



*Coastal Georgia*

*Genealogical Society*

*News & Reviews*

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**15 FEBRUARY 2004** Meeting will be held at 2 p.m. at the College Place United Methodist Church on Altama Avenue, program has yet to be decided.

**16 NOVEMBER 2003** Meeting was held at the Brunswick Public Library where we took a tour of the new facilities and learned about future projects of the library.

### "Hello from the National Archives"

--by Paula Stewart Warren

Hello from the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration location on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. As I write this, I am sitting in the new Research Center that just opened on October 27th. It was 78 degrees outside when I arrived here on November 4th. That was wonderful to someone who had just left early snow, ice, and cold weather in Minnesota! The National Archives is one of my favorite places to research and I am here several months each year. This trip was made even better since my oldest son accompanied me. He works in a related field and has been my boss on some American Indian research projects over the past several years.

#### WHERE IS IT LOCATED?

As you enter the Archives building at 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, you will pass through security, an all too familiar scenario in many places today. A photo ID is necessary to gain access to the building. Just behind the guard desk is the entrance to the new Research Center. All of the researcher services formerly housed on the fourth floor of the building are now located on the ground floor in this Research Center. Historic Room 203 on the second floor is still the place where researchers will view textual records.

You enter a large, striking room with beautiful wood where you are greeted at the information desk and directed to the proper area. This room will be used for receptions and will have comfortable seating areas and tables. The overall feel of the Research Center is "new," but it blends in well with the building. It is interesting to watch seasoned NARA researchers enter here for the first time and see their reaction to changes at the Archives.

#### IDENTIFICATION CARDS

The Center is where you obtain a researcher's photo identification card. You are required to have one in order to use original records. The photo reminds me of the ever-so-beautiful one on my driver's license. (No, I won't be saving that one for future generations!)

#### TURN RIGHT AND THEN LEFT!

To the right as you enter the area is the cashier's office and display shelves with NARA and related publications for sale. You may purchase copy cards here. To the left of the cashier in the corner is the archival consultant's office where you will order textual records and get many of your questions answered. The records ordered here are generally the records of government agencies that are now housed in the National Archives. There are varied finding aids, binders, and other onsite help, but there is no overall comprehensive catalog and a large number of the records have no indexes as is the case with many original records elsewhere. It is important to work with the consultants in this area to narrow down the records you need to use.

Still, it is a joy to browse through a box of original records to find the one gem that works! Along the way you learn a lot more than you would by just using an index and one resulting record.

#### THE REFERENCE LIBRARY

Directly behind the cashier's office is a library where open stacks greet you. As you enter this area you'll find one row of computers dedicated to searching genealogy CD-ROMs and another row for access to the Archival Research Catalog (ARC). (Hint One: you can access Ancestry Plus at these computers! Hint Two: You can access the ARC on your home computer.) The reference materials in the library were formerly housed in several areas of the building but are now located in this one area.

A self-service copier is in the library area. Copies are 15 cents.

Browse the open stacks of books and periodicals. I found some wonderful surprises in there. This is not specifically a genealogical library but a majority of the publications are useful to genealogists.

## RESEARCHER LOCKER AREA

As you leave the library, walk to the other side of the reception area and walk through the double set of doors. You will immediately see drinking fountains and rest rooms on your left. Continue ahead and a room full of lockers awaits you. The new lockers even include some large enough to hold a large briefcase on wheels for those who do not travel lightly. Now, if they would just add some new, larger lockers on the second floor . . .

## FUTURE MILITARY RESEARCH AREA

As you leave this area, immediately to your left is where researchers will soon be able to view military pension and service records. No longer will researchers order these military records on one floor and then go to a different floor to view them and make copies.

## MICROFILMS GALORE

To your far left as you leave the military research area is an entrance to the Microfilm Research Room with rows and rows of microfilm readers and cabinets full of microfilm. You need to sign in before using the readers. The microfilm readers, cabinets, and copiers in this area are self-service, but there is reference assistance available. Among the many microfilms are military record indexes, U.S. census records 1790-1930, Indian census rolls, passenger arrival records, and passport records. Copies from microforms are 30 cents.

## DO YOU NEED EXERCISE?

Wear your comfortable shoes, as you will be walking a lot from area to area in the Research Center. I appreciate the newness of the area and figure I need the exercise! Once you get used to it, it is fine. There are a few reference books that I wish were closer to the microforms area for quick reference.

## GETTING AROUND D.C.

Getting there isn't really that difficult. The area's Metro Transit system is easy to use. Bus and Metro (subway) stops are convenient. The Archives area has several restaurants, street corner food carts, drugstores, and museums galore. If you go to the National Archives to research, give yourself a couple of extra days to be a tourist in this historic city.

## CHANGE IN PROGRESS

As with any renovation, there is still work to be completed. Also, there are things that need to be tweaked. As the staff and patrons use the new areas and find some glitches, the refinements begin! Now, why can't research places just do whatever we genealogists want? Probably

some silly reason--like budget, or having to serve other researchers, too?

No matter where you live, check your calendar and see when you can visit the new Research Center. Do your homework in NARA publications and online at <http://www.archives.gov> before you arrive. I will see you there! (I will be the one who is bleary-eyed from too much research!)

Paula Stuart Warren, CGRS, is a professional genealogist, consultant, writer, and lecturer.

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## INTERNET

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) Now online are over ten million immigration records spanning five centuries now available. Some records online are:

[The New York Passenger Lists, 1851-1892](#)

[Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s](#)

Unfortunately this will be a subscription database. Monthly at \$19.95, Quarterly at \$39.95 or Yearly \$79.95. If you are already a subscriber to Ancestry's user database, you can add the Immigration subscription for only \$39.95 for one year.

Also at Ancestry are the World War I Draft Registration Cards. This too, is a subscription database. The draft cards include genealogical information such as physical description, birth dates and places, spouses, parents, and more. Not all the states are online yet, but they are working on linking an index to the images, just like with the census images.

## PUBLICATIONS

"Deep in the Heart" by E. Randall Floyd copyright 1998, published by Harbor House, Augusta, Georgia. Peek into the lives of a Wilkinson Co., Georgia family during the Civil War. The Nesmith boys all signed up to fight for their rights, one signing up just after his honeymoon. War broke out on the day Wiley Nesmith married Martha Ann Walker. This story follows this family and their struggles throughout the war, and follow Wiley under the command of Robert E. Lee's Virginian Army.

When I read the synopsis of this book, I was immediately intrigued because it stated that this story was based on a true story. I thought to myself, yeah, the Civil War, but come to find out, Wiley Nesmith did exist, this story was taken from letters that he wrote home to his wife, letters he never mailed. At the end of the story, Wiley puts

his backpack away in the attic of an abandoned home, with the intent to come back for it later. Over a hundred years later, someone buys this home, and while tearing down walls, finds Wiley's backpack, and a stack of unmailed letters to home!

Be sure to read the afterword in this book, as it tells you what happened to Wiley and family after the war.

### **TAKE THE TEST**

Remember when our ancestors' claimed to have only an eight grade education? By today's standards, that isn't much. Let's see how many of us would have graduated the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in Salina, Kansas in the year 1895.

This is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, Kansas, USA. It was taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, KS, and reprinted by the Salina Journal.

#### 8th Grade Final Exam: Salina, KS -1895

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##### Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters.
2. Name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define verse, stanza and paragraph.
4. What are the principal parts of a verb? Give principal parts of "lie," "play" and "run."
5. Define case; Illustrate each case.
6. What is punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of punctuation.
- 7 - 10. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

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##### Arithmetic (Time, 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft. deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1050 lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find the cost of 6720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per metre?
8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the

distance of which is 640 rods?

10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.
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##### U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided.
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

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##### Orthography (Time, one hour)

1. What is meant by the following: Alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: Trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u.'
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.

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##### Geography (Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean

returns to the sources of rivers.

10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

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Notice that the exam took SIX HOURS to complete!

For those of you researching Glynn County, Georgia records, be sure to check out the Glynn County site at Rootsweb for new records. Currently online is a partial index to the Palmetto Cemetery, World War I draft registration cards, marriage book A [complete] and marriage book B [partial].

Check it out at: [www.rootsweb.com/~gaglynn/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~gaglynn/)

Amy Hedrick has started a new genealogy web page dedicated to her ancestors. There you will find descendant charts, photos, documents, obits, and more. This site is under construction and right now Amy is working on just getting basic info and photos uploaded. Check her site out at: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~amylyn/>

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual membership to the CGGS is only **\$15** for one person or **\$18** for a family. Membership extends from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004.

Remit payment to our treasurer:

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119 Bayberry Circle  
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