D-OGS Newsletter – February 2010

News & Articles of Interest to Durham-Orange genealogists

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PO Box 4703, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-4703
2010 dues – $20
Richard Ellington - President

D-OGS MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2010

This D-OGS Meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, 3 February, 2010 at 7 p.m. at the Orange County Public Library on 137 West Margaret Lane in Hillsborough. Here is a map: http://server2.co.orange.nc.us/locations/index.asp?ServiceID=23

The program will be presented by Lucinda Munger, Orange County Library Director. The program will be a grand tour of the new library facility. Come join us for this inside look at all the new things (and some old things) that the new library building has to offer. The old NC Room collection from the old library on Tryon Street has been relocated to the 2nd floor of the new building. Come see where those research materials are now housed.

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The February meeting of the D-OGS Computer Special Interest Group will be held from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon on February 13 in the downstairs conference room of the Chapel Hill Public Library. Our featured speaker will be the CHPL reference librarian Luba Sawczyn, who will discuss the online tools available to us courtesy of the library through our home computers, such as NCLive and Heritage Quest. She will also answer any questions you may have, so give some thought to what you have always wanted to ask an expert about online research and join us then.

We will continue to talk about the format for the CIG meetings, and will have the calendar available to fill in topics for each month of the coming year. If there is a particular topic you would like to bring to us in the upcoming months, we would be more than happy for you to tell us about it. The two parameters are genealogy and technology; it's not too hard to find something there, is it?

D-OGS MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 6, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. There were two new members in attendance and one guest out of the 24 attendees.

The evening's program was "Genealogical Data Mining" by Ben Franklin, family history researcher for about 30 years. He is the former director of the Durham Family History Center, teaches Family

History at Duke University through OLLI and has been involved in a large variety of family history-related projects.

Ben explained that the expression “data mining” is still not widely known but implies “digging through tones of data” to uncover patterns and relationships. He said it is a tool to gather, collate and organize information so that it can be more effectively searched.

Suggested ways of acquiring data:

- Convert hardcopies of data to electronic format via Optical Character Recognition (**OCR**) software. This allows you to easily search for keywords.
- Occasionally the New England Historical and Genealogical Society (**NEHGS)** allows open access to some of its on-line databases.
- **JSTOR** (short for *Journal Storage*) is a United States-based online system for archiving academic journals. It provides full-text searches of digitized back issues of several hundred well-known journals, dating back to 1665. To access you must be a member of an affiliated institution—such as student or faculty.
- **Heritage Quest** is available to most library card holders from either their library of choice or their home computers.
- **BYU’s digital archives** has converted (at this time) over 55,000 books to searchable PDF documents.
- **Google Books** has many thousands of books (not specifically for genealogical purposes) now out of copyright that might contain something of interest. Go to Google>More>Books. Go to Advanced Search to specify a title.
- The **Census Index** can be copied and saved to your system for later searches.

You can also acquire hardcopies of books using **PERSI** (PERiodical Source Index), the **FHLC** (Family History Library Catalog), references in other researchers’ data, etc. Then you can order the film at the FHC or borrow the material via interlibrary loan.

What to do after you have downloaded the images:

- Irfanview is a universal viewer you can obtain for free at http://www.irfanview.com
- Print it and OCR it. Popular OCR applications include Scansoft’s Omnipage Pro or TextBridge. You will also need to print anything you have downloaded from Google Books or Heritage Quest and OCR those pages as they are not searchable.

Now that I have it—how do I find it?

- Windows Explorer Search is a basic, unsophisticated search tool.
- GREP is much more powerful than Explorer. Ben said he favored wingrep which can be downloaded from http://www.wingrep.com.
- Google Desktop allows you to search your computer. It allows you to search your email, computer files, music, photos, chats and web pages you’ve viewed.

Ben stressed not to stop and read, just make copies and look at it later. Time is usually limited at any archive or repository so you need to make the most of the time you have.

He also said he'd learned when researching wills for a project he's working on that you need to obtain a copy of both the will book and the original will as there are frequently differences between the two.

Richard thanked Ben for his informative presentation. Ben said he would be sending Richard copies of his presentation for inclusion on the webpage.

The December 2009 minutes were approved as read.

Committee reports:

Richard said Ginger was not at the meeting but that she had made monumental strides in creating a new web site that would be a major improvement on the current one. Those present gave her a round of applause for stepping up and accomplishing so much in such a short period of time.

Cathy reported that they were working on the latest Trading Path Journal issue which had just gone to the proofreaders. She said they needed further submissions.

Richard said the new Orange County Public Library was having their Grand Opening Friday morning. He also said money had been provided for the Orange County Heritage Center Task Force to hire a consultant to study the feasibility of an Orange County Heritage Center facility and collection. They had hired Barbara Taylor of Winston-Salem.

Richard said the February meeting was "To Be Announced" as there was still no Vice President/Program Chair—nor was there a Director at Large. There are two people who have offered to serve on a Program Committee to assist and Vice President. We need someone to step up and offer to fill these two vacant positions. Please contact Richard Ellington and let him know of your willingness to help the organization. Richard asked that members consider

Carol Boggs suggested that if anyone had programs to suggest, to let Richard know. Of course, these aren't going to arrange themselves—which is why a Vice President/Program Chair is needed.

The Treasurer's Report: $1778.76.

April Workshop Report: A sign up sheet was in the back of the room outlining some of the ways members could help. You can also email me at tkrout@aol.com to offer your assistance.

Richard said the Board was having a meeting the following week which would focus primarily on establishing a budget as D-OGS had never had a budget. He said one of the things we had learned was that it cost $1.75 to mail a copy of the Trading Path. That brought up online publishing. The Board is currently considering making some changes in the presentation of our publications. Most genealogical and historical societies have moved to electronic publication as a means of increasing the coverage of their work as well as a way of reducing costs while still providing valuable content. At present, we are providing electronic delivery of the monthly newsletter to all but a very few of our members. We anticipate moving to this policy for the journal in the very near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonya Fouse Krout, Secretary

YOUR TRADING PATH NEWS

We hope to get the next issue of *The Trading Path* in the mail to you by the end of this week. Local members will receive your copies at the February D-OGS meeting. If you know that you won't be able to make it to the meeting, ask a friend to pick up your copy. Otherwise, we'll hold it for you until the March meeting.

Work on the following issue begins now! What can you send us to share with the rest of the members? Do you have a story about the history of a favorite ancestor? Is there a diary, a will, or family Bible records that you could transcribe?

We also need articles on genealogical methodology. Let us know how you solved a particular research problem. Book reviews are also very welcome.

We hope to be hearing from lots of you very soon!

Rob & Cathy Elias

D-OGS IS GETTING "GREENER"

After much consideration by the D-OGS Board of Directors, we are going to expand our "green initiative" of publishing via the Internet instead of printing and mailing many reams of paper at great expense. The vast majority of our members now read the monthly newsletter via the D-OGS website.

We will offer one more full printed copy of the Trading Path Journal to all members and then transition to electronic copy there, also. The electronic journal will be available on the D-OGS website, just like the newsletter.

Many, if not most, of our sister societies, both genealogical and historical, have already converted to at least partial delivery of their publications via electronic publishing. It is not only more environmentally sensitive; it means that societies can provide more content for a smaller cost. For instance, we could have color pictures in the electronic publications at no additional cost. Color is very expensive in print form. We are all interested in keeping down the costs of operating our society. Being "green" can save us another dues increase in the very near future.

WE NEED PROGRAMS FOR UPCOMING D-OGS MEETINGS

Since no member has agreed to be the Vice-President/Program Chair for 2010, we have no one designated to plan for programs. I am asking members to come up with programs for our meetings. I have has a couple of D-OGS members give me several very good recommendations for program topics but no one has come forward to claim one of the upcoming meeting programs as their own.

It is neither the responsibility nor the duty of the other officers to fill in the blanks. If you have an idea that you think would make a good program or if you know someone who would be willing to present a program, contact me (richard_ellington@unc.edu or 919-967-4168) to get on the calendar. We do have a couple of programs in planning but we will need several more to fill out the year.

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Take time this month to reflect on the struggles that African-Americans have faced since their introduction into this country. We have come far, as can be witnessed by the election of an African-American President in 2008, but obstacles still remain. Think about what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. meant when he said that he looked forward to a day when all men “will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Check out this website that offers many references to Black History Month and its various themes: http://www.infoplease.com/spot/bhm1.html

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TRADING PATH ASSOCIATION FEBRUARY FIRST SUNDAY HIKE

For reasons only a sociologist would venture to guess at, Super Bowl Sunday is our best attended hike every year. It has for equally nebulous reasons become the tradition for the TPA to hold its Superbowl Sunday/February First Sunday Hike at Stagville Plantation in northeastern Durham County. It is, as they say, a target rich environment; we could study the Flat River and the Little River and the old lands of Stagville for a lifetime and not map all the wonders to be seen. Today the Flat River bottoms east of Stagville are "game lands"; planted and managed to attract water fowl and other game. Well, hunting season is over and the gamelands are now a playground for birders and history buffs, health nuts, and dog trainers. In short, it is a wonderful local asset.

We'll meet before 2 PM at the game lands parking area off of Old Oxford Highway north of Stagville. We will hike from 2 until 4 PM. This is flat, open terrain. We generally find some way to make it a bit of a challenge (one year we were compelled to climb a log to get out of a stream bottom, and another we found ourselves in a mat of flotsam), so wear sturdy shoes. Dress for the weather. As this is bottom land, if the weather is wet we will stick to the roads and high ground but you'll still want to have dry footwear.

There is some chance that we will gain access to the historic site (either walk in permission or an opportunity to drive in, park and follow the old roadbed from the top of the bluff down into the

bottoms. If and when we learn we will tweet the news, send out a general note, put it on our new calendar (below) and in other ways try to let you know.

"NEW" NEW SEARCH COMING TO ANCESTRY.COM

By Diane Haddad

You might be happy to learn about some changes in store for Ancestry.com's New Search, particularly if you're using the Old Search in hopes something better than New Search will come along.

During a recent Ancestry.com press junket, Tony Macklin, manager of the search experience, gave members of the genealogy media a sneak peek of the updates:

The **global basic search form** will keep the first and middle name field and last name field. The place field will ask "Where did your ancestor live?" A pop-up calculator helps you estimate the birth year. Options let you add family members' names and life events.

The **global advanced search form** is where you'll see most changes. For the above-mentioned name fields, you'll be able check boxes for filters that let you customize the types of matches you get: records with just initials for the name, just Soundex matches (a feature the professional researchers in our group sorely miss in the New Search), and names with similar meanings or spellings to what you entered.

For the location, filters will let you restrict matches to records associated with just the county or place you entered, or also from adjacent counties/places.

You'll be able to click boxes that let you restrict matches to just the historical records databases, just family trees or just photos and maps—effectively doing the same thing as the tabs in the Old search. You'll be able to limit your results to US sources, too.

The updates will be introduced gradually in the New Search over the next weeks and months. The Old Search will stick around for now, but it won't get these changes.

Individual collection pages also will get updated searches, but this'll take longer because of the customization required. Redesigned collection home pages will feature links to collection categories, easier ways to browse by location or date, and an "Explore by Location" click-through map that lets you see record groups associated with your ancestors' places of residence.

MAN, 91, AWAITS 106TH GRANDCHILD

A Lincolnshire great-great grandfather is awaiting the arrival of his 106th grandchild. Ted Leeson, 91, from Grantham, has eight living children, 33 grandchildren, 61 great grandchildren and 11 great-great grandchildren. Most of the family still live in the county, with the youngest being three-

month old Cotie. His great grandson Toby Fairbrother, 36, and his wife Zoe, 36, are now expecting their fifth child this week.

Mr Leeson said: "I'm quite happy with it. There's nothing wrong with having a big family, I don't think."

Daughter Paula Dickenson said: "He's always been there for us. He's always looked after us - he's worked all his life and always provided for us, we've never gone without anything."

(This article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://www.eogn.com.)

SLAVE CABIN SKETCH MYSTERY SOLVED

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A 136-year-old pencil sketch of a North Carolina slave cabin that sent a mother and daughter from central Kentucky on a genealogical quest ended a dozen years later last week on a street in College Hill.

Since 1998, Irene Rucker, a retired Keebler factory worker, had been trying to dig up the story behind the fragile piece of paper she found tucked in an antique history book that cost her 50 cents at a mission thrift store in Estill County.

In neat cursive, the artist identified the drawing on the folded half sheet paper. Signed "H.W. Tate," it read, "The Cabin in which I lived when a slave in Clay County, N.C." The back side of the paper was dated November, 1874. Curious to find out more, Rucker turned to her computer savvy daughter, Penny.

"You could almost feel the importance when you felt that paper. He had to be someone special," Penny Rucker said Monday. "I've been searching for somebody to return this to. I was so driven not to give up on this."

Years after she put out feelers through a Warren County genealogical Web site to try and solve the mystery, her search paid off. In College Hill, Henry Burton Tate Jr. had been looking for information for the past three years to piece together his great-grandfather's background.

He knew Henry Wister "H.W." Tate was a well-known Methodist minister, who had graduated from the National Normal University for teachers in Lebanon, Ohio in 1873 and had taught school for seven years before attending theological school. The Rev. Tate spent 50 years serving churches in Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio, including the Ninth Street A.M.E. Church in Cincinnati before retiring to Walnut Hills. He died March 13, 1931 at age 75 at his home on Lincoln Avenue.

The great-grandson stumbled across Penny Rucker's posting on the Warren County Ohio Gen Web project's Web page for the Lebanon teacher's school last month. He reached her by e-mail on Friday.

Now, Henry Burton Tate is planning a 3-hour trip to Estill County sometime soon to meet the Ruckers and lay claim to his ancestor's sketch.

"I believe the family knows that he was a slave. But we always talked more about his role in the Methodist church," said the 69-year-old Tate.

The drawing Rucker found was sketched 11 years after the Rev. Tate was freed from slavery at age 8 and moved to Troy Ohio with his mother and step-father, George Pleasant. They died six years later.

He still searches for the name of his great-great grandmother, who was never named in his great-grandfather's death certificate. The same death certificate says that the Rev. Tate's father was an unnamed Caucasian medical doctor.

Most of what Henry Burton Tate knows about his great-grandfather was gained from an obituary and funeral program that was passed down through the years.

The sketch adds another dimension.

"This brings the family tree to life," he said.

PRESERVATION TIP OF THE MONTH--REPAIRING & STORING CARDS, INCLUDING SPORTS, GREETING, AND POSTCARDS

By Becky Schipper (Allen County Public Library)

During the holidays, you may have received some cards you would like to save and pass along to your children and grandchildren. Many of us also have collections of trading cards or postcards commemorating significant events, either in the life of our community and country or in the lives of family members.

Cards we are intending to keep always should be handled with clean hands or soft, lint-free gloves. Any mending of tears should be done on the back using an archival tape, not a pressure sensitive tape. Cheap tape purchased off-the-shelf in big box stores can deteriorate quickly, turning yellowish-brown and damaging the cards.

Cards that are dirty can be cleaned with a document cleaning pad or eraser with a very light touch. Always test the eraser you intend to use on a blank piece of white paper to ensure that erasing does not leave any marks and to get used to the amount of pressure to apply for removal of dirt and stray marks.

Cards then should be stored in acid free enclosures, away from heat and light sources. Polyester plastic enclosures are preferred because they allow viewing the item without disturbing it. Groups of cards should be stored vertically in acid-free, lignin-free boxes. The contents of each box should be noted on a separate sheet of paper to facilitate locating the correct card without handling others unnecessarily.

A LITTLE-KNOWN GOVERNMENT GENEALOGY SERVICE

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A little-known program of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) provides genealogy information that may be difficult or impossible to obtain elsewhere. The records include naturalization files, visa applications and citizenship tests, and may reveal family secrets and mysteries.

Under the USCIS Genealogy Program, which started in 2008, requests are usually completed within 90 days. For $20, the government will run a search of the name, as long as the person is deceased. If there are records available, the government charges additional fees for the files.

In fiscal year 2009, more than 5,300 requests were made, fewer than expected. In addition to relatives, historians or researchers can also request files.

The documents typically include immigration information, often including exact hometowns in their ancestors' native countries. The files often have information on brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles. Many times it is useful to obtain the records of your uncles, aunts, and cousins who also immigrated from "the old country."

If the immigrant applied for American citizenship, the details are also included in these files. For anyone of Japanese, German, or Italian origin, who lived in the United States during World War II, the documents often include FBI reports about the person's activities, including friends, family, and political activities. For more information about the program, check out http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy.

INCOGNITO – A ONE MAN PLAY ABOUT HIS HERITAGE

NBC News Chicago calls it “a fascinating and gripping story!” Imagine discovering you are not the person you thought you were. That you have a family, a history, an ethnicity you never knew. Come along with Michael Fossburg on a journey of self-discovery. This play is being presented on Saturday, March 27 at 8pm in the Carolina Theatre in downtown Durham. General-admission tickets are priced at $18. The website for tickets is http://www.carolinatheatre.org/stage/incognito.

(Thanks to Cathy Elias for bringing this to our attention)

CAN YOU HELP THESE PERSONS?

Phyllis O'Briant Worthington, 6942 Church Street, Grifton, NC 278730 - (252)814-3268 - lowpaidnurse52@aol.com

Surnames: **O'Briant**

Seeking any information on Preston D. O'Briant who was married to Mary Ida Hart. Their children are all listed to have been born in Durham County but I can't find a record of their marriage or anything about him prior to 1900. He was born in 1866. Thank you for any help.

Jean Campbell, 37 County Road 1099, Oxford, MS 38655 - 662-234-8599 - teach@campbellnet.com

Surnames: **Campbell**

Seeking parents of Richard Campbell b. 1778 and found in Orange Co. on the 1810 census. I desire correspondence with anyone working Campbell genealogy or anyone who can help. Thanks!

Mrinmay "Moy" Biswas, 10 Cotswold Place, Durham, NC 27707-5514 - 919-493-7334 - mbiswas@nc.rr.com

Surnames: **Biswas**

I have manually drafted record of fourteen generations (from Bengal, India). I wish to put the data in a "standard" genealogical PC software. Could you please advise me on a software package to acquire and source of such software?
Thanks, Moy.

GENEALOGICAL GLOSSARY

- AD VERBATIM -[Latin, *to the word*] in full
- ADMINISTRATION - management and settlement of an estate
- ADMINISTRATOR - an appointee of the court who settles the estate of a deceased who died without leaving a will, or where an executor is unwilling or unable to serve as executor.
- ADMINISTRATOR AD COLLIGENDUM - [Latin] when a person dies and there is no apparent executor or administrator, the court may appoint such a person to collect, preserve and inventory the assets until a full administrator can be determined
- ADMINISTRATOR'S BOND - a bond posted by an administrator to guarantee the proper performance of his duties
- ADMINISTRATRIX SCHEDULE - a female administrator
- ADOPTION - to take a child into one's home by legal means and raise as one's own, with same legal rights as one's natural children
- ADSCRIPTICUS - [Latin] a serf bound to a property
- ADULTERINE CASTLE - a castle built without the over lord's approval
- ADVOWSON - the right to appoint a person to the church's benefice, for with the living came other appurtenances of the church - land which the priest used to support himself, and first fruits and the tithe, which was a tax or levy of a tenth of parishioners' income or produce to support the church. Other assets might include mills or fisheries. This was a valued source of patronage.
- ADVANCEMENT - a gift given to a living child in anticipation of inheritance

- ADVERSE POSSESSION - occupying a property, then gaining title and ownership by keeping it for a specified statutory period

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WEBSITES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

FREE ONLINE GENEALOGY TUTORIALS - Did you know Brigham Young University offers free family history tutorials online? Those under Record Type focus on vital, family, and military records; those under Regional and Ethnic cover German, French and Scandinavian sources. For more genealogical edification, watch FamilySearch's free videotaped classes on English, Italian and US records.

USING MAPS IN GENEALOGY – The US Geological Survey has a wonderful pamphlet called *Using Maps in Genealogy* that you can download for free. If anyone knows how to read an old map, it's the US Geological Survey, so you might as well learn from the best. The document is full of useful online and offline references (such as where to find old place names) for anyone wanting to trace their ancestors in the US - http://egsc.usgs.gov/isb/pubs/factsheets/fs09902.pdf

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS PUTTING DOCUMENTS AND PHOTOS ON THE WEB - The Pennsylvania Historical Society has about 21 million items in its collection. Artifacts include photographs, personal diaries, war correspondence, maps, and geological surveys. However it has nowhere near enough resources to scan each one.

Due to the sesquicentennial of the Civil War in 2011, the Society has started hand-picking items that hint at the rest of the collection. Archivist Kathleen Miller recently went through the papers of Andrew Atkinson Humphreys, who not only was a major general in the Civil War, but also a geologist and fought in the Seminole Native American war.

The project is meant to encourage more people to use the collection. Administrators at the Historical Society say about half of their visitors are amateur genealogists looking up their family tree. You can learn more at http://www.hsp.org/ and especially at http://www.hsp.org/default.aspx?id=976.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

STORES AND STORIES OF HILLSBOROUGH - Come to the Senior Center at 103 Meadowland Drive in Hillsborough (SportsPlex) on Sunday, January 31st, at 3:00pm and hear stories about the stores in Hillsborough from 1940 - 1975. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 732-2201.

SEMINAR IN TEXAS - Curt B. Witcher, director of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne

IN, will be the speaker at the 6th Annual Hill Country Family History Seminar January 30 at Boerne, Texas. The seminar is sponsored by the Genealogical Society of Kendall County. Discounted pre-registration closes January 16. For more information download registration form from www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc

FREE IRISH GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 252 E. Evesham Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey - (856) 795-8841

- Breaking Brick Walls In Irish Genealogy, Thursday, February 4th (11 am)
- How Researching History And Culture Can Aid Your Irish Genealogy, Thursday, March 4th (11 am)
- Irish Research Tips, Thursday, April 1st (11 am)

WEBSITE - www.southjerseyfamilyhistory.org <http://www.southjerseyfamilyhistory.org/>
EMAIL - classes@southjerseyfamilyhistory.org

AUSTIN TX SEMINAR - The Austin Genealogical Society is proud to present Jana Broglin, CG, as the speaker on Saturday, February 6, 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. The mini-seminar will be held at the Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Dr, Austin, Texas. The fee is $10 for AGS members and $15 for non-members. Participants are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch or eat nearby since lunch is not provided.

Topics and registration information are available at
www.AustinTxGenSoc.org/activities/miniseminar.php

TOWN CREEK INDIAN MOUND - MT. GILEAD - *February 7.* Black History Month. Movies at the Mound Series presents “Black Indians: An American Story.” Narrated by James Earl Jones, the movie brings to light a forgotten part of America’s past – the cultural and racial fusion of Native and African Americans. 4–5 p.m.

ALAMANCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of each month except June, July and August, at 7:00 p.m., at the Western Steak House, 142 N. Graham-Hopedale Road Burlington, NC 27215, 336-227-1448. The 8 February program will be Sue Stanford speaking on the “Stoner Cemetery”.

FINDING AFRICAN AMERICAN ROOTS: FROM ORAL HISTORY BACK TO SLAVERY - Shamele Jordon - February 10, 2010 from 12 - 2 pm - Free and Open to the public

Sponsored by the National Archives and Records Administration - Mid-Atlantic Region, 900 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4292 (Entrance on Chestnut Street, between 9th and 10th Streets.) - Telephone: 215-606-0100

2ND SATURDAY WALKING TOUR OF HILLSBOROUGH - Saturday, February 13th, 10am and 2pm. Come to the Alexander Dickson House, 150 E. King St., Hillsborough. Explore Hillsborough's history on a 90-minute guided walking tour through its historic district. $5, More Information at 732-7741 or www.historichillsborough.org

LUNCH AND LEARN'S 11TH SEASON MEETS AT TOSCA RISTORANTE ITALIANO IN WEST VILLAGE - Plan now to join us for our 11th Season at Tosca Ristorante Italiano in West Village for more fun and informative programs about Durham and its fascinating history! Season passes to all seven events are now available to Preservation Durham members for $115. Single event tickets are $19 for Preservation Durham members, $17 for Preservation Durham senior members, and $25 for the public. You can make your reservations with your credit card by calling (919)-682-3036 or by email.
February 17, 2010: "Off To War - The 113th Field Artillery Unit" - This unit played an important part in the United States' participation during World War I. Sponsorships available.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR LIVING HISTORY DAY - The Alliance for Historic Hillsborough will hold its annual Revolutionary War Living History Day on Saturday, February 20th from 10am - 4pm on the grounds of the Alexander Dickson House, 150 E. King St. The event is free and open to the public. In lieu, of our monthly 2nd Saturday Walking Tour, a Revolutionary War Guided Walking Tour will be held at 11am and 2pm in conjunction with Revolutionary War Living History Day. Cost of the 90-minute guided walking tour is $5 for adults and $2 for children ages 5-15. For more information please call 732-7741 or visit www.historichillsborough.org

WAKE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - Tuesday, February 23, 2010 - 7:00 p.m. - Olivia Raney Local History Library, 4016 Carya Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610. The program is TBA

STATE CAPITOL - *February 27.* African American Read-In. Local authors, community leaders, and students read from works by their favorite African American writers at the Capitol for the 21st annual National African American Read-In. Fiction and non-fiction for children, teens, and adults will be featured in an afternoon of great works. Presented with Wake County's Richard B. Harrison Library. Noon- 4 p.m.

BENNETT PLACE - *February 27-28.* "TAR HEELS: Soldiers of the Old North State." Living History participants will demonstrate life of the Southern soldiers who served the Old North State during the American Civil War. Visit with Confederate soldiers as they discuss and exhibit the uniforms and equipment of North Carolina troops. Soldiers will be encamped around the Bennett farm throughout the weekend. Admission is FREE and donations graciously accepted. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday.

CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION - *Colored Confederates and United States Colored Troops* - Sunday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m. Multipurpose Room, Central Carolina Community College, Pittsboro Campus. You are invited to hear Earl Ijames, a curator at the NC Museum of History, speak on the participation of African-Americans in the Civil War. Mr. Ijames

welcomes questions about his topic as well as questions about the preservation of history and artifacts. His mission is putting history in the hands of the public. Free and open to the public

ALAMANCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of each month except June, July and August, at 7:00 p.m., at the Western Steak House, 142 N. Graham-Hopedale Road Burlington, NC 27215, 336-227-1448. The 8 March program will be Shared Research (Group Project).

2ND SATURDAY WALKING TOUR OF HILLSBOROUGH - Saturday, March 13th, 10am and 2pm. Come to the Alexander Dickson House, 150 E. King St., Hillsborough. Explore Hillsborough's history on a 90-minute guided walking tour through its historic district. $5, More Information at 732-7741 or www.historichillsborough.org.

2010 CHARLES BASCOMBE SHAW MEMORIAL SCOTTISH HERITAGE SYMPOSIUM – March 19 – 21, 2010. St. Andrews Presbyterian College is pleased to sponsor and host this event. The College's annual Scottish Heritage Awards Banquet is always a featured part of the event. This prestigious event features the presentation of two awards:

- The **Scottish Heritage Center Service Award** is given to a person who has made outstanding contributions to the preservation and perpetuation of Scottish history, culture, or traditions.
- The **Flora Macdonald Award** is given to a woman of Scottish descent who has made an outstanding contribution to the human community.

A printable brochure for information and registration can be found at http://www.sapc.edu/shc/images/2010SHBrochure.pdf

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HUMOR

Bill and Sam, two elderly friends, met in the park every day to feed the pigeons, watch the squirrels and discuss world problems.

One day Bill didn't show up. Sam didn't think much about it and figured maybe he had a cold or something. But after Bill hadn't shown up for a week or so, Sam really got worried. However, since the only time they ever got together was at the park, Sam didn't know where Bill lived, so he was unable to find out what had happened to him.

A month had passed, and Sam figured he had seen the last of Bill, but one day, Sam approached the park and -- lo and behold! --there sat Bill! Sam was very excited and happy to see him and told him so. Then he said, 'For crying out loud Bill, what in the world happened to you?'

Bill replied, “I have been in jail.”

“Jail”' cried Sam.”'What in the world for?”

“Well,” Bill said, “You know Mary, that cute little blonde waitress at the coffee shop where I sometimes go?”

“Yeah,” said Sam, “I remember her. What about her?”

“Well, one day she filed rape charges against me; and, at 89 years old, I was so proud that when I got into court, I pled 'guilty'. The darn judge gave me 30 days for perjury!”

PARTING THOUGHT

There is no king who has not had a slave among his ancestors, and no slave who has not had a king among his.

-Helen Keller

If you have any items of interest that you would like to submit for future publication, please contact Richard Ellington at mailto:richard_ellington@unc.edu or 919.967.4168