



◆ Heritage Library News ◆

Historical and Genealogical Research

Fall 2004

Volume VIII, Issue 3

LIBRARY PANEL ON CIVIL WAR RESEARCH AT USCT MEETING



From left to right—Gordon Kiddoo, Robert Smith, and John Griffin at the recent United States Colored Troops Institute Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

THREE-MAN TEAM OF HERITAGE LIBRARY RESEARCH SPECIALISTS SPOKE TO U.S. COLORED TROOPS INSTITUTE AT THE OCTOBER CHARLESTON PROGRAM

Two Senior Librarians specializing in African-American family history research joined with a Foundation member and new volunteer, who numbers among his ancestors one of the Union Army's leading commanders of colored soldiers during the Civil War, to present a program on the research possibilities available here at the Library for descendants of colored soldiers and others researching their black heritage.

Robert Smith, Senior Librarian and Librarian-in-Charge on Mondays led off the panel with an overview of the Library and its unique collection of African-American data. He was followed by John Griffin, also a Senior Librarian and Librarian-in-Charge on Fridays who demonstrated a search for a particular individual. Gordon Kiddoo, a recent addition to the Volunteer Staff, completed the panel with a presentation about his relative General Joseph Barr Kiddoo. The General's story is to be found beginning on Page 4 as this month's Featured Article.

The program will be repeated here at the Library as part of the Heritage Library's celebration of Black History Month in February.

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ANNUAL OPERATING FUNDS CAMPAIGN BEHIND TARGET AS YEAR END NEARS

With less than six weeks to go the 2004 Annual Fund Campaign for operating funds is just under 10% behind last years effort at the same point in time AND 50% UNDER OUR GOAL.. So far some \$8,761.00 in donations has been received from sixty of the members of the Foundation and friends. We need the help of the other 300 members.

The fundraising team encourages anyone who was planning on giving to this year's appeal to please do so soon.

Voices from the Past ~ *Lest We Forget*

Courtesy of The Island Packet , the words of Ramsey Clark, Associate Justice, The United States Supreme Court ~
"People who don't cherish their elderly have forgotten whence they came and whither they go."

THE HERITAGE LIBRARY

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Saturday—9 am to 3 pm

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From the President

by *Bill Altstaetter*

Here we are, it's nearly December, Christmas is just around the corner and suddenly it will be 2005! Now is the time to sit back and take a look at this past year. Generally it looks pretty good. We have taken major strides to improve the quality of the research experience here in the library.

The overhaul of the computing network started last January, is in the final stages of completion. The separate patron "work stations" areas were consolidated into one and relocated to the interior side of the book stacks (*See photo on page 11*). Six brand new Pentium Four class machines are now on-line full-time exclusively for our patrons. A special training center was set up in the Reading Room with two Pentium Fours and seating for a student and an instructor at each station. A third work station with network wiring has been provided for patrons wishing to use their own laptops, four administrative units and two servers complete the system. To improve response time all the computing wiring throughout the library has been replaced. The final wiring connections are being brought on-line as the newsletter goes to press.

When you next use the new system, say a special thanks to the team of hard working volunteers who made it possible: Sandee Hanahan, our Director of Information Systems who guided the project; Paul Ricker, who helped with the conceptual design and early supplier research, Tory Brainard and John Griffin, who assisted throughout and even "pulled wire" during the final stages, *BUT MOST ESPECIALLY*, to *Michelle Erbeck* of MAE Data Systems, our Systems Manager. Without her inspired leadership and dedicated efforts well above and beyond the call, this would not have happened.

To go along with the new system we have made a major improvement to one of our major data bases, ANCESTRY.COM. The Heritage Library now features "*Ancestry Library Service.*" It is the full range of data found on Ancestry.com, but it is now reachable at the click of a button, all the time, from every computer in the Library.

A word of caution, the whacky world of computing is still an imperfect science, really more an art form. As such it is susceptible to both human and mechanical error. It is governed by one of the immutable laws of nature, called "*The innate stubbornness of inanimate matter.*" Remember, there is a reason for calling them, "BUGS." Please, from time to

Continued on Page 11, Column 3

The Member Hot Line ~

What's new—By and For the Members

Three Cheers— for the Volunteers

Pam Bredin

When next in the Library, please stop at the Main Desk and say “hello” to our newest volunteers, *Louise Lawrence, Jeanne Pontarelli and Rosemary Staples*. Louise joined us at the end of October and is volunteering at the main desk greeting patrons on Thursday mornings. She is also working on a project indexing the Hilton Head Island Magazine Collection. Louise is a long time resident of Hilton Head Island and is enjoying a trip down memory lane as she reads through this collection. She says she loves this project and she is doing a great job.

Jeanne Pontarelli joined us in November and is learning the procedures of the main desk. She has recently moved to the Island from Pennsylvania where she was very active in the Historical Society and Genealogy Society of Pennsylvania. With all her past experience, I am sure she will be a great asset to the Library.

Gordon Kiddoo and Ginger Stone are joining together to work on the 1868 Agricultural Census. Ginger is working on pages 1-68 and Gordon is taking pages 69 and on. It is a difficult task due to the poor resolution quality of the original documents. Thank Goodness we have magnifying glasses so they

don't ruin their eyesight! John Griffin says that this project is part of our continuing effort to identify Hilton Head Islanders and Beaufort County residents following the Civil War. A Great Big Thanks for their efforts.

Rosemary Staples just joined us and is very enthusiastic about our collections. She is a published writer and has written articles on Island History. She works as a tour guide and public speaker. She hopes to become involved in many projects here at the Library.

Welcome back to returning veterans – *Blanche Nelson and Dorothy Arwe*. Blanche has returned following a short medical leave and we are very happy to see that she is doing well. She is a regular at the desk on Friday mornings. Dorothy is back from her summer home in New Hampshire. She comes in on Mondays, and Bob always has projects for her to work on.

Opportunities abound at the Library and Foundation for persons

Continued on Page 11, Column 1

from the Membership Desk

Gwen Altstaetter

A Hearty Welcome to the following new members joining since the last issue of the newsletter:

Austin Brian, Shirley Stegeman, Gloria Murray, Thelma Scott, John and Pat Youmans, Giselle Perry-White and family, Jim Bergenthal, Doreen and Fred Prince, Henry Noble, Otto Wahlrab, Rhonda Turner, Barbara Crutchley, Dalton Parker, William Sheehey, Linda Harrison, Betty Hayden, Jean Pontarelli, Louise Lawrence, Ronald Knight, Alice Baker, and Jay Fairvalley.

We also want to thank the following former members who have renewed after an absence from a few months to a few years. They are *Maria Gray, Marion and Sarah Lamb, Jim and Jane Riley, Mary Ann Goodrich, Rosemary Staples, Jerry Totherow, and Marian Waterhouse.*

We appreciate the support of members who continue to renew their memberships even when they are taking a break from their active research. With your participation we will be here later on when you or others in your family want to do more research.

Let's all be Recruiters!

DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO SAY THEY ARE INTERESTED IN FAMILY RESEARCH, BUT DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET STARTED? IF SO -

Bring them to a “Second Monday !”

Each month on the Second Monday at 9:30 a.m. Bill leads an ad hoc discussion on “What's it all about and how to begin family history research.” There is coffee, sometimes donuts, and always good conversation about the library, its resources and beginning to research.

THE BEST PART IS ITS FREE!

NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED.

JUST SHOW UP

BUT, BE SURE TO BRING A FRIEND

Feature Article ~ THE LIFE OF GENERAL JOSEPH KIDDOO

by Donald Bounds Kiddoo

137th Regiment Participates in Major Actions without Casualties

The 137th Regiment was with the Army of the Potomac at four of its bloodiest engagements: South Mountain, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg & Chancellorsville; and yet suffered no battle casualties. At Crampton's Gap the regiment was assigned to VI Corps, which did not come under fire. At Sharpsburg the majority of the regiment was held in reserve on the north end of the battlefield, and after the battle, assisted in burying the dead.

In December, 1862, Lt. Col. Kiddoo temporarily replaced Col. Bossert as commander of the 137th Pennsylvania Regt. Col. Bossert having been assigned to command a provisional brigade consisting of the 22nd, 29th, 30th, and 31 Regiments of New Jersey, the 147th of New York, and the 137th Pennsylvania, now under Kiddoo. The brigade was ordered to service as provost guards at Aquia Creek Landing in Virginia, a major supply depot for the Army of the Potomac. The following month the 137th Regiment joined the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division, I Corps.

On March 14, 1863 Kiddoo was promoted to Colonel and succeeded Col. Bossert as Commander of the 137th. In less than two years of military service, and with his formal education in the field of law, Joseph had risen in rank from private to full Colonel, having apparently skipped over the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain and Major altogether.

The 137th marched at Chancellorsville in May, 1863, but without combat, and returned to camp



The Heritage Library News gratefully acknowledges the permission of Mr. Gordon Kiddoo, member of the Heritage Library Foundation and library volunteer for the publication of the following article on his very distinguished Civil War ancestor, Brigadier General Joseph Barr Kiddoo. Army of the United States.

around Falmouth, Virginia. A few weeks later they were ordered back to Harrisburg because the 9-month enlistment term of the soldiers was due to expire. The regiment was deactivated there on June 1, 1863.

Col. Kiddoo remained on active duty and was re-assigned to command Camp Howe, near Pittsburgh, in the Department of the Monongahela, directed by Maj. General William H. T. Brooks of the regular army. On June 30, Kiddoo was commanding 534 men in six unorganized companies. By July 10 the ranks had grown to 1,042, plus four companies of Pennsylvania militia

cavalry, assembled to prepare for a threat posed by General Robert E. Lee's invasion toward the north. By July 21 the invasion crisis had past and General Brooks ordered Camp Howe to be used as a rendezvous site for draftees. Brooks commended Col. Kiddoo, "...for the prompt and efficient manner with which he has discharged the duties of commandant of the camp." At this time an unusual new assignment was in preparation for Col. Kiddoo.

LEADING THE 22nd USCT REGIMENT

Early in the war, northern abolitionists had advanced the idea of freeing slaves in the south, joining them with free black volunteers of the north, and letting them join the fight to preserve the Union. Frederick Douglass, a former slave and articulate spokesman for free blacks, was certain that 10,000 blacks could be raised in 30 days to fight against the Confederacy. Although the majority of northerners were apprehensive of the strategy, General Orders were promulgated to raise black troops under the control of the Bureau of "Colored" Troops. State governors were invited to recommend individuals for examination by boards of officers. The Bureau of Colored Troops selected officers for the black regiments, to be numbered in the order they were raised. On January 1, 1864, Joseph Barr Kiddoo was appointed Major in the 6th US Colored Infantry Regiment. Five days later he was transferred to command the 22nd USCT Infantry Regiment, and with this appointment, his rank of full Colonel was

restored. An article in "Annals of Old Wilkensburg and Vicinity: The Village 1788-1888", reports that it would be certain death for an officer of a black military unit, should he be captured by the Confederate Army.

The 22nd USCTI ^[see note below] Regiment formed at Camp William Penn, at Chelton Hill, outside Philadelphia, in January, 1864. The regiment departed Philadelphia February 10, 1864 for Yorktown, Virginia, with 681 soldiers from New Jersey comprising more than 70% of the total unit. The 22nd was assigned to the XVIII Corps, Army of the James, under Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler. XVIII Corps also included the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth USCTI Regiments, and a number of white regiments. That spring the 22nd constructed earthworks along the James River. In May, the unit was assigned to the brigade of Col. Samuel A. Duncan in Brig. General Edward W. Hinks' Division of USCT, and was ordered to Fort Powhatan on the south side of the James River. There they constructed fortifications and protected the area for the river crossing of the Army of the James. While at Wilson's Warf on the James, the 22nd used their Springfield rifle muskets to repulse Confederate cavalry probes in several skirmishes.

Brig. Gen Hinks commended Col. Kiddoo to Gen Butler. He said he believed Col. Kiddoo was "... well prepared for any attack of the enemy, and equal to any emergency that is likely to occur." General Butler went on to say, "Col. Kiddoo is the right man in the right place..."

Editors Note: USCT and USCTI are used interchangeably throughout this Article. The "I" stands for "Infantry", "USCT" is, of course "United States Colored Troops."



Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo c. 1862

ATTACKING CONFEDERATES AT PETERSBURG

June 15, 1864, XVIII Corps attacked the Confederate lines around Petersburg, Virginia, with the 22nd USCTI playing a prominent role in the action. While leading the assault, they helped capture seven cannon and two forts. XVIII Corps commander Maj. Gen. William B. "Baldy" Smith ordered an attack all along the line. The 22nd was assigned to take Battery Seven, a position defended by both artillery and infantry. At sunset half the 22nd deployed in "skirmish" formation, circled left and infiltrated the Rebel rear through a gap in the defenses. The remainder of the regiment sprinted for the front of the Confederate fort to get "under the guns" where the defending artillery could not be depressed enough to hit them. When they arrived at the fort, they found that their skirmisher had already gained possession.

The 22nd's black soldiers immediately began to take fire from adjacent Battery Eight; however Col.

Kiddoo rallied his men and ordered another charge. Captain Albert Manes led Company A, followed by the rest of the regiment toward the Rebel position through a narrow swampy ravine, swept by "a storm of leaden hail" and up a fifty degree hill obscured by brush and cut down "abetis" formed from the trees. The 22nd's Color Sergeant, James Woby of Allentown, Pennsylvania, miraculously unhit in the blizzard of Rebel bullets, led the assault, spinning around and waving his flag to encourage his comrades, until the black tide rolled, shooting and stabbing, over the Rebel earthworks.

According to Col. Kiddoo, his men faltered once under the heavy fire, but "seeing their colors on the opposite side of the ravine, pushed rapidly up," following Sgt. Woby. The enemy beat a rapid retreat, leaving their dead, the fort, and its guns to the bloodied and battered New Jerseyans. The 22nd's casualties totaled 138 officers and men in that June 15, 1864 battle. Gen. Hinks praised his officers for their "gallant and soldierly behavior ..." and especially refers to the "gallant bearing and soldierly behavior of Col. J. B. Kiddoo, 22nd US Colored Troops."

Routine duty in the trenches followed, until September 29 and 30 when the regiment participated in the Battle of New Market Heights, or "Chapin's Farm." There they lost 78 casualties in an unsuccessful assault.

WOUNDED SKIRMISHING AT THE RAILROAD ON DARBY-TOWN ROAD

On October 27 1864, the 22nd USCTI was operating within X Corps, Army of the James against the Confederate defenses of Richmond. A battle ensued at the "South

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Typical "home" to the 38 black regiments taking part at the siege of Petersburg. According to the subtitle for this photograph from *The Civil War: an illustrated history* by Geoffrey C. Ward with Ric Burns and Ken Burns, Alfred A. Knoph, Inc. 1990; in the collection of The Heritage Library; :These men lived on the advance line in shallow dugouts the men bravely called 'bombproofs,' and it was their task to warn the men in the trenches behind them of enemy movements.

KIDDOO

Continued from Page Five Column 3

Side Railroad" on Darbytown Road, around the same grounds as the Battle of Fair Oaks in 1862. X Corps was ordered to press the Confederates while XVIII Corps attempted a flanking movement. The 22nd encountered a dismounted Confederate cavalry unit, dug into defensive positions along Williamsburg Road. The 22nd was ordered to attack alongside the 1st Regiment, but in this action Kiddoo led his regiment in the wrong direction.

Seven of Kiddoo's officers later alleged that their colonel, whose mood that day fluctuated between elation and panic, was drunk, and alleged that his confusing orders that day were "the sublime views and plans of a whiskey-crazed brain." Confusion in the regiment's ranks was exacerbated when Col.

Kiddoo was badly wounded, and compounded by the fact that the regiment had been sent into action with a number of new and barely trained recruits who panicked when they received flanking fire from Confederate skirmishers.

The 22nd had emerged from a wood and charged across an open field toward the Confederate entrenchments. Col. Kiddoo had fallen with a musket ball passing through his hip and injuring his spine. Col. Alonzo G. Draper, commanding the division, reported on the assault:

"Whatever may be said for the disorder in the ranks of the Twenty-second, it is but to say that Col. J. B. Kiddoo ... charged with his right company upon the enemy's works with an utter disregard for his own personal safety until he fell dangerously wounded within fifty yards of the rebel line."

Col. Kiddoo was transported to

the Chesapeake U.S. General Hospital for treatment and rest. He remained there while his regiment entered the Confederate capital of Richmond and stayed at that hospital until after the war ended.

Praise for Kiddoo's leadership in the Williamsburg Road skirmish was not unanimous. Seven of the company grade officers of the 22nd requested an investigation of the actions and conduct of their colonel. They sought to have the "veil lifted, which enshrouds our disgraceful rout," so that the Regiment might be "cleared of the disgrace" and there "blame may rest where it properly belongs." Col. Kiddoo, the officers charged, "has a whiskey-crazed brain."

Col. Kiddoo's commanding officer rejected the charges in the strongest terms: "I have had as much opportunity for judging Col. Kiddoo's conduct on this occasion and others as anybody else," and, replied the commander, "I think all this unwarranted and prompted by malice somewhere. I consider Col. Kiddoo the finest gentleman and officer in my Third Division."

The following month the seven officers renewed their complaints in a letter alleging that through Kiddoo's mismanagement ... the Regiment was "put through a number of most strange and harassing maneuvers..." The complaint continued, "The most charitable conclusion we can come to is that being under the influence of liquor, what he gained in courage as the day wore on and evening set in, to all appearances, he certainly lost, at an increasing ratio, in judgment and discretion."

Kiddoo's files reveal that the charges were forwarded through command channels, but little came of them. Instead, the army honored him generously. Seven months later on May 21, 1865, Col. Kiddoo re-

turned to duty with the assignment of commander of the army post at Harrisburg. Shortly before he was mustered out on August 22, 1865, he was promoted Brevet Brigadier General, at age 31, for his heroism leading black soldiers of the 22nd US Colored Troops (Infantry) in the skirmish on Darbytown Road. The War Department and Congress honored him again on October 14, 1865, with a further promotion to Brevet Major General, the highest rank awarded to any volunteer officer during the Civil War, citing: "gallant and meritorious services during the war." It is clear that the United States Army valued the heroism of a field officer who "charged...with an utter disregard for his own personal safety..." far above any criticisms made of him for having had a "...whiskey-crazed brain" at the time.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF FREED BLACKS IN TEXAS

Joseph Kiddoo's military career did not end there, however. He remained in the Army and on April 2, 1866 was appointed assistant commissioner (superintendent) of the Freedman's Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands for Texas, with headquarters in Galveston, replacing General Edgar M. Gregory, serving there until January of 1867. While in Texas Joseph was appointed Lt. Col. in the 43rd U.S. Infantry. In the ensuing years, he was brevetted the rank of Colonel, and once again, to the rank of Brigadier General, this time in the regular Army.

Kiddoo's service with black soldiers during the war had conditioned him for such an assignment in behalf of their social circumstances in Texas, following the war. The following biographical information on his service in Texas in 1866 is quoted from the Handbook of Texas article by James Alex Baggett:

"Kiddoo considered the organization's [the Freedmen's Bureau] objective to be instructing freedmen in industry and offering them an opportunity for education. He imposed a heavy fine on whites caught enticing freed men away from employers with whom they were under contract, and sent his assistants to lecture the former slaves on the importance of harvesting the 1866 crop. Kiddoo stopped the bureau's interference in the civil courts except where a strong possibility of judicial injustice to a freeman existed. Although Texas planters recognized that Kiddoo was changing the social structure of the state by his reforms, many appreciated his attempts to help planters and freedmen work together, as he did in the summer of 1866 when bureau commissioners taught freedmen the importance of saving rain-soaked crops.

"General Kiddoo encouraged education for blacks by making it free in Galveston and Houston. He encouraged the recruiting and training of teachers by working closely with the American Missionary Association. He established a teacher-training school at Galveston, and had the Army start a night school in Brownsville for black regimental non-commissioned officers, hoping

to induce them to remain in Texas when they were mustered out of military service.

"Under Kiddoo's program, perhaps 10,000 blacks learned to read and write. Kiddoo sought to allay the expense of some of these operations by imposing a tax on negotiated contracts between employers and laborers. Gradually, however, he demonstrated his support for black civil rights, and consequently because he thought the laws reduced blacks to a condition of involuntary servitude, he suspended some sections of the states black codes. Following this controversial move, and using the excuse that his old Petersburg wound was preventing him from fulfilling all his duties, Gen. Charles Griffin relieved Kiddoo of the assignment on January 24, 1867. During his Texas assignment Kiddoo had exhibited feeling of sympathy for both planters and blacks. He was remembered as a capable, although somewhat stubborn administrator."

RETIREMENT AND DEATH

Following his service in Texas, he served two years in the Department of the Lakes; then as Superintendent of recruiting in New York City. He retired to civilian life from that post. He was admitted to the bar in Allegheny County in 1867, and may have practiced law during his retirement from military service. He officially retired from the U S Army in December, 1870.

General Kiddoo was living in New York when a Mr. & Mrs. Custer recognized him on the city

Continued on Page Eight Column 1

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 meeting on the first and Third Mondays of each month at 7 pm. Persons interested in these organizations may reach them by contacting The Heritage Library at 843-686-6560.

KIDDOO *Continued from Page 7 Column 3* of a tall, fine looking man, apparently a specimen of physical perfection. The look of longing that he gave us as we ran up, flushed and happy, startled me, and I could scarcely wait until we parted to know the meaning. It was this: General Joseph B. Kiddoo, shot in the leg during the war, still had the open wound from which he endured daily pain and nightly torture, for he got only fragmentary sleep. To heal the wound was to end his life, the surgeons said. When at last I heard he had been given relief and slept the blessed peace, what word of sorrow could be framed?" This poignant epilogue is reported on page 317 of the reference, "Annals of Old Wilkinsburg...", kindly contributed by fellow Kiddoo family historian Rob Roy Ratiff.

General Joseph Kiddoo died August 19th or 26th, 1880 while residing at Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, from complications resulting from his old war wound. He is buried at West Point, among many other General Officers of the United States Army.

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The full text is available in the Vertical Files of The Heritage Library along with

**Editor's Note—**

**Readers of The Heritage Library News are encouraged to submit articles of their own or relatives creation for publication in the pages of "The News." If you enjoyed Gordon's material and have work of which you are similarly proud, send it to the attention of: The Editor, Heritage Library News, The Heritage Library, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. E-mails to [bill@heritagelib.org](mailto:bill@heritagelib.org) are encouraged. Also we prefer the MS Word format.**



## NEW ON THE SHELVES

Recently received from Member Alan Chaput are early Acadian Census data for 1671, 1678, 1686, 1693, 1698, 1700, 1707, and 1714.

**New Arrivals** in the military section of periodicals are:

- Military History years 2000-2004
- MHQ – The Quarterly Journal of Military History years 2000 to 2004

OVER SIXTY NEW TITLES have been added to the main book collections, biographies, family histories, general historical subjects from all parts of the world. A sampling of titles include:

Queen Victoria  
The Mountbatten's  
Duel of Eagles  
American Caesar  
Yankee from Olympus  
The Cherokee Removal  
Index to Alabama Wills  
American Heritage Book of Indians  
California: a gold mine  
King Edward VIII  
FDR: Commander in Chief  
A Burke Family History  
The Peabody Hotel  
The Black Douglases



*Latest from the Web ~~~  
for the On-Line Genealogist*

**GRO ONLINE CERTIFICATE  
SERVICE NOW WORLDWIDE**



Family history researchers working on United Kingdom ancestors have a new tool available to aid them. The General Register Office part of the Office for National Statistics holding birth, marriage and death records in England and Wales announced in August their online ordering service for certificates is being offered to customers worldwide...

In 2003 the GRO launched a registration certificate online ordering service for customers living in England and Wales. The initial success of the program, over 50% of applications for certificates are now being made online, resulted in further improvements to the website and a more user-friendly format.

Genealogists wishing to use the new service should contact the GRO at [www.gro.gov.uk](http://www.gro.gov.uk) for details.

**Major Improvements made when searching using Ancestry.com**

The Library now subscribes to "Ancestry Library Edition" supplied by ProQuest Information and Learning to access the widely used Ancestry databases.

The full range of Ancestry services are now just one click away. Through this site, you can:

- Cross-search thousands of databases by single or multiple element.
- Jump directly to specific collections or databases.
- Browse original, full-text digital images in the census, immigration and military collections.
- Download digital images in JPEG and GIF formats for more extensive viewing and printing.
- Download helpful census extraction forms, ancestral charts, family group sheets, and more.
- Instantly retrieve a list of genealogy databases posted or updated recently.

No more logging on and off or looking for an available work station. All the Library's computers can now reach Ancestry all the time. When next you try you will see a new and improved homepage, otherwise the services and printing set up remains the same. *Good Hunting!*

**GENEALOGISTS / FAMILY HISTORIANS**  
~ 843-686-6560 is your personal research help—**HOTLINE!**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**  
The Heritage Library Foundation, Inc.

**WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 16, 2005  
10:00 AM**

32 Office Park Road, Suite 300  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928  
843-686-6560

**SEARCHING VIRGINIA RECORDS?**

Check the Library Files under Virginia for:

- *Land Patents – Cavaliers & Pioneers – Abstracts 1623-1666, Patent Books 1-5*
- *Quit Rent Rolls 1704*
- *Scotch-Irish Life West of the Blue Ridge 1717-1767*
- *Virginia Women First 200 Years*
- *Shenandoah History section contains records of six churches from about 1750 to 1850*

*And much more.*

**Need Specialized Help With Your Ancestor Searching?**

You can find help at The Heritage Library from its trained and experienced volunteer staff. During regular hours staff members are on duty to help patron with their regular researching.

However, if you need specialized help and wish private tutoring or instruction in the use of the latest versions of Family Tree Maker or Internet Searching and don't wish to wait for scheduled classes, you may seek private help from our Staff. Lessons are available at the rate of \$25.00 per hour. **Call 843-686-6560**

## **BOOK REVIEW -**

### ***Death and Marriage Notices from The Watchman and Observer 1845-1855. by Brent Holcombe***

Newly received in the South Carolina Collection is the latest work from member Brent H. Holcomb, titled: Death and Marriage Notices from The Watchman and Observer 1845-1855. A 2004 publication from South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research (SCMAR), this 209 page book consists of excerpts from the Richmond, Virginia newspaper, The Watchman and Observer.

This newspaper is notable for being from an era before the Civil War in a state with burned courthouse records. The paper was aimed at Presbyterians in the southeast-North and South Carolina and Georgia as well as Virginia. Often stated is the particular congregations where the newly-weds held their memberships or how many years the deceased belonged to a certain Presbyterian Church. The importance of these notices is heightened by the fact that county death and marriage records in these states do not commence until after 1900.

This Holcomb book has a clear format and good index. It should become a standard reference for those doing pre-1860 research in southern states. *Pat Smith, Senior Librarian*

### **ALEXIA HELSLEY TO LEAD BEAUFORT GENEALOGY'S JANUARY WORKSHOP**

Anne McElroy, Secretary of the Beaufort Chapter of the SC Genealogical Society announced the January 4th, 2005 workshop will cover tracing your Revolutionary Ancestors via Bounty Land Warrant Applications and War Pensions. The program slated for 2:00 to 4:00 PM on the second floor of the Beaufort County Library features Alexia Helsley, Director of Special Projects at the SC Department of Archives & History in Columbia.

There will be a charge of ten or fifteen dollars for the workshop. ***For more information call Anne McElroy at 843-524-9145.***

### **FIFE PLANTATION INFO NEWLY ARRIVED IN THE LIBRARY**

*Historic Fife Plantation on the Savannah River was one of the last rice plantations which dotted the banks of the river in the 1700s and 1800s. The land, now owned by the Harrison Family is being preserved as an environmental and nature refuge.*

*Abandoned by its overseers during the Civil War, a mixture of former slaves and American Indians continued to live and work at Fife into the early 1900s.*

*Area Native Historian, Johnny Runningdeer, son of one of the last workers to live and farm Fife land, has donated a video tape and documents dealing with Fife Plantation.*

## **YARD SALE ALERT!**

The Heritage Library will once again participate in the Island Packet's "World's largest Yard Sale" in March of 2005.

For the last two years this effort has contributed to our financial need with a comparatively small amount of labor. We need you to contribute paper back books (*NO hard covers, please*), jewelry, dishes, small appliances in working order and any other "treasures" you wish to give to a good "cause". ***We also cannot accept any clothing.***

Please store your items if you have space and if not, after January 1 bring the items to the Library or call 686-6560 for pick up.

We need your help to make this a success. Any questions call Gwen 689-9558.

**Watch this space for further information —**



The new patron work station area location in the inside the stacks area close to the printer just visible in the left corner of the picture.

**Presidents Corner -**

*Continue from Page 2, Column 3*

time, a little patience will be appreciated. In the meantime, Happy Researching!

On a somewhat a darker note, I would like to call your attention to the article on Page One concerning the 2004 Annual Fund Campaign. You will see that results so far are running well behind those of the last several years. Should you be planning to contribute, but have just not "got around to it," please do so now. If you had thought to take a pass this year, please search your heart and think of the events of the past and what you have gained from your participation in the work of The Heritage Library. **If you can make even a small gift before the end of 2004, please do. If we are to achieve our goals for 2004 and secure the funds needed for 2005, the 83% of the membership, not yet heard from, need to help the 17% who have. Frankly, we need the money!**

**Volunteers**

*Continued from Page 3 Column 2*

interested in keeping up with the skills they have perfected throughout their careers prior to moving to the Lowcountry.

For persons willing and able to donate up to four hours or so a week:

The Library needs persons comfortable with using computers and word processors, data transcribers, typists and others with general office skills. Bookkeeping and accounting skills are in high demand. The Foundation needs two, one to assist the Treasurer and a second to work with membership and contributions.

Both the Library and the Foundation needs persons with experience in the field of public relations to help with advertising and publicity

Also, the Foundation is in the process of expanding its Speakers

Bureau to carry its message to the community. Anyone interested in speaking to neighborhood groups, clubs, church groups and other associations on topics of general interest in the fields of general history and genealogy, or in telling the Heritage Library story should contact Pam or Gwen at the Library, 843-686-6560.

*Thoughts to Remember ~*

*"When the legends die  
the dreams end.*

*When the dreams end,  
there is no more greatness!"*

**COME VOLUNTEER AT THE  
HERITAGE LIBRARY—**

**HELP KEEP THE LEGENDS  
ALIVE!**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- About Area Libraries

The Augusta Genealogical Society Library located at 1109 Broad Street, Augusta, Georgia is open 9-4 Mon, Wed, 9-1 Sat and 2-5 Sun. Has 15,000 volumes and a number of unique special holdings

Furman University in Greenville, SC is the central repository for SC Baptist Records.

The Methodist Archives are at Wofford University in Spartanburg.

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

Events listed below are as of the date of publication and subject to change without notice. For latest event information contact the Heritage Library at 843-686-6560.

*The Library's regular hours of operation are 9 am to 3 pm, Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays*

**December**

|                  |                 |                    |                       |                                           |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Monday          | Private Meeting    | 7 to 9 pm             | Island Writers Network                    |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Monday          | Free Lecture       | 9:30 to 11 am         | Introducing Genealogy                     |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Monday          | Foundation Meeting | 3:30 to 5 pm          | Management Committee                      |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Tuesday         | Private Meeting    | Noon to 2 pm          | Holiday Luncheon HHI Genealogical Society |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Monday          | Private Meeting    | 7 to 9 pm             | Island Writers Network                    |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Friday</b>   | <b>Holiday</b>     | <b>Library Closed</b> | <b>Christmas</b>                          |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>Holiday</b>     | <b>Library Closed</b> | <b>Christmas</b>                          |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | <b>Friday</b>   | <b>Holiday</b>     | <b>Library Closed</b> | <b>New Year's</b>                         |

**January**

|                  |                 |                    |                       |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>Holiday</b>     | <b>Library Closed</b> | <b>New Year's</b>                       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Monday          | Foundation Meeting | 3:30 to 5 pm          | Management Committee                    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Monday          | Free Lecture       | 9:30 to 11 am         | Introducing Genealogy                   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Monday          | Private Meeting    | 4 to 6 pm             | HHI Orchestra League Board              |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Monday          | Private Meeting    | 7 to 9 pm             | Island Writers' Network                 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Tuesday         | Private Meeting    | 9:30 to 11:30 am      | Annual Meeting HHI Genealogical Society |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Tuesday         | Foundation Meeting | 1:30 to 3:30 pm       | Board of Directors                      |

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Hilton Head Island, SC 29928-4640

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