



Historical and Genealogical Research

Heritage Library News

Volume VII, Issues 3 and 4 Combined

July — December 2003

FIRST MAYFLOWER SILVER BOOKS ARRIVE



Contributors Dori Dixon, Nancy Burke and Gwen Altstaetter examine the first of the Mayflower books.

November saw the long awaited receipt of the first group of Five Generations Project Books published by The General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Volumes containing information of the first five generations of descendants of Samuel Fuller, Francis Cook, Myles Standish, James Chilton, Richard More, John Alden, Thomas Rogers and John Howland are now on the shelves in the Massachusetts Collection. Arriving at the same time was the complete Mayflower Ancestral Index.

These books were obtained through the generous gifts of Foundation members Dori Dixon and Nancy Burke supplemented with funds from the Library's Myrtle Gove Memorial Fund and her daughter Gwen Gove Altstaetter.

Annual Meeting Notice

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the Heritage Library Foundation, Inc.

*will be held Wednesday, February 18, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library,
Suite 300, The Courtyard Building,
32 Office Park Road, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29928*

*All members are encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend,
PLEASE complete the enclosed proxy form and mail to:*

*Norma Harberger, Secretary
The Heritage Library Foundation, Inc.
32 Office Park Road - Suite 300
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928*

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THE WORLD'S LARGEST YARD SALE IS MARCH 20TH
Save your "treasures" for the Heritage Library Booth

GALA RESOUNDING SUCCESS



To the Members, Friends, and Supporters of The Heritage Library Foundation who gave so richly of their time and talents to insure the fine success of the 2003 Annual Gala and Silent Auction we send our thanks. This was a very successful event.

We would like to give a heartfelt thanks to the many firms and friends throughout the Lowcountry Business Community whose contributions made possible the Silent Auction. Thanks to you, we had over 120 items to auction.

The proceeds of this event helps to keep our Library open for all those who live here or come to visit our Island to research their family heritage. Last, but not least, a giant thank you to all the volunteers who worked numerous hours to make this event such a huge success.

Pam Bredin and Norma Harberger
Co-Chairmen



From the President

by Bill Altstaetter

As the Holiday Season brings to a close the Year 2003, the Staff of The Heritage Library and the Foundation have much to be thankful for and many persons and organizations to **THANK**.

First, many thanks to our great Volunteers, the twenty dedicated persons who really make things tick on a daily basis. They regularly provide the patrons with excellent advice and council on complex genealogical and historical questions. As well they work behind the scene to maintain the collections and computers and to administer the affairs of the Foundation, without which the Library would not exist. The gift of our volunteers' time is deeply appreciated by your officers and board members.

Then, we owe a very large THANK YOU to each of you, patrons, Foundation members and interested members of the general public, who so generously have contributed both funds and materials to help sustain and grow The Heritage Library.

Last, but not least, our thanks to the charitable organizations and governmental agencies providing us with funding in 2003.

A first look at the yearend financial results indicated we made our business plan for 2003, but just barely. Without the strong support of volunteers, members, patrons, and the public the continuing work of The Heritage Library would not be possible.

Looking to the future, 2004 will present even greater opportunities to achieve great things in the field of historic preservation and family history research. Opportunities in research, in learning, in publication, in staffing, all advance the mission of the Heritage Library Foundation to provide the people of the Lowcountry with the finest facilities and educational experience available.

*There is no Present or Future—only the past,
Happening over and over again—now!”
- - - Eugene O’Neil*

New at the Library for 2004 - - - - - genealogy and history come together

LIBRARY LAUNCHES NEW DATA PROJECT WITH YEAR-END ARRIVAL OF MICROFILM FROM SC ARCHIVES

Film containing the 1889 South Carolina State Census for Abbeville, Anderson, Barnwell, and Beaufort Counties is now available for viewing on the Library's microfilm readers. This census shows the head of household, number of male and female children between 6 and 16, number of males over 21 and total number of males and females of all ages both black and white.

The Library hopes to add significant portions of the data to its website in the forthcoming months. To do so will require checking and cross-referencing with the 1870 Federal Census. This effort is well under way under the leadership of Doctor Peeples. Major work remains to be done on identifying the pages for the townships in St. Luke's Parish. Anyone wishing to help with this work should contact John Griffin at the Library, 686-6560.

Other microfilm rolls received in the latest batch include 1868 Voter Registration Abstract for Abbeville, Anderson, Barnwell, and Beaufort Counties. Beaufort County data is separated into four sections, Prince William Parish, St. Helena Parish, St. Luke's Parish, and St. Peter's Parish. Each Parish is further broken down into townships. The voters are listed alphabetically. John is also calling for volunteers to help index this material for the Library's online database.

NEWSLETTER NEEDS WRITERS AND EDITORS

Interested in writing for publication or in managing the publication process. Opportunities exist at The Library for volunteers willing to research, write, and produce articles of current and historical interest to readers of the Heritage Library News.

Contact Bill Altstaetter at 686-6560 or 689-9558.

CALL NOW!

NEW MICROFILM ADDS TO LIBRARY'S CIVIL WAR COLLECTION

New Civil War information for both Union and Confederate soldiers serving in Beaufort County is now available for viewing at The Heritage Library. "Beaufort County: 1862 to 1865 Civil War Burial Certificates" issued by the USA General Hospital on Hilton Head lists burials at the "Soldiers Cemetery" on Union Cemetery Road. It includes both Union and Confederate soldiers, and some civilians. The certificates are arranged alphabetically, and include a place for name, number and locality of the grave, hospital number of the deceased, rank, regiment and company, residence before enlistment, conjugal condition, and residence of the widow, cause of death, age, nativity, remarks & references, date of death and burial. The certificate includes the surgeon's notification of death and request for burial & funeral. Also the Quartermaster's order to the Sexton for burial. The information requested by the form was not always available. The film includes an alphabetical index.

Other military microfilm arriving at the same time includes Returns for US Military Post 1800-1916, containing Post Reports from Hilton Head, SC from December 1861 thru October 1869 and September 20, 1898 thru Jan 1900; Selected War Department records relating to Confederate Prisoners of War 1861-1865. Among the more interesting documents included on the latter film are receipts for letters containing money November 1864-April 1865. The receipt is a numbered form with date received, who from, who for, amounts include drafts, Confederate and US bills and silver coins. The letters were received at Hilton Head but include prisoners held at Fort Pulaski, Morris Island, and other locations.

VOLUNTEERS WITH ACCOUNTING EXPERIENCE

The Foundation needs help with the books and accounting. If you know that the debits are by the windows and the credits are by the door, you're in!

We will train on Intuit's Quickbooks Pro 2003.

Anyone willing to help 3 hours a week or more call Bill Altstaetter 686-6560 or 689-9558

CALL NOW!

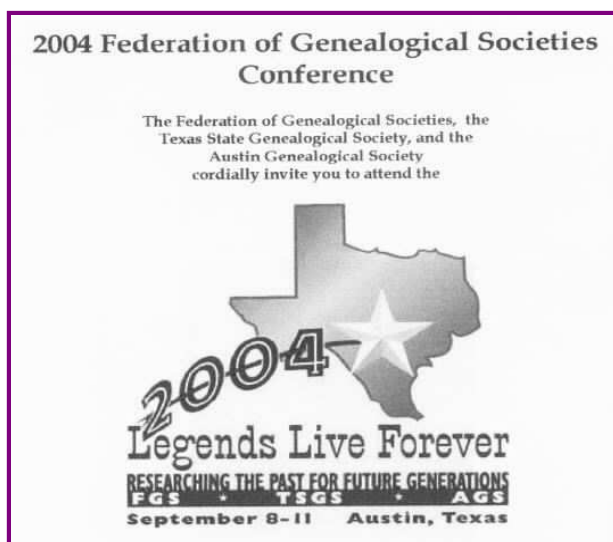
THE WORLD'S LARGEST YARD SALE
WILL BE HELD
SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH

The Heritage Library will once again be having a “spot” at The World’s Largest Yard Sale. It will be in the parking lot of the Hilton Head High School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please come and buy, but more importantly contribute articles to be sold. Clean out that closet, those drawers, attics or garages and bring your treasures to the Library. We are accepting most everything with the exception of clothing—please NO clothing. We will have almost everything else—working electrical appliances, soft cover pocket books, toys, games, glassware, dishes, “white elephants” jewelry or whatever.

Christine Meyer will be our chairperson this year. She did such a good job last year and with your help and support we will do as well or perhaps better this year.

Bring the items to the Library no later than March 15. If you need a pick-up or a place to store items before the event call Christine Meyer. While Christine will be coordinating the sale and pricing policy feel free to price them yourselves. We also can use help with the pricing before the event, and with set up and sales on Saturday, March 20th. Call Christine at 842-9319, Gwen at 689-9558 or the Library during regular hours at 686-6560.

With everyone participating we can make a success of this, our second yard sale.



from the Membership Desk

Gwen Altstaetter

This past quarter has been a busy one with five workshops and a well attended Open House. We want to welcome our many new members and thank the members who have chosen to support the Library by renewing their memberships. If you are wondering if your membership has or is about to expire please look at your membership card which has the monthly expiration date on it. We send reminder letters approximately a month ahead of time but we know in our busy lives those letters can be set aside to be taken care of “later”. Remember we do need your continued support to maintain the high standards of service we are now supplying.

Those who have joined since June are the following: William Chalk, Jane Price Hill, David, Kim, Hannah and Elliott Schmucker, Jane Clay Goodwin from Texas, Gay Probst, Steve White, John and Anne McElroy, Wayman Smith from Georgia, Mary Kay Hoffman, Barbara Fowns, Robert and Joan Horning, Teresamae and Roland Faricy. Joining us in October were Merry Gerber, Gordon and Rita Grant, Diana S. DeFeo, Valerie Cole from Canada, Robert Welch from James Island, SC, Carol and Bud Brown, Eloise and George Stidworthy, Cameron Higgins, Kathleen Donnelly, Mary McConnell, J. William Folk, Karen Slotnick. In November and December we welcomed Constance Blair (also a new volunteer), Bruce Johnson, David and Sharon Williams, Howard Misthal and Barbara Vernasco.

We look forward to meeting you and if you need any help in your research be sure to ask our librarians. Your membership cards are your passports to your family history.

THE HERITAGE LIBRARY

The Courtyard Building, Suite 300—32 Office Park Road
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928-4640

Library Telephone—843-686-6560

Fax—843-868-6506

E-mail—webmaster@heritagelib.org

Website—www.heritagelib.org

Hours—Monday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday—9 am—3 pm



Genealogy Workshops

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## At the Heritage Library

### for the On-Line Genealogist

Are you interested in resting and reading after the holidays? If so —

Come discover your ancestors at The Heritage Library's ongoing Internet Genealogy workshop series on Wednesday, January 14 from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon.

Senior Librarian Sandee Hanahan will lead the group which will cover the Top Ten Genealogy Websites, an in-depth workshop to help researchers (new and "old hands") learn to use Rootsweb to track pedigrees. Registration fee is \$15.00.

Seating is limited to the first 15 registrants. To sign-up call the Library at 686-6560 or e-mail to [sandeeh@heritagelib.org](mailto:sandeeh@heritagelib.org).

#### Future On-Line Workshops

Wednesday, February 11th—10 a.m. to Noon

Wednesday, March 11—10 a.m. to Noon

Wednesday, April 14th—10 a.m. to Noon

### for the Traditionalists

A series of workshops on Researching your Family History begins Wednesday, January 28, from 10 a.m. to Noon at The Heritage Library.

The sessions are planned as basic workshops for beginner genealogists and others wishing to renew their researching skills. Under the leadership of Senior Librarian Bill Altstaetter participants will focus their studies on the traditional forms of family history research, before and after the arrival of the computer and the World Wide Web.

Registration fee is \$15.00 Seating is limited to the first 15 registrants. To sign-up call the Library at 686-6560 or e-mail to [bill@heritagelib.org](mailto:bill@heritagelib.org).

#### Future On-Line Workshops

Wednesday, February 25th—10 a.m. to Noon

Wednesday, March 31—10 a.m. to Noon

Wednesday, April 28th—10 a.m. to Noon

The Heritage Library is home to The Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society which meets on the second Tuesday of each month from September through June of each year at 9:30 am. and to The Island Writers' Network which meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm. Persons interested in these organizations may reach them by contacting The Heritage Library at 843-686-6560.

## Welcome New Volunteers Blanche Nelson and Connie Blain !!!

Arriving at the Library, you will notice two new faces at the reception desk. *Blanche Nelson* joined us in October on Friday mornings. She does a lot of traveling with the Elderhostel and would be happy to talk to anyone who is interested in this great way to travel. In November we welcomed *Connie Blain* who moved here from Connecticut three years ago. She is working on Monday and Saturday mornings and has an active interest in the DAR. She is also in the business of buying and selling antique dolls. When you stop by the Library be sure to introduce yourself and give each of them a special southern "Hey".

There are many chances to volunteer in a variety of ways. Give Pam or Gwen a call and let them show you the many different opportunities that are available in the Library. We NEED you!

*Volunteers needed at the Heritage Library in 2004—Come join the fun!*



**NGS Annual Conference  
in the States  
19-22 May 2004  
Sacramento, California  
Sacramento: A Golden Prospect**

**REGISTER NOW!**

### Feature Article

#### A Southern Patriot: JOHN WILLIAMSON CALDWELL 1892-1923

By G. Norma Harberger

*“Believing that a brief outline of my life might prove interesting to my children, I have determined to attempt the writing of the same; not because there is anything memorable or startling to record, but because the most trivial matters of a common every-day life are apt to be looked upon as treasures of history, precious heirlooms increasing in value as they descend from generation to generation.”* This he proceeded to do, filling two college exam ‘blue books’, covering his life up to 1911 where he stated “I do not suppose I need to be any more minute. The children know the dates of their births and many of the particulars of their parents’ experiences. The general outline has been here given, which can be filled in as each one chooses.”

The story that he tells is fascinating in its detail regarding people, places and events. Under duress his family fled Ballymony County, Antrim, Ireland in 1798 and settled in New York. As a young man his grandfather, William Alexander Caldwell, came to Charleston, SC where he married Dinah Williamson in 1811 and became a Commission Merchant and Auctioneer on Vendue Range. One of several sons, his father, John William Caldwell married a young woman from the north of England, Martha Catherine Coates. In the 1830s the business failed and the family moved from “a fine home on Meeting street” to a rented house on State Street where our John Williamson Caldwell was born on the 31st day of January, 1842.

He describes the neighborhood, which was seedy to say the least, the house and all of the occupants in detail. The household included three generations, several aunts and two house servants. At meals ‘men from the store’ joined the family. Paying off the business debts, the family moved to Wentworth Street in 1852 and then to Tradd Street where they lived until the family fled to Columbia when Charleston fell.

He was educated at Angus Wilson’s school and by his uncle, Joseph T. Caldwell, a respected teacher of that

*Continued on page 7*

**A Southern Patriot**—Continued from page 6  
 time. At age sixteen he was the organist at the Central Church. He entered the College of Charleston, August 1857 and graduated in March 1861. Deciding on the profession of medicine, he placed himself under the direction of Dr. Julian J. Chisolm, Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of South Carolina. The attack on Fort Sumter changed his plans and he joined the Marion Artillery, telling of his serving with that group until the fall of 1863. At that time he was granted a furlough to go to the Medical College of the State of Virginia for an intensive medical course. When he graduated in March 1864 he was commissioned Assistant Surgeon in the Confederate Army with the rank of Captain. Assigned to the 12th SC Regiment of McGowan's Brigade, A.P. Hill's Corps, he served in the field until April of 1865. He tells of his experiences in battle, of his fellow officers, of the men with whom he served, of deaths and of bravery until his group was captured after the fall of Petersburg. He returned to Columbia in June of 1865 where he rejoined his family.

On the 20th of September, 1865, he married Mary Howe Palmer of New Orleans and moved to that city where he practiced medicine until 1874. That August he accepted the chair of Natural Science at Southwestern Presbyterian University in Clarksville, TN remaining there for ten years. After a year of advanced study

at Johns Hopkins University he returned to New Orleans and joined the faculty of Tulane University as Professor of Geology and Curator of the Museum. As curator he played a large role in the organization of the museum and in obtaining several important collections. Ultimately he held the position of Professor of Chemistry and Geology until he retired in 1907.

After retirement he continued to study and lecture on mathematics, astronomy, geography, the interaction of history and religion, and the south in the Civil War. Over a 20 year span he spoke to several groups including the Confederate Women's groups where he extolled the strength and courage of the southern women during war time.

We are fortunate to have the original copies of his personal biographical notes, his autobiography, his journal, his speeches and his lectures. His beautiful penmanship makes all of these easy to read and to enjoy his Victorian prose. If anyone is interested in reading some of these, copies can be found in the Caldwell files in the Heritage Library and a librarian will be happy to assist you. The Caldwell files are the gift of the late Betsy (Mrs. Benjamin) Caldwell of Bluffton. These files also contain her extensive research into the Caldwell and McIntosh families.

The Heritage Library News is a publication of The Heritage Library Foundation, Inc., Hilton Head Island, SC 29928-4640

### Heritage Library Board of Directors

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E. W. Altstaetter—President   Robert P. Smith—Vice President   G. Norma Harberger—Secretary   Robert A. Scherrer—Treasurer

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Hilton Head Island, SC 29928-4640

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### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE HERITAGE LIBRARY**

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- Tuesday Jan 13th 9:30 a.m. Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society Regular Meeting*
- Wednesday Jan 14th 10 a.m.-Noon Genealogy On-Line Workshop (reservation required)*
- Wednesday Jan 14th 1:30 p.m. Heritage Library Foundation Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting*
- Wednesday Jan 28th 10 a.m.-Noon Researching Your Heritage Workshop (reservation required)*
- Tuesday Feb 10th 9:30 a.m. Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society Regular Meeting*
- Wednesday Feb 11th 10 a.m.-Noon Genealogy On-Line Workshop (reservation required)*
- Wednesday Feb 25th 10a.m.-Noon Researching Your Heritage Workshop (reservation required)*
- Wednesday Feb 18th 10 a.m. THE HERITAGE LIBRARY FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING*
- Tuesday March 9th 9:30 a.m. Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society Regular Meeting*
- Wednesday Mar 10th 10 a.m.-Noon Genealogy On-Line Workshop (reservation required)*
- Wednesday Mar 31st 10a.m.-Noon Researching Your Heritage Workshop (reservation required)*