

# Mecklenburg Messenger

## OMGS Archives Hours

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

## Notes on April Meeting

by Mary Utting

"Carolina Places in Time" was the title of a presentation by Beverly Lawing and Andy Goretti at the April 12 meeting of Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society. The two, who work for Mecklenburg County Geospatial Information Services, have such routine duties as keeping up with new streets and seeing that they are added to current maps. During the course of their jobs, they have developed an interest in preserving portions of Mecklenburg history through maps, and, when there is time, they scan the older maps and preserve them digitally.

By logging on to the interactive website, [www.cmstory.org](http://www.cmstory.org), then clicking on historic maps, computer users can access these graphic records of the area's past. Their aims are to digitally preserve the best maps, increase access to these maps, and promote interest in local history.

For example, Goretti, the computer expert, called up an 1825 map of Lancaster County, South Carolina. Though not strictly Mecklenburg, it was deemed worthy of adding to the online collection. The quality and the possible interest of area people in such maps determines their decision on adding them to the collection. Once logged on, the computer user can zoom in or out on specific areas of each map, thus seeing details of special interest.

Lawing, who has an interest in graphics, designed some of the formats and typefaces used.

Some interesting details pop out. One map showed the taverns in that area. Andrew Jackson's birthplace was marked on a map. The team is interested in maps that might show area gold mines, cemetery maps, neighborhood areas, landfills, and lakes, creeks, and waterways, and the Lake Norman area before it was flooded.

Their sources of maps so far have been such local groups as the Carolina Room of the Public Library, the Chamber of Commerce, Historic Charlotte, Inc., N.C. ECHO (Exploring Culture and History

## OMGS Meetings

The May 2006 meeting of OMGS will be held on Wednesday, 10 May 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 our very own Paul Buckley! He will tell us what our ancestors were really like! In June we will have Linda Blackwelder, and her topic is the "Gold Mines of Mecklenburg." Don't miss these great programs!

The Hopewell Branch will meet on Saturday, 13 May at 10:00 a.m. Our speaker will be Deeanne Barnette, and her topic is "Bits and Pieces." Bring some of your old "bits and pieces" and things and come out and join us!

Online), and Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society.

Once maps are scanned, they are not lost if they suffer damage or deterioration. They can always be reproduced digitally.

For those interested in this project, Beverly Lawing may be reached at 704-432-6007. Or mail may be sent to Mecklenburg County Geospatial Information Services, 700 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, 28202.

## Jo White Linn, Noted Genealogist

from the *Salisbury Post*

Jenny Jo White Linn, of Salisbury, NC, died Wednesday, April 26, 2006, at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. Born Sept. 11, 1930, Mrs. Linn was a daughter of the late Dr. Franklin Turner and Lena George White. She grew up in Lookout Mountain, Tenn. A graduate of Girls' Preparatory School, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, Va. Mrs. Linn was further educated at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Oxford University. She was a certified genealogist and an active member of many genealogical and hereditary societies. She edited and published the Rowan County Register for 15 years. Mrs. Linn also published volumes of

abstracts of public records for use by genealogical researchers, as well as histories for area families, including the Gray and Hanes families of Winston-Salem and Hurley family of Salisbury. With her sister, she wrote and published "A Real Book: A Southern Past in Double Vision," which explores how differently twins experience events in childhood. She also wrote a history of First Presbyterian Church of Salisbury, where she was a member. Preceding her in death were husband Stahle Linn Jr. and son Stahle Linn III. Survivors include identical twin Sally Ann Ward of Naples, Fla.; and daughter Sarah Arrington Linn of Charlotte. She was buried at Chestnut Hill Cemetery in Salisbury.

OMGS member Herman W. Ferguson considered Jo Linn his mentor in helping him to launch the abstracting of Mecklenburg County court minutes, deeds, and wills. She wrote the forewords for several of his books. She also delivered talks around the state, including Charlotte, on genealogical research methods.

## Hopewell District News

by Tina Brown

In April we met at the Loch Norman Highland Games and enjoyed a great time. Saturday was a dreary day with light rain and some thunder but not too bad as a whole. Sunday was clear and a beautiful day. The worship service was especially moving this year with the Rev. Jeff Lowrance delivering a service about our historic Scots-Irish Presbyterian ways. I have already had several requests for a copy of his sermon. We talked to lots of people and even helped some find family members that they had "lost." I want to thank Rod Whisnant and Delores Edwards for their much needed help on Saturday. Delores helped me set up and stayed at the tent when I was busy and Rod hosted our tent when I was called away to work for Loch Norman. Thank you Rod and Delores!

In May I will not be able to be at our meeting, family matters some time take precedent. Our own Deeanne Barnette will host and give the program. Here is what she says she can do in a "pinch," I say it sounds great and I wish I could be there to hear her. "I could do "Bits and Pieces" of many things if the group would bring some special bits and pieces they have found or collected. Things I thought I could include would be 2 family trees that helped me get started, my mother's notebook she did of her first 95 years – she will be 97 on May 7th, NY books to prove family (helped me get into DAR), my trip to

my great great grandfather's homestead in NE and the stories to go with it, scrapbook of the Barnett-Smartt cemetery that was moved, discovery of the deLacy's - Day/Lacy - 2 families that were one, my great grandfather's history that he wrote of England and coming to NE and homesteading, another great grandfather that served in the Civil War and his escapades from IA to TN to MS to Andersonville prison and being a survivor of that ordeal, back to his unit, etc.." I hope all of you come out and support Deeanne and I bet you will have a great time and learn a lot!

As usual the Hopewell Branch will take the Summer off. May will be our last meeting until September. I have several really good ideas for speakers and have spoken to several and have them thinking about dates. Many thanks to all of you who have given me ideas for speakers when my well runs dry. Please pray for Jeff & Vickie.

## New from the Carolina Room

by Jane Johnson

3/21/2006 to 4/21/2006

New on CMStory.org! Charlotte City Directory 1879-1880

Charlotte had a population of 7,094 in 1880. View digitized pages of the entire Charlotte City Directory, which includes ads, people, street boundaries and a gazetteer for the rest of Mecklenburg County and North Carolina.

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.

*My Hometown Pineville*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

*Beaufort* (SC, Arcadia Pub.)

*Bryson City Seasons*

*The Diary of David Gavin*

*Heritage of Old Mecklenburg County North Carolina*

*Trench and Camp* (Camp Jackson, SC, WWI Army Camp), Army publication on microfilm

*Masters, Servants, and Magistrates in Britain and the Empire*

## Dear Cousin

by Cousin Sally

My, but hasn't it been a long long time since I last wrote to you? I hope you have been actively researching for your "roots."

I would like to ask you if you have had any luck in finding your great-grandmother's maiden name. I know it is difficult sometimes to find maiden names for your female lineage, especially if they lived far away from you, and with the gas prices going up, I know I'm not taking many trips this summer!

Ancestry, that pay website that you can use for free at the Family History Center and at the downtown public library, has a lot of marriage records online. Sometimes you can get maiden names from that. Many times I have had a stroke of luck when the wife's mother lived with the family and was listed in the census. Be careful though, because the mother could have remarried after her first husband died, and then her name on the census might not be her daughter's maiden name. And then sometimes it's the other way around, and the daughter with her children move back in with mom and dad after the daughter's husband dies, and is listed on the census. I've often found where the daughter and her new husband are living with her parents and are newlyweds.

In addition to the census and marriage records, you can also check out wills and probate records—especially if you have a set of "suspect" parents and want to see if your female ancestor is listed amongst the heirs. Sometimes the daughters are buried in the family plot near their parents. So looking at the arrangement of the graves is also important.

Family bibles are also a good source for maiden names. The DAR has a lot of family bibles, check them out at your local history room or at your local Family History Center. You can also ask your relatives for a peek at the family bible, or to even find out if one exists! And while you're at it, you can ask them if they have any old letters or diaries that great-grandma wrote in. Maybe those will turn up a clue as to what her name was.

Well I better run. Keep on researching and I'll write again later.

## Upcoming Events

May 10, 10:00 a.m. "Family Tree Climbing, Introduction to Genealogy," will be presented at the Mountain Island Library. For more information and to register, call 704-831-5700.

May 12-13, Bethabara Celtic Festival and Highland Games, Bethabara Park, Winston-Salem, NC. For more information go to their website at [www.bethabarapark.org](http://www.bethabarapark.org).

May 20-21, the Gatlinburg Scottish Festival and Games, Mills Park, Gatlinburg, TN. For more information go to their website at [www.gsfg.org](http://www.gsfg.org).

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).

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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Charlotte, NC 28232-2453

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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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