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# ◆ Heritage Library News ◆

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Volume IV, Issue 3

July — September 2000

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## Heritage Library Holds First Open House

By Gwen Altstaetter

Many thanks to all volunteers who participated in and made our first Open House, Sunday, August 27, such a success. Nine new members were gained as a result of this event.

Special thanks to Cheryl Echols, Betty Boyd and my husband, Bill, who provided the refreshments and to Alice Gibson who supervised the kitchen. The real success of the event goes especially to the Guides who toured our guests through the facility. Our “Knowledgeable” Guides were Bill Altstaetter, Dori Dixon, John Griffin, Sandee Hanahan, Randy Holcombe, Inas Otten, Robert Peeples, Ben Russell, Cathy Speller and Pat Smith. Many thanks to those individuals and also to the other members who supported this first time event. We need your support to continue our success and we thank you for “stepping up to the plate” when we need you most. This is our way to “*get the word out.*” When you meet new neighbors or greet friends at church talk about The Heritage Library. The more exposure we get the longer life we can expect. Word of mouth on Hilton Head Island is the best publicity we can get.

## Family Search



Don't miss  
the Heritage Library's  
Annual Holiday Gala  
December 7th  
6-8 pm  
At the  
Library!

## Updated

(The following article is from Eastman's Online Newsletter—10/14/2000—and is copyright 2000 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with permission of the author.)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has unveiled a “new look” at its FamilySearch.org website. The updated site has had a complete makeover that should improve ease of use. As part of the new website, the Church has also announced that new databases are about to go online, including the Vital Records Indexes for North America, the United Kingdom, and for Western Europe. They have also announced the release of a new Resource File Viewer 3.0 to read the CD-ROM version of these databases. This viewer allows users to view immigration records in addition to vital records and census records. An advanced word search is available for census records and for the journal accounts of immigration records.

### President—

Tom Hanahan  
689-2604

### VP and Treasurer—

Bill Altstaetter  
689-9558

### VP-Dir. of the Library—

Randy Holcombe  
342-3388

### Secretary and Membership—

Sandee Hanahan  
689-2604

### Director —

Ann Daniels  
689-9738

### Director—

Dr. Robert Peeples  
785-3967

### Director —

Mark Swetland  
705-5661

### Director—

Norma Harberger  
671-4655

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## MEMBERS

### If you have moved....

Don't forget  
to include  
The Heritage Library  
in your  
Change of Address  
listing  
when you move!

This helps us get the  
Library's latest news  
to you.

Email the Editor with address changes at  
Sandeetom@aol.com

Or mail to:

Heritage Library Membership  
32 Office Park Road  
Hilton Head Island, Sc 29928-46740

## *From the President*

*by Tom Hanahan*

Time to get back to work on your genealogy! Fall and winter are an excellent time for research. No more yard work, too chilly to play golf or tennis—Come back to the Heritage Library and get back to work on finding those elusive ancestors. Now more than ever, genealogy is growing rapidly. There is an abundance of information on the internet, (don't forget to check those sources), and the new field of self-publishing is providing loads of information to researchers.

In a recent NEHGS magazine, Executive Director, Ralph J. Crandall, wrote "As we enter a new century, the role of the genealogical society is growing and changing. We are not only charged with the responsibility of amassing information for public consumption, but we must also be dedicated to interpreting this information, placing it in historical context, and using it to advance our knowledge of the past." The Heritage Library is Hilton Head Island's repository for historical information. As such, we have once again approached our town leaders to help us. We have submitted a grant application to the Accommodations Tax Fund (ATAC) and hope to have a favorable ruling. We have applied for \$30,000 in operations funding for the coming year. In addition, we have asked for the same amount for the following two years. If granted, this will help us keep our genealogical jewel on Hilton Head Island. Thomas D. Peeples is Mayor and Councilmen and wards are: Bill Ferguson-1, Bill Mottel-2, Jim Carlin-3, Steve DeSimone-4, Earl Mallick-5, and Ken Heitzke-6.

Please write your Town Councilman and ask for his support of our grant application. Address your letter to your councilman and mail to: Town Hall, 1 Town Center, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928.

We are pleased to have a new face on our board — Norma Harberger was unanimously elected at the Annual Meeting on September 8, 2000. See page 5 for the many talents Norma brings to our Board and page 8 for 2000 Annual Meeting Highlights.

HERITAGE LIBRARY  
The Courtyard Building-Suite 300  
32 Office Park Road  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29938

Library Telephone — 843-686-6560

Fax — 843-341-6493

Hours —  
Monday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday  
9 AM - 2 PM  
(other hours by appointment)

Internet address — [www.heritagelib.org](http://www.heritagelib.org)

EMail —  
randy@heritagelib.org  
bill@heritagelib.org  
sande@heritagelib.org

Newsletter Editor — Sandee Hanahan

The Heritage Library Foundation Presents

The Second Annual Holiday Gala

# *Wine tasting and Silent Auction*

in support of

The Heritage Library –  
Hilton Head Island's Genealogical and History Research Center

From 6 to 8 PM

Thursday, December 7, 2000

## *Don't miss the fun!*

At

The Heritage Library, Suite 300, The Courtyard Building

*Reservations are \$25.00 per person, which includes admission, hors d'œuvres, beverages and a personal bidding number for the silent auction.*

**Mark your calendars now.**

If you have items to contribute to the auction contact The Library at 843-686-6560.

## Attention Library Patrons and Foundation Members –

**Here is your chance! Tell us how are we doing?**

### ***The Patrons' Scorecard!***

Fill out this Patrons' Scorecard, tear-off and either hand it to a Librarian the next time you are in, or drop it in the mail addressed to:

Patrons' Scorecard  
The Heritage Library  
Suite 300, The Courtyard Building  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928-4640

Tell us:

What you need!

What you want!

What you think!

What we are doing wrong or right?

What we should be doing better?

**Does the Library in its present form meet you research needs? If so, How? If not, Why?**

**What improvements would you like to see?**

**What would you wish to do differently and how?**

**Any thing else you can think of?**

*Will you help us to do these things by volunteering time at the Library? If so, how much time and when?*



## GENEALOGY ON THE NET

Are you interested in learning more about the Presidents of the United States? — **Presidents of These Fifty States United States** version 2.0 is an excellent program that teaches children and adults the history of the 42 presidents. Graphics and timelines explaining personal information, life prior to presidency, election results, cabinet members, and important events and maps of the States during each president's term. The user can view images of the White House and Presidential Seal and read detailed information about each. Go to: [www.zdnet.com/downloads/stories/info/0,,00005M,.html](http://www.zdnet.com/downloads/stories/info/0,,00005M,.html)

**Presidents-Mania** will test your knowledge of U.S. presidents and teach you loads of facts about their achievements in office. Work through the study level to view portraits of the presidents and essays on their terms in office. Or, try one of the seven challenging tests levels. You can take the easy level, which asks you to match pictures with names, or you can test yourself by matching facts with a particular president. For a real challenge, try the IQ test in which you link facts with a choice of 30 president names. Go to: [www.zdnet.com/downloads/stories/info/0,,00180I,.html](http://www.zdnet.com/downloads/stories/info/0,,00180I,.html)

(from Eastman's Online Newsletter 9/18/2000)

**Genealogy Register**—[www.genealogyregister.com](http://www.genealogyregister.com) — is a surname search site worth checking out. When you search for your surname, the search engine will return any Web pages in its own database with the surname, as well as mentions of the surname on Cyndi's List, Distant Cousin.com, Genealogy Portal.com and other major sites.

(Continued on page 7)

### WELCOME NORMA HARBERGER

The Board of Directors welcomes Norma Harberger to the Board. Norma was unanimously elected at the Annual Meeting held September 8, 2000. She brings a wealth of board experience having served on the Board of the Coastal Discovery Museum for five years and 4 years as its Secretary. Her pet project at the Museum was Island Historical Research. She compiled a 2 part collection of People and Places containing original land grants and other historical data. The people file spans the time period 1700's—1970's. This file will be placed at the Heritage Library for patrons to access. She has recently begun cataloguing the Betsy Caldwell's Collection in the Library. Norma also served 5 years on the Board of the Art League of Hilton Head. She and her husband, Norman, have lived on Hilton Head island since 1988.

### The Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society

is  
trying to gather a historical file of past  
newsletters.

The Society needs newsletters  
from  
February 1983 through March of 1987.

If you have copies of these please contact  
Society President, John Griffin  
at the Library, 686-6560,  
at home, 785-6834  
or by  
Email  
At [HHIGS@heritagelib.org](mailto:HHIGS@heritagelib.org)

## FOOTPRINTS FROM MY PAST

*By Cathy Speller*

In July, I made my annual research trip to West Virginia and Virginia. In previous years, due to time limitations, I had just gone to the courthouses and copied anything and everything I could on all my family lines. This process has always worked well for me since all my families were in the same areas at the same time—both maternal and paternal.

This year the trip was different. Just after I got back last year, I had a response to a query I had posted on one of the USGENWEB sites regarding my great grandmother Gibson, nee Hicks. The “family story” was that she “just disappeared and no one knew what happened to her.” Well, I now believe that is probably true for my father’s generation, but definitely was not true for my grandfather’s. The email was from someone in McHenry County, Illinois stating that my great grandmother ended up there and was responsible for a divorce. After emails and Instant Messages, I gave the young woman my telephone number and she called me. Seems my grandmother had caused a divorce that was spelled out in the divorce papers that she sent me. It also indicated that a divorce had already occurred in my home county in West Virginia. I went to WV mentally armed for a long and arduous search. All I knew was the divorce happened before 1888 and after the 1880 census. I went into the courthouse, found the two related entries in the court index records in less than one half hour. I then went into the record room, pulled a term of court records box off the shelf and found what I wanted in the third packet of papers. In one of the depositions I discovered that my grandfather had been sent to look for his mother and all the children knew about the divorce. So much for “the family story” and the long hard search! I then went on and found several other valuable documents and got copies of them over a two-day period.

While there we attended the 34<sup>th</sup> annual “Pioneer Days” festival. I rode my horse sidesaddle in the first three festivals MANY years ago using my grandmother’s sidesaddle and was involved in numerous capacities until I moved away. This festival celebrates the pioneer family heritage and began long before family history was such a popular hobby.



*The oldest memorial on the site—a marble obelisk, 15' tall from base to top, erected 1860. Designed by William T. White, a prominent Charleston stone-cutter. There is also a single grave, dated 1894, near the rock enclosure. It is all that is left of a church called Buford Monument Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, which adjoined the site from 1893—1902.*

On Monday we left Pocahontas County and went to Virginia on my three-day, three-county courthouse blitz! I had recently discovered where my 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandfather Gibson was buried and had received permission to go to his grave but it was raining so hard that visit had to be postponed until next year. We did go to the Highland County, Virginia, courthouse and library where I found a wealth of information, including a story of my Gilmore ancestors being taken captive by the Indians. In the late afternoon, we then drove to Staunton, Virginia, in Augusta County. That night I went to the Staunton Public Library Genealogy Room and again found a gold mine of information. In the morning, we drove to Ft. Defiance to the Augusta Stone Church which my Givens ancestors helped start. The secretary gave us a wonderful tour of the current Church building and museum. We had to leave to go see a new Dever cousin I had discovered in Staunton but drove back in the afternoon to go to the old cemetery. The secretary mailed me with a copy of the “old cemetery listing” which has been placed in the Heritage Library. I went back to Staun-

ton and went to the courthouse where I found a copy of my 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandfather's will among other treasures. That afternoon we drove to Warm Springs in Bath County. We arrived too late for both research and the "baths" located there. In the morning, however, we went to the courthouse and the historical society, which is located next door. The librarian was wonderful and went to the courthouse and copied my 2<sup>nd</sup> Great Grandparents marriage bond and marriage certificate signed by my 3<sup>rd</sup> Great Grandfather Robert Givens who is my original DAR Patriot ancestor. Again, many treasures are located in these two buildings. In the late afternoon we again got on the road and headed back toward South Carolina stopping in North Carolina for the night.



**AUGUSTA STONE CHURCH**

Original church built circa 1740

We got up the next morning and I had decided to stop and see the Beaufort's Massacre Revolutionary War site where my 3<sup>rd</sup> Great Grandfather, Samuel Gilmore, fought in the Revolution. Finding the site turned out to be a 4 ½ hour ordeal since we were directed to numerous wrong locations including back to the Waxhaws Museum in North Carolina, the birthplace of Stonewall Jackson, the State Park in honor of Stonewall Jackson, etc. I'm very glad we persevered because it was an experience I will never forget.

The Waxhaws Chapter DAR has erected a memorial near the site of the battle, which occurred on May 29, 1780 between Col. Abraham Buford's 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and Col. Banastre Tarleton. Unfortunately, the actual battle site is on private property. Nevertheless you know you are standing at the burial site that is a memorial to so many brave Americans. American troops were 350 and British 700. The American losses were 113 killed, 150 wounded, and 53 taken prisoner. The British losses were 5 killed and 14 wounded.



## THE DAWES COMMISSION AND THE ALLOTMENT OF THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES, 1893- 1914

By Kent Carter.

**KENT CARTER'S** research of the Dawes commission, its organization and procedures clarifies enrollment and allotment decisions for the thousands who applied. It points out the difficulties Congress had in implementing its plan and the disastrous effects the program had on the people it was designed to help. Rich in historical photographs, and containing actual documents of the commission's records, the book will provide anyone interested in the Dawes Commission or Native American ancestry with a greater understanding of the Commission and the Five Civilized Tribes (Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole. Includes a listing of the various tribal rolls available from the records. Log onto [www.heritagelib.org](http://www.heritagelib.org) and click the link to Amazon.com to order—\$23.96.

*Genealogy on the Net (Continued from page 5)*

**Gen Exchanges Adds a Searchable Biography Database** — [www.genexchange.org/biobin.cfm](http://www.genexchange.org/biobin.cfm) — Wonder if there's a printed biography about one of your ancestors? Thanks to GenExchange, you can now search their National Bio-Bin for biographies posted to the project, regardless of what state of country it was added to. You can search the Bio-Bin by surname, on both the state or country levels. Currently, there are 10,500 biographies online, with more added daily.

**"Society Hall"** Is the most comprehensive online directory of genealogical and historical societies on the World Wide Web. Developed by Ancestry.com and FGS the directory can be reached at [www.familyhistory.com/societyhall/main.asp](http://www.familyhistory.com/societyhall/main.asp). Fields are searchable by Society Name/Keyword/City,State/Province, and Zip Code. This is a great tool for genealogists: as the site points out, "Societies publish newsletters and have lectures at society meetings to keep members abreast of current news and events. These services improve family history skills and provide a network of people to help break through research barriers."

For several prices you can purchase **frameable printed family trees** up to 6 generations from: [www.grillyourgranny.com](http://www.grillyourgranny.com)

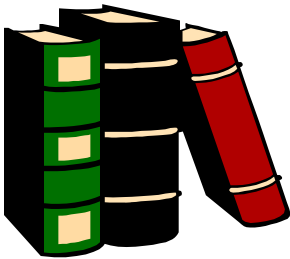
**ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The Third Annual Meeting of the Heritage Library Foundation was held on September 13, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. Seventy-nine members were represented in person or by proxy. The Chairman introduced the Board members to the group and also introduced Norma Harberger on the slate for Board of Directors to replace the vacancy of John Krause. The slate was unanimously elected. (*For a complete listing of officers and telephone numbers, please see page 1.*)

*Other highlights included:*

- Membership at 233 persons, with 41 family memberships.
- ATAC grant has been submitted. The process calls for an interview before the ATAC Committee and then the proposal proceeds to the Town Council for a vote. The Library has requested for \$30,000 per year for 3 years for operations funding.
- Library Director Holcombe presented his report consisting of the Year in Review, new acquisitions and plans for the coming year. He encouraged use of our new facility by sister organizations and other community groups our members are involved in.

The Heritage Library  
Foundation, Inc.  
Suite 300  
32 Office Park Road  
Hilton Head Island SC  
29928-4640



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**In This Issue...**

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**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

*November 1-5*

*Ft. Wayne, IN: 3-day Bus Research Trip with Michael Neill*

*November 10-11*

*Jacksonville, FL: Florida State Genealogical Society—5-lecture track—  
Beginning & Intermediate Genealogy, Society Helps, Florida Research, and  
Computer Genealogy*

*November 14*

*Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society—10 a.m.—Heritage Library  
“Genealogy on the Internet”—Special focus on updated LDS family search*

*December 7*

*Heritage Library Holiday Gala (see page 3 for more details)*

2001

*January 8-12*

*Salt Lake City, UT: Sixth Annual Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy*

*February 2-3*

*Dallas, TX: GENTECH 2001*

*September 17-23*

*Dublin, Ireland: Fourth Irish Genealogical Congress — Trinity College*