

# Mecklenburg Messenger



Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society

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March 2005

Joan Raney, Editor

## Directions to Aldersgate

Ray Hall Community Center: Aldersgate asks that we use the main entrance and park in front of the Ray Hall Community Center, entering the building by the front door.

Coming from Eastway Dr., turn on Shamrock Dr. Proceed out Shamrock to Aldersgate Main Entrance. You will pass these buildings on Shamrock Dr.: WNC Methodist Center, Museum of History, Asbury Care Center, and Wesley Nursing Center.

At the traffic light, turn right on Willard Farrow Dr. After the Welcome Center (like a gate house), drive 0.3 mi. on Willard Farrow Dr. After the Hezekiah Alexander House on the right, you will see 3 buildings facing a circle.

Ray Hall Community Center is the 2-story building in the middle, between Epworth Towers and Francis Residential Building.

Park in the visitor parking in front of the Community Center and enter by the front door.

## Notes from the February Meeting

by Mary Utting

Karen Dutton started delving into genealogy after receiving a bundle of family records and mementoes. But, as the mother of a young child, her time to be spent in libraries and other repositories was limited, so she found Internet sites like RootsWeb to be a very helpful tool for her research.

In talking to Olde Mecklenburg members at the January meeting, she described her search for information on one ancestor, Hugh Kimmons, and his family. It was a challenge to determine his kinfolk, because she found 18 variations on this name, ranging from Commons to McCommon.

She located him living on land near Rocky River in 1775, with two sons and four daughters. The area where he lived is now part of Cabarrus

## OMGS Meetings

The March 2005 meeting of OMGS will be held on Wednesday, 9 March 2005 at the **Ray Hall Community Center, Aldersgate**, 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte. *See first article for directions.* Our speaker will be Linda Blackwelder, and she will be talking about the Polk Family. In April we will have our own Rosemary Lands, and she will be talking about estate papers. Don't miss these great programs!

The Hopewell Branch will meet Saturday, 12 March 2005, at Hopewell. Our speaker will be Joe Brickey. In April we will not meet, but come by our tent at Loch Norman April 16-17.

County. Next door was an Alexander Kimmons, whose relationship was unknown.

By 1800 Hugh had land, slaves, and four more children, three more sons and one more daughter. It appears that Alexander eventually moved into this household, so Mrs. Dutton believes he was Hugh's brother. The 1810 census shows the household slightly altered; one daughter had died, for example. Then an Andrew Kimmons appears next door, and he is the right age to be Hugh's oldest son. She has located a marriage bond for Andrew in 1802. He married again in 1817, as first wife Mary has died. With that household are a couple more than 45, who probably were Mary's parents. These individuals show up living with various family members as time passes.

In 1815 Hugh transferred some land to his son John. In 1837, this son moved to Mississippi, where he died in 1865. With other clues and documents, Mrs. Dutton has been able to name most of Hugh Kimmons's children. Nancy, for example, is mentioned in a marriage bond. Also, because Andrew is the person to prove Hugh's will (though that useful document has not been

located), she points out that is further evidence he was the eldest child.

The youngest daughter, Mary, appears to have been born in 1790, judging by her wedding information. There are a couple of missing sons, but Mrs. Dutton has found teen-agers living with Andrew and John early on, so they may well be the brothers.

Mary Nancy Kimmons, this researcher's direct ancestor, is probably the M. N. listed as married to a blacksmith in the 1850 census.

Church session records have helped her fill in some blanks, and one story about a white man's altercation with a slave named Caleb proved interesting. First, it demonstrated that the church had a considerable influence in punishing wrongdoers. And second, because this white man, Rob Query, was disciplined by the church for stabbing Caleb, it showed that the blacks were members of the Presbyterian congregation.

What was Hugh Kimmons's origin? Mrs. Dutton believes that he was part of the Scots-Irish people who moved to this area, because he attended the Presbyterian Church and named his sons Andrew and John. She thinks he may have come from Pennsylvania, because she has found people with the Kimmons surname listed in that state's census. As all genealogists know, the search goes on.

### **Hopewell District News**

by Tina Brown

The Hopewell Branch met at the Hugh Torrance House & Store in February. We had a good group and had a great time. We got a surprise, we also got to tour Cedar Grove. Belle Banks was wonderful hostess and we all should thank her.

On March 12th we will meet at Hopewell Church at 10:00 AM. Joe Brickey will be our speaker and as usual I am sure all of us learn a lot. Joe has titled her program "Taking Little Bits Out of a Big Project."

In April we will not meet but will have a tent at the Loch Norman Highland Games. The Games are the 16th and the 17th and I hope to see all of you at the tent. Anyone having something they wish to display, please bring it to the March meeting.

In May Jean Cobb Lewis will do our program on her famous ancestor, Meriwether Lewis.

### **From the Board of Directors**

by Mary Utting

At its January 2005 meeting (actually delayed till February 7 because of illness), the board of directors considered some new publications and some special events for Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society.

Because the Elmwood Cemetery book cannot be ready for publication this year, the board is investigating the cost of issuing the real estate notices by Glenn Cook in a book. These have been in the Quarterly for several issues, and it would take another two years to publish them in that format. In book form, an index could be included, which would make these records much more useful to researchers. A final decision will be made at an upcoming board meeting.

A second possible publication would be a booklet of old Mecklenburg maps, showing waterways, railroads, roads, and settlements, probably earlier than 1890. This would be in collaboration with the County Engineering Department and the Public Library. Currently available maps online and elsewhere are not clear enough to be read easily. By putting them in larger format and folding them into booklet form, they would be legible. Probable publication would be in the fall.

The Society also has plans to participate in several events. It has been announced that Olde Meck will have its booth at the annual Loch Norman Highland Games, April 15-17. On May 14 we shall assist the Public Library at an all-day genealogical workshop conducted by prominent genealogist Hank Jones. We shall provide light refreshments for both morning and afternoon breaks. We indicated to a group called the May 20th Society that Olde Meck is interested in the group's planned community-wide celebration of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Members are asked to note these dates and events and participate if possible.

### **News from the Carolina Room**

by Jane Johnson

News... 1-21-2005 to 2-21-2005

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

These are new titles of interest to genealogists in the Carolina Room, Main Library, 310 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC.

Gammill (family)  
*Place Names of Tennessee, Bulletin 73, TN Dept. of Geology 1974*  
*The Cumberland (River- KY and TN)*  
*Transcriptions of Provincial North Carolina Wills Vol. 1*  
*Letters to Laura, A Confederate Surgeon's Impressions of Four Years of War*  
*Letters To Laura, Supplement Genealogical Charts*  
*A Genealogical And Historical Atlas of the United States of America*  
*Wendel Miller and His Descendants*  
*The Domesday Book, England's Heritage, Then and Now*  
*Rose War Files, Vol. 1, Abstracts of Land Bounty Files for Surname Rose*  
*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, The Sesquicentennial 1840-1990 (Woodleaf, NC)*  
*Orange County Records, Vol. 1, Granville Proprietary Land Office, Abstracts of Loose Papers*  
*Captain Bill, The Records and Writings of Capt. Wm. Henry Edwards (and Others), Co. A, 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, Confederate States of America; A History and Genealogy of Chester County, S. C. in Five Volumes, Book 1 & 2*  
*Captain Bill Book Three, A Genealogy of the Catawba River Valley of South Carolina, Chester-York-Lancaster Counties*  
*The Joseph Routh Family (1747-1979)*  
*Obituaries: North Carolina Civil War Soldiers and Veterans, Vols. 1-7*  
*Beaufort News, Beaufort, North Carolina Obituaries, Vol. 1, 1920-1929*  
*Beaufort News, Beaufort, North Carolina Obituaries, Vol. 2, 1930-1933*  
*Beaufort News, Beaufort, North Carolina Obituaries, Vol. 3, 1934-1937*  
*Beaufort News, Beaufort, North Carolina Obituaries, Vol. 4, 1938-1941*  
*Beaufort News, Beaufort, North Carolina Obituaries, Vol. 5, 1942-1945*  
*Beaufort News, Beaufort, North Carolina Obituaries, Vol. 6, 1946-1948*  
*The Guin-Gewin Family*  
*The Buffalo Ridge Cherokee: The Colors and Culture of a Virginian Indian Community*  
*Afro-American Death Notices From Eastern North Carolina Newspapers 1859-1935*

*Afro-American Death Notices From Eastern North Carolina Newspapers 1860-1948*  
*"Old" Jacob Wagner of Davidson (Old Rowan) County and Some of His Descendants*  
*The History of Meigs County, Tennessee And It's People 1836-1997*  
*Ships Passenger Lists Port of Galveston, Texas 1846-1871*  
*The Atlantic Migration*  
*Bent Twigs In Jefferson County (TN)*  
*The Patriots at Kings Mountain*  
*Georgia Historical Quarterly Index, 1917-1976, Vols. 1-2*  
*Some Colonial Dames of Royal Descent*  
*Elisha Wallen, The Longhunter*  
*National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, 1993*  
*National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, 1997*  
*African Americans in North Carolina*  
*Bristol Tennessee/ Virginia*  
*Mecklenburg County, N.C., Court Minutes, Book 1, 1774-1780*  
*Descendants of War of 1812 Veterans*  
*Gee Family Tree*  
*St. James Northam Parish Vestry Book, 1744-1850*  
*Abstracts of Wills, Administrations, and Marriages of Fauquier County, Virginia 1759-1800*  
*Lebanon United Methodist Church, 1785-1985 (Greenville Co., SC)*  
*Ellis County, Texas Patents and Deed Abstracts, 1845-1856, Deed Books A and B*  
*Will Book 1 Amelia County, Virginia, Wills 1735-1761, Bonds 1735-1754*  
*Will Book 2x Amelia County, Virginia, Wills 1761-1771*  
*The James Calvin Skinner -Martha Elizabeth Gates Family Record*  
*Col. William Hill and the Campaign of 1780*  
*Guide to Microfilmed Records at the Arkansas History Commission*  
*Proceedings of the Advisory Council of the State of Virginia, April 21-June 19, 1861*  
*Tales of York County (SC)*  
*Prison Life of Jefferson Davis*  
*The Brethren in Virginia*  
*History of Ansonville, NC For the First Centennial 1885-1985*  
*Family Memories (Fultz, Johnson, Smith, Layne)*  
*Halifax County Virginia Deed Books 2,3,4,5, & 6, 1759-1767*  
*Halifax County, Virginia Deed Book 16 (1793-1796)*  
*Children of Light (True Light Church)*

*Weddington Family History: History of William and Elizabeth Waddington (The Name was Later Changed to Weddington) Who settled in the Mecklenburg County Area That is Now Cabarrus County in the Year 1745-1760 A Guide to Church Records in the Library of Virginia, Second Edition*

## Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 12, 2005 - Wilmington, NC. A one-day Eastern Regional Workshop with Lloyd Bockstruck, sponsored by the NCGS and Old New Hanover Genealogical Society. Topics: "Why Bother with Court Records," "Comparing Colonial Land Records on North and South Carolina," "The English in the Caribbean," and "Migration from North Carolina to the Old South West (SC, GA, AL, and MS)." Info: [\\_info@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:_info@ncgenealogy.org) (aol: [//mail/write/info@ncgenealogy.org%20](mailto://mail/write/info@ncgenealogy.org%20)) or [\\_www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org) (aol: [//mail/write/www.ncgenealogy.org](mailto://mail/write/www.ncgenealogy.org)) .

March 11-13, 2005, Laurinburg, NC--2005 Scottish Heritage Weekend, St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Call 910-277-5236 or email [bagpipe@sapc.edu](mailto:bagpipe@sapc.edu).

Saturday, March 26, 2005 - Mint Hill, NC. The first annual Mint Hill Scottish Festival, sponsored by the Mint Hill Scottish Society. Scottish music, dancing, children's events, clan tents, vendors - the first Scottish event of the year. Info: Rogers at 704 573-1351 or McRae at 704 545-2929.

April 1 and 2 (Friday and Saturday) - Any Mennonites out there? The 26th Annual Lancaster Family History Conference at Lancaster, PA, co-sponsored by the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, [\\_www.lmhs.org](http://www.lmhs.org) (aol: [//mail/write/www.lmhs.org](mailto://mail/write/www.lmhs.org)) , and the Lancaster County Historical Society, [\\_www.lancasterhistory.org](http://www.lancasterhistory.org). (aol: [//mail/write/www.lancasterhistory.org.%20%20](mailto://mail/write/www.lancasterhistory.org.%20%20))

April 15, 16, and 17, 2005 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) - The Twelfth Annual Loch Norman Highland Games, also at Rural Hill Farm. Twenty-two massed pipe bands, competitions in Scottish heavy athletics, piping, drumming, dancing and I don't know what all. Talk about colorful! Contact Rural Hill Farm, 704 875-3113, [\\_www.ruralhillfarm.org](http://www.ruralhillfarm.org) (aol: [//mail/write/www.ruralhillfarm.org](mailto://mail/write/www.ruralhillfarm.org)) , or [lochnorman@ruralhillfarm.org](mailto:lochnorman@ruralhillfarm.org).

April 23, 2005, Fredericksburg, VA, The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Spring Meeting. Conference Topic - *Virginia & German Research* Including the following Sessions:

- Doing Research in VA: Ten Things You Often Learn the Hard Way
- It's All in the Details: Basics of German Research
- Colonial Probate and Inheritance: Don't Let it Drive You Crazy
- Developing the Skills to Become a Genealogist

For more information, write Virginia Genealogical Society, 5001 W. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23230, or go to <http://www.vgs.org>.

Saturday, 14 May 2005, Main Library, 9:30am – 4:00pm, a Genealogy Workshop with Hank Jones.

There will be a \$20 registration fee for attendance at this all-day seminar. Please call the Carolina Room at 704-336-2980 to enroll in the workshop.

Mr. Jones is the author of several genealogy works including *Psychic Roots*, and a two volume set entitled *Palatine Families of New York-1710*, which received the Donald Lines Jacobus Award as "Best Genealogical Work of 1986." He is also an accomplished actor who has appeared in several Disney movies, an *Unsolved Mysteries* episode, *My Three Sons*, *Mork and Mindy*, *Petticoat Junction*, *Love American Style*, *Tennessee Ernie Ford* and many others television shows. Mr. Jones will be selling and autographing his books at the workshop.

## Queries

My great grandfather, James Wilson (1779-1880) was born in Mecklenburg Co. NC. He married Isabella Smith on 9-28-1809 in Meck. Co. NC. They moved to Tenn sometime before 1838 because my grandfather, James Henry Wilson was born in Carroll Co. TN on 9-24-1838. I'm convinced that Great grandfather's parents were among those early settlers from Cecil Co. MD. I need to determine the names of his parents. There were so many Wilson men named James listed in that first US Census, but I believe my Gt. Gt. Grandfather may be the man who was listed in Dist. 15. Would love to exchange family info with other Wilson descendants. Clara W. Thompson, 1607 Whitehirst Manor Dr., St. Charles, MO 63304-5597 E-mail [\\_clarathom@juno.com](mailto:_clarathom@juno.com) (<mailto:clarathom@juno.com>)

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**DATED MATERIAL INSIDE**

**OMGS Publications for Sale**

<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>1850 Census Abstract, Mecklenburg County, NC</i>	\$17.50 PPD
<i>OMGS Surname Index, 2000 Edition</i>	\$8.00 PPD
<i>Nine Generation Ancestor Chart</i>	\$6.00 PPD (rolled) \$5.00 PPD (folded)
<i>OMGS Quarterlies: 1983-2003</i>	\$21.50 PPD (4/year) \$8.50 PPD (single) \$2.00 PPD (index)
<i>The Spirit of a Proud People, by Lois Moore Yandle</i>	\$40.00 PPD

**Books by Herman W. Ferguson**

<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Minutes of the Court of CP&amp;Q Sessions, Vol. I, 1780-1800</i>	\$30.00 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Minutes of the Court of CP&amp;Q Sessions, Vol. II, 1801-1820</i>	\$32.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Minutes of the Court of CP&amp;Q Sessions, Vol. III, 1821-1830</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Minutes of the Court of CP&amp;Q Sessions, Vol. IV, 1831 - 1840</i>	\$25.00 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC: Minutes of the Court of CP&amp;Q Sessions, Vol. V, 1841 - 1850</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<i>Mecklenburg County, NC, Minutes of the Court of CP&amp;Q Sessions, Vol. VI, 1851-1860</i>	\$28.50 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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