

# ROOTS AND BRANCHES

Genealogy News from Linebaugh Library's Historical Research Room

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## **HR HAPPENINGS**

Spring has sprung and allergy season is in full bloom. If you need a break from your outdoor spring chores, come spend some time in the HR Room “digging” up your ancestors (no dirt involved).

As you step into the research room, take a moment to look over the postings on the “Genealogy News” bulletin board. We post a variety of articles, event notices, and flyers relating to genealogy that would be of interest to our researching patrons. If there is a posting you would like a copy of, please feel free to ask.

If you enjoy doing computer research, take advantage of logging onto the AncestryPlus database we subscribe to on the HR patron computer. This subscription allows you to access their online census images and other resources available only to subscribers. There is no charge to use this database. You can access it by logging on with our library card number. If you are an out-of-town visitor, we can log you on as a guest. You are given a one-hour session and are allowed two logons within the same day. Printouts are 10 cents per page. If you have a library card, you are given 5 free copies each day. As a guest, you pay prior to printing. This database can only be accessed at the library. There is no reservation sheet for HR computer. If someone is using the computer and you would like a turn, just politely let them know you would like to use the computer when they are finished with their session. AncestryPlus has become one of the library's most frequently used computer database.

## **HR BOOKSHELF**

The following are recent additions to the Historical Research Room collection:

American Census Handbook	Rutherford Co. Tax Lists 1809-1813
Indiana Marriages (Early to 1825)	Tennessee: A Political History
Heritage of Grundy County, Tennessee	Maury County Remembered
History of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church	Pictorial History of Sequatchie Co., TN
Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry	Pictorial History of Sullivan Co., TN
History of Jackson, TN Fire Dept.	History & Families of Macon Co., TN

## **GENEALOGY GEMS**

From “The Genie’s View” Jan/Feb 2003, the oldest graves are found in the south part of a churchyard, as it was the custom to avoid the shadow of the church falling across the graves. It was believed that the Devil lurked in the shadows and he always rode in from the north. In Victorian times, the extreme north side of the churchyard was reserved for suicides.

## **HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Do you know where the terms “moonshiner” and “bootlegger” came from? To help pay the debt incurred by the Revolutionary War, a tax was levied on alcohol. Some distillers decided that they might avoid being noticed if they only made alcohol at night—by the light of the moon! When the moonshiners sold small amounts of their liquor, they often carried their goods to the customers concealed in flasks hidden in the legs of their boots! The terms now are associated with persons who make illegal alcohol. NASCAR racing also got its start when “runners” for the moonshiners began modifying cars to outrun the law!

## **SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE**

Frater – brother, cousin, brother-in-law, kinsman  
Howdy Wife – a midwife  
Paroch – a parish clergyman  
Piores – ancestors  
Quadrimus – of four years  
Sine prole – without issue, without children

## **WEB CONNECTIONS**

FamilySearch.org – [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) (the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or Mormons) is a free website that offers a lot of information in searching for ancestors, including Resource Files, the Family History Library Catalog and the United States 1880 census.

U.S. Funerals On-Line – [www.usfunerals.com](http://www.usfunerals.com) offers information on local (by state) funeral homes, funeral providers and funeral directors.

## **RESEARCH KNOW-HOW**

According to Beverly Smith Vorpahl, genealogy columnist for the Spokesman-Review (Spokane Washington) in colonial times, “When a child died, its name was usually given to the next-born baby of the same sex,” which explains why you might run across two children with the same name in the same family. The first one probably died young, and a younger sibling was then named after this baby who died at birth or infancy. Another “tidbit” from Beverly Smith Vorpahl: “STB” is an abbreviation for “said to be” and is “safer than using question marks.” It means that someone has claimed some important information, but has no document to support it. Also according to Beverly Smith Vorpahl in her “Heritage Hunting” column: Some genealogy acronyms include: Dsp-died without issue; nepos-grandson; sm-stepmother; viz-namely; ux or vs-wife.

## **GENEALOGY GATHERINGS**

The National Genealogical Society is hosting a conference in Nashville June 1-4, 2005. For more information on the NGS Tennessee Crossroads Conference, check out their website [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org) or phone (703) 525-0050 ext. 112. If interested in attending, please pick up a Registration Brochure from the HR book display table.

## **PERIODICALS AT-A-GLANCE**

Check out some of our periodicals that deal with specific regions, like “Navarro Leaves and Branches” (Navarro County, TX); “Plum Creek Almanac” (Caldwell County, TX); “Bedford County Historical Society” (Bedford County, TN); “The Connecticut Nutmegger” (Conn. Society of Genealogists); “Kentucky Ancestors”, “The Journal of Mississippi History” and “Valley Leaves” (serving North Alabama).

## **RUTHERFORD RELATED**

The new Rutherford County Historical Society book “Cemeteries and Graveyards of Rutherford County, Tenn.” is coming out in May. Susan Daniel, the compiler of the book, will be signing copies on May 15 between 3-5 p.m. at the Rutherford County Courthouse. The new book uses information from the three 1970 publications of the Historical Society plus numerous other sources covering over 760 graveyards. Family histories are included when they are associated with a graveyard. Each name has been indexed and cross-indexed. The cost of the book is \$75.00 (plus \$10.00 if it is mailed). You may order a book by calling Susan at 849-3823.