
FIVE HILLS HERITAGE

Published by: Five Hills Genealogical Society

January, April, July and October

Volume 2 Number 4

October 2003

President: George H. Ballentine
Secretary: Jane Harbert

Vice President: Charles O. Davis
Treasurer: Frances Green

Meeting Schedule

Date: October 16	6:30 p.m.	Methodist Church	Doing Family Research with Children
Date: November 20	6:30 p.m.	Methodist Church	Conducting Railroad Research
Date: December 18	6:30 p.m.	Methodist Church	Workshop - Annual Christmas Party

THE HISTORY AND PRESHISTORY OF FORT HOOD LANDS PROGRAM PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY

In July we had a very informative presentation by Mr. William Marris, President of the Heart of Texas Chapter #26, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Mr. Marris is also the Secretary of the Texas Society, SAR. His program, SAR Research and Application, gave a lot of information and hints for anyone who is working on, or plans to begin work on, an application to the SAR. After the presentation, Mr. Marris joined us for refreshments and made brochures and applications available to the membership.

August brought a much anticipated program, Mr. Gavin Smith, Curator for Fort Hood Cultural Resources, speaking on The History and Prehistory of the



Mr. Gavin Smith show some of the artifacts used during his presentation to our society on August 21, 2003.

Fort Hood Lands. Mr. Smith brought a collection of prehistoric and historic artifacts (see page 2). During the presentation he discussed how these items can help recreate the history of an area. He talked about what this area was like 13,000 years ago when man first appears here. Also discussed was a planned

Gun Club.

September brought a workshop with a secretive air to it. The program was prepared by George Ballentine, but he would not tell the members what it was going to entail. Also present was Ms. Paula Abernathy, reporter for the

(See Programs on page 2)

Programs

(Continued from page 1)



Mr. Bill Marrs fields a question during his presentation to our society on July 17, 2003.

group was randomly divided into three groups for Genealogy Jeopardy! The categories were tough, as evidenced by the final scores, but a great time was had by all. Two of the teams had to be given points so they could participate in Final Jeopardy, with Team One, the winner, leading from the start. If you were not there, you missed a great time. If you want to know who won and lost - come to the meeting and ask.

Killeen Daily Herald. She was doing an article for the Cove Section to the paper that began publication on October 2, 2003. After the business meeting and refreshments, George turned on the overhead projector and the

Copperas Cove's First School

Charles Alcorn & Nancy Brown

The first school began in Copperas Cove, Texas in 1883. The Railroad had just arrived the year before to this area. The school was near the present day site of Avenue E School. Jesse M. Clements donated the land for the purpose of building a school. The first classes were held on the summer of 1883 and were taught by Nan Sherwood. Trustees were J. W. Boulton and Hiram Sharp. Classes were held in a single room on the first floor of the two-story frame building.

The students represented a wide range of ages and grades, and were all taught by one teacher. In the fall of 1883, Sam C. Fulson became the teacher and by 1884 a second teacher was added.

As the town grew, the school attendance grew and by

(See First School on page 7)

HOW HOT IS SUMMER IN TEXAS ?



IT IS SO HOT FARMERS HAVE TO FEED THE CHICKENS CRUSHED ICE TO KEEP THEM FROM LAYING HARD BOILED EGGS !

Some of the Artifacts Shown by Mr. Gavin Smith



Eliphaz Preston Shelton Hylton - Union Soldier

Birdie Porter

My great great grandfather Eliphaz Preston Shelton Hylton was born in Floyd County, Kentucky on February 28, 1820. He was 41 years old and a Baptist preacher when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted, along with my great grandfather Willison Preston Hylton, in the 40th Kentucky Mounted Infantry and mustered in at Grayson, Kentucky, on September of 1863. It is said that Eliphaz rendered his services to the regiment as a chaplain.

In the border states such as Kentucky, it was not unusual for family members to find themselves on opposite sides during the Civil War. While Eliphaz was a Union man, his son Nathan ran off to join Morgan's Raiders when he had just turned 14 years old. Nathan was loyal to the South and stayed that way the rest of his life. Eliphaz and his men had been defeated by Morgan's Raiders in a battle near Lexington and most of his men were killed.

After the war Eliphaz went back to preaching. He was noted for his long sermons. He also defied the Ku Klux Klan. In a region where they were strongly organized, he not only preached

(See Union Soldier on page 5)

Society Member Makes Presentation to Coryell County Genealogical Society

One of our members, Linda Ledger, was invited to the Coryell County Genealogical Society in Gatesville to give a presentation. Linda selected her topic, An Abridged Copperas Cove History.

I listened as Linda began her presentation with the Cretaceous Period, 66-144 million years ago, and progressed to today. Along the way she discussed the arrival of Sterling Robertson's "Nashville Colony" in 1830, and the establishment of Fort Gates in 1849. From there she talked about the founding of Coryell County in 1854 and the arrival of Jesse Clements and his wife Chaley in 1871. As she continued her timeline she touched on the establishment of the Copperas (*sic*) Cove Post Office in 1879 and the coming of the Santa Fe Railroad in 1882. The election of Cove's first Mayor, Jouett Allin, in 1913 was followed with the establishment of Fort Hood in 1940.

Linda's presentation was well received by the CCGS membership. Afterwards while we enjoyed refreshments, Linda found a number of new cousins on her husband's side. I would encourage all members of our society to try and give presentations to other societies. This sharing of knowledge and experience can benefit all of us.



Linda Ledger checks her notes during her presentation to the Coryell County Genealogical Society on September 8, 2003 in Gatesville.

Five Hills Joins Texas State Society

We joined the Texas State Genealogical Society (TSGS) in July 2003. As a member society we are allowed one delegate to

the Annual Convention in Austin. Charles Davis was elected for that position this year.

We received Stirpes, TSGS newsletter, for the months of June and July. Contact a book committee member to view it.

Texas Judge Asks For Assistance

This request for help was received by email. Ms. Rollins has asked that anyone with information contact her with the research for her new book.

I am a judge in Abilene, Texas, writing a book about pioneer Texas women judges. I'm writing you because of your interest in Texas history and genealogy. I would appreciate help from you and from others you work with to locate women who should be included. Feel free to distribute copies of this email or to rephrase it and publish it with my personal information in any form you believe helpful to reach people who have the information.

Pioneer women judges, so far as I know, are 20th century people. Most of the women I will include in the book first became judges before 1975. I have information about the district and appellate state judges as well as the federal judges, though I would welcome stories about any of them. I need names and information about judges who served in municipal (city) courts, as justices of the peace, and as county judges.

My address is: Barbara B. Rollins, 10 Augusta, Abilene TX 79606. My email address is Barbara@SharpWriters.com.

Thank you for the work you do to discover and preserve Texas history, and a special thanks for any assistance you can give me.

Genealogical Standards Standards for Use of Technology in Genealogical Research

Recommended by the National Genealogical Society

**From: Charleston Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society's
Low Country Courier, June 2003**

Mindful that computers are tools, genealogists take full responsibility for their work, and therefore they -

- learn the capabilities and limits of their equipment and software, and use them only when they are the most appropriate tools for a purpose.
- do not accept uncritically the ability of software to format, number, import, modify, check, chart or report their data, and therefore carefully evaluate any resulting product.
- treat compiled information from on-line sources or digital databases in the same way as other published sources - useful primarily as a guide to locating original records, but not as evidence for a conclusion or assertion.
- accept digital images or enhancements of an original record as a satisfactory substitute for the original only when there is reasonable assurance that the image accurately reproduces the unaltered original.
- cite sources for data obtained on-line or from digital media with the same care that is appropriate for sources on paper and other traditional media, and enter data into a digital database only when its source can remain associated with it.
- always cite the sources for information or data posted on-line or sent to others, naming the author of a digital file as its immediate source, while crediting original sources cited within the file.
- preserve the integrity of their own databases by evaluating the reliability of downloaded data before incorporating it into their own files.
- provide, whenever they alter data received in digital form, a description of the change that will accompany the altered data whenever it is shared with others.
- actively oppose the proliferation of error, rumor and fraud by personally verifying or correcting information, or noting it as unverified, before passing it on to others.
- treat people on-line as courteously and civilly as they would treat them face-to-face, not separated by networks and anonymity.
- accept that technology has not changed the principles of genealogical research, only some of the procedures.

© 2000, 2001, 2002 by National Genealogical Society. Permission is granted to copy or publish this material provided it is reproduced in its entirety, including this notice.

Union Soldier

(Continued from page 3)

against them in his four-hour sermons, but went out on the road and preached against them.



**Eliphaz Preston Shelton Hylton,
Corporal, Company C, 40th
Kentucky Mounted Infantry**

In a country where Baptists ruled, nevertheless, his life was in danger. He had a room built in the upstairs of his house for protection.

Eliphaz was killed by the Klan on February 17, 1896. After his death he was buried in Cherokee, Lawrence County, Kentucky on a hill among the soldiers he had led in battle.

Eliphaz was a lover of books, a school teacher, a farmer, a warrior and a preacher. His son Nathan was the grandfather of Jesse Hilton Stuart, the author, who was born near Greenup, Kentucky.

October is Family History Month

George Ballentine

October is again Family History Month, and a time to spend time with the family and have some quality time together.

For family researchers it could well be a time to make contacts, new and old, with family members, especially those that you have been putting off. Many of us have had that one elderly relative that we have been putting off contacting. Now is the time to do it! Our old folks won't be around forever, and now is the time to discuss family history with them. From my experiences they are a wealth of information that cannot be gotten from any other source - first hand knowledge. Don't put it off any longer - contact them!

Senator Orin Hatch of Utah was instrumental in getting October proclaimed as Family History Month. "Researching ancestry is a very important component of identity. It can lead to long-sought-after family reunions or allow for life saving medical treatments that only genetic links will allow. This is why I introduced and helped pass legislation that designated October as Family History Month", says Senator Hatch on his web site.

At our October meeting on the 16th, we will have a program geared toward the family. I think it is going to be a good one, so please be sure to bring the entire family along, especially the youngsters. It only comes once a year, so come on out and celebrate Family History Month with us.



Seminar Planned for October 2004

Plans have begun for our Fall Seminar to be held on Saturday, October 23, 2004 at Grace United Methodist Church in Copperas Cove.

We have had two planning meetings so far and have chosen

the chairs for the various committees that we will need. If you missed those meetings, contact myself or Beverly Kittinger for information on how you can serve your society in preparing for this seminar. We need all hands to make it a success.

We will again join with West Bell Genealogical Society to conduct this seminar.

COPPERAS COVE HISTORY

Linda Ledger

This is the first in a series of articles that will appear in our newsletter over the next several issues. These articles were written by Linda Ledger and gracious permission is given to reprint them here.

In the 1890's a unique group of settlers began migrating to Coryell County. One of their destinations was Copperas Cove. Others located at the Grove in the northeastern corner of the county.

In the next few weeks we'll relive the coming of these people to Copperas Cove - the Wends of Germany.

The Wendish people emigrated to the United States from Germany, but they are not of German descent, nor is their language German. They are an interesting clan, a minority group that became lost in the German culture after a long struggle to maintain a Wendish identity.

The Wends, who are referred to also as Serbo-Lusatians or Serbs, were concentrated in a small area of Germany. The area was about the size of Coryell County and was located generally south of Berlin along the Spree River.

The Wends are of Slavic descent, akin to the Poles and Bohemians, and trace their history beyond the Christian era. Their language belongs to the Indo-European family and is related more to Latin than to German.

Like many minority groups before and after them, the Wends suffered discrimination. They were not allowed to do skilled labor, and their property was sometimes confiscated. Many Wends found it necessary to keep their background undercover and to pose as Germans.

The Wends' German conquerors prevented them from achieving political independence. Surrounded by people they considered foreigners and without a country of their own, the Wends wrestled a long and hopeless struggle for freedom and a national existence.

Job discrimination and persecution were not

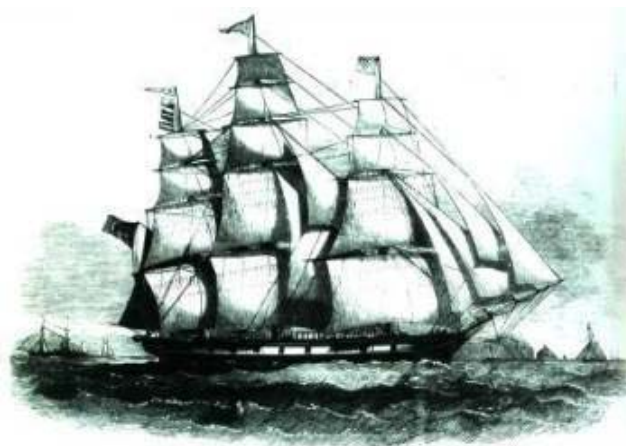
new to the Wends, but the final straw related to religious freedom. In 1817 the Prussian government decreed the union of the Lutheran and reformed churches. The Wends were devout Lutherans and found this situation unbearable.

America offered hope. Here was a chance to escape persecution and discrimination. Here was an opportunity to establish a Wendish community. Here was a place of religious freedom.

Australia was considered also, but in 1853 thirty Wends had emigrated to Texas and settled in Frelsburg, New Ulm and Industry. They wrote letters to relatives and friends urging them to come to the new land of freedom.

On March 25, 1854, a group of Wends met to organize a congregation to emigrate to Texas. Rev. John Killiam was chosen pastor and leader of the group. Carl Lehman was elected president, and Carl Teinert, father of John Teinert and great grandfather of Mr. Ed Meissner, Miss Clara Teinert, Mrs. Ella Mathias, Mrs. Harry Rose, Mr. R. A. Hemple, Mrs. Henry Nauert, all of Copperas Cove, was elected vice president.

In September 1854 around 600 people (the aged record makes an exact count difficult) left Germany. John Teinert, who was 13 at the time, gave this account of the departure.



The BEN NEVIS brought a large colony of Wends to Texas in 1854. Many descendants of those Wends make their homes in Copperas Cove.

(See Wends on page 7)

Wends

(Continued from page 6)

“We went on the railroad to Hamburg. We asked the ship owners to provide two ships for us. The people wanted to be on one ship so that they would be able to stay together. Therefore, the ship owners chartered us a large ship, Ben Nevis, by name. Therefore, it was necessary that we travel on a freighter to England.”

A long voyage, cholera, and hardships lay ahead. But the Wends set out seeking the right to worship freely, hoping to found a community in which a Wendish culture would flourish, and planning to establish schools and churches in which to preserve their language.

A great melting pot was waiting.

“I am indebted to Mrs. Joann Duren for helping research; to Mrs. Ed Meissner for family records and information freely and enthusiastically given and to Anne Blasig for having written the book “The Wends of Texas.”



**WE SUPPORT OUR
TROOPS**

First School

(Continued from page 2)

1898 a more permanent structure of native stone was built. By 1910 a similar building was built beside it with a large hallway connecting the two buildings.

Some of the educators who helped establish the Copperas Cove school System during the 1880's and 1890's were Mrs. C. W. Taylor, Eugenia Hughes, Laura Benson, Nettie Mae Goodson, Fannie Shipp, Ethel Clements, Professor Hicks, Professor Barnett and Professor Woods. Professor Woods, a Baptist minister, graduated Cove's first high School in 1904 consisting of 2 young ladies, Ethel Clements and Evena Swift.

The local school district was incorporated in 1892. In 1894, the entire Masonic Hall was purchased for school use because the student body had outgrown the space in the lower floor of the building.

During this period, early 1900's, a real estate promotional flyer described the town as having a “Healthy boom” and the school as follows:

“We have one of the most commodious school buildings in the West Texas, two stories high and built of rock and provided with all necessary apparatus for conducting a high school. There is not a town in Texas the size of this that can compare with it for school facilities”.

The old stone building - the historic heart of the Cove School

system - has seen many changes over the years, and it still serves as an alternative school for the CCISD.

For more information on the evolution of the Copperas Cove Schools read Copperas Cove City of Five Hills, A Centennial History by Jerry Smith and Patrick McLaughlin and Coryell County Scrapbook by Mildred Watkins Mears, both available in the reserve section of the Copperas Cove Public Library, from which this material was obtained.

We Need Programs

As you know, we need to have three programs and a workshop each quarter. To do this requires a lot of coordination and contacts with speakers. As members of our society, we have an obligation to chip in and support the group. I expect everyone to live up to that obligation.

If you don't want to actually present a program, please take some time and locate someone who will and then get them on the schedule. You won't have to speak, and you will meet your obligation to the society.

Election Time !

Almost time again for elections. The nominating committee will contact you about your desire to serve in an elected capacity. If you want to serve, please contact myself or the committee chair, Charles Alcorn.

FHGS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you are interested in becoming a member of the **FIVE HILLS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**, just fill in the blank form below and return it with \$12/individual or \$15/family. Send this to **Five Hills Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1723, Copperas Cove, TX 76522**. The Society meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Grace United Methodist Church, and is open to the public. Please make checks payable to: **Five Hills Genealogical Society**.

Name: _____ Email _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Researching:

SURNAME

STATE

COUNTY

Five Hills Heritage

**P.O. Box 1723
Copperas Cove, TX 76522**

***Newsletter of the Five Hills
Genealogical Society***
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txfhgs>

***A Partner Society with the
Texas State Genealogical Society***

George H. Ballentine
Editor

SPECIAL INSERT PAGE

New Books at the Killeen Library



Beverly Kittinger



BOOKS - GENERAL - CHECKOUT

American Naturalization Records
 America's Best Genealogy Resource Centers
 Ancestry Family Historian's Address Book
 Contents & Addresses of Hungarian Archives
 Cyndi's List
 Finding Your Roots Online
 Emigrants to America: Indentured Servants Recruited in London, 1718-1733
 Family Ties in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland
 A Field Guide for Genealogists
 A Genealogical & Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain & Ireland
 Genealogy 101
 Genealogy Online
 Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records
 The German Allied Troops in North American War
 Names, Names, Names: Locating Your Dutch Ancestors in Colonial America
 Naval Pensioners of the United States
 Online Roots
 Poll Books 1692-1872, a Directory of Holdings in Great Britain
 San Francisco Ship Passenger Lists, Vol. II (1850-1851)
 Scots in the USA & Canada, 1825-1875, Part three

BOOKS - TEXAS - GENERAL - REFERENCE

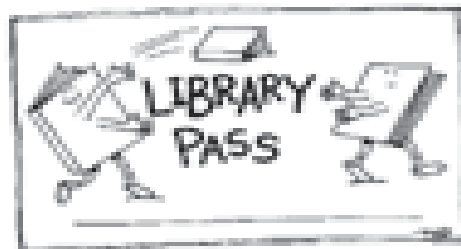
Abstracts of Early East Texas Newspapers
 Brown, Adams, Sibley & Allied Lines
 Catalogue of the Spanish Collection of the Texas General Land Office, Part I, Part II, (also a check-out copy)
 Guide to Spanish & Mexican Land Grants in South Texas (also a check-out copy)
 Northeast Texas Cemeteries, Vol. I, Vol. II, Vol. III

Texas Masonic Deaths w/selected biographies
 Yanks & Rebs in Texas 1890

BOOKS - TEXAS - COUNTY - REFERENCE

Angelina County-Angelina County in the Civil War
 Austin County-Deed Abstracts, 1837-1852
 Bowie County-Family Bible Records, Vol. 1
 Brazos County-Births, 1850-1910
 Camp County-Marriages, 1874-1978, Books 1-13
 Cass County-Index to Death Records, 1903 to August 1982, Vol. 1.
 Cass County-Marriages, 1847-1899
 Cass County Records of 1890
 Collin County-Cemetery Inscriptions, Vol. 1
 Collin County-Texas Families, Vol. I, Vol. II
 Comanche County-Before Memories Fade-Archival Index of Comanche County World War II Veterans
 Dallas County-Cemetery Records of Irving, Texas
 Dallas County-Obituaries & Death Notices from Irving Newspapers, Vol. I - 1908-1943 & Vol. II - 1954-1964
 Henderson County-Cemetery Records, Vol. II, Vol. III
 Henderson County-Marriage Book 1(1860-1870), Books II, III, IV (1871-1897)
 Marion County-Jefferson City Cemeteries
 Milam County-170 Years of Cemetery Records, Vol. 1 A-M, Vol. 1 N-Z
 Morris County-Cemeteries, Vol. 1-Southern Sector, Vol. 2, Northern Sector
 Nacogdoches County-Cemetery Records, Vol. I, Vol. II, Vol. III, Vol. IV, Vol. V
 Nacogdoches County-Rest in Peace-Obituaries, Vol. 1, Vol. 2
 Nueces County-Cemetery Data
 Panola County-Panola County, Texas in the Civil War

(Continued on reverse side)



Parker County-Cemeteries in Weatherford
 Parker County-Cemeteries, Vol. III (Northwest Quadrant)
 Parker County-Cemeteries, Vol. IV (Northeast Quadrant)
 Parker County-Cemeteries –Southern Half
 Red River County-Deed Abstracts, Vol. 1, Vol. 2
 Rusk County- Texas Rebs
 San Augustine County-San Augustine County in the Civil War
 San Saba County-History of San Saba County 1856-1983- Every Name Index
 Shelby County-Shelby County in the Civil War
 Tarrant County-Historical Oakwood Cemetery with Calvary Cemetery & Trinity Cemetery of Fort Worth
 Tarrant County-Pioneers Rest Cemetery, Fort Worth
 Trinity County-“Tying the Knot” Marriage Records 1876-1912 & 1912-1981
 Van Zandt County-Cemeteries, Book 3 & Book 4
 Van Zandt County-Marriage Records, 1848-1909 & 1909-1931
 Washington County-Deed Abstracts, 1834-1841

CD's - CHECKOUT

Deep South: Genealogical Records of Alabama, Arkansas & Mississippi
 Genealogies of Connecticut Families
 Early Georgia Settlers
 Early Kentucky Settlers
 Genealogies of Kentucky Families
 Early Louisiana
 Early New England Settlers, 1600s-1800s
 Early New York Families
 Early Settlers of New York State
 Early Ohio Settlers
 Ohio Land and Tax Records
 Genealogies of Pennsylvania Families
 Notes & Queries: Historical, Biographical & Genealogy relating chiefly to Interior PA
 Pennsylvania Biographies & Genealogies, 1600s-1800s
 Pennsylvania Colonial Records
 Pennsylvania Vital Records
 Early Tennessee Settlers
 Virginia Colonial Records
 Virginia Genealogies & Biographies
 Virginia Vital Records
 1870 World Immigration Series, Vol. 1-African Americans, Vol. 2-Germans,
 Vol. 3-Asians, Australians, MidEasteners & Africans, Vol. 4-British,
 Vol. 5-Irish, Vol. 6-Europeans, Vol. 7-Canadians, Vol. 8-Scandinavians,
 Vol. 9-Mexicans & Central & South Americans

