

D-OGS Newsletter – March 2018

News & Articles of Interest to Durham-Orange genealogists

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2018 dues – \$20

2018 President – David McCorkle

D-OGS MEETING FOR MARCH 2018

There will be no meeting in March. We hope to have a meeting & program in April. A volunteer is needed to take up the duties of Vice-President/Program Chair. At the present, this Board position is still vacant. The D-OGS Officers and the Board of Directors have been filling in for this vacancy for quite some time. We cannot continue to do this forever. If we are to have a dependable monthly program, someone to direct the planning of monthly programs is sorely needed.

NORTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WEBINAR COMING UP

The North Carolina Genealogical Society is delighted to present: **Ari Wilkins** - "*Black and White Southern Families in Antebellum Plantation Records*" - A LIVE webinar on 7 March 2018, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm EST

This live webinar is available to NCGS members only. You must be logged in to access registration.

The **handout** for this presentation will be posted on the NCGS website at least one week prior to the webinar. On the top menu, under Education & Events, select "Webinars" to go to the main webinars page. The box at the top right of that page has a link to "Member Webinar Handouts", which is arranged in alphabetical order.

About the Webinar:

The Southern Antebellum Plantation Records are an invaluable resource to Southern and African American researchers. This extensive collection encompasses business and personal papers from numerous slaveholding families of the South. For white Southern families, the collection can uncover decades of genealogical history along with details such as the dynamics of personal relationships, communication, and the entanglements of associated families. For African American research, these records can potentially list enslaved persons by name and include other significant information such as family relationships, dates of birth and death, and bills of sale.

This presentation will demonstrate the breadth of the collection, how to navigate and apply the records to personal research.

About the Speaker:

Ari Wilkins, a graduate of Louisiana State University, has been actively researching family history since 1998. Ari worked with the esteemed genealogist, Dr. James Rose, for many years on his final project Generations: The WPA Ex-Slave Narrative Database. She is the owner of the genealogical consulting company, Black Genesis. Ms. Wilkins also works as a contributor for Proquest's African American Heritage database.

Ms. Wilkins has spoken nationally at the National Genealogical Society, Federation of Genealogical Societies, Texas State Genealogical Society, Ohio Genealogical Society, Samford Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research, American Library Association, and a multitude of local societies.

Ari has been a Library Associate at Dallas Public Library since 2007. She teaches a series of basic research classes using popular genealogical websites. She specializes in African American research.

To register for the live webinar, look under Upcoming Events on the NCGS home page. You will need to log in as a member in order to register.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

This event is sponsored through GoToWebinar, and will be viewable via the link sent to you after registration. It will not be on the NCGS web site. After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar. If you use an email program that uses Sender Lists to allow receipt of email, especially Earthlink or Mindspring, you may need to add @ncgenealogy.org to your list of “approved senders” to receive email from NCGS. Remember to include the @ in front of ncgenealogy!

Webinar Viewing Options

- Live webinars, the post-webinar Q&A sessions, and the accompanying handouts are free for NCGS members.
- Recordings of the webinars are available to members within a few weeks of the live session.
- A public replay of the webinar will occur on a future date that will be published on the website and in the *NCGS News*.

NOTE FROM THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

(I saw this note on Mark Chilton’s Facebook page and thought it worth sharing)

“In the past four years, the Orange County Register of Deeds Office has 1) added passport services, 2) created an index of slave records in our books, 3) created an enhanced index of our deed books from 1752 to 1850 and 4) streamlined our indexing process. We are about a month from selecting a new company to provide our software and website, and we will soon thereafter have digital images of every page of every deed book available online. And there's so much more to come!”

Mark, keep up the good work!

A PERSONAL LIBRARY WITHOUT BOOKS

The subject of printed books and electronic books (or e-books) has been featured in numerous past articles in this newsletter. Therefore, I was interested today to see an online Associated Press article and video at <https://yhoo.it/2C9Pg9d> about numerous universities that are purging many printed books from their shelves. In many cases, the libraries simply don’t have the room for all the old books, and the idea of expanding libraries is subject to budget constraints. If they want to purchase new books, even printed publications, the libraries have to free up shelf space. Also, according to one 2009 study of libraries, between staffing, utility costs, and other expenses, it costs about \$4 to keep a book on the shelf for a year.

[Click here to see a video about universities purging dusty volumes](#)

In one example at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, (yes, there really is an Indiana University of Pennsylvania, see <https://www.iup.edu/> for details), nearly half of the university’s collection remained uncirculated for 20 years or more. Unused books obviously do no one any good.

Of course, an increasing number of books exist in the cloud where publishing costs, shipping costs, and storage costs are only a fraction of the expense of printed books. In addition, most students and even many older library users prefer the convenience of [Wikipedia](#), [Archive.org](#), [Google Books](#), and other free sources of information along with paid services, such as [Kindle](#).

Of course, genealogists are a part of this trend. The specialized genealogy libraries that many of us have used for years suffer from the same budget constraints as other libraries. They probably also have the problem of books that are not accessed for years at a time. Today, there are more genealogy books available through your home computer than at any genealogy library. Just ask the folks at [FamilySearch](#), an organization that has downsized their printed book collection in favor of making the same books and other publications available online whenever copyright laws allow.

Libraries aren't the only ones facing these decisions. Individuals face the same issues. For instance, my iPad now contains more than 150 e-books, including numerous genealogy books, old county histories, and more. I carry all of them with me almost every time I travel. Try to do that with printed books! In addition, most of the e-books are easier to search than are the printed books. I can find any word or phrase in an e-book within seconds with the exception of a few of the books printed electronically in PDF format. For those few books, I have to search the old-fashioned way, one page at a time, the same as in a printed book.

I admit I love the feel and the smell of old and even new printed books. However, when purchasing a book, the funds available in my wallet usually dictate my choice. The cost of purchasing a printed book, shipping, buying yet another bookshelf (and finding a place for it in my home!), usually swings my decision in the opposite direction. Sometimes we don't have a choice; but, if a choice is available, I usually will select the ebook version of a book I want to read.

Which do you prefer?

NOTE: The idea for this article was triggered this morning when I purchased a new book from Amazon. I had to make a choice between paperback or Kindle. The Kindle version was much cheaper, requires no additional storage space, and was delivered (electronically) to my iPad seconds later with no shipping charge. The choice was obvious to me.

(Reprinted from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogical Newsletter)

GENEALOGY TIPS OF THE MONTH FROM MICHAEL JOHN NEILL

Did the Women Change Their Name at Marriage—or Not?

In some cultures and societies, women will be listed with their new last name (their husband's last name) in records created after their marriage. In others, women are almost always listed with their original surname—even after their marriage. Records in Sweden, Belgium, and other parts of Europe frequently list women with the surname they had at birth, even after their marriage. Find out what the practice was in your specific areas of research before making conclusions.

It is always wise to remember that cultural practices and record-keeping norms can vary from one ethnic region to another.

Evidence of Existence?

There are times where showing someone existed in a certain place at a certain point in time can be a big clue. And the most mundane record can show that. I've been using directories of animal breeders recently in my research since most of my ancestors were farmers. Those items don't provide "huge" discoveries. But they do show a person was in a specific location at a specific time.

And at least that means they weren't dead when the material was compiled.

Sometimes that's a big clue.

And if nothing else, at least I know the breed of livestock they raised, which means I can choose the right "stock" images to use as illustrations.

Clues in the Corners

Always make certain you look at the entire document, even the edges. There may be small or faint words lurking in the corners that could be significant pieces of information.

Tell Your Own Story

Don't neglect to tell your own story in addition to those you discover on your ancestors. After all, most of us would love to have something our long-deceased relative had written about themselves. Be certain to include what you remember about relatives you knew growing up as well.

And who knows, when writing your own stories down, you may get some insight into that ancestor who has you stuck.

Any Record Can Be Wrong

A first cousin of my grandmother died in the early 1980s, an only child who left no descendants. His only heirs were first cousins-children of siblings of his mother and his father. In reviewing the estate papers some thirty years later, I realized that the family of his mother's only half-sibling had not been included. The half-sibling was deceased, never kept in contact with her family, and only living child at the time lived half a continent away. The estate was not a large one either and was overseen by a relative from the father's family who was probably unaware the long-deceased mother had a half-sister.

Court records can provide an incomplete family structure, especially if the estate is relatively small, the family is somewhat estranged, and someone unfamiliar with the entire family is an administrator.

WEBSITES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

ORANGE COUNTY, NC, SLAVE RECORDS - <https://ocncslaverecords.blogspot.com/>

What follows is an index by name of over 4,000 enslaved people who are mentioned in the old Deed Books of Orange County, North Carolina. This index was compiled through the hard work of three interns, Rae Hoyle and Merisa Tomczak from UNC-Chapel Hill and Khadija McNair of NCCU. This effort was coordinated by Deputy Register of Deeds James Bartow and edited by Mark Chilton, the Register of Deeds of Orange County.

We hope to be able to further edit this index, but are publishing it now in order to make the information available as soon as possible. There are undoubtedly some typographical errors and/or errors in reading the old hand-written documents from which this index was compiled. Please email mchilton@orangecountync.gov with any corrections you may notice.

All of the original documents cited below are available online in digital format at the following website:

www.CourthouseComputerSystems.com/orangenc/

BOOKS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

ANNOUNCING THE BOOK OF DEW, A NEW FAMILY PUBLICATION

BOOK of DEW, The DEW surname in the United States, by Allen P. Dew

Available in Perfect Bound Paperback

Volumes One and Two - 678 pages each with index to all names. Discounted Price: \$37.36 each volume + tax & shipping

IMPORTANT: Both Volume One & Volume Two are required for the complete **BOOK of DEW**. Over 42 years of research into the surname **DEW**, and spelling variations **DEW**, **DUE**, **DEWES**, **DEWS**, in the United States. Started in 1975, this research attempts to document the relationships among all the ancestors and descendants of the **DEW** surname from all parts of this country.

Unlimited quantities available!

Order your copy now!

Visit Allen's Spotlight web site to see all the details for the two volume publication, where you may place your orders. Delivery is about 2 weeks after you order.

<http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/allendew>

The book is available today for order from the Lulu Publisher at a discounted price.

Starting about the first of April 2018, the book will be available for order from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Ingram Book Distribution and other book sellers.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - March also marks the beginning of tour season in Hillsborough. [Alliance for Historic Hillsborough](#) begins their weekly tours on March 3rd. Take a stroll and learn about the history of one of North Carolina's most interesting towns with the [Hillsborough History Tours](#) every Saturday at 11:00 March also marks the beginning of tour season in Hillsborough. [Alliance for Historic Hillsborough](#) begins their weekly tours on March 3rd. Take a stroll and learn about the history of one of North Carolina's most interesting towns with the [Hillsborough History Tours](#) every Saturday at 11:00

EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGY

PROGRAM - For more information about the upcoming courses, contact: Monika Fleming, (252) 823-5166, ext. 241, flemingm@edgecombe.edu or visit <https://www.edgecombe.edu/programs/business-industry-and-technologies/historic-preservation-technology/> or <http://www.facebook.com/HPTatECC>

3/3, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Genealogy Web Sites – Advanced Genealogy series - This is a half-day course about numerous free web-sites to expand genealogical research along with a few of the fee sites. Fee \$25

135TH USCT LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND - Fri., Apr. 6 - Sun., Apr. 8 - 139 S. Center Street, Goldsboro NC 27530 - A lost piece of Civil War history has been found and highlights the existence of a forgotten U.S. Colored Troop (USCT) based in NC - 135th USCT. The 135th USCT was enlisted March 27, 1865 into the army of General William T. Sherman and was comprised of men from Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina.

Research at the National Archives revealed information about the men and also found were their writings describing experiences in the Army, wives and children. This led to the discovery of their descendants, people who didn't know they had relatives who were members of the 135th USCT.

To learn more, attend the Living History weekend. A pop up museum, exhibits, guest speakers, period music and encampment will be free to the public. A special banquet will be held and tickets can be purchased ahead of time. <http://135usct.org/>

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - Build Your Library - 3/8 to 3/11 - The Friends of the Orange County Public Library are holding their [semi-annual book sale](#). Pick out a good read and help fund special library programs and events. There's also a Book Drive on 3/4.

SOMERSET PLACE STATE HISTORIC SITE - March 6 - 10: "Women of Somerset Place" Tours - Tuesday - Saturday - Somerset Place is offering a special tour with a focus on the contributions women of Somerset Place made to the development, maintenance, and infrastructure of Somerset Place. The 60-minute tour will be offered at 10 a.m., 12 p.m., and 2 p.m. to commemorate Women's History throughout the week of March 6 through March 10, 2018. The guided tour will cover both free and enslaved women residents of Somerset Plantation. Tickets for these special tours are \$3 per person, and are available at the Somerset Place Visitors Center.

Orange county historical museum - Tom Magnuson talk - Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 7pm - *"Moving Into the Carolina Backcountry: Colonial Era Transportation in the Carolinas and Virginia, 1585-1785"* - Free and open to the public

This lecture describes the history of ground transportation in the southeast during Colonial times. The transition from subsistence to market economies in the southern backcountry was reflected in commercial transportation processes. The presentation will begin with Native American foot traffic (porters), move through their displacement by pack horses, and their eventual replacement by wagons. For example, frontier folk probably had horses, but not wagons; settlers had wagons. The challenges and limitations of travel in pre-modern times will be examined, increasing our understanding of the times when muscles powered transportation, and how those circumstances affected settlement in the southeast.

The OCHM's 1st Wednesday Lecture Series brings diverse and distinguished voices to the museum to discuss American history and the history of Orange County with the public.

HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY - 12 March 2018 (Monday), 6:30 to 7:45 PM - The Heritage Research Center of the [High Point Public Library](#) in the Morgan Community Room, 1st Floor High Point Public Library presents "Identity Crisis: Sorting Out Identically-Named Individuals in Your Family History" - The name is the same, but are they the same person? That is a question that all genealogists tackle regularly. What if there are several people with the exact same first and last names living in a particular neighborhood? How do I tell which one is mine? One individual with a certain name lived in County A in the 1760s. A person with the same name lived in County B in the 1780s. Is it the same person moving from one county to another, or are they two separate people? Larry Cates of the HRC will tackle this challenging issue, the problem of identity, and explain why it is important to subject theories of identity to rigorous testing before drawing any genealogical conclusions. No preregistration necessary. For further information, contact the library at (336) 883-3637.

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - One of the town's most stunning historic properties opens up its doors again in March. After their winter break, [Ayr Mount](#) will be open for public tours as of March 15th. Click here for the [schedule](#).

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - Let Your Inner Irish Out - 3/17 @ Mystery Brewing Pub. Join [Mystery Brewing](#) for their annual St Patrick's Day Celebration featuring the Nee Ningy Band. There's no cover, lot's of tasty food and beer and a whole lot of good times for all.

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - Learn About Elizabeth Keckly - 3/18 - 2:00 - This [in-depth program](#) is the second in a series offered by the Burwell School Historic Site in observance of the bicentennial of Keckly's birth. Learn about the life of a local activist, author, and former slave.

EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM - For more information about the upcoming courses, contact: Monika Fleming, (252) 823-5166, ext. 241, flemingm@edgecombe.edu or visit <https://www.edgecombe.edu/programs/business-industry-and-technologies/historic-preservation-technology/> or <http://www.facebook.com/HPTatECC>

3/24, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Understanding Census Records- Advanced Genealogy series

This is a half-day course focusing on the various census schedules - population, agriculture, slave and industry. Students will learn how to locate the records online or in libraries and how to use them for family research. Fee \$25

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - on March 24. [Moorfields](#) will host a [Historic Roads Hike](#) with noted historian Tom Magnuson.

HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH - You can also take a [History Hike](#) with an expert tour guide on the last Sunday of each month. On March 25, Join Alamance Battleground Site Manager Jeremiah DeGennaro for an in-depth look the Regulator Rebellion in Hillsborough.

DUKE HOMESTEAD STATE HISTORIC SITE - March 31: *Born at Duke Homestead - Saturday, 2 - 8 pm*

Duke Homestead is usually known as the birthplace of the future American Tobacco Company, but it was also the birthplace of three Duke children. Connect with this universal (and historical) human experience during "Born at Duke Homestead".

Special guided tours through the historic house will explore life for the women at Duke Homestead. Lead by costumed interpreters, visitors will be invited to imagine the home in 1856, the year that the youngest child James B. Duke was born.

What did a new baby mean for the people living here? What were the best medical practices at the time? What would it have been like for Artelia Roney Duke to be a pregnant woman and mother, or Caroline to be a young enslaved girl with her owner's health in her hands? Join us to explore this fascinating piece of Duke Homestead history.

Not only will visitors learn from site staff, midwives from the Durham Women's Clinic will be joining visitors to talk about how this experience has changed for women in Durham over the past 150 years.

HUMOR

His wife's graveside service was just barely finished, when there was a massive clap of thunder, followed by a tremendous bolt of lightning, accompanied by even more thunder rumbling in the distance.

The little, old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, 'Well, she's there.'

PARTING THOUGHT

I think my ancestors had several "bad heir" days.

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