



# Mecklenburg Messenger

## OMGS Archives Hours

10-12 AM Tuesdays, 1-4 PM Thursdays  
Visit the website for additional information.

## Notes on May Meeting

by Mary Utting

Paul Buckley, whose March date with Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society, had to be canceled because of illness, finally was able to give members some answers to his question: "What Were Our Ancestors Really Like?" At the May meeting, he mainly told members what HIS ancestors were like, but his research demonstrated the variety of people, places, and events that inhabit anyone's family history.

Because he shared his prepared script with us, this article will be a brief summary of his presentation. For the full story, we plan to run details in a future issue of the *Quarterly*.

He pointed out that everything from physical characteristics to behavioral and cultural biases are handed down to future generations. For example, a probable Native American ancestor may have given him his high cheek bones.

Buckley also emphasized the need to wade through the morass of family legends and try to sort out what's true and what's myth. He said that understanding our ancestors helps us surmount the brick walls that present barriers to some branch of everyone's family tree.

A sixth generation Mississippian, Buckley was born to working class parents on 23 September 1942 in Jackson, Mississippi. During the war, his parents and other relatives worked in New Orleans at defense jobs till peace returned and then went back to Jackson, where he finished high school and worked his way through college. He worked in banking for 30 years, married, had a daughter, divorced, and married a second time.

To learn about him, he said that one would have to check at least a half dozen Federal agencies, six or more states, seven municipalities, and nine counties. Our modern mobile society is certainly going to make work for descendants who take up genealogy.

## OMGS Meetings

The June 2006 meeting of OMGS will be held on Wednesday, 14 June 2006 at the **Ray Hall Community Center, Aldersgate**, 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte. Remember the "social hour" begins at 7pm with the meeting following at 7:30pm. We will have Linda Blackwelder, and her topic is the "Gold Mines of Mecklenburg." In July we will have Sheila Bumgardner, and her topic is "The Wilkes Papers." Don't miss these great programs!

The Hopewell Branch will not meet June, July or August. But come and join us again in September, and have a great summer!

Buckley continues by describing some of the values he was taught and the approach to life in 1965 Mississippi. There was a strong fundamentalist religious component, but no tolerance of those who were different, whether the difference be religion, race, or social organizations.

His state's laws mandated racial segregation, no alcohol, no gambling, and all politics was in the hands of one party, the Democratic. In spite of all this, he started his interest in genealogy back in the 10th grade, when a paper was assigned on the Battle of Champion's Hill, part of the Vicksburg campaign. That's when he encountered the first "burned courthouse," but the burned books turned up nearly 50 years later on E-Bay.

Then Buckley went on to relate some wild tales about characters that he has found on his family tree. He said that all genealogists may encounter some relatives that they would prefer to leave off the pedigree chart, but, researchers who are true to the standards of research have to accept the crooks along with the heroes. There will be more about Paul Buckley's kinfolk in the *Quarterly*.

## New from the Carolina Room

by Jane Johnson

4/22/2006 to 5/21/2006

To view the Public Library's catalog for a complete list of holdings, go to <http://www.plcmc.lib.nc.us/catalog/default.asp>.

Below are new titles of interest to genealogists in the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room, Main Library, 310 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC.

*Ashe County*

*Avery County*

*Black Mountain and Swannanoa Valley*

*Brevard*

*The Catawba Indian Nation of the Carolinas*

*Cliffside Portrait of a Carolina Mill Town*

*Cotton Fields to Golf Courses—A Pictorial of Elloree & Santee, South Carolina*

*Flat Rock*

*Forest City*

*Hendersonville*

*Kernersville*

*The North Carolina Roots of African American Literature*

*Outer Banks*

*Spring Lake*

*Stokes County*

*Storm Over Carolina—The Confederate Navy's Struggle for Eastern North Carolina*

*Transylvania County*

*Winston-Salem in Vintage Postcards*

## Dear Cousin

by Cousin Sally

Well hey there, Dear Cousin! It's mighty hot outside but there's no rest for us dedicated genealogy researchers! And besides, there's no better way to beat the heat than in a nice, air-conditioned library!

I decided to write to you and tell you about the archives. Did you know that you don't have to travel all the way to Washington, DC, to visit the National Archives? As a matter of fact, there are 13 different National Archives Regional Facilities, which have lots and lots of good genealogical information just waiting for us to go take a look at them! I'm sure one of them is closer to you than you may think!

Of course, there's the main archives (called "Archives I") in Washington, DC. Then there's "Archives II" which is located in College Park, MD. And, there's a free shuttle that runs between these two archives! What a deal!

The Central Plains Regional Archives is located in Kansas City, Missouri. The Great Lakes Regional Archives is located in Chicago, Illinois. The Mid Atlantic Regional Archives is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Northeast Regional New York Archives is located New York City, New York. The Northeast Regional Pittsfield Archives is located in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. The Northeast Regional Boston Archives is located in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Pacific Regional Laguna Niguel Archives is located in Laguna Niguel, California. The Pacific Regional San Francisco Archives is located in San Francisco, California. The Pacific Alaska Regional Anchorage Archives is located in Anchorage, Alaska.

The Pacific Alaska Regional Seattle Archives is located in Seattle, Washington. The Rocky Mountain Regional Archives is located in Denver, Colorado. The Southeast Regional Archives is located in Atlanta, Georgia. And, lastly, the Southwest Regional Archives is located in Fort Worth, Texas.

So, before you plan that long trek to Washington, DC, see if one of these Regional Archives might be lots closer to you. Chances are one of them is, and it will be better for you to visit there than to go all the way to our nation's capitol.

Well, time's a-wasting, and I must run. I just got some films in at my local family history center, and I want to go see what's on them! Happy hunting, Dear Cousin, and I'll write again soon.

## Upcoming Events

The East Tennessee State Historical Society will host the Sixteenth Ulster-American Heritage Symposium in Knoxville, Tennessee, June 28-July 1. Since 1976 this symposium has met every two years in Northern Ireland or the United States. According to a participant, the earlier days consist of scholarly presentations on specific subjects of interest to the researchers. On Saturday, the programs are more general programs for those interested in Ulster Scots. For details see the website at <http://www.east-tennesseehistory.org/>

July 6-9, the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, MacRae Meadows, Grandfather Mountain, Linville, NC. For more information visit their website at [www.gmhg.org](http://www.gmhg.org).

August 17-20, Greensboro Highland Games, Greensboro, NC. For more information visit their website at [www.triadhIGHLANDgames.org](http://www.triadhIGHLANDgames.org).

October 21-22, Stone Mountain Highland Games; Stone Mountain, GA. For more information visit their website at [www.smhg.org](http://www.smhg.org).

October 28, Waxhaw Highland Games, Waxhaw, NC. For more information visit their website at [www.wshg.org](http://www.wshg.org).

Do you know of an upcoming genealogical event? Let me know and I can publish it here. My email is [raney1@earthlink.net](mailto:raney1@earthlink.net)

## **Want to Join OMGS?**

It's easy to join. Annual dues are \$20 for an individual membership, \$25 for a family membership, \$40 for a sustaining membership, or you can pay \$225 for a lifetime membership. Make a check or money order payable to Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society and send it along with your name, address, phone number, email address, and names you are researching to OMGS, P.O. Box 32453, Charlotte, NC, 28232-2453. Our email address is [omgs1775@yahoo.com](mailto:omgs1775@yahoo.com) and our website is <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ncomgs/>

Joan Raney, Editor

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**DATED MATERIAL INSIDE**

**OMGS Publications for Sale**

<i>Real Estate and Legal Notices from Charlotte, NC Newspapers, 1835-1847</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 1: North Mecklenburg</i>	\$32.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 2: South Mecklenburg</i>	\$32.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 3: East Mecklenburg</i>	\$37.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 4: West Mecklenburg</i>	\$37.50 PPD
<i>1800 Census, Mecklenburg County, NC</i>	\$15.00 PPD
<i>1850 Census Abstract, Mecklenburg County, NC (Includes separate index)</i>	\$17.50 PPD
<i>Index to 1850 Census</i>	\$ 5.00
PPD	
<i>OMGS Surname Index, 2000 Edition</i>	\$8.00 PPD
<i>OMGS Quarterlies: 1983-2003</i>	\$21.50 PPD (4/year) \$8.50 PPD (single) \$2.00 PPD (index)
<i>Cabarrus Revolutionary Patriot Roll, by Cabarrus Gen. Soc.</i>	\$19.00 PPD
<i>My Hometown Pineville, by Joe Howard Griffin, Sr.</i>	\$30.00 PPD
<i>The Presbyterian Gathering at Clear Creek, by Russell Martin Kerr</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<i>The Spirit of a Proud People, by Lois Moore Yandle</i>	\$40.00 PPD
<i>They Married Confederate Officers: The Intimate Story of Anna Morrison, Wife of Stonewall Jackson, and Her Five Sisters, by Kathy N. Herran</i>	\$24.95 PPD

**Books by Herman W. Ferguson**

<i>Mecklenburg County, NC—Minutes of the Court of common Pleas &amp; Quarter Sessions</i>			
<i>Vol. I, 1780-1800</i>	\$30.00 PPD	<i>Vol. V, 1841 – 1850</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<i>Vol. II, 1801-1820</i>	\$32.50 PPD	<i>Vol. VI, 1851-1860</i>	\$28.50 PPD
<i>Vol. III, 1821-1830</i>	\$27.50 PPD	<i>Vol. VII, 1861-1868</i>	\$28.50 PPD
<i>Vol. IV, 1831 – 1840</i>	\$25.00 PPD		
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Genealogical Deed Abstracts Books 10-14</i>			\$27.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC- Abstracts of Deed Books 15-23 1794-1830</i>			\$35.00 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Will abstracts, 1791-1868, Books A-J/Tax Lists 1797-1799, 1806-1807</i>			(transcribed by Ralph B. & Herman W. Ferguson) \$32.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: A Petition, 1792; Tax Lists 1797-1799, 1806-1808, 1810-1811, 1815, 1823-1824</i>			(transcribed by Ralph B. & Herman W. Ferguson) \$27.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg &amp; Cabarrus Counties, NC: Decedents for Whom Loose Estate Papers are Extant</i>			\$16.50 PPD

North Carolina residents please include 7.5% sales tax. Send name, address, order, and payment to

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