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# Roots and Branches

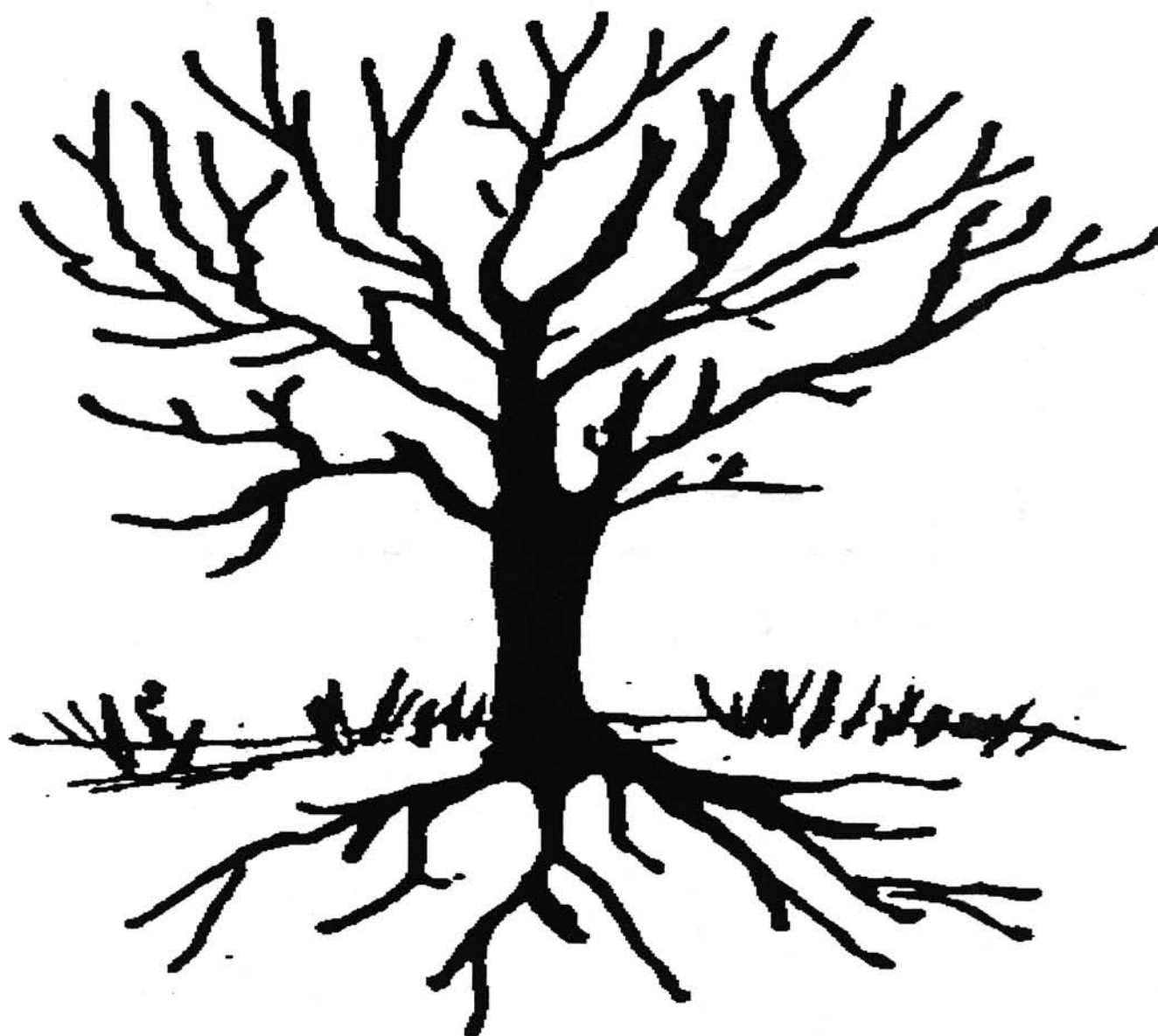
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Volume 6 Issue 3

Feb.-March 1999

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QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROOTS & BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY



**Standards for Sound Genealogical Research**  
**Recommended by the National Genealogical Society**

Remembering always that they are engaged in a quest for truth, family history researchers consistently---

Record the source for each item of information they collect.

Treat every hypothesis or theory against credible evidence, and reject those that are not supported by the evidence.

Seek original records or reproduced images of them when there is reasonable assurance that they have not been altered, as the basis of their research conclusions.

Use compilations, communications and published works, whether paper or electronic. Primarily for their value as guides to locating the original records

State something as fact only when it is supported by convincing evidence, and identify the evidence when communicating the fact to others.

Limit with words like "probable" or "possible" any statement that is based on less than convincing evidence, and state the reasons for including that it is possible or probable.

Avoid misleading other researchers by either intentionally or carelessly distributing or publishing inaccurate information.

State carefully and honestly the results of their own research, and acknowledge all use of other researcher's work.

Recognize the collegial nature of genealogical research by making their work available to others through publication, or by placing copies in appropriate libraries or repositories, and by welcoming critical comment.

Consider with open minds new evidence or the comments of others on their work and the conclusions they have reached.

Copyright ©1997 by National Genealogical Society, Permission is granted to copy or publish this material provided it is reproduced in its entirety. Including this notice. From the Internet at <<http://www.genealogy.org/~ngs/>>. (From Links and Bridges Apr. 1998 The Genealogy Society Of Hernando County Fla.)

THE 1790 FEDERAL CENSUS

When the first United States census was taken there were 16 states plus the southwest and northwest territories, The returns fixed the population at 3,292,214 while those in 1900 found over 76,000,000 a fourteen fold growth in 110 years.

In the first census nothing was sought but the number of inhabitants and the task was assigned to US marshals who performed this compilation for several censuses. This census was ordered in March and finished by October 1791, a creditable task when the difficulty of communication is considered.

The population was divided into five classes. Free white males of 16 years and upward including heads of families; free white females, including heads of families; free white males under 16 years, other persons and slaves.

Fourteen enumeration districts were mapped out of the 16 states and the population of the towns, counties and states given. All of the states except Maine and Massachusetts had slaves. (Baltimore Sun as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No, 3 May June 98.)

Things to Think About.

- a. Isn't Disney World a people trap operated by a mouse?
- b. If it's zero degrees outside today and its supposed to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold is it going to be?
- c. How come abbreviated is such a long word?
- d. Whose cruel idea was it for the word "lisp" to have an s in it?
- e. Isn't the best way to save face to keep the lower part shut?

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JUST ONE LINE

"Our ancestors used their life savings to purchase a one-way ticket to a destination they had only heard about. One that held the promise of hope, freedom, and opportunity.

Having sold their few worldly possessions, they boarded a ship with little more than the clothes on their backs and dreams in their heads.

Their lives were reduced to one line entered on a ship's manifest" (Lee Iacocca as quoted in the April 1998 issue of the Highlands, Fl. Genealogical Society Newsletter, Bits and Pieces, as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No, 3 May June 98.

BOARD MEMBERS

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PEWING

Until recently, pews in most churches were assigned to specific individuals or families, and the right to sit in them was sometimes bought and sold. The fact that languages change over the centuries is startlingly illustrated by the contemporary description of assigning pews in the First Church in Scituate, Mass. August 1709.

The Society empowered Mr. Joseph Otis to finish the meeting house by pewing of it, and also to appoint two and two to a pew ( *where they do not agree to couple themselves*) each couple paying the cost of building the pew.

1. Samuel Deane, "History of Scituate, Massachusetts, from Its First Settlement to 1831 (1831: repr. Scituate, 1899), ( the italics are in the published version)

Page 315 The American Genealogist Whole number 292. Oct. 1998 Vol. 73, No.4

How much deeper would the ocean be if sponges didn't grow in it?

DNA ?

If you are asking your relatives for DNA samples, you are entirely too serious about your genealogy.

CENSUS DATA

We all know that the federal government has authorized a census to be taken every ten years since 1790. Often it helps to know the date the census was actually recorded. (Quest Sept. Oct.97)

<u>Census Year</u>	<u>Census Recorded</u>
1790	First Monday of August 1790
1800	First Monday of August 1800
1810	First Monday of August 1810
1820	First Monday of August 1820
1830	1 June 1830
1840	1 June 1840
1850	1 June 1850
1860	1 June 1860
1870	1 June 1870
1880	1 June 1880
1890	First Monday of June 1890
1900	1 June 1900
1910	15 April 1910

Ed. (Roots & Branches) While these dates are helpful they are of course not when the individual census's were taken (unless the census takers could cover their areas in one day.) The dates on the census pages as you look at your ancestors records can be of more help. Ex. My mother was recorded as 9 on the 1910 census page which was dated April 29,1910. I knew that her birthday was May 9<sup>th</sup>, and since the census was taken before May 9<sup>th</sup> I knew she was born in 1900 rather than 1901.

SCOTTISH WOMEN

When researching women in Scotland, look for maiden names, for that is what appears in all legal transactions, including death records. Their names at birth remained their legal names throughout their lives. (The Quest May-June 1998.)

1930 CENSUS INFORMATION

The southern states will be the only part of the 1930 census to be indexed. This census is due to be released in 2002. The indexes were a WPA project to employ people. The indexing was started in the south but before it could be finished, WW II started and the labor force was needed elsewhere. According to William Dollarhide in the January February issue of the American Genealogical Lending Library's "Genealogy Bulletin", the ten southern states which are indexed for the 1920 census are Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia and Virginia. The 1940 and 1950 censuses have no indexes at all. (abstracted from the March 1998 Florida Genealogical Society newsletter, Journal.) as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No.3 May June 98.

ORIGINAL SOURCES AVAILABLE

When searching Filby's Passenger and Immigration Lists, if you find a reference to your family you should know that it is possible to get a copy of the original source. Contact the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library Woodward Avenue, Detroit MI 48202. This library maintains all sources indexed in Filby's. Remember to cite the source number with the reference. The charge is 20 cents per copy plus \$2.00 for postage and handling. (from the April 1998 Issue of the Highlands, Fl. Genealogical Society newsletter Bits and Pieces.) as reported in the Quest Vol.15 May-June 1998)

PUDDIN HEAD

In Colonial days, fearing that their toddlers would become addle-brained by falling so often as they learned to walk, mothers would make a thick roll of material called a "puddin" & tie it around their child's head. Hence the endearment "my little puddin head." (submitted by Marjorie Heaney)

HUNTING FOR YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR

Many men were rejected from the Civil War service because of illness or injury. Medical records of drafted and rejected men are at the National Archives, group record #110. They are arranged by Congressional Districts as of 1863. Data MAY include residence, occupation, age, place of birth, physical characteristics or reason for rejection under "remarks". (from the December 1997/ January 1998 newsletter from the Odom Library, The Family Tree, as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No.3 May June 98.

DOUBLE DATES

The double dates which will be found throughout the work in the earlier generations are made necessary by the change from the Old Style to the new style of reckoning of the beginning of the year.. In 1563, France adopted January 1<sup>st</sup> as the beginning of the year. Scotland adopted Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> in 1600, but it was not until 1752 that England adopted the same date. Before 1752, (when the year began March 25<sup>th</sup>) in the records of the Colonies that followed the English custom, dates between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup>, inclusive, were often indicated by two consecutive years (1700/01), to be interpreted at the option of the reader as conforming to the New, or to Old Style. For example: February 22, 1700/01 meant February 22, 1700, if the year was considered in the Old Style, or 1701 in the New Style. The last year of a double date corresponds to our present system of reckoning. (The Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy Vol. III 1928)

**OTHER MAJOR PORTS OF ENTRY**

There were many ports of entry into the United States and passenger lists are available for these ports. If you are unable to find your immigrant ancestor on the lists at Ellis Island, then check these out. The lists are available at the National Archives in Washington, DC and its branches throughout the United States.

Alexandria, VA	1820-1852
Annapolis, MD	1849
Baltimore, MD	1820-1909
Bangor, ME	1848
Barnstable, MA	1820-1825
Bath, ME	1825-1832 & 1867
Boston, MA	1820-1943
Bristol, RI	1820-1824 & 1828 & 1843-1871
Charleston, SC	1820-1829 & 1906-1945
Galveston, TX	1846-1871
Jacksonville FL	1904-1945
Kennebunk, ME	1820-1827 & 1842
Key West, FL	1837-1868 & 1898-1945
Marblehead, MA	1820-1852
Miami, FL	1899-1945
Mobile, AL	1820-1862 & 1904-1945
Nantucket, MA	1820-1862
New Bedford, MA	1823-1899 & 1902-1945
New Orleans, LA	1820-1945
New York, NY	1820-1942
Newport, RI	1820-1875
Plymouth, MA	1821-1843
Providence, RI	1820-1867 & 1911-1943
Richmond, VA	1820-1844
St. Augustine, FL	1820-1827 & 1870
Savannah, GA	1820-1868 & 1906-1945
Warren, RI	1820-1824 & 1828 & 1843-1872

At the Port of New York immigrants were processed at the following locations in the following years.

1 Aug. 1865-13 Apr. 1890	Castle Island
19 Apr. 1890-31 Dec. 1891	Barge Island
1 Jan. 1892-13 Jun. 1897	Ellis Island
14 Jun. 1897-16 Dec. 1900	Barge Island
17 Dec. 1900-31 Dec. 1924	Ellis Island

as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No. 3 May June 98.

**RESEARCH HARDER FOR MANY**

Some researchers have a harder time tracing their ancestors than others simply because of the ethnic heritage of their ancestors. Here is an estimate of how far back some can expect to go, genealogically speaking.

Native American/ African Americans	150
Greek, Irish	200
English	300
Scots, Scandinavian, French, Italian	400
Germanic, Slavic	500
Swiss	600
Spanish	1,000

(FROM Spring 1998 issue of the McLean County IL. Genealogical Society newsletter, Gleanings) (May June The Quest)

**Census Problems**

One Census enumerator in the 1800 Maryland Census became too drunk to take the Census— Therefore we are missing, Baltimore County 1800. (Introduction to census enumerators, 1850 New York City census index.)

**A BIT OF HUMOR**

A woman of 92 died a spinster. She requested only female pallbearers. " Men didn't take me out when I was alive, so they sure as heck aren't taking me out when I'm dead." (from the February-March 1998 issue of the Colorado Chapter/OGS newsletter. Rocky Mountain Buckeye as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No. 3 May June 98.

Since light travels faster than sound, isn't that why some people appear bright until you hear them speak?

If "con" is the opposite of "pro", then what is the opposite of progress ? (Congress?)

**ORIGINS OF OLD TIME MEASURING UNITS**

A foot was the length of Charlemagne's foot, modified in 1305 to be 36 barleycorns laid end to end.

An inch was the width across the knuckle of King Edgar's thumb or obviously 3 barleycorns.

A yard was the reach from King Henry 1's nose to his royal fingertips, a distance also twice as long as a cubit.

A cubit was the length of the arm from elbow to fingertip.

A mile was 1,000 double steps of a Roman legionary. Later, Queen Bess added more feet so the mile would equal eight furlongs.

A furlong was the length was the length of a furrow a team of oxen could plow before resting.

An Acre was the amount of land a yoke of oxen could plow in one day.

A fathom was the span of a seaman's outstretched arms: 880 fathoms make a mile.



The metric system on the other hand, uses the meter, defined precisely (believe it or not) as 1,650,763,73 wavelengths of orange-red light emitted by the krypton-86 atom. Or originally one-ten-millionth the length of longitude from the North Pole to the equator. The meter is exactly 39.37 inches- or, that is some 116 barleycorns. (the 1992 edition of the Old Farmer's Almanac.) as reported in The Florida Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest. Vol. 15, No. 3 May June 98.

### IS YOUR COMPUTER "MALE OR "FEMALE"?

A group of male computer scientists gave the following five reasons for suggesting that computers should be referred to as being "female".

— No one but the Creator understands their internal logic — The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else .

The message "Bad command or file name" is about as informative as, , If you don't know why I'm mad at you, then I'm certainly not going to tell you

Even your smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for later retrieval As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

Another group of computer scientists (all female) thinks their five reasons show that the computer should be referred to as if they were "male".

— They have a lot of data but are clueless — They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem

— As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you waited a little longer, you could have obtained a better model. In order to get their attention, you have to turn them on. Big power surges knock them out for the rest of the night,

### THE BRITISH VITAL RECORDS INDEX ON CDs

The above named CD's, recently released by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, contains nearly five million names, with some records dating back to 1538. The five new CDs contain individuals names from parish registers, civil registration records, and other record collections in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. The amount of accessible data varies greatly from parish to parish.

A Pentium processor with Windows 95 or NT 4.0+ is required to use the CDs, as well as 8MB RAM (minimum), CD-ROM drive (4X or faster recommended), VGA Monitor with 256—color—capable video card, and 25 MB available hard disk space. The British Vital Records Index (1538-1888), item #50028, is available for \$15 plus a small shipping fee from: Church distribution Center, 1999 West 1700 South Salt Lake City, UT 84104-4233, or by telephone at 800-537-5960. (Links and Bridges Oct. 1998).

### DOUBLE S

Modern English usagees in England about the 15th or 16<sup>th</sup> centuries replacing a Norman-English. It was during this modern period that writers began using a form which extended above and below the writing line known as "the leading s". Many people today would mistake this form for an "f" in writing identifying "mission" as "mifson" or "Clarisse" as "Clarifse". (ROOTDIGGER Newsletter of the Marion County Genealogical Society Oct. 1998)

### MAIDEN NAMES PLEASE

Increasingly, federal census forms are reflecting the commercial interests of our country. As genealogists, we need to be sure that information valuable to our descendants is included. Many persons are requesting that a space for "Mothers Maiden Name" be included on the census in 2000. Many genealogical societies request that you voice this request by writing to Mr. Harry Scarr, Acting Director of the Census Bureau, P.O. Box 20233, Washington DC. 20041. Send copies of your letter to your Senators and representatives. (Put cc's on your letter to Mr. Scarr.)

### "EVOLUTION—THE MONKEYS POINT OF VIEW"

Three monkey's sat in a coconut tree discussing things as they're said to be. Said one to the others, "Now listen you two, there's a certain rumor that can't be true. That man descended from our noble race—the very idea ! It's a dire disgrace.

No monkey ever deserted his wife, starved her baby and ruined her life. And you've never known a mother monk to leave her baby with others to bunk, or pass them on from one to another. Till they never know who is there mother. And another thing !! you will never see—a monk build a fence 'round a coconut tree, and let the coconuts go to waste. Forbidding all other monk to taste. Why if I put a fence around this tree, starvation would force you to steal from me.

Here's another thing a monk won't do, go out at night and get in a stew, or use a gun or club or knife to take some other monkey's life.

Yes I man descended, the ornery cuss, BUT, BROTHER, HE DIDN'T DESCEND FROM US"  
(Anonymous)

### MEETING SCHEDULES

The Roots and Branches Genealogical Society meets at the DeLand Public Library at 6:00 P.M., on the first Thursday of the month, September through June.

The Board of Directors meet on the Friday preceding the regular meeting. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend all meetings.

TWENTY THIRD PSALM FOR  
GENEALOGISTS.

Genealogy is my pastime, I shall not stray.  
It maketh me to lie down and examine half buried  
tombstones. It leadeth me to still Court Houses. It  
restoreth my ancestral knowledge. It leadeth me into  
the Paths of Census Records. And Ship Passenger  
Lists for my Surname's sake. Yea though I wade  
through the Shadows

of Research Libraries and Microfilm Readers.  
I shall fear no discouragement, for a strong urge is  
with me.

The Curiosity and Motivation, they comfort  
me. It demandeth preparation of storage space for the  
acquisition of countless documents. It anointeth my  
head with burning Midnight Oil, my family group  
sheets runneth over. Surely Birth, Marriage, and  
Death Records shall follow me all the days of my Life;  
and I shall dwell in the House of the Family History  
Seeker Forever (Anonymous)

HE WOULD MARRY AGAIN—AND AGAIN!

The following article appeared in the Delphi  
Indiana, Times issue dated May 19, 1893. The  
information was provided by Phyllis Moore, an avid  
historian/genealogist at Delphi.

In the early part of the winter of 1824 two  
young men clad in the homespun suits of that date,  
with their mothers and sisters, made their appearance  
in Pulaski County (Ind.). Each selected a 150-acre tract  
of land lying on the banks of the Tippecanoe river near  
Winnimac.

They were James Meisley and Robert  
Wallace. Each erected a log cabin and married each  
other's sisters. In a year two babes were born, but the  
two wives died and the two widowers sought  
consolation by marrying their mothers-in-law. Two  
more babies were rocked in the cradle, but the fathers  
were widowers again.

For the third time they bore the matrimonial  
yoke by marrying their mother's in law's cousins.  
Again their family cares were increased, and two more  
little ones rolled over the hewed log floors. Their wives  
died and the widowers married their mothers-in-law's  
sisters, and in a year two bright little ones clasped  
their little hands, and again two widowers solaced  
each other in their grief. Again they were married and  
further increases were made to their families.

But Jim and Bob did not give up their  
matrimonial intentions and they married again. In 1888  
James Meisley died, and Wallace once more a  
widower, married Meisley's second daughter and one  
child was the result of the union. Wallace's wife died  
in 1892, and the courts are called upon to decide  
what is the relationship of the children of both families  
to each other. Mr. Wallace says he believes if the right  
girl comes along he will marry again. Although he is 96  
years old. (Links and Bridges Vol. 12 No. 11 Nov. 1998)

GENEALOGISTS TWELTH DAY

On the Twelfth day of Christmas  
My true love gave to me  
Twelve census searches  
Eleven printer ribbons  
Ten e-mail contacts  
Nine headstone rubbings  
Eight birth and death dates  
Seven town clerks signing  
Six Second cousins  
Five coats of arms  
Four GEDCOM files  
Three old wills  
Two CD-ROMS  
And a branch in my family tree  
( internet, without citation)

**CHANGE IN APRIL GENERAL  
MEETING**

Due to the Library closing early on  
Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup> our meeting will be held on  
Thursday April 8, 1999. (THIS IS NOT AN APRIL  
FOOLS JOKE)

HEREDITARY: A GENEALOGY POEM  
By Grandpa Tucker

I saw a duck, the other day.  
It had the feet of my Aunt Faye.  
Then it walked, was heading south.  
It waddled like my Uncle Ralph.

And when it turned, I must propose  
Its bill was formed like Aunt Jane's nose.  
I thought, "Oh, no! It's just my luck.  
Someday I'll look just like a duck.

I sobbed to Mom about my fears,  
and she said, "Honey, dry your tears.  
You look like me, so walk with pride.  
These folks are all from Daddy's side.

( by Carma M. Brown < carma@uni-sol.com >

Previously published by Rootsweb

Previously published by Rootsweb

Genealogical Data Cooperative, Rootsweb Review  
Vol. 1, No.29, 30 December 1998. You may visit  
Rootsweb's main Web page at  
<<http://www.rootsweb.com>>

1999 ANNUAL GENEALOGICAL MEETING

The annual meeting featuring Jean S. Morris  
was held Sat. Jan. 23,1998. We had a full house,(about  
130, participants) and they all seemed to be interested  
and learning about finding ancestors in Pennsylvania.  
Next years program will be hosted by Roots and  
Branches, and will feature Henry Z. Jones Jr., who is  
recognized for his work on the Palatines, as well as  
his "Psychic Roots" writings. We will begin planning  
next years program immediately and will be calling on  
our membership for their help.

**ROOTS AND BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
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