

Volume 41, Number 2, March 2017

# **Family History Lives Here**

The NGS 2017 Family History Conference, which will be held in Raleigh, is just around the corner. The conference will take place from 10–13 May at the Raleigh Convention Center. Have you registered for the conference? You won't want to miss this opportunity to network with 2,000+ genealogists, choose from over 170 lectures on a wide range of genealogy related topics, listen to nationally known speakers who are experts in their field, and peruse an exhibit hall filled with



well known genealogy vendors. You can <u>register for the</u> <u>conference</u> on the NGS website. Hurry. **The early bird deadline ends on 27 March 2017**.

NCGS is proud to be the Local Host for this year's conference. We have planned several events that will take place during the conference week.

- The <u>Durham Day Tour</u>, a pre-conference event that will be held on Tuesday, 9 May, will visit historic Stagville Plantation, the Duke Homestead, and Bennett Place.
- The Wednesday night <u>Pig Pickin'</u> will be held on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds.
- Society Night, a free event for conference attendees,

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### **Volunteer Opportunities**

NCGS has many volunteer opportunities whether you live nearby in the Raleigh area or live in another state. Visit the <u>Volunteer page</u> on the NCGS website for more details.

### Save the Date

The National Genealogical Society 2017 Family History Conference, **History Lives Here**, will be held in Raleigh on 10-13 May 2017. For more information, visit the <u>NGS 2017</u> <u>Family History Conference</u> <u>volunteer page</u>.

<u>Registration</u> is now open. View the <u>conference program</u>. will be held at the North Carolina Museum of History on Thursday night.

You can register for the conference and/or for individual events on the NGS website. Simply go to the <u>conference</u> <u>registration page</u>, click on Register Now, then choose to register for the full four-day conference, for one day only, or choose "Meals and Other Events Only" if you wish to only attend a specific event or two.

Keep up with conference news and highlights by visiting the <u>NGS 2017 Conference Blog</u> and by following <u>NCGS on</u> <u>Facebook</u>.

# **Can You Help?**

Do you have an hour or two to help NCGS, the Local Host for the NGS 2017 Family History Conference in Raleigh? Volunteers are needed as early as Monday, 8 May, to stuff conference bags and Tuesday, 9 May, to assist in the registration area. More information about volunteer opportunities during the conference week, which runs through 13 May, can be found on the volunteer sign up page.

Volunteering is fun and a great way to get to know other genealogists.

# A Menagerie and a Fine February Day

The vulture stood quietly on the table while Jeff Haines and Diane Richard spoke about genealogical research methods and resources at the NCGS Spring Workshop held at the Schiele Museum of Natural History in Gastonia, and cosponsored by the Friends of the Gaston County Public Library, on 25 February 2017. A T-rex watched over our volunteers as they welcomed 78 attendees from Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Dozens of deer, elk, moose, fish, reptiles, and birds looked on, in glassy-eyed silence, from the walls of the auditorium where the lectures took place. They appeared somewhat less enthusiastic than our (human) attendees who learned how to make sense of senseless census data, strategies that help overcome brick walls caused by changing borders between North and South Carolina, what genealogical gems

### **NCGS Donations**

NCGS thanks the following individuals for their donations to the Society.

Leslie Adams Willis A. Alford Linda Duncan Robert McLaren Yvette Norsworthy Margaret Lindsey Smith

Donations to the Society are used to support its Mission. More information is available on the <u>Giving Opportunity</u> page.

# Consider a Bequest to NCGS

A bequest is one of the easiest and most meaningful ways to make a gift to the North Carolina Genealogical Society. Gifts of any size made through a bequest help ensure that the Society receives valuable ongoing support that will benefit genealogists and historical researchers far into the future.

Donors can make a bequest by simply including a provision for the Society in their wills or trusts. Donors can choose to give the Society a specific dollar amount, specific property, or a percentage of their estates. Your bequest is a gift not just to the Society but to all genealogists, historical researchers, and to your own posterity.

For more information about bequests, please contact our <u>Treasurer</u>.

#### **New Members**

NCGS welcomed 51 new members since the last issue of the *NCGS News*.

#### **NCGS Memberships**

NCGS 12-month memberships cost \$40 for individuals and

can be found in the *NCGS Journal*, and how various types of timelines can help solve genealogical problems.

A very special visitor from the 18th century appeared in the auditorium at noon to invite attendees to visit the backcountry farm located on the museum grounds. Suzanne Simmons, 18th Century Backcountry Lifeways Program Specialist, delighted the audience when she came in costume and in character to talk about the period buildings, programs, and livestock that bring this history to life. Many thanks to the Schiele Museum for providing their wonderful facilities and the assistance of their staff, which made this workshop an extra special event. Find out more about the Schiele Museum and its programs at <a href="http://www.schielemuseum.org">http://www.schielemuseum.org</a>.

We also want to thank Anne Gometz, Reference Section Supervisor, the staff, and Friends of the Gaston County Public Library for all their efforts in co-sponsoring the workshop and for providing a delicious array of beverages and snacks throughout the day.

Workshops help NCGS fulfill its educational mission, and our co-sponsoring societies benefit from increased awareness of their resources and programs. If your society is a member of NCGS and would like to find out more about co-sponsoring a workshop, please contact Laurel Sanders, NGCS Program Committee Chair, at programs@ncgenealogy.org.



NCGS Spring Workshop at the Schiele Museum of Natural History, cosponsored by the Friends of the Gaston County Public Library. left: Vickie Young, NCGS President, welcoming attendees upper right: Jeff Haines lower right: Diane L. Richard institutions, \$45 for families (same residence), and \$100 for patrons. You may join online on the <u>NCGS website</u>.

# **Officers and Directors**

**Executive Committee** President Victoria P. Young

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#### **NCGS** Journal

The North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Submit articles, comments, questions, and suggestions to <u>Diane L.</u> <u>Richard, editor</u>. Please contact <u>Cassandra Shaw, Book Review</u> <u>Editor</u>, if you have a book to review.

# **Upcoming Webinar**

# 17 March 2017 at 3:00 p.m. EDT "North Carolina Land Grants" presented by Dr. A. Bruce Pruit



Land grants in North Carolina were issued by the Virginia Governor, eight Lords Proprietor, King George II and III, the Earl of Granville, and the State. This lecture will discuss these grants that were issued between 1663 and 1960.

A link to the "North Carolina Land Grants" webinar will be available on the <u>NCGS website</u> on 17 March 2017.

Also on the NCGS website is the recording of Diane L. Richard's webinar, "<u>How a Genealogist Uses the State</u> <u>Archives of NC and the State Library of NC</u>." This webinar is free for all to view, anytime. The <u>accompanying handout</u> is also available to download. This is a must-see webinar for anyone planning to research while visiting Raleigh.

# **Our New Website is Coming Soon**

We are pleased to announce the impending "birth" of a new NCGS website that we think will greatly improve your online experience. The new website is built on the WordPress platform and features a more streamlined menu, easier access to frequently used resources, a new PDF viewer for easy-to-use document access, an improved registration system for events, and a new store that makes it easier to pay for your purchases.

You will still be able to find us at ncgenealogy.org even after the transition to the new website is completed. Keep checking back. We expect to unveil our new website before the end of the month. If you have any questions or problems with the new website, please contact us via email at webmaster@ncgenealogy.org.

Note: The NCGS News is a two-column newsletter. If you do not see the narrow right-hand column in your e-mail, please click the link ("View this email in your browser") at the top right of this newsletter.

### **NCGS News**

*NCGS News*, the newsletter of the North Carolina Genealogical Society, is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Submit articles, comments, and suggestions by the 15th of the prior month to <u>Phyllis Matthews</u> <u>Ziller, MLIS, editor</u>.



The deadline for the May 2017 issue of the *NCGS News* is Saturday, 15 April 2017.

### **NCGS Subscriptions**

The <u>NCGS electronic</u> <u>subscriptions sign-up page</u> offers several newsletters available to both members and non-members of the Society: the NCGS News newsletter, NCGS webinar notices, and notices for local society leaders. You may opt out of the subscriptions at any time.

A note regarding genealogical credentials:

The words Certified Genealogist are a registered certification mark, and the designations CG, CGL, and Certified Genealogical Lecturer are service marks of

# 2017 NCGS Awards

You can participate in the NCGS Awards Program to honor outstanding contributions to North Carolina genealogy by nominating an individual, society, or website for a 2017 NCGS



Annual Award. These awards promote continued excellence in North Carolina genealogy and also inspire others to publish abstracts and transcriptions of North Carolina county and state records, cemetery and Bible records, family histories, and society journals and newsletters and to develop informative genealogical websites.

The Awards Committee urges you to join the society in recognizing the labors of deserving individuals and societies by submitting a nomination for an award in one of several categories. This year's deadline is 15 August 2017.

More information is available on the <u>Awards page on the</u> <u>NCGS website</u>, including a <u>Nomination Form</u>. You might also want to review the <u>NCGS Awards Criteria for Judging</u>. the <u>Board for Certification of</u> <u>Genealogists</u>, used under license by board certificants after periodic evaluation, and the board name is registered in the U.S. Patent & Trademark office.

NCGS has a new mailing address: 6300 Creedmoor Road, Suite 170 #323 Raleigh, NC 27612



### by Diane L. Richard NCGS Journal Editor

Hopefully, as you read this, you've had a chance to enjoy volume 43, number 1 (February 2017) of the *North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal*. The contents include WWI Red Cross, School, Church, T&C, Insane Asylum, Ledger, Insolvent, Road Jury, Divorce, and Poorhouse records covering the 1780s through 1919, and representing McDowell, Wilkes, Franklin, Currituck, Wake, Vance, Perquimans, Onslow, Chatham, Martin, and Sampson counties. Phew!

# Gaston and Lincoln County Records

In support of the recent NCGS Spring Workshop, Putting Down Roots: Grounding Your Ancestors in Time and Place, that was held on 25 February 2017 in Gastonia, North Carolina, I acquired previously unpublished records relevant to Gaston County and its predecessor county, Lincoln. The records included ledgers, account books, church records, genealogy records, and more. Some of these records were referenced in my presentation on "NCGS Journal Gems" and other records are in the process of being abstracted/transcribed for the next edition of the *Journal*.

As future NCGS programs are scheduled, the *Journal* will look to complement such programs in the same manner, when appropriate.

<u>Continue reading this article on NCGS website</u> to find out about obtaining materials remotely from libraries, Diane's latest webinar on the NCGS website, and WWI materials request.

### Census Records before 1850 Census Records before 1850 Really Can Speak by Terry Moore, CG

On Wednesday evenings I volunteer at the Raleigh Family History Center assisting patrons with their family history research. One question I usually ask is if every census has been searched during their ancestor's lifetime, especially for those who died before the 1850 census when the names and ages of each member of the household were first recorded. A few patrons answer yes, but most assure me that the 1790–1840 census records don't tell you anything.

But those early census records can speak to us. Most importantly they reveal where a family lived and what the household looked like through the sex and age range of the members. It is true that we don't know the names of every individual, but the 1820 through 1840 censuses have nuggets of information. In 1820 we learn if the head of household was of foreign birth and not naturalized, and how many in the household were involved in agriculture, commerce, or manufacturing.

<u>Continue reading this article online</u> to learn about more about those early census records and to view several charts that will help you to narrow down the birth years of those ancestors recorded in the early census records.

View the entire <u>Tools of the Trade Library</u> on the NCGS website.

### Accessions at the NC State Archives

The North Carolina State Archives provides a bimonthly list of genealogy-related accessions that may be of interest to researchers.

- <u>March 2017 Accessions List</u> two pages of recent accessions covering eight North Carolina counties as well as Bible records and private collections
- Prior Accession Lists

### **Links of Interest**

From History For All the People, the blog of the State Archives of North Carolina: Under the supervision of Fran Tracy-Walls, Private Manuscripts Archivist at the State Archives of North Carolina, Elizabeth Crowder, with the Private Collections of the Special Collections Section of the State Archives of North Carolina, has arranged and described the <u>McCormick, Green, and Shaw Collection</u> (PC.2130). This work was made possible through generous funding bequeathed to the North Carolina Genealogical Society by the estate of the late Frances Holloway Wynne.

The North Carolina State Archives has announced through its blog, History for All the People, that a new digital collection has been unveiled entitled <u>Tax Lists and Records</u>. The bulk of the records are from the Colonial and Revolutionary War eras, but some lists date from as late as 1853.

<u>DigitalNC announces that newly digitized materials from</u> <u>Mauney Memorial Library</u>, including city directories from Kings Mountain and WWII letters from Neisler Mills, are now available on DigitalNC.

<u>This Day in North Carolina History</u>, a blog about the people and places of the Tar Heel state, day by day.

### **President's Message**

by Victoria P. Young

After more than a year and a half of planning, the countdown has finally begun towards opening day of

the National Genealogical Society's Family History Conference, Family History Lives Here, which will be held 10-13 May 2017 in Raleigh. Your board has been working tirelessly at the local level to make this event a success – and it will be, with *your* attendance and a little bit of help!



Although a few workshops and local events have already *sold out*, there are still openings for most luncheons and other social activities, like the <u>NCGS-</u> *sponsored luncheon with Helen F. M. Leary*, *Nobody's Daughter: A Spotlight on the Neighbors*, and the <u>NCGS-sponsored Pig Pickin'</u> at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, with entertainment by awardwinning Bluegrass band, The Grass Cats. Conference registration is not required to purchase tickets to either event, so invite a friend or spouse to join in the fun! And as a reminder, the Exhibit Hall is always free and open to the general public. For a listing of vendors, visit: <u>https://tinyurl.com/glbqfwu</u>

Society Night will be held on Thursday, 11 May, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the North Carolina Museum of History. This event is **free** to all attendees, who will also have an opportunity to view, at no charge, all special museum exhibits that evening. When was the last time your local society had an opportunity to meet *hundreds* of genealogists from around the country and to share with them the resources and membership benefits that your organization offers? A nominal table fee of \$25 is all that is required to reserve a spot at this unique opportunity on a first come, first served basis, with limited availability. You can reserve your space now at <u>http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/society-night-</u>

booth-purchases/

There are still a number of volunteer spots unfilled during conference week. **We need you**! As you can imagine, preparing to host as many as 2,000+ conference attendees requires the help of many individuals. The time commitment we ask of you is **minimal** and the tasks are **easy**! Will you volunteer your time for even an hour? Please sign up at <u>http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/volunteer/</u> Stay up to date with conference news by following the <u>NGS Conference Blog</u> and by visiting the <u>NCGS</u> <u>Facebook page</u>.

**Thanks in advance for volunteering** and I look forward to seeing you in May! As always, if you have any comments or questions, please contact me at president@ncgenealogy.org.

Best, Vickie

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