



TEXAS RESEARCH RAMBLERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Bryan-College Station, Texas

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<http://www.texasresearchramblers.org>

OFFICERS for 2006-2007

President: Daniel Castillo
 Vice-President: Mary Elizabeth Dresser
 Secretary: Georgianne Bigam
 Treasurer: Sue Foy
 Corresponding Secretary: Helen Wolf

LAST MEETING

On April 25, 2007, President Dan Castillo called the meeting to order. Minutes were accepted as read. **Sue Foy** reported the Research Rambler total funds were \$6,407.74, which was also accepted as read. **Henry Hanson** introduced members of his class and his guest, **Libby Vastano**, who is also in his class. After committee reports, the business session ended and the program portion began.

Dan Louis introduced our program speaker, **Lanita Clay**, who introduced her family, Todd and Julie Mack, who live in College Station, Texas.

Ms. Clay first explained that Hill College was established 75 years ago. Hill County Confederate Research Center is where she works as a genealogist. As part of the Harold B. Simpson History Center, the Research Center was established 35 years ago with a 50 book sponsor donation and has now accumulated 20,000 books. Specializing in Confederate Civil War ancestors, the Research Center has been identified as the repository having the most complete information on Confederate veterans all across America

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Examples that support this identity include the following:

1. The Broadfoot Collection, which includes a complete collection of Confederate soldiers from 1861-1865; a complete list of Union soldiers from 1861-1865; assorted military records, muster rolls, and letters; and microfilm on soldiers, whose number corresponds to Clayton Library and NARA.
2. The War of the Rebellion, an 80-90 volume set of books.
3. Biographies
4. Roll of the Dead for South Carolina
5. Pension Indexes
6. Georgia's Little Black Book, which contains interesting tidbits of information on skirmishes and other things
7. Vertical File, like the State Militia information
8. Photos of Confederate and Union soldiers

Ms. Clay suggested a roadmap for users:

1. Know the Regiment History of your ancestor. Find out the county where the regiment was organized and usually named after the commander.
2. Then you can find out where your ancestor died.
3. Finally, through Muster Rolls, you can determine where he died and was buried.
4. As part of the Regiment History, do not overlook the Capsule History. This is important, because it tells where the regiment was captured, disbanded, surrendered, changed into another regiment, and possibly sent to a Union prison.



Prison records are valuable because of information like the date of arrival, his physical situation, even his shoe size, if he died there and where he was buried.

If you wish to send something to the library, send copies of the original, with names on the backs of picture and a note to Ms. Clay about the information to

Lanita Clay, Genealogist
P.O. Box 619 (OR 112 Lamar Dr.)
Hillsboro, TX 76645



If you need some help with your research but you cannot make it to the library, you can contact Lanita by :

Telephone: 1-254-582-2555 Extension 242

E-mail: lclay@hillcollege.edu

Website: www.hillcollege.edu



If you go to their website, you can print a Veteran Request Form to send to the library.

Some bonuses about this state-funded library is that the copies you make are FREE. Also, you get personal attention, even with a group of 12. However, call ahead to make sure there is no conflict with other visitors. Finally, a researcher's delight is the open-stack library, so we can skim at our pleasure.

Icing on the cake from our genteel speaker were the two books she donated. Winners were Bobbie Middleton and Patti Kruger. Thank you, Lanita Clay for your donation and delightful presentation. We are ready to send in a request or come visit you and your library.

NEXT MEETING AND DATE

For our next meeting on May 30, 2007, Rambler Jim Boone will speak on Texas Railroads. See you there. Bring a guest.

FUTURE SEMINARS AND TRIPS

Every 3rd **Wednesday** of the month: Computer Genealogy Users Group will meet at the Exit Teen Center, 1600 Rock Prairie Rd., at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to eat at a local restaurant after the meeting. **Mark your calendar: May 16, 2007.**

Every **last Wednesday** of the month: Research Ramblers will meet at the Annex Fellowship Hall of the A&M United Methodist Church, 417 University Dr. in College Station at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to eat at a local restaurant after the meeting.

Mark your calendar: May 30, 2007.

Contact Mary Elizabeth Dresser if you wish to join the Ramblers on the following trips:

August 12-19, 2007: Ft Wayne, Indiana, Allen County Library

October 14-21, 2007: Salt Lake City, Utah, Family History Library

FYI: Just as Uncle Sam said, “I want you,” the Research Committee is looking for volunteers to help in two ways:

1. To record, photograph, transcribe, and/or proof cemetery information.
2. To photograph, transcribe, and/or proof marriage records from 1895 forward at the Brazos County Tax Office.

Everybody’s input and help is what makes Research Ramblers the strong organization that it is.

Contact **Ellen Horner**, the lady with the Research Hat.



SUCCESS STORIES

The Roots Magic Study group met on Monday, April 23 for their last meeting until September. **Mary Elizabeth Dresser** shared her family data with the group, and then some users shared their favorite features.

Anne Wirtz liked the color coding, the arrows, and the “to do” list. **Gail Sewell** liked the ease of moving around and the pasting of the same sources on different family members.

June Cooper enjoys the “Memorize” and “Paste” features, as well as the Descendents list. **Dean Duncan**, who converted data files from PAF, liked the Source section: formats for sources.



Sue Foy likes the Calendar for monthly dates as well as the calendar tool that goes back to 1600. **Lillian Beasley**, who converted data files from FTM, likes organizing data, using the back-up system and the Merge feature on her place list to get all of her place names consistent and in the correct format.

These are just some of the success stories of the 38 Ramblers who use Roots Magic.

★ If you have a success story, please share with us. You could help others.

HISTORICAL MOMENT

The month of May is know for many things, among them are beautiful weather, flowers in bloom, and Memorial Day. So how did Memorial Day originate? Anyone know? Well, it seems that three years after the Civil War ended, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead.

Maj. John A. Logan, then Commander-in-Chief, declared in his General Orders No. 11, “The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or other decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet church-yard in the land...Le no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.”

Although we will observe Memorial Day on May 28, the national Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As founder of Moment of Remembrance Carmella LaSpada states, “It’s a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day.”<http://www1.va.gov>

Texas is wonderful in the springtime. You may have noticed the beautiful birds passing through our county. **Ginger Wentreck** shared her photos of birds she took at High Island, Texas, on April 24-24, 2007.



GENQUIP:

“It’s so hot in Texas that I saw a bird pulling a worm out of the ground—with a pot holder.”



The Research Rambler Newsletter is published by the Texas Research Rambler Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 11195, College Station, Texas 77842-1195. Comments to Helen Kunz, [hkkunz at verizon.net](mailto:hkkunz@verizon.net).