Irving Genealogical

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Happy New Year, 2006, A New Year, A New Beginning

It is a new and time to meet your new officers. Mary K. Dorff Weber returns as President and Gretchen Hough King is Vice President and Newsletter Editor. Barbara Lancaster Tsirigotis is Secretary and Earle Kellogg returns as Treasurer. The Board of Directors is as follows: Project Chairman, Jay D. Bayne; Hospitality, Eva Kellogg; and Newsletter Editor, Gretchen King. Mary Haas Archer is the Library Liaison. We are in need of a Program Chairman. This is the person who arranges for the speakers we have each month. If you would like to volunteer, please advise Mary K.

Did you know the Genealogical Society makes 1% from your shopping if you tag your reward card. This last quarter we received a check for $25.29. If you haven't signed up check with your Tom Thumb/Randall/Simon David Store to tag your card. The magic number for our society is 6070.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: January 28 from 10 am to 12 noon, Getting Started in Genealogy. The class will be on the third floor of the main Library, just outside the genealogy section. It will focus on beginning your genealogy with the Census search and the importance of the Pedigree Chart and the Family Group Sheet. If you know of a beginner, or believe you need help with these forms, please join us.

JANUARY SPEAKER: Our speaker for the Monday night at 7 pm is Don Raney. Don has spoken to us before. This time he will help us with one of our "brick walls," finding out women's maiden names during a time (before 1900) when men were the predominant member of the family. We all need help in this area.

The Irving Genealogy Society has an e-mail address. If you need to contact us, please e-mail us at irvinggenealogy@yahoo.com . Let us know if your address or e-mail changes. Or just let us know about genealogy related subject. If you have something for the newsletter, e-mail it to us.

Dues are due!!!!! Get 1/2 Off Your Membership Dues in '06

How?? By getting a friend to join! Bring along a friend who has an interest in family history. Get him or her to sign up as a member for the coming year and get your **membership for 1/2 off. You and your friend benefit, as does the Irving Genealogical Society. The friend must be a new member who has never belonged to the society before.**

Book Review

Immigrant Information Available at the Library

by Alan Miller

The New York Foundling Hospital: ***An Index to its Federal, State and Local Census Records (1870-1925),*** by Carolee R. Inskeep. Baltimore, MD. Clearfield Company, 1995, Reprinted 2005. iiv + 339 pp.

The Children's Aid Society of New York: An Index to the Federal State and Local Census Records of Its Lodging Houses (1855 – 1925), by Carolee R. Inskeep. Baltimore, Md. Clearfield Company, 1996, Reprinted 2005. ix + 150 pp. Bibliography

As immigrants from Ireland and Northern Europe flooded into the US in the 1840'5 and 1850's, New York City, as the largest port of entry, likewise became the first place for many immigrants to settle. The resultant overcrowding and poverty bred disease and the breakup of existing family units, so that by 1848 New York City's police chief estimated that nearly 10,000 unsupervised children roamed the city streets. "Boys Meetings" organized by various groups were an early attempt to provide them with a modicum of education and religious instruction, but these did little to feed, clothe or shelter the children. To provide longer term and more continuous care, in 1853 the Children's Aid Society was formed.

The Society's workers combed poor neighborhoods jails, and asylums for the children, directing them to newly formed industrial schools and lodging houses. Those deemed fit for adoption were referred to the Emigration Department. The Society approached farmers across the country and invited them to employ the vagrant children. Two hundred and seven children were placed "in the country" in 1854. This program, later termed "Orphan Trains," was so successful that as of 1928 the Society reported that 33,000 children had been so placed. Other children were maintained in lodging houses, each containing an industrial school where they were given basic schooling and taught a "light trade." The emigration plan, lodging houses, and industrial schools remained in operation until the late 1920's. Thereafter the children were placed in public schools and the Emigration Department became an adoption agency.

In 1869 the Sisters of Charity founded their Asylum to shelter and protect infants who were victims of poverty, abuse, or abandonment. When needed, their mothers, who were usually poor, unwed, and/or a prostitute, were offered shelter, anonymity, and a chance to better their lives. The Founding Asylum cared for 2,560 infants in its first two years of operation. Larger accommodations were acquired in 1873, a Maternity Hospital and Children's Hospitals added in the 1880's, and country branches established in 1893 and 1909. The name was changed to the New York Foundling Hospital in the early 1890's.

Mothers who brought infants to the Asylum gave the child's name, birthdate, and any other information she wished to provide. If sickly, it was cared for in the Asylum, but if in good condition it was sent to be wet-nursed and cared for by women in the area, then returned to the home by age two years. Mothers with their babies born in the Maternity Hospital were maintained there as long as necessary for nursing. As the number of resident children increased it became necessary to place many with families elsewhere. In 1894 the Foundling Asylum reported that they had protected 25,697 infants and had placed about 10,000 in adoptive homes, many in the West in the manner of the Orphan Trains of the Children's Aid Society.

These two volumes contain the names of five thousand children being sheltered by the Children's Aid Society and thirteen thousand living in the New York Foundling Hospital, many of whom were later adopted into families in the West. Names were taken from the State, Federal, and New York City Police Censuses between 1855 and 1925. Undoubtedly they are only a fraction of the children passing through these institutions. Nevertheless, the data may provide a starting point for those searching for ancestors thought to have been adopted or apprenticed from the New York City area, especially, those from an Orphan Train.

Both volumes are now available in the Local History and Genealogy Section of the Irving Public Library.

New Additions at the Library

Ancestor Roster. Vols. 2,3. Texas Division United Daughters of the Confederacy. 1994. 929.3764 UNI
Baker, T. Lindsay. ***More Ghost Towns of Texas***. University of Oklahoma Press. 2003. 917.6404 BAK
Cannon, Margaret H. ***Index to the South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research 1973-1982***. Reprint Company. 1985. 929.1 CAN
Daniel, Lois. **How to Write Your Own Life Story**. *Chicago Review Press.* 1997. 808.06692 D184H
Dooley, Kirk. **Hidden Dallas**. Taylor Publishing. 1988. 917.642812 DOO.
Heritage of Lawrence County, Alabama. Heritage Publishing Consultants. 1998. 976.192 HER
Mexican War. Time-Life Books. 1978. 973.623 TIM
Moore, John Hammond. ***Albemarle: Jefferson's County***.Albemarle County Historical Society. 1976. 975.5482 MOO
Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Deed Books F-J, 1809-1820.Michal Martin Farmer. 2000
Register of Graduates and Former Cadets of the United States Military Academy. Association of Graduates, USMA. 1988, 1992. 355.007 REG
Roark, Carol, ed. ***Fort Worth & Tarrant County. An Historical Guide***. TCU Press. 2003. 917.642812 FOR 2003
Smith, George Gillman. ***The Story of Georgia and the Georgia People***..Genealogical Publishing. 1968. 975.803 SMI 1968
Speer, William S. ***Sketches of Prominent Tennesseans***. Genealogical Publishing. 1888, 2003. 976.804 SPE
Taylor, Sharon. ***The Complete Registry of the Dillons in America***. Halberts Inc. 1985. 929.2 DIL.
Texas Marriages: Early to 1850. Heritage Quest. 2001. 929.3764 TEX
Wagon Days in Red River**.** Winifred Oldham Hamilton**. 1947.** 978.953 HAM

Events of Interest

The Dallas Genealogical Society presents the 2006 Lecture Series on Methods for Online Research featuring Karen Clifford, AG on February 4 and Gladys Friedman Paulin, AG on March 4. The cost for each lecture is $ 25.00 for DGS members, $30.00 for nonmembers or $35.00 at the door. An optional lunch is available for $10.00. Karen Clifford will speak on Methods and Sources for Online Research and Gladys Friedman Paulin will speak on Immigration and Urban Reseach. Vendors will be available on March 4th, but not at the February lecture. For more information contact DGS at lectures@dallasgenealogy.org or voice-mail at 469-948-1106.