are also places on the card for comments, the registrar's signature, and the date of registration.

The filmed cards are arranged alphabetically by local board in each county or city within the particular state or territory. In the case of large cities, look for the city

alphabetically. For example, San Antonio is listed separately and not included in Bexar County. Men in rural

(Continued on page 10)

### *Draft registration cards from other states:*

At this time, microfilm of the World War I draft registration cards (NARA publication M1509) is only available for thirteen states and the District of Columbia. Clayton Library owns the microfilm for Texas and Louisiana. Below is a price list for the other available film in this collection. The vendor will advise us as other states become available, and we will pass that information on to the CLF membership. If you would like to contribute funds to support acquisition of any of this material, please contact John Dorroh, (713) 498-2603.

Alaska	4 reels	\$136
Arkansas	69 reels	2,346
Connecticut	67 reels	2,278
Dist. of Columbia	17 reels	578
Massachusetts	161 reels	5,474
Michigan	152 reels	5,168
Mississippi	58 reels	1,972
New Jersey	126 reels	4,284
New Mexico	14 reels	476
North Carolina	80 reels	2,720
Rhode Island	24 reels	816
Tennessee	81 reels	2,754

## □ Beginners Column

# The Family Registry File

Have you ever hit a brick wall in your family research and yet strongly suspected there were others out there with just the piece of information you needed? If so, and you would like some help linking up with them, have a look at Clayton Library's Family Registry File. The Clayton Library staff maintains this file as a service to help individuals coordinate their research with others.

Located in the Clayton home on the south side of the glassed-in porch and housed in an old card catalog file, the Family Register File contains hundreds of 3 X 5 cards. Marje Harris, manager of the Clayton Library, calls

this the "brick wall file," one to use when you seem to have run into a brick wall. These cards are in alphabetical order by surname, and there is room on each card for you to write down a few basic facts about your ancestor—name, dates, places, parents. If you have questionable or unconfirmed information, you can write it down with a question mark next to it. A space is provided on the lower right of the card to include your name, address, and phone number (and don't forget your e-mail address).

In addition to filling out your own card, you should browse through other cards in the file. Your next door

neighbor or someone you know from the library may be descended from one of your ancestors. And always remember to look up, if you know them, your ancestor's neighbors' names. This might lead you to another researcher with interests in the same geographical area.

The blank cards may be obtained at the reference desk, and there is no limit on how many you can submit. Take advantage of this valuable library service, and you might find the Family Registry File to be a big help in getting over or around that next brick wall! ■

## Candidates

*(Continued from page 1)*

**Joyce Baskin Carter**, nominee for Secretary, is currently serving as a CLF Director. She is a native Texan and a graduate of Del Mar College in Corpus Christi. She is a past president and programs director for the Bear Creek Genealogy Association and is a member of the Houston Genealogical Forum. For the past year, she has headed the CLF Programs Committee.

**Forest "Cal" Wolferd, Jr.**, nominee for Treasurer, is currently serving in that position. Mr. Wolferd is a graduate of the University of Maryland and holds a masters degree from Troy State University. He is currently a division manager with the Department of Public Works and Engineering, City of Houston. He is a member of the Houston Genealogical Forum and the Tippacane County Area Genealogical Society and served as a CLF volunteer and committee member during

the 1994 NGS Conference in the States.

**Phyllis Gough Huffington**, nominee for Director, is a native of Dallas, Texas. She holds a degree in business administration from Southern Methodist University and did graduate work in economics at Columbia University. She is currently active in The Huffington Center on Aging at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. She has been a member of the board of directors of Holly Hall, the University of Texas School of Nursing, and the Campfire Girls, and has served as a docent for The Heritage Society of Houston. She has been an avid genealogist since 1960 and is a member of the NGS and The Society of Genealogists (United Kingdom).

**J. Albert Pruett, Jr.**, nominee for Director, is a native Houstonian and a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. He holds B.A. and J.D. degrees and has served, since 1985, as a State District Judge. As a CLF mem-

ber, Judge Pruett has held the appointed post of Parliamentarian for the past three years. He is a member of the NGS, the Houston Genealogical Forum, the Harris County Genealogical Society, and the Alabama Genealogical Society.

**Jesse Lee Vaughan, Jr.**, nominee for Director, is currently manager of administrative systems information resources, Galveston College, Galveston, Texas. He holds a B.S. degree in geology from the University of Houston and an M.S. degree in geological sciences from the University of Southern California. He has held director positions in both the Houston Genealogical Forum and the Galveston County Genealogical Society and served for four years as a member of the Galveston County Historical Commission. He has published numerous genealogical articles, and his writing credits include an award winning book on the Foltzwarth/Holzworth family of Württemberg, Germany.





## Angels report

Individuals are needed to underwrite subscriptions to the periodicals listed below. Annual subscription fees, if known, are noted next to the title. These periodicals will be placed on the periodical shelf at Clayton Library. If you would like to support the "Angels" program by funding a renewal or new subscription, please contact Liz Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030 or call (713) 944-1118.

- Tap Roots* (Alabama) \$15
- Alabama Genealogical Society Magazine*, \$15
- Central Alabama Genealogical Society Biannual*, \$20
- Central Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, \$20
- Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, \$20
- Topeka Genealogical Society Quarterly* (Kansas), \$15
- Le Raconteur*, a publication of Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane (Louisiana), \$15
- Northeast Mississippi Historical & Genealogical Society Quarterly*, \$15
- Lifelines*, a publication of the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society, \$20 (as of 1995)
- Seneca Searchers* (Ohio), \$10
- Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy and History*, \$18
- Genealogical Society of Vermont Quarterly*, \$20
- Annals of Wyoming*, \$10
- Immigration Digest*, \$10
- Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America*
- Journal of American Indian Family Research*, \$25 (as of 1995)
- Rowan County Register* (North Carolina), \$25
- Family Tree* (British Isles), \$39
- Flint Genealogical Quarterly* (Michigan), \$15
- Florida Historical Quarterly*, \$15

### **Meeting location for November 15th Beginners Seminar**

For those of you who have registered for our November 15th Beginners Seminar, please note the meeting location: *Scout House at the Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, 11612 Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas.*

The church is located about 8 miles due west of downtown Houston, approximately 4 miles outside of the 610 loop. From I-10 (east or west bound), take the Blalock/Echo Lane exit (#758B) and go south on Echo Lane. (At I-10 the road is called Blalock north of the freeway and Echo Lane south of the freeway; however, farther south you will again pick up Blalock.)

Go south on Echo Lane past Memorial High School until the road dead-ends at Taylorcrest (a blinking red light). Turn right (west) and proceed to the next blinking red light (about one city block), where you will turn left and again go south. This is Blalock, although the intersection is not marked. Just before you reach Memorial Drive (about 1.3 miles), you will see the church on your right. The Scout House is at the far (west) end of the church parking lot.

If you have any questions about this seminar, please contact Charlie Jensen, Seminar Chairman, at (281) 596-0114. ■

## Registration Cards

*(Continued from page 7)*

counties are relatively easy to find because there is usually only one alphabetized listing for the entire county. In cities with multiple local boards, each alphabetized list will have to be scanned.

Clayton currently owns only the films of the registration cards for Louisiana and Texas. These can be found in film file 60, drawers 3-5. Alphabetization of the names is not

perfect, so make sure you scan entries above and below the one you are seeking. If that name is at the end of the roll of film, you should also check the beginning of the next roll.

In some parishes in Louisiana, correspondence sent to the local board was also filmed. This usually concerned prior enlistment or address changes or was to inform the board that the person would be somewhere other than his permanent address should the board need to contact him. The correspondence can be found at

the end of the list of registrants in the parish. In those instances where the film contains images of correspondence, the Clayton Library staff has added the notation "Correspondence" following the parish name on the top of the microfilm box. If your person was in one of the parishes whose draft registration microfilm contains this notation, be sure to check the end of the roll to see if he wrote a letter to his board. ■

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