D-OGS Newsletter – July 2012

News & Articles of Interest to Durham-Orange genealogists

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2012 dues – $20
President – Fred Mowry

D-OGS MEETING FOR JULY 2012

There will be NO D-OGS meeting in July. July 4 falls on our standard meeting night.

MINUTES FROM D-OGS MEETING ON 6 JUNE 2012

D-OGS Meeting, 6 June 2012

Location: Christ Church Meeting Offices, Chapel Hill, NC
Speaker: David Southern
Topic: "Using maps for genealogical research and the 1887 Southgate map of Durham."
Meeting Minutes taken by Ginger R. Smith, D-OGS Secretary

David started by asking a couple of questions after ensuring everyone had a handout. The D-OGS President, Fred Mowry, can forward the handout to anyone who did not get it if you email him.

David Southern first ran into the the Southgate map at the library a few years ago. He postulates that it probably got its name because of the ad at the top that says "Southgate and Son Agents."

Duke University started in Randolph County as Brown University, then Normal College, then Trinity University. The town of Trinity grew up around this University.

Lemuel Johnson grew up there as well. His mother was of the Leech family. Lemuel was the 2nd graduate of Normal College. He was also a surveyor of Randolph, Davidson, and Durham counties. He talks in one letter about surveying Guilford County but David has not found any evidence of this yet.

Only two copies of the map exist in the Duke Rubenstein Rare Books and Manuscript Library (accessible on the Digital Durham website) and at the UNC Wilson Library (and online in the North Carolina Maps collection – Link to Map of Durham County, NC, aka Southgate Map) – see handouts for the links:
UNC:
http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ncmaps&CISOPTR=531&CISOBOX=1&REC=3
Digital Durham (Duke): http://digitaldurham.duke.edu/hueism.php?x=map&id=509

In 1868 reconstruction required government no longer controlled by local courts and one that was transformed into a township-based model. So these maps were instrumental in helping people pay their taxes. The Durham map was the only one that has advertisements. Some of the ads include:
The Tobacco Plant – weekly journal
Southgate and Sons – used to be the oldest surviving business in Durham

Most of the engravings on the front page of the map were tied to Julian S. Carr

The towns of Oak Grove and Cedar Fork were from Wake Co. The interesting thing is that most of the churches have remained unmoved. And most of the names of locations are classic names and have not changed.

Lemuel Johnson's house still stands in the town of Trinity.

David believes that Johnson probably created his maps from the metes and bounds surveys already recorded in the county courthouses and by interviewing the neighbors; he probably didn't actually go out and measure anything.

Johnson's letters and papers are in the Rubenstein library at Duke in the Southgate or Kilgo collections. Keep your eyes out for letters from Carr to Johnson when Carr was trying to convince him to come to Durham to survey.

David then opened it up to questions:

Fred asked about some of the names on the map. Fran said her family is the Tilleys from Flat River and Bowlings from the Mangum Tp. Latta is a big name in Lebanon Tp. Ann asked if they are related to ones in Mecklenburg Co? David said he wondered about that.

Stewart asked where did the township names come from: Oak grove for the Church, Mangum for the family, Walley Mangum;

Fred asked where was Patterson Mill? – David said there were 2 where two Chapel Hill Rds crossed the creek. 2nd one is Next to Githens School. Patterson Place was named for the guy who built that one. Both eventually belonged to Asa Pickett.

<u>Business Meeting:</u>

Fred Mowry (President): The treasurer's report from last month's meeting minutes should have said March 1st-31st and needs to be changed. (newsletter/secretary report)

Fred Mowry (President): Treasury Report:
Beginning balance 4/30/2012: $4699.21
Spent $49.45, deposits $427.80 mostly from dues; we have a lot of money in our account because we haven't been publishing journals and because we have been meeting at this church location and not the historic sites. Ending balance 5/31/2012: $5077.56

Ginger Smith (Webmaster): Website: no updates

Peg (Membership): 156 members, 1 new from AR - Anita Murrell, 8 new members this year. But we have lost a few

Fred Mowry (President): Queries:
1st: Read the Miles query for Orange Co wanted to know where someone might be buried from 1750s or 60s. Stewart suggested cemetery surveys online; Shirley Mallard might have death

notices from Orange Counties (Fran), books in Durham, Olivia Raney & State Library, and Orange Co libraries; check catalog online
2nd: Diane Conrad: Ralph L Barton, b. Orange Co 1806; md Sarah Angeline Johnson in Guilford 1836. Members suggested she look at Jean Anderson's Federal direct tax of 1815, from the NC Genealogical journal. A tax to pay for war of 1812. Has a list of names. Can be found at the Durham Library. If you are a member of the NCGS, they will do 1 or 2 lookups a year.
3rd: Kenneth Morris: Morris family of Durham in the 9th ward. Walter Wiley Bo Morris….Lynn Richardson of Durham County Public Library says it's the wrong Durham, probably New Hampshire or England. There is no grocery store or Ward system. MJ Hall says maybe it's Morrisville and Ernie Dollar is becoming an expert on Morris/Morrisville.

Fred Mowry (President): Meeting Announcements:
No meeting in July. Next meeting is August 1st at the Christ United Methodist Church Offices. It is the D-OGS Road Show, aka "Show and Tell."

Other Announcements:
Lynn Richardson (Durham Public Library, member): Sunday N. Regional branch on Milton Rd. – concert by the Doc Branch Band, 3-3:30pm conversation with the band followed by concert; in the building; no charge.
Lynn Richardson (Durham Public Library, member): Says a local guy in library said he wished D-OGS would scan their bibles and post online; The State has a project, but not much from Durham or Orange.

Karen Vance (member): she brought some magazines for sale and some freebies for us to go through.

Fred Mowry (President): Newsletter highlights: see the newsletter for details on upcoming events.

REPORT ON D-OGS AT THE PARKWOOD FLEA MARKET

As a publicity hound and for a fund raiser, D-OGS sponsored genealogy tables at the May 5 Parkwood Flea Market (Durham). Offered for sale at reduced rates were books of interest to genealogists, journals, old magazines, handouts, supplies, etc. This time Charlotte Hyer, M.J. Hall, Rob and Cathy Elias provided welcome additions to our inventory (THANKS!). This was our second time participating in this southern Durham community's semi-annual flea market-- a great opportunity to make our presence known in the area. Our profit this time was almost $40, but our visibility score was closer to 100! We chatted up a lot of folks who stopped by: pre-novices, beginners, post-amateur stage genealogy researchers and interested homeschoolers. We learned a few tips and passed on information. D-OGS members: Keep the next flea market, October 6, in mind for donations and as an outreach volunteer.

1940 CENSUS UPDATE FROM MEMBER MELANIE CRAIN

I have been one of thousands indexing the 1940 census through the Mormon Church. That indexing is more than half done now, the efforts of 125,000 indexers. States still less than 50 percent done are Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina. On June 8th, North Carolina was 22 percent indexed.

STATE LIBRARY AND STATE ARCHIVES WIN NATIONAL DIGITAL STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE INNOVATION AWARD

(From the Government and Heritage Library Blog for the State Library of North Carolina)

We're so pleased to announce that the State Library of North Carolina and the State Archives of North Carolina have together won a National Digital Stewardship Alliance Innovation Award for our digital preservation outreach efforts.

The National Digital Stewardship Alliance, or NDSA, with members from all types of institutions around the country, works to "establish, maintain, and advance the capacity to preserve our nation's digital resources for the benefit of present and future generations." The Innovation Awards "highlight and commend creative individuals, projects, organizations, and future stewards demonstrating originality and excellence in their contributions to the field of digital preservation." We won the institution category!

The Library and Archives have an established history of partnering to steward state government information according to digital preservation best practices, of advising state employees on preserving their digital information, and of working in the national arena by participating in and leading national initiatives. Our outreach efforts include the digitalpreservation.ncdcr.gov website, our tutorials available via Youtube, our digpres411 twitter account, and Social Media Guidelines for state and local government. We also do a lot of behind-the-scenes work to make sure that digital records of North Carolina government are preserved for future generations.

We're honored to receive this award along with our colleagues-in-action at the Archives, and we will be bringing North Carolina EVEN MORE digital preservation innovation in the future.

TURN A GENEALOGY GUESS INTO A WORKING THEORY

Davida asked Olive Tree Genealogy an interesting question and one that I think is asked by many newcomers to genealogy. Here's her question:

In the 1870 census, I found 14 males with the name Blake in St Peters, Beaufort, SC. My question is could it be that these males were related. I realize that it's kind of hard to tell just from census records but being that there are such few of them, I thought that maybe the older men were possibly brothers who had sons and those sons had sons.
Davida - you've come up with a good guess for those fourteen Blake males. They could indeed be related. But it's only a **guess**. You have no **evidence** to support your guess. And there are **other possibilities:**

* The older men could be cousins.
* The men could be from unrelated Blake families.
* They could be related but much further back than brothers or first cousins.

LIST THE POSSIBILITIES

Adding your guess to the mix we see that we have four good possibilities. So let's simplify it.

1. the men are related in some way or
2. the men are not related

FIND THE EVIDENCE

Your job as a genealogist is to find evidence that supports your guess (older men are brothers) or disproves it.

You can start by listing the family groups you know from the 1870 census. Then search 1860 and 1850 census records to see if you can fit more of the men into proven families.

Look for other records that will help you straighten out those Blake males. Church records for baptisms, marriages or deaths. Obituaries in newspapers. These are only a few of the record sources you should try next.

NEVER ASSUME

The most important piece of advice I can give is to NOT make assumptions! Create working theories if you like, such as your guess that the older men could be brothers. That can be your working theory. But don't assume it's correct. Work to prove or disprove it. If it turns out to be correct, pat yourself on the back and continue on. If it turns out to be wrong, form a new working theory and go from there.

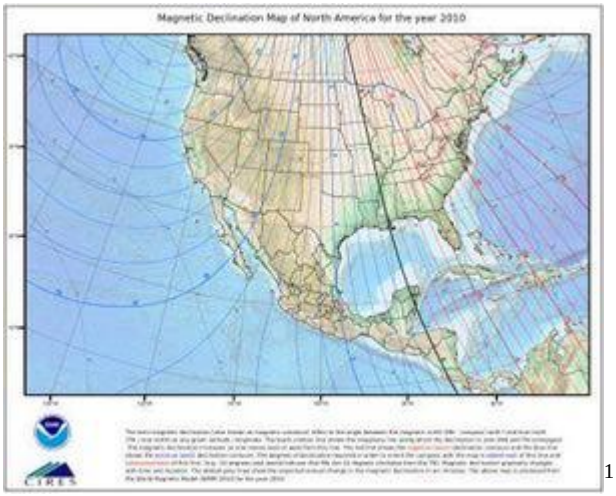
It's okay to guess. It's okay to form a theory. But after you've formulated a guess or theory, you have to look for evidence that supports it. Because good Genealogy is based on facts and evidence, not guesses or unproven theories.

(Reprinted from Olive Tree Genealogy Blog – 21 May 2012)

LAND PLATTING: MAGNETIC DECLINATION & WHY IT MATTERS

Old land surveys are often hard to fit on a modern map due to a phenomenon known as **magnetic declination**--the difference between true north (the axis around which the earth rotates) which is used for maps, and magnetic north (the place the needle on a compass points) used by land surveyors. To put it another way, the complex shape of the Earth's magnetic field means that there are few places where a compass needle will point directly north. Yes, you can still use the

compass to navigate to the North Magnetic Pole, but your journey will not follow the most direct path as seen on this magnetic declination map of North America for 2010.[1.]



[1]

Only along *agonic*, or zero declination, lines are true north and magnetic north the same. One zero declination line runs fairly directly through North and South America, generally through the Mississippi Valley states in the United States. There's also an agonic line looping through Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, Greece, India, China and Australia. As you move east of the declination line, the compass needle points west of true north, with a westerly (*negative*) declination. West of the line, the compass needle demonstrates an easterly (*positive*) declination. In Seattle, Washington, the declination is currently around 20° East (+20°), while the Canadian Maritimes are roughly at 20° West (-20°). As you approach the poles, declination can be 90° or more, rendering the compass fairly useless as a navigational aid.

The angle between magnetic north and true north, or the direction to the north geographic pole, has been adjusted for by surveyors going back to at least the seventeenth century. Does this mean the plats from that point forward are truly accurate? I sure wouldn't bet on it. Magnetic declination wasn't always calculated correctly, as in the case of the 1742 survey of Massachusetts' northern boundary. Nineteenth-century surveyor, Samuel Williams, calculated this mistake meant the "loss of 59,873 acres to New Hampshire, and of 133,897 acres to Vermont," which would have meant those people now living in Williamstown and North Adams, Massachusetts, should actually be Vermonters.[2.] There were plenty of other reasons error could creep in as well. Rough terrain meant surveyors had few sight lines and plenty of hazards they had to climb over or work around (the wooded *swamps* described in many of my eastern N.C. ancestors' deeds come to mind). Poor equipment and the presence of iron ore, which interferes with the Earth's magnetic field, were blamed for a mistake in the border between Tennessee and Georgia which survives to this day.[3.]

While we may not be able to determine all of the reasons that our ancestors' land surveys may be inaccurate, we can take the time when platting to adjust for what is known as **declination error**. Important for genealogists, **magnetic declination not only changes with geographic location, but also over time**. Because of this, knowing what declination value the surveyor was likely using at the time the land was surveyed allows us to rotate our final plat by the appropriate number of degrees to place it accurately (at least somewhat) on a modern map. The National Geophysical Data Center offers a handy U.S. Historic Magnetic Declination calculator[2] for just this purpose. For

locations on or near the zero declination line (which, keep in mind, has changed over time), this isn't a huge issue. But it is about being as accurate as we possibly can in our representations of our family history.

Sources:

1. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, *Magnetic Declination Map of North America for the year 2010*[3]; digital image, *National Geophysical Data Center* (http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/img/DeclinationMap_US.png : accessed 5 June 2012).

2. Samuel Williams, *The Natural and Civil History of Vermont*[4], Volume 1 (Burlington : Samuel Mills, 1809), 22; digital images, *Internet Archive* (http://www.archives.org : accessed 5 Jun 2012).

3. Bill Carey, "Sure enough, Georgia-Tennessee border in the wrong place[5]," *Tennessee Magazine*, December 2010, 8-9; online reprint, *TN History for Kids* (http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org/tennessee_magazine/geography : accessed 5 June 2012).

(Reprinted from About.com, blog, 5 June 2012)

QUICK-TIP OF THE MONTH FOR PRESERVATION--IDEAS FOR STORING THOSE OLD FAMILY GARMENTS

Some families have heirlooms, ancestors' military and other uniforms, and special occasion items such as wedding dresses and ancestral quilts that need appropriate attention to ensure their longevity. The Minnesota History Center has a very informative website offering tips on how to display, store, and clean clothing and textiles. <www.mnhs.org/people/mngg/stories/textiles.htm> There are many other worthwhile websites that can help address nearly any preservation need involving clothing and other material items, including a video entitled, "Preserving Our Clothing and Textile Heritage" by Dr. Michael Marendy. At a run time of two minutes and thirty-five seconds, it's a quick watch. <www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIGPPWdgZtw>

GENEALOGICAL GLOSSARY

EPONYM - a family, group or dynastic name or identification create from the name of an ancestor.

ESCHEAT - a reversion of property to the state in consequence of a want of any individual competent to inherit. Escheat at feudal law was the right of the lord of a fee to re-enter upon the same when it became vacant by the extinction of the blood of the tenant. This extinction might either be *per defectum sanguinis* or else *per delictum tenetis*, where the course of descent was broken by the corruption of the blood of the tenant. As a fee might be held either of the crown or from some inferior lord, the escheat was not always to the crown. The word "escheat" in the U.S. merely indicates the preferable right of the state to an estate left vacant, and without there being any one in existence able to make claim thereto.

ESQUIRE –

1. A member of the English gentry who ranks just below a knight.
2. It also refers to a candidate for knighthood who serves as an attendant to a knight, and carries his arms, as opposed to an armiger, who is entitled to wear his own arms.
3. Someone who holds an office from the crown such as a Justice of the Peace, a sheriff, or a judge.
4. An attorney who has graduated from law school and passed the bar.(modern use)
5. Landed proprietor, or landed gentry. Often shortened to "Squire"
6. An obscure usage: When a son is named after his father, he is called I, II, III, etc. (ie: William M. Radford, VI). When the first born mail heir of that lineage is given a different name, he is given the title "esquire".

ESTATE - the whole of one's possessions; especially all the property left by a deceased person, although the term may be used for a living person as well

ETHNARCH - ruler of a people, rather than a territory. Term was applied by the Romans to Archeleus III of Judæa, for his inheritance from his father Herod the great

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WEBSITES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

MOCAVO, GENEALOGY SEARCH ENGINE - Have you ever been frustrated by the dearth (or for that matter the unimaginable plethora) of hits you get when you use Google or Yahoo to search for your ancestors? If so, maybe you should consider Mocavo, the self-described genealogy search engine. Carolyn Barkley has written a review and analysis of Mocavo in this week's posting on our blog, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com. It's free!

(Reprinted from Genealogical Pointers newsletter)

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SCGS WORKSHOP - 13–14 July 2012—The **South Carolina Genealogical Society**'s Fortieth Annual Summer Workshop will be held at the South Carolina Archives and History Center in Columbia, South Carolina. For more information, please visit http://www.scgen.org.

DUKE HOMESTEAD - Pork, Pickles, and Peanuts: Tastes of North Carolina - Saturday July 14, 2012 from 10:00am to 4:00pm - Food and art are the themes of the day! This festival will include a barbecue cook-off and a juried pie competition. Throughout the day, visitors can enjoy historic cooking demonstrations as well as art and craft vendors. Free!

ALAMANCE BATTLEGROUND - July 14: *Arts and Crafts at the Battleground* - Saturday 10am - 4pm. The past joins the present, as artisans and craftsmen display and sell their creations during our July "Second Saturdays" event. Great gift ideas! Hamburgers and hot dogs will be available for purchase. Enjoy special music. Admission is free, and open to the public. Donations are appreciated.

BENNETT PLACE - **July 14: *Textiles and Tarheels* -** Saturday 10am - 4pm - Join us for another "Second Saturdays" program, as we share the history of the textile industry in North Carolina. Living historians will demonstrate the carding of wool, sewing, cooking over the open hearth, gardening, and other 19th century living history demonstrations. Admission is free.

HISTORIC STAGVILLE - **Jubilee Music Festival -** Saturday July 14, 2012 from 11:00am to 4:00pm. A celebration of African American influences on music including traditional West African drumming, bluegrass, and blues. Also enjoy crafts, games, and food.

MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL 2012 ANNUAL MEETING & SEMINAR ~ Ethnicity & Genealogy ~ Saturday, July 21, 2012 at the Hassenfeld Conference Center, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. The featured speaker is Loretto "Lou" Szucs, Executive Editor & VP of Community Relations - Ancestry.com

Registration is OPEN! http://bit.ly/MGC2012Seminar

6 Jam-Packed Tracks on Ethnic-Specific Topics, Including Two Advanced Level Workshops

MGC Membership Has Its Privileges
Register before July 1st:
* Members $60.00
* Non-members $75.00

* Two advanced level workshops
+ $20.00 each

Late Registration & Walk-ins
* $85.00 Regardless of membership status

REGISTER NOW! http://bit.ly/MGC2012Seminar

The MGC 2012 Annual Meeting & Seminar offers 20 carefully curated programs and 2 workshops to help you stay at the forefront of your ethnic genealogical and historical research - http://bit.ly/MGC2012Programs

See the full schedule, speaker bios and more at: http://bit.ly/MGC2012Seminar

Three Presentations:

- **They Became Americans: Finding Naturalizations and Ethnic Origins** - Critical clues may be found in a naturalization record, a photograph, in an archive or even in someone's attic. This presentation focuses on some fascinating sources for finding more precise information on your ancestors' origins.
- **Hidden Treasures at Ancestry.com** - An informative look at one of the most popular online collections of genealogical-related data in the world. Lou will illustrate how to use Ancestry.com to dig up those hidden treasures that make us say "Wow!"
- (Luncheon Event) **Mysteries, Myths and Miracles** - Lou recalls some special moments while performing genealogical research.

DUKE HOMESTEAD – Lecture - **Slaves and Soldiers** – July 28, 2012 from 2:00-4:00pm - 2012 marks the second in a five-year commemoration of the American Civil War (1861-1865). Join us for a lecture on slaves and soldiers! Free.

HISTORIC STAGVILLE - **Children's Author: Kellly Starling Lyons -** Saturday August 11, 2012 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Explore the history of weddings for the African American community through a recent publication, ***Ellen's Broom***.

FAMILY HISTORY FAIR - 11 August 2012—The **Government and Heritage Library,** in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources' Second Saturday Program, will be holding their first Family History Fair from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Department of Cultural Resources Building, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh. The day will include speakers presenting on various genealogy topics, a vendor fair, and activities for all ages in the lobby of the building.

BENNETT PLACE - Aug 11: *Authors of North Carolina*- Saturday 10am - 4pm - Please join us for our final "Second Saturdays" program of the season, as we welcome a select group of authors to speak about the history, culture, lifestyles, and foods of North Carolina. Admission is free, and open to the public.

HUMOR

An old man goes to a wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse which he has been living with for the last 40 years.

The Wizard says, "Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you."

The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."

PARTING THOUGHT

Failure is the path of least persistence.

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