



Genealogy News

Southwest Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Library

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Visit our homepage at www.calcasieu.lib.la.us; click on Genealogy

National Library Week

- ♦ *National Library Week is April 18 - 24.*
- ♦ *Carnegie Friends of the Library will have a Used Book Sale in the Meeting Room from April 20 - 22.*
- ♦ *S. W. LA Genealogical Friends of the Library will provide refreshments in the kitchen from April 19 - 23.*

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week is April 18 - 24.

Special Thanks go to our faithful volunteers:

- ♦ *Gloria Bello*
- ♦ *Jan Craven*
- ♦ *Marian Roberts*

2003 Reminiscent Writing Contest Winners and Entrants

Eileen Dew of Sulphur is the First Place winner of the 2003 Reminiscent Writing Contest. Her story, "Making Gumbo," is about a young girl taking over while the mother is working in the fields. This includes good descriptions of life in Louisiana when dinner began with selecting a nice fat hen in the yard and the process of preparing gumbo.

"The Smoke House," the second place winner by Bubba Carroll of Sulphur, tells of a boy's memories of the smokehouse at his great-grandfather's house and how it touched his life.

"When the Germans Invaded DeQuincy," by Hershel Frazier of DeQuincy, won third place. This story tells of a young boy's adventure and a funny incident during World War II black-out nights in Dequincy.

Ten entries were received in the annual Reminiscent Writing Contest, and all were interesting. In "Last of a Breed," Linda Bass Clark writes about the process of change from the open range of "No Man's Land" to urbanization and the losses in the process.

Harry Truman Methvin writes about "The Rise and Fall of the Stumpin' Industry," which is a good description of an industry of by-gone days.

"Brooklyn was Another Country," written by Sam Schoolsky, gives a young boy's view of the world and his opinion of his home town.

E. Alyce Redman Parrotta tells the story of a mischievous boy who gets a trick played on him by the grandmother who was often the object of his pranks in "Nick Khyme and a Stitch in Tyme."

In "The Boy and a Snake" Glad Strean writes about the exploits of the snake housed in a young boy's home as part of a Boy Scout project.

"My Dad, Carl Lawrence Ciulla, Jr.," by Sunni L. Wilbur, shares the memories of how a step-father came into a young person's life and gained the love and respect that a father deserves.

Bettye Leggett tells how a young girl takes a chance by applying for a job overseas and how it reshapes her life in "Spreading My Wings."

2004 Reminiscent Writing Contest

Write a biographical sketch and reconstruct the life and times of an ancestor who lived before your memory. Begin today to learn something about the time period in which he/she lived. Include details of his/her home life, education and travels. Use a timeline to include important events in the world during his/her lifetime.

Stories will be accepted until December 30, 2004.

The Value of Reminiscent Stories

Recently a person needed information on the first teacher in a small church school at Hickory Flats. She was given the name Rocky Moore by an elderly citizen of the area, and she wanted to find out more about him.

After realizing that the name she was given was not Rocky Moore but was actually the last name Roquemooore, an obituary was found for Mrs. Eranie Roquemooore. Shirley Burwell noticed that Reverend Herman Captain was one of the descendants and remembered that a Reminiscent Writing story had been written about the early black



Parents' stories keep a family's history alive!

families of Hickory Flats and included information about the Captain family. As the lady read the story she discovered that the land was donated by Julian Captain and that he brought a teacher named Lawrence Shaw from Oklahoma. The 1880 census for Calcasieu Parish proved the information was correct. Lawrence Shaw was listed as a teacher living with Julian Captain.

Finding Your Ancestors using Land Records

Sometimes we receive a question that gives us the opportunity to use some of the less used resources that we have on land records.

On an Internet website a patron found a land grant that she thought was issued to her ancestor in 1862 and signed by President Benjamin Harrison. She asked if we could locate and trace the ownership of the land from the land grant.

We knew we could not trace the land ownership since we do not have conveyance records, and because the courthouse burned in 1910. We also knew that we have the **Tax Assessment Rolls from 1865** and the **Index and Land**

Tract Books for the Opelousas, or Southwestern District, that we could check.

The **1865 Tax Assessment Rolls** did not list a person by that name, nor did the **land tract records**.

An **index and digital images of land grants** are available on the Bureau of Land Management website at www.glorerecords.blm.gov. A critical review of the grant revealed that President Benjamin Harrison could not have signed the grant in 1862 since Abraham Lincoln was president at that time, and Harrison did not serve as president until 1889 - 1893. Instead the date May 20, 1862 was the date that Con-

gress approved the Homestead Act and the actual date of the grant was April 26, 1889.

The name of the husband was also obtained from the grant, and we went back to the tax assessment rolls. The description and sale of the property was found. The land was located on a **topographical map**. From the **pre-1910 marriage index** a newspaper record was found showing a second marriage in 1888 for the woman. No succession was listed in the **Index of Successions**. **Newspapers** near the date of the signed grant were checked and a notice of a **Constable Sale** for June 8, 1889 was found.

Elaine Glenn has joined the Genealogical Staff. We know that she will be an asset to this department, and we look forward to working with her.

New Books on Our Shelves

Marriage Records

Orleans Parish: 1830 - 1900
13 volumes
Lincoln Parish
St. Landry Parish
St. Martin Parish
West Baton Rouge Parish

Family Books

Campbell
Chastain
Dulles
Fullerton
Hopping
Langley
Overpeck
Witherspoon

Louisiana

The Men Who Built Fort
Claiborne in Natchitoches, LA
Graceland Cemetery
Negro Ironworkers of Louisiana
(1718 - 1900)
Genealogical Materials in the
New Orleans Public Library
Red Bones of Louisiana
A Good Home for a Poor Man:
Fort Polk and Vernon Parish, 1800
- 1940
Attanase De Mézières and the
Louisiana - Texas Frontier, 1768 -
1780
To Meet Us on a Blissful Shore:
Collected Ouachita Parish
Obituaries, Volume 1

Alabama

Death, Marriage and Probate
Notices from Alabama Newspapers,
Volume II (1866 - 1875)

Arkansas

Arkansas Historical Quarterly
Index to Volumes I - XXXV, Parts 1
and 2

Connecticut

The Barbour Collection, Volume
42 Stamford: 1641 - 1852

Georgia

Abstracts of Georgia Marriage
Notices from the Southern Recorder
1820 - 1855

Kentucky

Kentucky Pioneer and Court
Records
History of Bourbon, Scott,
Harrison and Nicholas, KY
History of Fayette County, KY
History of Kentucky, Illustrated
Editions 3, 4, 6, 7, 8A and 8B
(Numerous Counties)
Historical Atlas of Kentucky
and Her Counties

Mississippi

Early Mississippi Records, Vol.
I, II, III, and IV: Washington and
Issaquena Counties

North Carolina

Mecklenburg County, NC Deed
Abstracts
Revolutionary War Soldiers of
Western NC, Volume 2 Burke
County

Pennsylvania

Warrants and Surveys of the
Province of Pennsylvania

South Carolina

Marriage and Death Notices
from Camden, SC Newspapers,
1816 - 1865
Laurens and Newberry
Counties, SC Saluda and Little
River Settlement
Newberry County, SC Probate
Estate Abstracts, Volumes I and II
1850 Census of Newberry
County, SC
1860 Census of Newberry
County, SC
Newberry County Deed Book:
P2
Newberry County Will Book: L
Newberry County Cemeteries,
Volumes 1 & 2

South Carolina, continued

Newberry County Equity
Records
Carolina Scots

Tennessee

Memorial and Biographical
Record of the Cumberland Region

Texas

Nacogdoches, TX Centennial
1716 - 1936
Chinquapin - Texas Folklore
The Syrian & Lebanese Texans
In Celebration of Texas
Building the Lone Star State

Virginia

Early Marriages, Wills and
some Revolutionary War Records,
Botetourt County, VA

Other

The Flags of the Confederacy
The Flags of the Union
Battle Maps and Charts of the
American Revolution
Fairbairn's Crests
Poems of the South
Tracing Your Roots
Choctaw and Chickasaw Early
Census Records
Scottish Surnames
Cranking Up a Fine War
Scalawags: Southern
Dissenters in the Civil War and
Reconstruction
Melungeons: Examining an
Appalachian Legend
United States Colored Troops,
Volumes 1 and 2
Civil War Soldiers: Their
Expectations and Experiences
Doctors in Blue
Doctors in Gray
Ship Passenger Lists: PA and
DE
National Society of the Sons of
the American Revolution



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Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 15

S. W. LA Genealogical Society
Regular meeting at 10:00 am
Carnegie Meeting Room at 411 Pujo Street
Program: *Family Reunions—Celebrating Your Heritage*. Bring your ideas, look at displays, share recipes, icebreakers, games, moneymakers to help plan the best Family Reunion yet. If you want a table to display, call the Genealogical Library Staff at 437-3490.
Speakers: S. W. LA Genealogical and Historical Library Staff



Saturday, June 19

Introduction to Beginning Genealogy
Presentation by S. W. LA Genealogical Library Staff
10:00 a.m.—12:00 a.m.
Carnegie Meeting Room at 411 Pujo Street

Saturday, July 17

Organizing and Preserving Records
Presentation by S. W. LA Genealogical Library Staff
10:00 a.m.—12:00 a.m.
Carnegie Meeting Room at 411 Pujo Street

Saturday, August 21

Computer Programs and Internet Access
Presentation by S. W. LA Genealogical Library Staff
10:00 a.m.—12:00 a.m.
Carnegie Meeting Room at 411 Pujo Street