



# Mecklenburg Messenger

**Website:** <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ncomgs/>

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## OMGS Archives Hours

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

## News of the Archives

Our latest donation is a copy of the Mecklenburg Heritage Book. One of the indexes we are able to search on our computer is Elmwood Cemetery, Historic Section. It is at present the most complete and accurate source for this information available anywhere. Another of the indexes is the 'expanding' Quarterly surname index now including over 10,000 names.

## Notes from September Meeting

by Mary Utting

The speaker for Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society's September meeting was Teresa Brady, a prenatal genetic counselor, whose topic was Our Family Inheritance. Brady, who has practiced her profession for a dozen years, is on the staff of Carolinas Medical Center. She holds a master's degree from the University of Michigan.

She said that we inherit 46 chromosomes, 23 from mother and 23 from father. Males have both X and Y chromosomes, while females possess only X. Chromosomes are made up of thousands of genes. It is Brady's task to identify genes that may result in inherited problems; she said that there are more than 6,000 inherited conditions, some of minor concern, others that cause serious consequences. Though the entire human genetic code has been identified, researchers still have many genes to be read.

What if a person fails to inherit a complete set of chromosomes? Down Syndrome can be one result of receiving only 21 from a parent. The child has mental deficiencies, poor muscle tone, and a danger of heart problems and respiratory infections. Parental age at time of birth has an effect on this, but if one child has the condition, there is only a one percent chance that a second baby will.

## OMGS Meetings

The October 2007 meeting of OMGS will be held on Wednesday, 10 October 2007 at the **Ray Hall Community Center, Aldersgate**, 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte. We usually have a "social hour" at 7pm followed by the meeting at 7:30pm. Our speaker will be Jane Burdick from Mint Hill and she will talk about house calls and doctor tools. Don't miss this one! Then in November, our speaker will be Dr. James Sasser, who will speak on Mecklenburg County history. Come on out to see these great programs!

The Hopewell Branch will meet at 10am on Saturday, 13 October at Hopewell. Come out and join us.

Brady described the symptoms of a number of syndromes. Turner Syndrome results from a missing X chromosome, resulting in puffy hands and feet, kidney problems, and infertility. Only two percent of these survive till birth.

Microdeletion Syndromes result from a small amount of missing chromosome and have a wide range of severity. Problems include cleft palate, hyper nasal speech, and bulbous nose. Only seven percent of these have an affected parent, but the parent's mild symptoms may be overlooked until the child appears with more obvious symptoms.

Prader-Willi Syndrome (feeding difficulties at first, with overeating and obesity later) comes from father, while Angelman (similar to Prader-Willi) comes from mother.

Autosomal Dominant Inheritance is something in which gender plays no role, and the person needs only one abnormality to have the condition. If the parent has the gene, there is a 50 percent of inheriting this.

Progeria is accelerated aging. The sufferers usually live till about age 13. Persons with Marfan Syndrome are excessively tall, with poor vision, very long fingers, and a tendency to heart problems. A child with this has to be monitored carefully when taking part in sports. Though it has been suggested that Abraham Lincoln suffered from Marfan, Brady said researchers tend to refute that.

Huntington's Disease raises a vital question: Should a person who is at risk take a genetic test? This brain disorder, whose symptoms appear between ages 30 to 50, generally results in death 15 to 20 years later. There is a 50-50 chance of a child inheriting it, if a parent has it. It can appear even earlier if father was the carrier. If the test reveals the gene, the person will eventually have the disease.

Brady said that knowing this can relieve uncertainty and allow the person to plan ahead. On the other hand, this is a very emotional piece of information, which may cause great anxiety as well as employment and insurance problems.

Another well known genetic defect, hemophilia, characterized by excessive bleeding, is familiar because Queen Victoria was a carrier and passed it along to members of other royal families who married into her line. The affliction comes from mother only; there is no male transmission. Color blindness, most commonly red and green problems, is another inheritance though mother only. It mainly affects males, however.

The parent carrier of a defective gene does not always suffer from the disease. Certain ethnic groups have genetic problems peculiar to their group such as Caucasians and cystic fibrosis, African Americans and sickle cell anemia, Ashkenazi Jews and Tay-Sachs and Canavan.

The term multifactorial inheritance applies to conditions that can be caused by a combination of genetics and environment. Brady pointed out that environmental factors can trigger some genetic disorders, which might otherwise be avoided. Weardenburg Syndrome, for example, might result if a mother does not receive enough folic acid during pregnancy. The symptoms are hearing problems, two eye colors, a white forelock, and premature gray hair.

In a genetic investigation, Brady said she obtains such information as prenatal and delivery matters, medical history, and family history. This is combined with genetic testing or evaluation and autopsy pathology. There may need for genetic counseling, and always the physician treating a person needs this family history.

## **NC State Archives Temporary Closing**

The NC Archives Search Room will be closed from September 24-October 22 to move back to its permanent location on the second floor of the Library

and Archives building. Correspondence reference and copy services, including photograph duplication, will still be disrupted and response time to reference requests will be slowed during that time.

## **Special Offer Reminder**

Time is running out to order Volume 5, *Elmwood Cemetery* at the prepublication price of \$30 ppd. After October 15, 2007, the price will be \$35 ppd. This is the first of several volumes specifically for Elmwood Cemetery, which has over 30,000 recorded graves. It is the largest city-owned cemetery in the state and the second oldest cemetery in Charlotte (the oldest is Settlers Cemetery).

A special offer is also being made at this time for the first four volumes of Olde Meck's cemetery books, containing 55 early family and church cemeteries in Mecklenburg County. These four volumes are offered as a set for \$112 ppd (regularly \$140)--a great opportunity to purchase all four volumes, if you missed out on the individual volumes. Please make your check payable to OMGS and mail to P. O. Box 32453, Charlotte, NC 28232-2453. If you wish to pick up the books at the next membership meeting, please indicate on a note with your check.

## **Genealogical Workshop on July 26 2008**

OMGS members need to mark their 2008 calendars now for an all-day workshop that the Society is cosponsoring with the North Carolina Genealogical Society on July 26 at Aldersgate. Plans are well under way. The speaker will be David Rencher, director of the Records and Information Division of the Family and History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He also was director of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for a number of years.

Further details will be forthcoming after the NCGS Board meets later this fall. The Western Regional Genealogical Workshop will be a special educational opportunity for all genealogists in the Charlotte area.

## **News from the Carolina Room**

by Jane Johnson

8/21/2007 to 9/21/2007

With a new addition of three file cabinets, we now have more space for additional family files. If you have research that concerns North and South Carolina families, please consider making copies for

us to include in our biographical and surname files. Every piece of correspondence is not needed, but family charts, copies of newspaper articles or items of interest would be helpful to our researchers who come from all over the country to the Carolina Room. To see a list of the family files already available, please go to <http://plcmc.org/Locations/mainCarolinaSurnames.asp>.

The New York Times has recently put some of their archives on line for free or some for a fee. Years from 1851-1922 are free as well as 1987 to the present. There will be some charges from years 1923-1986. For more information, please go to [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/18/business/media/18times.html?\\_r=1&ex=1347854&adxnnl=1&oref=slogin&adxnnlx=1190386063-VL0Z4nBBxmdsUcrPFYczOA](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/18/business/media/18times.html?_r=1&ex=1347854&adxnnl=1&oref=slogin&adxnnlx=1190386063-VL0Z4nBBxmdsUcrPFYczOA)

Cornell University has recently put The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies on line. To access these, please Google - Cornell University War of the Rebellion or go to [http://0-cdl.library.cornell.edu.source.unco.edu/moa/browse.monographs/war\\_o.html](http://0-cdl.library.cornell.edu.source.unco.edu/moa/browse.monographs/war_o.html).

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

*100th Family Reunion Souvenir Journal*  
*Arizona The History of a Frontier State*  
*Bible Records of Suffolk and Nansemond County, VA*  
*Decisive Battles of the Civil War*  
*DeSoto County Mississippi History and Families*  
("Heritage Book")  
*Early Church Records of Burlington County, New Jersey, Vol. 1*  
*Eastern Cherokee Census, Cherokee, NC 1915-1922, Vol. III*  
*Families of Alcorn County, Mississippi*  
*Harriet Jacobs: A Life*  
*History of Benjamin Shore Family*  
*Jamestown 1544-1699*  
*Memorial Addresses Life And Character Of Andrew Johnson, January 12th 1876*  
*Passenger Arrivals Port of New York 1820-1829*  
*"Pat" Patterson*  
*Roster of Revolutionary War Gravesites*

*Seventeenth Century Colonial Ancestors of Members of the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century, 1915-1975*

*Three Centuries of Swinson Kin*  
*Virtue Leas & Grace Reveals, Embroideries and Education in Antebellum South Carolina*

## Upcoming Events

**October 6, 2007**, Chris Haley will present a lecture titled "Now We Own Ourselves," followed by a genealogy workshop titled "Your History In Black and White." This will be held at 10am in ImaginOn: The Joe & Joan Martin Center at 300 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Charlotte. Chris Haley is the nephew of Roots author Alex Haley, and is the director of the Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland, and is also a board member of the Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Foundation. Registration is free, but required. To register, call 704-336-2980. This is co-sponsored by the African American Genealogy Interest Group, and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Black Heritage Committee.

**November 2-3, 2007**, Raleigh, NC, Grier Creek Country Club, will be the site of the NCGS Fall Annual Meeting and Workshop. Theme: "A Method to Our Madness: Genealogical Problem Solving" and a Feature Presentation by Helen Leary.

**July 26, 2008**, OMGS is cosponsoring an all-day workshop with the North Carolina Genealogical Society at Aldersgate. Plans are well under way. The speaker will be David Rencher, director of the Records and Information Division of the Family and History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He also was director of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for a number of years. You don't want to miss this workshop!!!

## 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>General Order Book, 11th "Bethel" Regt., NC Troops</i>	\$27.50 PPD
<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>Mecklenburg County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 5: Elmwood Cemetery</i>	<i>pre-pub price!</i> \$30.00 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: 1983-2006</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>Minutes, 1774-1780</i>	\$16.50 PPD		
<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. Abstracts of Deed Books 24-28 &amp; Books 1-3</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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