



# Mecklenburg Messenger

## OMGS Archives Hours

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

## OMGS Archives Open House

Our Archives Open House on October 14, recognizing distinguished members Selby Daniels, Herman Ferguson, and Lois Yandle, hosted about 65 guests. We owe many thanks to the Event Chair, Pinnny Cook-Yancey and to members Ann Woolf, Mary Utting, Scot Treadwell, Ronald Touchstone, Diane Richter, Ellen Poteet, Tom Innes, Alden and Robert Davis, Ray Case, Paul Buckley, and Lynn Bancroft for making the event a big success.

## New Officers for 2007

At the October meeting of Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society the following were elected to office for 2007: John Misenheimer, president; Jane Rezac, first vice president; Pinnny Cook-Yancey, second vice president; Mary Utting, recording secretary; Tommye Bourque, corresponding secretary; Lynn Bancroft, membership secretary; Scot Treadwell, treasurer; Diane Richter and Ellen Poteet, continuing as directors for the second year of their term, and David Lord and Marilyn Jones, beginning a two-year term as directors; and Ronald Touchstone, immediate past president.

## Notes on October Meeting

by Mary Utting

Dressed in battle attire and carrying a rifle, Leigh Van Buren talked about the Battle of Kings Mountain and its significance and about a group that preserves the story of those who traveled over mountains to fight in this Revolutionary War event. She related what she called "a great story about ordinary people" at the October meeting of Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society.

Van Buren lived in New York, before moving South, and having worked with museums and in public relations, she became interested in this area's history, particularly when she learned that she had as many as six ancestors who participated in this battle.

The story starts in 1780, after the British moved their forces South, believing most of the people there

## OMGS Meetings

The November 2006 meeting of OMGS will be held on Wednesday, 8 November 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. I'm not sure what the program will be, but I'm sure it will be good. Then in December, we will have our Christmas Party! Mark your calendars for this one— Wednesday, December 13!

The Hopewell Branch will meet on Saturday, 11 November, at Hopewell Presbyterian Church, at 10am. Our speaker will be Cullen Ferguson, retired news anchor from Channel 9. Next month will be our Christmas luncheon! Come out and join us!

would be loyal to King George. They captured

Charleston and won battles at Camden and the Waxhaws, thus removing the Continental Army from fighting. Major Patrick Ferguson, who was leading British troops, was told he could recruit men from the mountains for the Loyalist cause. But he was wrong about the local militia, including men led by Thomas Sumter, Charles McDowell and the Overmountain men from what is now Tennessee, who were led by Isaac Shelby.

The men left their farms, riding their own horses and bringing their own food, guns and other equipment. In late September, they gathered at Craig's Meadow, Abingdon, Virginia, and set out over the mountains to engage Ferguson. There were about 400 men. As they crossed over Roan Mountain, they knew that they might not see their homes again.

At Morganton, North Carolina, they met another group, so that they now numbered 1,200 to 1,300 men. They had no official leader, so they chose William Campbell. They set out to engage the enemy, but could not locate Ferguson.

Van Buren called this "our first Civil War," of Loyalists vs. Patriots. The militia finally found Ferguson was camped at Kings Mountain, but they knew that General Cornwallis was close by in Charlottetown and could quickly bring reinforcements. They decided to attack as soon as

possible, so the 900 who were the best shots and had the best horses were assembled. When it rained, they removed their shirts to protect the most important items--their guns. The weather also helped conceal their approach from the enemy.

The speaker pointed out that these were not normal military men, so they did not march in formation. They were able to subdue the British in an hour; everyone in Ferguson's force was either dead, wounded, or captured. Ferguson himself was killed and buried at the site. The army of ordinary men had defeated the left flank of the largest army in the world. Only 28 militiamen were killed.

This and other engagements in the Carolinas led to the weakening of the British forces and eventually led to Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, after the French joined the Patriot forces.

Van Buren went on to tell about the Overmountain Victory Trail Association, whose mission is to preserve, protect, and interpret the trail taken by the men who trekked over the mountains to fight at Kings Mountain. Each year, from September 23 to October 7, members gather in Abingdon, Virginia, to follow the route of these soldiers, camping en route until they arrive at the site of Kings Mountain. They teach school groups and others the history of this event as they travel along. Van Buren says this puts a face on our ancestors and gives a feeling for them. An annual ceremony at the battlefield concludes the observance.

Van Buren had brochures and maps describing the association and detailing events along the route that the militia traveled.

## Hopewell District News

by Tina Brown

In November we will have Cullen Ferguson as our speaker and I am really looking forward to this one.

In December we will have our Christmas Dinner...so get those recipes out and let's make it the best one yet! Please pray for Jeff, Vickie, Autumn & Emma.

## Order of 1775 Award

Each year, at Olde Meckenburg Genealogical Society's Christmas dinner meeting, the Order of 1775 Award is presented for long-term commitment of outstanding service to the Society. The board of directors invites members to nominate deserving recipients. Please either send or give President Ronald Touchstone any suggestions. The board will vote on this matter at its November 27 meeting.

## New from the Carolina Room

by Jane Johnson

9/23/2006 to 10/25/2006

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.

### Books

*60 Years 1944-2004 – As told by the people of Hickory Springs Manufacturing Co.*

*Abstracts of Land Entries: Ashe County, NC Part 1* (Feb. 1800-Jun. 1809)

*Abstracts of Land Entries: Ashe County, NC Part 2* (Jun. 1809-Sep. 1823)

*Abstracts of Land Warrants, Bladen County, NC 1802-1935 Parts 1 & 2*

*American Revolution in the Southern Colonies*

*Ancestors in German Archives—A Guide to Family History Sources*

*Bethel United Methodist Church, Midland, North Carolina*

*Citizens of Rowan County, North Carolina, and Vicinity Vol. 1 1820-1822*

*Demanding the Cherokee Nation*

*Descendants of Chester County, SC McFaddens*

*Dictionary of Smoky Mountain English*

*Dr. Josephus Wells Hall: A Man of Energy and Enterprise*

*General Order Book, 1862-1863 11<sup>th</sup> "Bethel"*

*Regiment North Carolina Troops*

*Historic Gravestone Art of Charleston, South Carolina, 1695-1802*

*A History of the Blair Family 1768-1989*

*A History of the Virginia Dare Book Club*

*Morehead City on the Waterfront*

*Murder along the Cape Fear*

*North Carolina During the Great Depression*

*Oglethorpe and Colonial Georgia: A History, 1733-1783*

*Orange County Records, State Land Grants Vol. IX 1-500*

*Outlaw Ballplayers*

*The People of the New River*

*The Preemptors Middle Tennessee's First Settlers*

*Rebel Gibraltar—Fort Fisher and Wilmington, C.S.A.*

*Scot-Irish Links 1575-1725 Part Four*

*Scots-Dutch Links in Europe and America 1575-1825*

*Shoeless: The Life and Times of Joe Jackson*

*Slave Badges and the Slave-Hire System in Charleston, South Carolina, 1783-1865*

*The Spirit of Pinehurst*

*Traditional Musicians of the Central Blue Ridge*

*Under the Worker's Caps—From Champion Mill to Blue Ridge Paper*

*Waccamaw Legacy—Contemporary Indians Fight for Survival*

### **Microfilm**

*Anson County Lunacy Records, 1899-1968, Vols. 1-3*  
*Mecklenburg County Divorce Records 1846-1969* 42  
reels

## **OMGS Member Receives Award**

George Timblin received many honors during his distinguished career as an engineer. Just before he died on September 1, his wife Carol told him of a final award he received for a volunteer effort he undertook in retirement.

On Saturday (October 14), the North Carolina Society of Historians presented Carol Timblin the Barringer Award given her husband for outstanding work on behalf of North Carolina history, genealogy or preservation. The presentation was made at the Society's meeting in Morehead City.

Timblin, who was a member of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in Mint Hill, found that the early cemeteries for this colonial church were in complete disrepair. As chair of its Historic Cemeteries Subcommittee, he recruited a crew of four to help him restore these neglected graveyards. His regular team included Charlie Burdick, Bill Hawkins, Harry Hood, and Scot Treadwell, who nominated Timblin for this award.

The men have worked for more than three years on two cemeteries that date back 200 years, cutting back trees and other vegetation, locating and restoring remaining tombstones, and rebuilding stone walls. Timblin developed a website with pictures of the progress and also communicated with many descendants of the people buried in the cemeteries. As a member of Olde Mecklenburg

Genealogical Society and the Mint Hill Historical Society, he had an interest in both history and genealogy.

## **Mark Your Calendars**

Due to a scheduling conflict at Aldersgate, our February Membership meeting will be rescheduled one week earlier than usual. Instead of the 14<sup>th</sup>, we will meet on February 7<sup>th</sup>. So save the 14<sup>th</sup> for your sweetie, and plan to join us on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006, for a program to be announced later!

## **Upcoming Events**

Saturday, 11 Nov 2006, Life in the Waxhaws Lantern Tour, Lancaster, SC. Spend an evening in the 18th Century! Meet at the picnic shelter #1. Lantern tours will begin at 6, 6:30, 7, and 7:30. Tours last about 30 minutes. Fees: \$5 for adults, \$2 for youth ages 6-12. Children under 6 are free. Call 803-285-3344 for more information. Pre-registration is recommended, but not required.

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 to OMGS, P.O. Box 32453, Charlotte, NC, 28232-2453.

Joan Raney, Editor

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**DATED MATERIAL INSIDE**

**OMGS Publications for Sale**

<i>Dr. J. B. Alexander's Medical Ledger &amp; Account Book, 1855-1871</i>	\$16.50 PPD
<i>Real Estate and Legal Notices from Charlotte, NC Newspapers, 1835-1847</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<i>Real Estate and Legal Notices from Charlotte, NC Newspapers, 1848-1862</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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