

The Genie

*To inspire interest in family history through education, preservation and service.
We're in the family business.*



PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY

ARK-LA-TEX GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. BOX 4463
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71134-0463

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ARK-LA-TEX GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 4463

Shreveport, Louisiana 71134-0463

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association is a Section 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Louisiana.

The purpose of this organization is:

- To collect, preserve and make available genealogical documents and records
- To encourage an interest in genealogy and to sponsor educational programs for its development
- To promote the Shreveport/Bossier City area as having significant resources for genealogical and historical research
- To compile and publish a quarterly publication, *The Genie*, composed of records of genealogical and historical importance, helpful research information, and ancestral queries.



The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association meets on the second Saturday of each month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Broadmoor Branch Library, 1212 Captain Shreve Drive, Shreveport, LA

The membership year is from January 1 through December 31 and dues are \$20.00 annually for individual or same household family memberships. Dues for those members joining in the last half of the year (July 1 - December 31) are \$10.00. Membership renewals are due by January 31 at the "whole year" annual rate. Payment may be made online through PayPal, by regular mail, or at regular meetings. Refer to our website: altgenealogy.com/join.htm for details.

Statement of Publication: *The Genie* is published on a quarterly basis and distributed electronically as a pdf document to members and subscribing institutions that have provided an email address. The Association also participates in an exchange agreement with other organizations that publish similar genealogical publications. Those publications that are received are donated to the Broadmoor Branch Genealogy Department of the Shreve Memorial Library.

We welcome family history and genealogy research articles and records, especially those that are likely to be of an interest to others. Some examples are family pedigree charts, cemetery surveys/records, family and community histories, and transcribed courthouse records. We also accept articles describing a genealogical "brick wall," as well as queries. All submitted material should be typed or very plainly written and sent to our mailing address above or emailed to our editor at thegenie.editor@gmail.com. Please note that *The Genie* cannot be responsible for errors or inaccuracies, but will hasten to publish correction.

Copyright Laws: All who submit material from other sources should be aware of copyright restrictions. When articles are obtained from another source, permission should be obtained from the author, compiler, or owner of the material being submitted and a statement to that effect provided. Also, we encourage use of source citations when applicable.

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The President's Message

Contributed by Leonard Gresens

The start of our second quarter was stormy. Literally! I woke up early on Saturday, April 13, to lighting and thunder. My first thought was, "What about the meeting?" The forecast looked bleak for the remainder of the day, especially for our meeting start time. I received a few inquiries on *Facebook* and a couple of phone calls. I posted that we would meet, but if anyone didn't feel comfortable going out in the weather to stay at home.

The show must go on, and we ended up having a good meeting. After making a few announcements, we introduced Josh Calk, the new Department Head for the Genealogy Department at Broadmoor Library. Josh is a veteran of the library, having been there for five years; he updated us on the changes taking place and reinforced that the library staff was there to provide assistance. We appreciate our relationship with the library.

Our April featured speaker was John Agan, a professor at Bossier Parish Community College. He describes himself as more of a local historian and not a genealogist. His presentation was entitled "Modern Genealogical Tools: Where Family Legends Go to Die!" John shared three stories about his own family. Stories handed down for years become legends and are taken for granted to be true, but with additional research and DNA testing, sometimes these stories are proved to be untrue or better clarified. We all can relate to this as we continue to investigate our own family histories. John noted there are new processes evolving in our hobby every day to better equip us.

After John spoke, we visited the vending machines for refreshments because our hospitality committee wasn't present due to the weather. Sonja Webb presented a quick "Bits and Pieces" segment. With the weather continuing to be unruly, the "Hornbook" session was cancelled until a later date in order to allow those brave attendees to travel home during a lull in the weather.

The May meeting started the day with more rain. At least this day didn't have threats of lighting and flooding as last month's did. Our featured speaker was our president Leonard Gresens, whose other hobby is collecting and researching old tokens used in the late 1800s to early 1930s in commerce. Tokens, medals, scrip, and other forms of private legal tender were a part of everyday life back then. Grocery stores, drug stores, bakeries, cigar stands, barbershops, and saloons/bars all used tokens as a means of giving change or an added incentive to do business with the issuer. Leonard's interest in tokens began with a

Shreveport Transit student token that he used in order to ride the trolley to school in the mid 1960s. These little pocket pieces of history are not known to the youth today who don't understand the struggles the early merchants endured to survive.

Our hospitality committee was back and in full swing, and as always, they had a great variety of items to snack on. Afterwards Glenn Moore showed a video on **Ancestry.com's ThruLines™**. The new feature on Ancestry is used to assist your research by taking information on your family tree and searching the other millions of trees in their database to match possible family connections.

Keeping with the weather forecast on meeting day, with a 30% chance of rain predicted, not a cloud in the sky was seen on our June meeting date, a welcome change from the previous two months. In this meeting, we shook up our regular format. The Education Committee presented a Genealogy Expo. Five different arrangement of chairs were set up for the group presentation. The members entering were encouraged to find a seat in one of the groups without knowing what that group was presenting. The five presentation topics covered were DNA testing, land records, migration trails, organization, and photography/scanning tools. The leaders of each group gave information and required participation from the group. After a brief break for refreshments, the groups came back together to discuss their findings with the large group. A lot of information was shared, and this may be in the works for another monthly meeting.

This quarter we have made an effort to seek more public awareness of what ALTGA is. In May, President Leonard Gresens recorded a radio program with Gary Calligas, editor of **The Best of Times**. The question and answer program focused on genealogy interests, how to get started, and the importance of joining a group like ours. Gary, a seasoned researcher of his family, had several interesting tidbits to add to the conversation.

In June, the association had a fundraiser sponsored by Frank's Pizza Napoletana. As an organization, we needed to alter our routine of meeting only on the second Saturday of each month. A different venue to sit, talk, and EAT, gives us an opportunity to see and visit each other on a larger scale. The social interaction with other members can only strengthen our group and make for a better organization.

A Day Never to Be Forgotten!

Contributed by Glenda Efferson Bernardⁱ

The date was November 22, 1963. The huge, chartered bus I was on slowly came to a halt on a rain-soaked, mountainous road in Virginia. What was happening? Why were we stopped? Istrouma High School's Mu Sigma Honor Society was traveling to Washington, D.C. and New York that year. Those of us near the front of the bus strained to hear what the highway patrolman had to say. "There's been a tragedy! President Kennedy has been shot!" The hum of talk and joyous song became quiet all of a sudden. Many fellow students did not know much about the politics of the President, but they were aware that their parents weren't particularly in support of him. However, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy's youth, his being the first Catholic President, his beautiful family, his seeming support of civil rights, and his eloquence of speech enticed my interest as a high school junior and heightened my interest in the political realm. Every one of us was riveted by the news that the President had been shot!

Our itinerary for this trip included spending a day in historic Williamsburg, Virginia, several days in Washington, D.C., another day or so in New York City, and then the long drive back to Baton Rouge before school would begin again after Thanksgiving week. The honor society had planned this much-anticipated venture to include touring the U.S. Capitol and its surrounding points of interest, watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York, viewing the city atop the Empire State Building, and visiting the Rockefeller Center. Needless to say, the assassination of the President obliterated all of the plans we had previously made.

About sixty of us students, along with our sponsor, Ms. Flora Turner, went to our scheduled hotel in D.C. on that fateful night. No one wanted to leave his room. All of our eyes were on the television which was attempting to keep us up to date with the unbelievable news that had occurred in Dallas. This was high drama for everyone, even high school juniors!

The best I can recall, everyone fell asleep that night with the black-and-white television coverage still playing. Ms. Turner had adjusted some plans during the night and made the decision that our group would visit New York City first instead of D. C. She had

hoped that we could visit New York City and return in time to see the funeral procession. Just how those plans could be altered for over sixty people was not explained, but it miraculously happened!

Our New York days were filled with fun and thrilling sites for everyone. We primarily spent our nights in front of the high-drama news coverage on the television at the Taft Hotel. Once back in D. C. late in the evening, we heard on the news that the public could view the casket of the President in the rotunda of the capitol by waiting "in line" on Pennsylvania Avenue. Several of us approached Ms. Turner asking permission to be a part of this unimaginable, historic event. To our surprise, she agreed that as many students who wanted to go to the Capitol could go! Perhaps she second-guessed her decision many times during that night, but in 1963, our intrepid French teacher consented, allowing us to become a part of history. "Wear lots of layers, two pair of socks, a hat or scarf, and stay together," she admonished. Since there were no cell phones in 1963, our parents were fairly uninformed about our every move, yet not one student who wanted to go hesitated. This was "something else, and we were participating in "history-in-the-making!"

Our hotel was not far from Pennsylvania Avenue, which led directly to the Capitol. I can remember walking what seemed like forever to get there, but once we arrived, we saw that thousands were gathering in the street. The police began to "rope off" the crowds by street blocks. When we walked forward, it was a block at a time. There was a sense of solemnity to the entire procedure, with no pushing, shoving, yelling, or acting out of order. We could only wonder what would happen regarding our beloved country after President Kennedy's funeral. Who was this Lee Harvey Oswald? Why had our President been shot? (Still after over fifty years, those questions have yet to be completely answered.) Everything seemed to be in a jumble, the events of the shooting, the shocked nation trying to hold itself together, and untold questions about the future.

Our group slowly, respectfully walked up the many steps of the Capitol rotunda at daybreak, five- thirty in the morning. We had weathered the cold for hours! No one was talking, not even a whisper. The Capitol police motioned us in the direction we were to

move. As I walked around the casket, I was praying that this tragedy was a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence, but I knew that no matter what, it was one I would never forget!

The next day or so was a blur. The television news, once again, kept us informed of all the programmed funeral arrangements. Though we were not physically present for the saluting of the casket by the President's son, John-John, or for the funeral at St. Matthew's church, we were, however, standing among the masses, along with millions around the world, vicariously participating by television! We sadly watched the riderless horse, the hearse, and the vehicles carrying the family as they moved toward the gravesite. Again, no one nearby was saying a word. The riderless horse was an unbelievable symbol of a nation left without a leader during such a turbulent time in America's history.

Typical tourist sites were closed; although, the mood was so heavy in D.C, surely no one would have wanted to have toured any sites. Arrangements were made, however, for our bus to drive into Arlington Cemetery so that we could walk within sight of the Kennedy gravesite. (Today, vehicles are not allowed inside the gates.) We were perched on a higher elevation to the activity below, and although our distance was substantial, the quiet, reverent ambiance was ever-present. We saw the family and friends gathered together at the burial site. We could not believe that we were actually here! Within a short span of time, we were back at the hotel in time for everyone to pack to leave for home soon.

Each of us was mesmerized by the week-long set of events. The long ride back to our homes and families was a bit taxing and tiring, and we, no doubt, needed decompression time. Many mentioned that there could be no way that they could ever adequately express what they had witnessed. We had all been a part of "history in the making," and for some of us, a more mature glimpse into the world of adulthood became evident.

¹ As genealogists we try to share our life experiences as a record to our family of events that were meaningful to us. Sometimes we share laughable memories, or discuss great days of exhilaration. Other times we share memories of regret or sadness. The following is a writing of neither of these types of memories, but just one of moments in time that we want others read about and to know how we felt at the time.



Two Kennedy Cars



Car carrying Mrs. Kennedy



Horse Drawn Carriage



We don't own our
family history.
We simply
preserve it
for the next generation.

RosemaryAlva.com

The McCook Diaries

Contributed by Robert Hendricks

The following diary was composed by John Clark Forsyth McCook when he visited his siblings in east Texas from his home in Chattahoochee County, Georgia. The journey began Monday, May 23, 1870, and the diary ends on Monday, July 25, 1870.

Mr. McCook was born July 1, 1836, and died April 12, 1918, in Chattahoochee County, Georgia. He was the third child and oldest son of Joshua Ryal McCook and Sarah King McCook. His father had been one of the wealthiest men in the county, and the family home was located on what now is Ft. Benning, Georgia. As the oldest son, Mr. McCook remained in Georgia to look after family interests while most of his siblings migrated west. He was a prominent citizen of Chattahoochee County in his own right and served three terms in the Georgia State Assembly.

Before the Civil War, his older sisters Mary Elizabeth McCook King and Sarah Caroline "Carrie" McCook Harp had migrated to Sabine County, Texas. After the Civil War, his brothers Joel Joshua, Jasper Baker Woodruff, and James Madison Hall McCook (my great-grandfather) had also migrated there. The purpose of the trip was to visit his family and explore East Texas.

Of interest is that his three brothers migrated back to Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. They were involved in the settlement of Robeline, and the home James later built in Natchitoches is now the Fleur de Lis Bed and Breakfast.

Three of John McCook's children eventually migrated to Caddo Parish. Brothers Walter Woodruff, Julius Lehman, and William Gilbert McCook ran the McCook Funeral home in Shreveport in the 1930s and 1940s. Walter Woodruff McCook, Jr. was a surgeon in Shreveport for many years.

John Clark Forsyth McCOOK JOURNAL

John C. F. McCook (B: July 1, 1836 D: April 18, 1918) was the son of Joshua Ryal McCook and the brother of Mary McCook King, Sarah Caroline McCook Harp, Joel Joshua McCook, Jasper Baker Woodruff McCook, and James Madison Hall McCook (my great-grandfather). In March 1870, he embarked on a trip from Cusseta, Georgia, to visit his brothers and sisters in Louisiana and Texas. **This is a transcription of the journal he kept during his travels.**

Robert S. Hendrick, Jr.

Monday May 23, 1870

Left Columbus, GA 1:30 PM

Tuesday May 24, 1870

Landed in Keney Salt(??) 7 A. M.

Went on *St. Elmore* to Mobile

Went on *Laura* to New Orleans

Wednesday May 25, 1870

Landed in New Orleans in the morning

Thursday May 26, 1870

Left New Orleans at 10 A. M. on the *Texarkana*. Very good boat

Saturday May 28, 1870

Landed at Grand Ecore right at 12 o'clock. Went to boarding house and remained until next evening. Sick all day.

Sunday May 29, 1870

Left for Nackintish (i.e. Natchitoches) in evening

Monday May 30, 1870

Left for Sabine town 1 o'clock in morning. Sick. Eat nothing over one day. Landed at Sabine town 5 o'clock in evening. Had to lay over on the account of rain.

Tuesday May 31, 1870

Left for Joe King's in morning a foot. Walked 9 miles and landed about 10 o'clock. Found all well. Brother Joel (J. McCook), sister Carrie (Sarah Caroline McCook Harp) & Mrs. Edington came along & I went home. Mrs. Edington found Dixon (Samuel Dixon Harp B: 1828-D: 1920 husband of Sarah Caroline) fishing. I went to work & soon caught some nice ones.

Wednesday June 1, 1870

Came back to Kings. Staid until evening then went to Milam, TX.

Thursday June 2, 1870

Back to J. King's evening

Friday June 3, 1870

Went deer hunting. Shot at one, seen seven. Plenty of _____. Back to Milam evening.

Saturday June 4, 1870

Went A. D. Harp's morning. Went deer hunting evening. Jumped several, but no shots.

Sunday June 4, 1870

Back to Milam to church. E(lias) L(afayette) King [B: 1828-D: 1876 brother of Sarah King McCook] sung evening. Went to H. Y. Smith's evening. Dined at Dovie's(??)

Monday June 5, 1870

Rained. Went to Joe King's and from there to A. D. Harp's. Dixon little sick.

Tuesday June 7, 1870

Started to Jasper, Texas. Had a rough time. The lady(??) jumped out wagon and dislocated her ankle. Shot at two deer & seen seven others.

Wednesday June 8, 1870

Arrived at Jasper. Staid until evening then went (??). Mr. Abner went with us.

Thursday June 9, 1870

Started back to Milam. Killed one deer & seen 14 on my way back.

Friday June 10, 1870

Remained in Milam. Dixon, Alvah & Sis. C. came & spent the day.

Saturday June 11, 1870

At Milam. Uncle E. L. King sung. I & him went to J. King's & staid all night.

Sunday June 12, 1870

Back to Milam. Uncle sung. Kinfolks came. Heard of Horn's(??) baby's death.

Monday June 13, 1870

Went to J King's for burial. William Horn quite sick. Dixon & I went deer hunting. I killed a fine one.

Tuesday June 14, 1870

Went hunting & came very near to getting a shot. Went to E. L. King's in the evening. Found all well.

Wednesday June 15, 1870

We went hunting. Busted cap at one & shot in evening but didn't hit.

Thursday June 16, 1870

We went hunting. All got shots, but didn't kill. In the evening one of the party killed a fine one.

Friday June 17, 1870

Left for William Smith's. All the Georgia people remained (??)

Saturday June 18, 1870

Written letter to Mr. E. Blount. Rained hard. Went to D. Harp's in evening.

Sunday June 19, 1870

Remained at Harp's. Walked our crops. It's fine for the land. Rained little in the evening.

Monday June 20, 1870

Went deer hunting, the crowd 10 in number. Killed 8 deer. All fine. I got three shots on one or more.

Tuesday June 21, 1870

Back to Milam to get _____ & hooks for the river. Bad luck- caught but few.

Wednesday June 22, 1870

Fishing some better. Very warm, rain. _____ in places. Back to Milam.

Thursday June 23, 1870

Letter from J. B. Hickey. Rain late in evening. Went to H. J. _____. Good crops.

Friday June 24, 1870

Went deer hunting- no luck. Rained a little. Back to Milam. Went to the _____. Very good. Rained at night.

Saturday June 25, 1870

To preaching. Mr. Link from Houston preached. Some rain went at night.

Sunday June 26, 1870

To church. Good congregation. Rained in evening.

Monday June 27, 1870

Went fishing at river. Had bad luck. S. D. Harp caught some. Rained on I & brother Jas. [James Madison Hall McCook]

Tuesday June 28, 1870

Went to H. Y. Smith's. Looked over crops. Fine but suffering from worms (??). Staid at L. I. Williams. Rained in evening.

Wednesday June 29, 1870

We went hunting. Killed one deer. Had some rain.

Thursday June 30, 1870

Went to H. Y. Smith's. Rain in sight. Called at Davis's

Friday July 1, 1870

Went to A. D. Harp's. Went hunting. Visited S. D. Harp's. Killed one deer each. I had a shot at a fawn.

Saturday July 2, 1870

Back to Milam. Rain passing above. Warm. Went to J. B. McCook's [his brother Jasper McCook] & M. J. Williams's.

Sunday July 3, 1870

Went preaching & singing at Chapel. Dined at E. L. King's. Stopped at Doris's(??). Out of the rain.

Monday July 4, 1870

At Milam. Fixing to start all day rain passing above.

Tuesday July 5, 1870

Left Milam 9 o'clock. Dined at E. L. King's. Come 2 ½ miles above San Augustine to William Hammond's. Didn't charge for carriage. Read land. 8 or 15 or 20 ___ in San Augustine.

Wednesday July 6, 1870

Left soon A. D. Harp. Shot at a fine deer. Stand near the back. From San Augustine to Center 20 miles. The county sight(??) of Shelby county land flat & sandy. Center new town. Price for corn \$2 for bushel.

Thursday July 7, 1870

From Center to Carthage 28 miles found land common for flat pineland. Stopped at J. Caswell's 12 miles from town. Seen B. Moore & James Rockmine. Back to Caswell's all night.

Friday July 8, 1870

From Carthage to Marshall in Harrison county= 30 miles. Stopped in 5 miles at church. Seen negroes drilling. Country old & broken.

Saturday July 9, 1870

Rained little in morning. Staid in Marshall until 10 o'clock. Bought gin \$15. There had drink of gin & soda water. Marshall to Jefferson in Marion county 16 miles. In Jefferson a little before dark. Found it a flourishing town.

Sunday July 10, 1870

Staid with Dr. Briggs. I & Uncle E. L. K. went out 4 miles to Kelli's foundry. Went to church. 23 joined. Evening to prayer meeting, but all went to grove. Had fine meeting at night.

Monday July 11, 1870

Through Marion County. _____ into _____ County. Found hilly land. From Jefferson to Pittsburg 4(??) miles.

Tuesday July 12, 1870

Through Pittsburg. Found it thriving little town. 6-10 hrs. from there to Leesburgh. 7.2 miles, fine little place. From there to Chalebriar Springs 9 miles. Staid all night, very good land & fine crops

Wednesday July 13, 1870

To Winsboro 3 miles in Titus County. To Conerville 2 ½ miles in Wood County. Thence to Sulpher Springs in Hopkins County. Topo through small prairie land improved & level.

Thursday July 14, 1870

Found Sulpher Springs flourishing town & fine spring nearby where we camped where we remained one day & two nights to have washing done. Started for Lamar County but came back.

Friday July 15, 1870

Turned southward for home through a large prairie, fine scenery with herd of _____ of all kinds in any direction you would look. Through Hopkins, Rains & Wood County to Springville 26 miles, Found land _____ post oak growth & most look poor.

Saturday July 16, 1870

To Quitman 22 miles Wood County. Quite a flourishing town 18 or 20 hours inland as _____ white g____, _____.

Sunday July 17,1870

To Belzar or _____ passed through some red land yesterday. From Quitman to Tyler 45 miles, a pretty town in Smith County.

Monday July 18,1870

Camped near town. Went back next morning. Had breakfast & rations cooked. Had a drink of Brandy. A. _____ & Brother Joel [McCook] left & come out 10 miles. Found fine, deep sand. Crops only tolerable.

Tuesday July 19,1870

Through Canton 13 miles from Tyler. Thence to Henderson 20 miles in Henderson County. Land all fine white sand through _____ will out in the Pine Hill road 10 miles.

Wednesday July 20,1870

To Pine Hill. Dined with A. Buckners. Small town. Thence to William Rockmans. Staid all night & half of next day. Had pleasant time with Miss Lucy. Looked over some very good land. Price 8 to 10 dollars per acre.

Thursday July 21,1870

Evening went Carthage 21 miles Staid with Uncle E. L. K. with John Biggs family from Georgia. Land fine & red oak tall.

Friday July 22,1870

Went to J. Caswells thence back to town & went north six miles. Looked at land. Flat & no water. Price \$6 per acre. Alvah sick- staid all night Caswells.

Saturday July 23,1900

Back the same way we came. Land heavily timbered, crossed brushy creek. Went in 6 miles Center. Alvah sick. Sand flys bit all night.

Sunday July 24,1870

Center to Shelby 7 miles. Shelby old dilapidated town. Thence J. Tilleys. Staid all night.

Monday July 25,1870

To Milam 12 miles. Land red & broken but good. Found 4 letters from Georgia. Some better.

Diary ends.



Hon. John Forsythe McCook

CARRILOU McCOOK JOURNAL

Contributed by Robert S. Hendrick

In 1900, Carrilou McCook (B: November 10, 1877 D: July 22, 1972) was the daughter of John Clark Forsyth McCook and the niece of James Madison Hall McCook (my great-grandfather). In July 1900, she embarked on a trip from Cusseta, Georgia, to visit her aunts and uncles in Louisiana and Texas. **This is a transcription of the journal she kept during her travels.**

Robert S. Hendrick, Jr.

Tuesday July 3, 1900

I left home this afternoon at 5:40 P. M. and arrived in Columbus (GA) O. K. about 6:30 P. M. Joe King (a cousin) was on the train and we chatted very pleasantly while coming to Columbus.

Papa (John Clark Forsyth McCook) the little brothers (Walter, Julius & William McCook), Susie and children (Susie Ruhama McCook Gordy & son James & daughter Lois), Mattie Lou and Corinne went to the depot with me. Mamma (Mary Ann Bagley McCook) came on to Columbus.

After tea Arthur Gordy and Charlie Fussell called to see me and I enjoyed the evening very much.

Wednesday July 4, 1900

Today is the 4th and I am spending it in Columbus. Early this morning Mamma and I went up town and bought a few little things. We then went around to see Cousin Willie Chapman who is very sick and from there back to Aunt Susie's.

After dinner I again went up town and back. After tea we went up to the Courthouse Park and heard some good music.

Thursday July 5, 1900

At 7:30 A. M. Aunt Mae and I left Columbus for New Orleans. We had a very pleasant ride indeed and only one thing went wrong.

When we reached Montgomery we had to change cars. Mamma and Aunt Susie had fixed us a very nice dinner and what do you think! When we changed cars we left it on the train. We grieved about it a while, but soon went into the sleeper and had the porter to bring us a lunch; then we were all right.

It is certainly a pretty ride from Columbus to New Orleans, especially from Montgomery on. We passed some beautiful fields of corn and cotton, some pretty cities and towns and oh, so much water! We counted twenty rivers and large streams (bayous) from Montgomery to New Orleans. At Mobile we enjoyed seeing the Bay and counted forty

ships and got tired and stopped. There were many, many more! From Mobile to New Orleans we rode parallel with the Gulf and that was the prettiest and most pleasant ride to be had anywhere. We reached the city at 8:30 P. M. and Mr. & Mrs. Juden met us at the depot and carried us to their hospitable home.

Friday July 6, 1900

Early this morning we arose and began to prepare to see the city. We breakfasted at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Juden, Anna Mae and I then took the Belt Line car and went uptown. We passed some of the loveliest homes and floor yards I ever saw. Our attention was called especially to the following places; the Tulane University, the Charity Hospital, Court House, Custom House and many others. We left the car and went in at Holm's, the very large establishment and then into many others. We enjoyed going into the bird stores and seeing and hearing the many pretty sweet birds. Now we are at the Custom House. What a magnificent structure! It was modeled after Kenilworth Castle and we certainly enjoyed looking at it. We then went to St. Charles Hotel. This is indeed a pretty place, and we sat here and rested for a while.

Jackson's Park was the next place we walked over. The statue of Jackson is grand and the park was very pretty. We had the little story of the park related to us and enjoyed it. Also statues of Lee, Clay, Margaret and Mc Donald. Next we took in Frenchtown. The French Market and the peculiar but pretty way in which French courts are built. Also the narrow streets. I certainly enjoyed looking at the Mississippi, the Father of Waters.

We went to the St. Louis Cathedral Catholic and it is a grand church. We also went into the Coliseum Place Baptist Church where Mr. Bussey was pastor so long. The organist was there and played sweetly for us. Thorns and Roses; and Slumber Sweetly.

We now returned to the house, had two o'clock lunch and then refreshed ourselves for the evening. We had six o'clock dinner after which quite a party of us went out to West End Lake Pontchartrain. There was seven in our party and we certainly spent a pleasant evening. The ride out there was on the electric train was fine. We saw the cemetery and were very much impressed by the way in which people are buried in New Orleans. We took a concert that was indeed good. The vitagraph and fine music being part of the program. We went across the Lake, saw the beautiful flowers and in fact took in everything out there. At eleven o'clock we returned home having spent one of the most pleasant evenings of my life.

Saturday July 7, 1900

At 8:15 o'clock this morning we left New Orleans for Robeline. We passed fields of beautiful corn, sugar cane, rice and cotton. The country was pretty on the road. Beautiful trees, rivers, bayous, palmetto, river grass, water lilies, water hyacinths and so many other pretty things were to be seen. We arrived in Robeline at 7:20 o'clock P. M. and many of my loved ones met us at the train. We chatted merrily until suppertime and after eating we all went to the Baptist Church for preaching.

Sunday July 8, 1900

I am at Uncle Jimmie McCook's (*James Madison Hall McCook*) today. Uncle Woodruff (*Jasper Baker Woodruff McCook*) came down early this morning and I enjoyed talking with him and Uncle Jimmie about Georgia and especially dear old Chattahoochee County. At ten o'clock we went to Sabbath School at Baptist Church. We went back to Uncle Jimmie's for dinner and Uncle Woodruff's family went too. We were all relatives and spent the day very pleasantly talking over so many interesting things. In the afternoon we all went to walk and there was only fifteen McCooks and all the others except one were in some way connected with them. After tea we sat up until late talking with a young drummer.

Monday July 9, 1900

It is Monday morning and I have just finished writing my first letter home. Uncle Jimmie keeps calling me, and does not want me to write long. We have been playing on the piano and laughing and talking. After dinner we had a pleasant nap and then went to walk and to Uncle Woodruff's. After tea the girls all had a jolly time laughing but I preferred sitting on the porch and talking to Uncle Woodruff. We did not retire until right late.

Tuesday July 10, 1900

This morning we breakfasted at nine and oh, what a nice time we had from then until dinner! We ate dinner at three and about five we went down to Aunt Anna's (*Anna Belle Templeton McCook- Jimmie's wife*). There we had company and met four young men. After having music for a while we went back to Uncle Woodruff's to spend the night. We had company until late and had much fun.

Wednesday July 11, 1900

We spent today at Uncle Woodruff's and spent it very pleasantly. We ate watermelons, cantaloupes, grapes and peaches all day long. In the afternoon we had company; Mrs. Johnstone, Mrs. Waters and Misses Clarice and Madge Lindsey. We then went down to Uncle Jimmy's to spend the night. Mr. Caldwell and Miss Scheible called after tea.

Thursday July 12, 1900

Today is Thursday, and I will have to admit that I was homesick a little this morning for the first time. It soon wore off however and I spent a very pleasant day. Mr. Caldwell and Miss Scheible spent the day with us. We had music, played games, ate fruit, and did many other things for amusement. In the afternoon we went to Uncle Woodruff's. Cousin Mollie King and Miss Emma Williams called. After supper we had company and went to prayer meeting.

Friday July 13, 1900

We arose this morning, ate breakfast and I received my first letter from Momma & Poppa which I appreciated much, and Leo (*Leonora Taylor McCook-Woodruff's daughter*), Rubie (*Anna Ruhama McCook- Woodruff's daughter*), Anna Mae and I have been playing crokinole. (Don't know whether this is spelled right or not.) We have also been eating peaches and melons.

At 2:30 Mr. Nealy Freeman of LeCompte came around to see us. He staid for some time, and after he left we went down to Uncle Jimmie's to get ready for the entertainment. We were given a party by Aunt Anna and had a very fine time. There was a large crowd. Some played games, some had music, some talked and some few danced a little. At eleven we were invited into the dining room where nice refreshments were served, such as sherbets, cakes and fruits. At one o'clock all went home saying we spent a very pleasant evening in deed.

Saturday July 14, 1900

We were all tired and sleepy this morning having been up so late last night. Estelle (*Bashie Estelle McCook- Woodruff's oldest daughter*) spent the day with us at Uncle Jimmie's. Several enjoyed playing authors, but I went up to the Post Office and stayed an hour with Uncle Woodruff. When I returned it was dinner. After dinner Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Hughes (*Albert Taylor Hughes? - future husband of Rubie McCook*) called for a while and soon after they left we sat on the hotel porch and watched a couple get married. At eight o'clock Uncle Jimmie came home from the mill and we enjoyed talking for a while. Mr. Hughes also called again at night.

Sunday July 15, 1900

It is Sunday again and today we went seven miles to Marthaville to attend a Camp Meeting. Uncle Jimmie, Anna Mae, Leve (*Levin Lewis McCook- Uncle Jimmie's son*) Rubie and I went in a Surrey. We enjoyed the day very much. Had dinner on the ground and enjoyed eating, laughing and talking. Quite a crowd ate dinner with us. In the afternoon we returned home having spent a very pleasant day. I forgot to say we attended two camp meetings. The Adventists and Holiness both at the same place.

Monday July 16, 1900

Today we spent the day with cousin George King (*probably a nephew of the McCook brothers though their sister Mary E. McCook King*). There was Fannie T. (*sister of Anna Templeton McCook*), Estelle, Anna Mae and myself. Cousin George, his wife and sister were very sweet to us. We ate watermelon, peaches, etc. all day and enjoyed our visit there much. In the afternoon Misses Caldwell, Scheible, Vaughn, Bonds, Hughes and Jordan called on us, and at a late hour we went to Uncle Woodruff's where we spent the night.

Tuesday July 17, 1900

Fannie is with us today at Uncle Woodruff's. We are jolly, eating fruits, having music, laughing and talking. Aunt Bashie (*Bathsheba Estelle Farmer McCook- Woodruff's wife and maternal Aunt of Anna Belle Templeton McCook*) is right sick. She had a chill today. In the afternoon we had ice cream and cake. At 6 o'clock we went down to Uncle Jimmie's. After supper cousin Fannie and Anna Mae went over to Mrs. Keegan's to dance a while, and as I do not dance and as Rubie and Leo were spending the night with us too I staid with them.

Wednesday July 18, 1900

This morning we went to call on Miss Scheible. Mr. Caldwell came home with us and staid to dinner. We chatted merrily, ate watermelons and when he left took a nap. At 7:20 o'clock left for Sodus having spent nearly two weeks in Robeline and after having a jolly, good time. We reached Sodus at 8 o'clock and enjoyed being with the other relatives.

Thursday July 19, 1900

Today is Thursday and we have spent a pleasant day with Cousin Clarence & Mickie (??). We have been eating peaches, watermelons, plums and muskmelons. At night we sat up until late having music and talking.

Friday July 20, 1900

This has been a great day and much fun has been had. Early in the morning cousin Clarence and cousin Mickie carried us in the surrey to Farrell's well. This is a well three miles in the country and contains water which is said to cure all complaints. We returned home about eleven o'clock, ate dinner a while and then I wrote several letters. In the afternoon we went riding and enjoyed it so much. After tea Dr. and Mrs. Farmer came over for a while. They are a young couple who have just married. Later Mr. Jordan called and staid until late.

Saturday July 21, 1900

Another pleasant day has passed and gone. Talking, eating, having music and writing letters to friends have been today's features. In the evening Estelle McCook came up on the train and we met her at the depot.

Sunday July 22, 1900

This Sunday we were at Sodus. We went to Sabbath School this morning at ten o'clock. In the afternoon we prepared to go driving, but a rain came up and we were disappointed. Anyway we had a nice time. Mr. Wilson sent us a melon weighing 63 lbs.

Monday July 23, 1900

Monday is here again and we have been preparing all day for the entertainment in the evening. Cousin Clarence and family are sweet indeed to us and do everything they can to make it pleasant for us. The entertainment this evening was a perfect success in every way. The family home was beautifully decorated with cut flowers, palms, ferns evergreens and magic lanterns. At half past eight the young people began to arrive and in a short time the house was full. We played many games, had nice music, talked merrily and some enjoyed dancing. At eleven we were invited into the beautiful dining room where everything to tempt the appetite could be found. Nice cakes, salads, sandwiches, lemonade, ice cream and all sorts of nice fruits such as peaches, apples, bananas and candies. It was indeed a beautiful site to see and as nice a crowd of young people as could be found anywhere. At a late hour the crowd dispersed to their homes all pronouncing it one of the most enjoyable affairs and I can speak for myself and say I had a perfectly delightful time.

Tuesday July 24, 1900

Although we were up late last night we were ready for fun and today went four miles in to Mineral Springs. There was a jolly party of eighteen – a large wagon, a Surry and a buggy full. We enjoyed our dinner, rowed in the boats, played games and did everything to have fun. It poured down rain, but we had much fun just the same. Mr. Jordan and I came home by the Pleasant Hill Cemetery and had a very nice ride. Altogether we spent a fine day.

Wednesday July 25, 1900

Today it is raining very hard and we all enjoyed staying in the house eating and having music and talking. In the afternoon Miss Mabel Harrell and Mr. Earl Brown called to see us. At night we had other company.

Thursday July 26, 1900

Well today is the 26th and I remembered it is Walter's birthday. At 7 o'clock A. M. we went to the depot to take the train from Sodus to Shreveport. Cousin Clarence and cousin Mickie came as far as Shreveport with us. We had to be at the depot nearly an hour as the train was late. Mr. Jordan and Mr. Mann were at the depot to see us off and we passed the time very pleasantly. The ride to Shreveport was enjoyed and when we reached there we were and carried to the lovely home of Mr. & Mrs. Hollingsworth. They certainly have a beautiful home and entertained us so sweetly. The dinner was delightful and after a short nap we went uptown to see the city. We enjoyed all and returned to the house late in the afternoon. After tea we enjoyed ourselves until bedtime and then retired.

Friday July 27, 1900

At 9:20 this morning we bade Mr. & Mrs. Hollingsworth good-bye and left Shreveport for Dubberly. We arrived there at 10:30 and were met by Uncle Buddie B. (*Bagely??- brother of her mother*) and cousin Johnnie P. after riding one mile and one half we reached the home of Aunt Priscilla. The dear Aunt received us cordially and we spent a pleasant day eating fruit, talking, having music, etc. Late at night we said good night to the family and were soon in slumber land.

Saturday July 28, 1900

We are out in the country now but enjoy being with our relatives here. This morning I wrote two long letters and then went all over the peach orchard with Cousin Johnnie Parham. After we returned to the house we ate a very nice watermelon and the mail came in and I received a nice long letter from Martha. Uncle John has played some on the accordion for us and we have also listened to the graphophone and music box. In the afternoon we went to Uncle Buddie's and spent a very pleasant afternoon and then returned to Aunt Priscilla's.

Sunday July 29, 1900

Sunday is here again, but it hardly seems so as we did not attend Sabbath School or church today. Mr. June Parham and Miss Annie Allen spent the day at Aunt Priscilla's with us and in the afternoon Miss Lizzie McGlaun, Miss Ada Perryman and Mr. Bufford called to see us, and we spent the day very pleasantly eating fruit, laughing and talking. Late in the afternoon we all went to walk down the military road from old Natchitoches, LA to Ft. Smith, AR.

Monday July 30, 1900

We went down in the orchard this morning and enjoyed gathering peaches & apples. After we came to the house Anna Mae and I went up to Uncle Buddie Bagley's to spend the day. Everything was enjoyed and the fruit there was not slighted. Uncle Buddie asked me many questions about his Georgia relatives and friends. In the evening we returned to Aunt Priscilla's and Uncle John played some on the accordion. After supper we listened to the graphophone.

Tuesday July 30, 1900

Well, another day has gone and I am still well and enjoying life. It would almost be impossible to tell how much fruit we eat during the day, and Oh! how we do enjoy it. In the afternoon we dressed to go six miles to protracted meeting, but it rained so we failed to get to go. Any way we passed the time nicely with the folks at home and after supper we had more music on the accordion.

Wednesday August 1, 1900

Today is the first and we are still in Dubberly. The morning passed pleasantly enough. We ate peaches and cousin Jimmie Parham brought us candy and chewing gum. Also a letter from Mamma (*Mary Ann Bagley McCook*) and Aunt Susie (??). After dinner we read awhile. I am reading *Children of the Abbey*. Then we dressed and went six miles in the country to Beechwood Grove to preaching. There was six in a large wagon. Cousin Jimmie, Mollie, Mr. Charlie Allen, Anna Mae and myself. We had much fun singing, laughing, talking and jolting. When we returned home I found a letter from Walter (*her younger brother Walter Woodruff McCook*).

Thursday August 2, 1900

We spent today at Uncle Buddie's. Aunt Minnie, his wife, was sick in bed all day but Miss Lizzie McGlaun, her sister entertained us. After dinner we took a short nap & then went out under the trees and ate some peaches. Late in the afternoon we went back to Aunt Priscilla's and heard the graphophone play about twenty pretty pieces.

Friday August 3, 1900

Just one month ago today I left home and have enjoyed this month much. Today we have passed as the last two or three eating fruit, laughing and talking. I have enjoyed reading a book very much and will soon finish it. In the afternoon I had received three letters one from Joe, Corene and Lila Hellums. After singing and talking a while we all retired for the night.

Saturday August 4, 1900

About three or four hours this morning I spent in finishing the good book I have been reading. There are several very sweet characters and I enjoyed reading it much. In the afternoon we again went up to Uncle Buddie's and spent the afternoon pleasantly.

Sunday August 5, 1900

Sunday is here again and cousin Johnnie, Mollie, Anna Mae and I went in town and spent the day with Mr. Dan Parham and his sister. Mr. Henry Parham & his son Mr. June were there and Mr. Charlie Allen and his sister Miss Annie. We had a nice dinner, nice watermelon and peaches, and we enjoyed the day certainly for I laughed heartily all day long. Mr. Allen came home with us and ate supper.

Monday August 6, 1900

Anna Mae and I spent today with Aunt Minnie Bagley. Before going I wrote a letter to Martha in which I tried to tell what fun we are having. In the afternoon we returned to Aunt Priscilla's for the night.

Tuesday August 7, 1900

Cousin Jimmie, Johnnie, Mollie Parham, Lizzie McGlaun, Anna Mae and I all went in a wagon today to Yellow Pine Mill eight miles from Dubberly to spend the day. On the way we ate peaches, grapes, candy and cake and chewed "taffy". After reaching there we had dinner after which we walked all over the mill. It was indeed a great sight for the mill itself was almost a little town. We then drank soda and ice water and left for home. We came part of the way by moonlight and enjoyed the ride. I received two letters, one from Mexico and one from Robeline, LA.

Wednesday August 8, 1900

We had company today to spend the day. In the morning I wrote three letters then we ate peaches. We had graphophone music and after dinner we ate a 50 lb. Melon then went into Dubberly where we spent two hours very pleasantly.

Thursday August 9, 1900

Today we all went in a wagon to Minden and spent the day. We ate our dinner at a restaurant and after dinner we went to Mrs. McCary's who keeps a hotel and spent a while. While there we had a nice watermelon and met a very nice drummer named Mr. Herne. At a late hour we started home and went by way of Dubberly and I received a long letter from Mamma and Papa.

Friday August 10, 1900

We spent today at Uncle Buddie's and at four in the afternoon I returned to Aunt Priscilla's to help Mollie fix for an entertainment which she was going to give us. At about eight o'clock the young people came and staid until two o'clock. We were served with ice cream and cake, played many games and had lots of fun.

Saturday August 11, 1900

We arose late this morning and I had lots to do in the way of fixing my clothes, but Uncle John wanted to show me his farm, so I dropped everything and went with him. He showed me cotton, corn, sorghum, ribbon cane, pie melon, watermelons and ground peas. The cotton was perfectly beautiful some being eight feet high and contain 26 bolls. After returning to the house we ate peaches & quill melon and then took a nap. I also pressed some things. Aunt Priscilla was real sick all day.

Sunday August 12, 1900

Today at 11:05 cousin Johnnie, Anna Mae and I started to church and got there just in time for the benediction, but we enjoyed laughing about the way the people looked at us. When we returned we found Uncle Buddie's family had come to spend the day with

us. In the afternoon Mr. Fuller and Mr. Harris called to see us. After supper we talked until about ten o'clock.

Monday August 13, 1900

This is our last day at Dubberly. We have enjoyed our stay at Aunt Priscilla's and Uncle Buddie's very much and regret to have to tell them goodbye so soon. In the morning I wrote two letters; one to Joe and the other to little J. B. McCook. After dinner I packed my trunk and then got ready to go the depot. We bade dear Aunt Priscilla and Uncle John goodbye at the front gate and cousins Jimmie, Johnnie, Mollie, Uncle Buddie and Aunt Minnie all went to the depot with us. We bade them all goodbye and an hour's ride we were again in Shreveport. Mr. Wise Hollingsworth met us and after a pleasant drive over town we reached their hospitable home at about 8 P. M. In a short time we had supper and then a string band came over and made some sweet music for us.

Tuesday August 14, 1900

We were still in Shreveport about 9 o'clock we went uptown and were gone until eleven. After dinner we had music and frolicked until four when we got ready to leave for the depot. We reached there fifteen minutes to five and Anna Mae left for Pine Bluff, Arkansas at five sharp. Mrs. Hollingsworth and Mr. Wise Hollingsworth carried us to the depot and as my train did not leave until six we went to ride, went to the soda fount and had ice cream. We then returned to the depot and I took the six o'clock train. Mr. Wise introduced me to Mr. Allmen, a friend of his and we passed the time pleasantly talking from Shreveport to Sodus. On reaching there cousin Clarence met and carried me to his hospitable home.

Wednesday August 15, 1900

This morning Estelle (*Bashie Estelle McCook*), cousin Mickie (??) and I sewed some on a little organdie for Evelyn and then we had watermelon after which I went in the parlor and practiced some. In the afternoon at six o'clock we went out driving and found peaches and pears. After tea we again had music furnished by Estelle and myself.

Thursday August 16, 1900

I arose this morning and after a few little odd jobs practiced a while. I then put the lace on a little dress for Sallie Harp (*possibly a cousin through Martha Ann McCook Harp*). In the afternoon we passed the time pleasantly and in the evening Mr. Wilson and Mr. Earl Browne called. At a late hour I retired for pleasant dreams.

Friday August 17, 1900

This morning Estelle and I dressed up very much and called on Misses Harrell. We then returned to cousin Clarence's and had music and ate watermelon and pears until dinner. In the afternoon Mrs. Farmer called and at six o'clock we went out driving.

Mr. Hollingsworth came in the evening and we enjoyed being with him until time for our train. At 9 o'clock we left Sodus for Robeline and reached there in one half hour and were met by the cousins and Aunt Anna (*Templeton McCook*).

Saturday August 18, 1900

This morning I played a while for the folks and then Miss Scheible came over for a while. After I washed my head and I did not feel very well the rest of the day. In the afternoon we went out walking and met the bride and groom Mr. & Mrs. Carter. I also received letters from Mamma and Willie Gilbert (*McCook?*).

Sunday August 19, 1900

Well, well time passes rapidly and Sunday is here again. Uncle Jimmie (*McCook*) and I went to church at eleven o'clock this morning. We then returned home and in the afternoon Uncle Woodruff's (*McCook*) girls came down and we all went walking. The preacher took supper with us and we all went to church at night. After we returned home I wrote to Susie (*her sister Susie Ruhama McCook*) and I forgot to say I wrote to Mamma & little boys (*Julius L. & Willie Gilbert McCook, her 16 & 14 year old brothers*) after dinner.

Monday August 20, 1900

Fannie Templeton (*Anna's sister*) left for Alexandria this morning and just Aunt Anna, Uncle Jimmie and myself were here today. We passed the morning talking and I played some for them. In the afternoon Uncle Jimmie went to the mill and Aunt Anna and I then went to Uncle Woodruff's and spent the night. We had music and talked until late.

Tuesday August 21, 1900

About 8 o'clock this morning Estelle, J. B. and I went out in the country to a friend's and had a very pleasant ride. In the afternoon I commenced to read *To Have and to Hold* and real late we dressed and went to the cemetery. After tea Mr. Carl English called and we talked and had music until late.

Wednesday August 22, 1900

Well this morning Aunt Bashie cut out my new skirt for me and we had music and after dinner I went with Uncle Woodruff to see his hogs and cows. I then read some and we went out calling. Estelle, Rubie (*Anna Ruhama McCook- sister of Estelle & Leo*), Leo and I called on the bride and groom. While we were away Mr. Newton Harris called on us. After tea we passed the time pleasantly.

Thursday August 23, 1900

This morning we went out calling again and were gone until one o'clock. When we returned we had a laugh at Reese (*Rhes Farmer McCook- younger brother of Estelle.*)

telling Estelle hat looked like a sidesaddle. We had dinner and then read and had some more music. About six o'clock Mrs. Smith called and at night Mr. English came and we went to prayer meeting. When we had reached home and Mr. English had gone we talked long and I laughed as heartily as I had in a long time.

Friday August 24, 1900

Estelle, Rubie and I went down to Aunt Anna's this morning and spent about an hour and then we went to cousin George King's and spent the day. Cousin Mollie and Miss Emma Williams are very jolly and we had a nice time. In the afternoon we called on Mrs. Waters and Mr. Harris and Miss Mary Allen called on us. In the evening Mr. Percy Smith and sister called.

Saturday August 25, 1900

I arose very early this morning and wrote three letters then after breakfast I dressed for company and Mr. Harris called. About eleven o'clock I went to Aunt Anna's and in the afternoon I wrote three more letters. Late in the afternoon we met the train and Fannie Templeton (*Anna Templeton McCook's sister*) and Miss Florence Pierson came. We had music and talked until late.

Sunday August 26, 1900

Sunday is here once more. In the morning we all went to a Negro baptizing and had company after we returned. In the afternoon we again had company and Mr. & Mrs. Farmer and Rubie McCook took supper with us.

Monday August 27, 1900

At 6:05 o'clock this morning Fannie Templeton, Miss Florence Pierson, Leve McCook and myself left Robeline in a surrey for Many (16 miles). When we reached there cousin Johnnie King (*son of Mary Elizabeth McCook King- older sister of John Clark Forsyth McCook*) met us and after riding 24 miles in a wagon Leve and I reached Aunt Mary's (*Mary Elizabeth McCook King*) just about dark. We crossed the Sabine River in a ferryboat about sundown. I did not feel very well when I left Robeline and I certainly was tired and sick when I reached there and was quite sick all night.

Tuesday August 28, 1900

These days right along here are dark pages in my diary. All this day I have been very sick. Had fever and was sick other ways too. In the afternoon Mr. Arnold and Delos King (*grandson of Mary McCook King*) called and I tried to entertain them some but had to be excused and was real sick all night.

Wednesday August 29, 1900

Well, today I have been in bed most of the day and Oh! so sick. Aunt Mary and cousin Mattie (*Martha W. King, daughter of Mary*) have doctored me splendidly and I guess the medicine has been making me sick today. I was very sick again tonight.

Thursday August 30, 1900

Today I feel much better than I did yesterday. Lyle King came to see me in the afternoon. I also received a letter from cousin Loula Bagley.

Friday August 31, 1900

I am nearly well today. Some more of the cousins came to see me today and after dinner I went to the cemetery and orchard. Late in the evening a letter from Lehman (*McCook, her brother*) and he said all were well.

Saturday September 1, 1900

Cousin Mattie King, Leve McCook and I spent today at Jessie King's (*Mary McCook's son*) in Milam, TX and in the afternoon went to cousin Ida's (*Mary McCook's daughter and Delos King's mother*) and spent the night. We had a nice time.

Sunday September 2, 1900

Sunday has passed again without me going to church or Sunday school, but we all spent it very pleasantly together at Aunt Mary's.

Monday September 3, 1900

Aunt Mary and I spent today with cousin Ella Davidson (*Mary McCook's daughter*). Several of the cousins were there and the day passed away all right. I went horse back and enjoyed it.

Tuesday September 4, 1900

Cousin Mattie King, Leve McCook and I left Aunt Mary King's early this morning for Aunt Carrie Harp's (*Sarah Caroline McCook Harp*). We reached there about twelve o'clock and soon had a splendid dinner placed before us and I enjoyed it too. Aunt Carrie gave me a nice five dollar present. I talked long with Aunt Carrie and Uncle Dixon (*Samuel Dixon Harp*) and ate watermelons and scuppernongs. Late in the afternoon Misses Fuller called to see me. I also wrote to Susie (*her sister Susie Ruhama McCook*) and Lehman.

Wednesday September 5, 1900

I have been feasting all day today on peaches, watermelon and scuppernongs. In the afternoon I enjoyed a large baked potato and a glass of thick buttermilk oh! so much. Mr. Cobb called for a while in the afternoon I hemmed and ruffled a dress for Aunt Carrie.

Thursday September 6, 1900

Today has passed like yesterday with me eating fruits, laughing and talking. I made a dress shorter for Aunt Carrie and did several little odd jobs. I also wrote two letters.

Friday September 7, 1900

I was busy this morning helping Aunt Carrie do a few little odd jobs. Leve and I then ate some walnuts, peaches and scuppernongs, and in the afternoon I commenced Aunt Carrie an apron but did not finish it. Later in the afternoon cousin Mattie King, Aunt Carrie and I all went to Tebo to the post office and to see Mrs. Cobb. We were treated to candy and met several people.

Saturday September 8, 1900

Well, well, just to think what all I have eaten this day it is a wonder I am not foundered. I have eaten peaches, watermelon, scuppernongs, grapes, sugarcane, candy and walnuts and a splendid breakfast, dinner and supper. I also finished Aunt Carrie's apron and talked with them all.

Sunday September 9, 1900

Another Sunday I have spent in the country and it has rained all day long. We all enjoyed joking and laughing in the morning and in the afternoon. Mr. Cobb called. Mr. Fuller also came up for a while. It ceased raining about dark and was a pretty, moonlight night.

Sunday September 10, 1900

Mrs. Cobb spent today with us and we ate fruits etc. all day. In the afternoon Aunt Carrie and I called on the Misses Fuller.

Tuesday September 11, 1900

This morning I wrote five letters and while I was writing Mr. Minton called to see me. In the afternoon Mrs. Fuller and Misses Minnie & Ora Fuller called on me. About six o'clock Miss Minnie and I went horseback riding down to Tebo and had much fun. In the evening some of the neighbors came to Aunt Carrie's for a while.

Wednesday September 12, 1900

Leve McCook, Cousin Mattie King and I all left Aunt Carrie's and arrived at Aunt Mary's at three o'clock in the afternoon. At night Cousin Johnnie (*John Lee King, son of Mary King McCook*) and I went horseback to an entertainment at cousin Ida's (*Ida Sarah E. King King, oldest daughter of Mary McCook King*). We spent a very pleasant evening. I also received several letters.

Thursday September 13, 1900

Aunt Mary, Leve and I spent today with cousin Jimmie King (*James Dixon King, son of Mary McCook King*). We enjoyed the day and late in the afternoon we went to cousin Clara King's (*Clara Halbert King, Widow of Joshua Henry King, son of Mary McCook King*) where we spent a pleasant night. I road horse back to each place and back to Aunt Mary's.

Friday September 14, 1900

Today was my last day with Aunt Mary. I packed, talked, washed my head and did numerous other little things.

Saturday September 15, 1900

Four of us left Aunt Mary's this morning at six o'clock for Robeline and after riding forty miles in thirteen hours we reached Uncle Jimmie McCook's at half-past seven o'clock.

Sunday September 16, 1900

Fannie Templeton, Washington King (*Grandson of Mary McCook King*) and I all went to church this morning and then to Uncle Woodruff's to spend the day. We all enjoyed the day much and late in the evening went to Uncle Jimmie's for the night.

Monday September 17, 1900

I have not been feeling very well today but have kept going. I practiced some in the morning and in the afternoon Fannie Templeton and I called on Miss Sheible. Estelle McCook came for me and we went out driving after which we went to Uncle Woodruff's for the night.

Tuesday September 18, 1900

Today I have felt no better than yesterday and spent all day at Uncle Woodruff's without going anywhere. I wrote and also received letters.

Wednesday September 19, 1900

This day has been enjoyed for I have felt well and have done many little things. In the morning I was quite busy getting my things straight for my time in Robeline now is short. In the afternoon I practiced one hour and then Leo, Joe and I went out driving. We spent a very pleasant evening. At night on the late train I received two letters.

Thursday September 20, 1900

I spent today with Aunt Anna McCook. The day passed pleasantly indeed and in the afternoon I went driving and then to Uncle Woodruff's where I spent the night.

Friday September 21, 1900

About none o'clock this morning I went with Estelle to the schoolhouse. I spent a while in Professor Welch's room, a while in Miss Soden's and then went up to the music room with Estelle. I then returned to Uncle Woodruff's and passed the time with he and Aunt Bashie until after school. Estelle, Rubie and I then called on Mrs. Smith. I received two letters and wrote one.

Saturday September 22, 1900

Uncle Woodruff carried me over his farm this morning and I enjoyed talking with him so much while we viewed the crops. I then went to Uncle Jimmie's where I spent the day and in the afternoon Uncle Jimmie, Leo, Rubie and I went out walking. I received two presents and wrote to the homefolks. At night we had company and had music.

Sunday September 23, 1900

As today is my last day in Robeline Aunt Anna & Uncle Jimmie McCook gave me a big turkey and goose dinner and invited Uncle Woodruff's family down to dine with us and not only did we have a splendid dinner, but we also had a gala time. In the evening I bade them all good-bye and left for Sodus. Before leaving Uncle Jimmie gave me a nice present and I received several other presents too. I arrived at Sodus OK and was met by cousin Clarence and Evelyn. We talked about twelve and then retired for the night.

Monday September 24, 1900

I spent today in Sodus with cousin Clarence and spent it pleasantly too. In the afternoon I went out riding in the surrey with cousin Clarence, cousin Mickie & Sallie. We returned late, had supper, enjoyed ice cream another present. At nine o'clock we left for Terrell, Texas and traveled all night long.

Tuesday September 25, 1900

I reached Terrell this morning at a little after six o'clock and was somewhat tired having slept very little all night on the train, and after transferring to the other depot found the train was behind and I had a long, tiresome wait over three hours and then took the train for Quinlan, TX and arrived about eleven o'clock. Cousin Loula (*Bagley relative?*) met me and soon we were sitting at the dinner table eating and talking. She has a pleasant little home. After dinner I slept for a while and then went up town for a walk. We sat up until late talking.

Wednesday September 26, 1900

Cousin Loula and I talked long this morning and she asked me many questions about the people in Cusseta, GA and around. I wrote three letters too and in the afternoon we had company. Later on in the evening we walked down to the post office, were treated to glasse and then returned to the house. At night I attended prayer meeting.

Thursday September 27, 1900

Cousin Loula and I went to the cemetery this morning and from there to cousin Laura Nicholson's (*Bagley relative?*) where we spent a pleasant day. We returned in the afternoon and went out driving to the meadows. In the evening Mrs. Teauge, Mrs. Bowie & Mrs. Dickensheets called.

Friday September 28, 1900

Cousin Loula Bagley & I spent today in Greenville with Mrs. Bond. We had music and talked and spent the morning pleasantly. In the afternoon Mrs. Nicholson, Miss Bond, Cousin Loula Bagley and I went out driving and took in the city. We returned late, Mrs. Bond gave me a present, we ate supper and then returned to Quinlan.

Saturday September 29, 1900

At 8:35 o'clock this morning I left Quinlan and reached Dallas at 10:45. Cousin Eugene & Cousin Mamie (*Bagley relatives??*) met me and carried me to their cozy little home. We talked a while, ate dinner and in the afternoon Miss Evelyn Palmer and I went out driving. We had a pleasant time and also had company after tea.

Sunday September 30, 1900

Miss Evelyn & I went to church this morning to St. Matthews Cathedral. In the afternoon cousin Eugene carried me driving through all the prettiest streets and avenues of Dallas. We returned about 7:30 o'clock and Mr. Bissel called and we went out to the park. We spent a pleasant day indeed.

Monday October 1, 1900

Miss Evelyn & I went down town this morning and took in all the important business houses. We returned at about one o'clock very tired. In the afternoon about six cousins Mamie and I rode to the depot and met cousin Eugene. After tea we called on Mr. & Mrs. Ewing.

Tuesday October 2, 1900

Again this morning we went down town and went through several dry goods stores, made a few purchases, then returned home. In the afternoon cousin Eugene carried me to the Fair and I certainly enjoyed the different displays and several little midway shows. We returned quite late and went up on Main Street in the evening and saw the Grand Kaliph's parade headed by Mustapha Ben Selem. There were twenty floats, the lights were grand and there were six bands. I just know it was a very grand parade.

Wednesday October 3, 1900

It was just three months today since I left home and I am still enjoying life. Miss Palmer and I went through the Trust building this morning and also the jail and courthouse. The courthouse is indeed a fine edifice. We took in several other buildings including Linz jewelry store which is the finest jewelry store in the world. After having dinner cousin Eugene, Evelyn Palmer and I again went out to the Fair. We watched the races until sundown and saw some very pretty horses. After night we went to the auditorium where we enjoyed a concert. Criswell's band played long and the music was sweet indeed. We then took in the Chicago fireworks after which we returned home.

Thursday October 4, 1900

I was busy early this morning getting ready to leave Dallas, and at 11:20 o'clock I left for Denton and reached there at one o'clock. Eleanor (*Sarah Eleanor McCook, daughter of the late Joel Joshua McCook and niece of J. B. W. McCook and J. M. H. McCook*) met me at the depot. We soon reached Aunt Laura's (*Laura Ponder McCook, widow of Joel Joshua McCook. She moved to Denton because her brother was district attorney there.*) home and met all the loved ones. In the afternoon we had music and talked and in the evening went to prayer meeting.

Friday October 5, 1900

This morning passed pleasantly and in the afternoon we went to a millinery opening, then to the ice cream parlor and for a walk. We called on Mrs. Ponder (*sister-in-law of Laura?*) in the evening for a while.

Saturday October 6, 1900

I passed today very pleasantly all the way through. In the morning music and education was our topic and in the afternoon just as we were dressing to attend the Durvick Club Mr. Cooksey formerly of Chattahoochee called to see me and after he left Misses Bass and Sellers called. In the evening Mr. Overton Parr called. We also took a walk down to the ice cream parlor.

Sunday October 7, 1900

Sunday is here again and Evelyn (*Margaret Evelyn McCook*), Eleanor, Joel (*Joel Joshua McCook, Jr.*) and I went to hear the noted Dr. Carroll preach. In the afternoon Mr. Parr and Mr. Ponder (*Laura's brother?*) called. Late in the afternoon we walked out to the cemetery and at night to church.

Monday October 8, 1900

Aunt Laura, Evelyn, Eleanor and I all went uptown this morning and took in the pretty court-house and several of the prettiest store. After dinner Evelyn and I went to the meeting of the Ariel Club and enjoyed it much. Late in the afternoon we went walking and at night Joel and I went to Gentry's dog and pony show.

Tuesday October 9, 1900

Joel took me to the normal school this morning and I enjoyed the exercises very much. In the afternoon Joel carried Evelyn and I out to Mr. Pack Horn's and we had such a pleasant ten mile ride. He gave us a turkey and we returned to Denton about seven o'clock. Cousin Eugene Bagley of Dallas took supper the evening with us and I enjoyed having my McCook and Bagley relatives together. Mr. Cooksey formally of Chattahoochee County brought me a nice watermelon today too. There is quite a Norther now; it is very cold and I have taken quite a cold but feel alright.

Wednesday October 10, 1900

Early this morning Joel carried me to the city school and through the finest flour mills in the South. They won the prize at the Paris exposition. We then went by and had ice cream after which we went home for dinner. In the afternoon Joel and I went out driving and rode from four o'clock until six and visited the pottery and other points of interest. We spent a very pleasant afternoon and in the evening Mr. Sidney Pitman called.

Thursday October 11, 1900

We rose early this morning and I began to get ready for my departure. Mr. & Mrs. Horn, Mr. Ed Horn and little Corinne spent the day at Aunt Laura's. we had music. I talked to Mr. Horn about Cusseta and at one o'clock I bade them all goodbye and left for the Territory (*Oklahoma?*). I reached Gainesville at four o'clock, went to the Turner House Hotel where I staid until eleven o'clock when I took the train and reached Paoli at three o'clock. Cousin Perry (*Bagley?*) met me and I went only a short little distance before I reached cousin Sallie's home. I have finished this book and will now start another book. Maybe folks can read this sorry writing, but it is doubtful.

Carrie Lou McCook

Highlighting Our Members

Contributed by Johnnie Covington

ALTGA member **Ken Shively** is interested in learning more about these family names: Wimberly, Hall, Shively, Terry, Hicks, and Kenney. It was the family name “Kenney” that led to his being named Ken. He was born in Thibodaux, Louisiana, where his father worked after World War II, but he grew up in the Monroe area. His family is originally from Bienville and Red River Parishes. Ken graduated from Northeast in 1972. It is now called University of Louisiana at Monroe. He worked for years at First National Bank in Shreveport and retired after 21 years at Wells’ Office Supplies.

Ken says he likes to read and always has. He enjoys short stories, novels, mysteries, and historical suspense. Ken is an active member of Shreveport Writers’ Club and likes to write about his family, ancestors, and historical suspense, maybe with a little romance thrown in. He has two completed manuscripts and is working on a third. Ken is also a member of the North Louisiana Historical Association.

He and his wife Carol have four children and five grandchildren. Two of the children live in Austin, Texas, and Ken and Carol sometimes visit them. They also visit a son and his family who live in Durham, North Carolina. One daughter lives in Shreveport, so they see her most frequently.

Ken likes to work in the yard and this helps him exercise. They go to the gym three times a week for a sort of physical therapy program.

Both Ken and Carol have a lot of Irish DNA, so they are talking about a trip to Ireland. They enjoy taking day trips to places like Jefferson, Texas, and Natchitoches, where they walk, shop, and dine in interesting little restaurants.



Barbara Dean Kronenberg spent her youth in Claiborne Parish and graduated high school from a small community school called Harris, where her father was the principal. Barbara and her father both loved history, and that was one of the reasons she went two years to college at Mary Washington in Fredricksburg, Virginia. She received her Bachelor of Education at Louisiana State University and then her Master of Library Science.

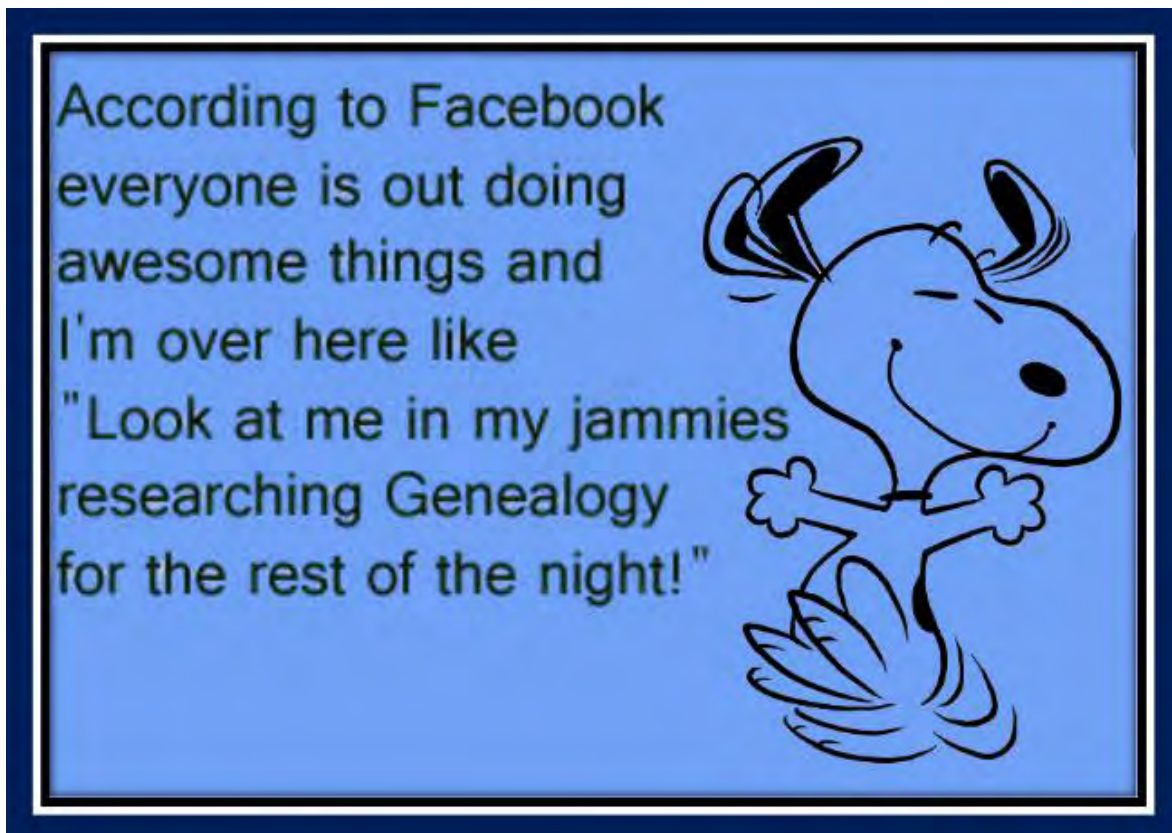
Barbara Dean taught and then began work for the Department of Defense as a school librarian in the Azores, then Spain, Turkey, and Bermuda, where she met her future husband. After marriage, they lived in Berlin, but they made their way back to the states so they could be closer to their families. The couple has three children: a son in Blanchard,

and another son in Maryland near D.C., and a daughter in Shreveport. They also have grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Barbara Dean likes to collect cookbooks and has her mother's collection. She enjoys doing things with her family. Travel is fun, and she's been all over Europe and most of the United States. A trip to Wisconsin for a family reunion is planned for next month.

Barbara Dean retired from DeSoto Parish as a middle school librarian at Mansfield, Louisiana. Since retirement, she has enjoyed reading, especially history, biography, and genealogy. She wants to know more about the names Miles (Myles) and McLelland, which also has a number of spellings. A great-grandfather named Alford has piqued her interest as he was from Mississippi but fought for the Union during the War Between the States.

Barbara Dean is active in ALTGA and has served on the board. She is the lady who makes sure that we have a variety of refreshments for each meeting. If you're willing to help with refreshments, just let her know.



A SPECIAL FATHER'S DAY

Contributed by Ken Shivley

I submitted this story while thinking of Father's Day approaching. It stands out as a special memory of my childhood, and I had added it to my journal in 2018, 60 years after it occurred. I was able to learn more about my grandfather I never knew and who lived so long ago from Ancestry.com and from History of Bienville Parish, Volumes 1&2.

"My Daddy would have been 100 years old now."

These words spoken softly came from my father, standing next to me by his father's grave 60 years ago. It was summer of 1958, Father's Day weekend, and I was a few months from turning nine. We were on a road trip in the family Pontiac to Natchitoches, Louisiana, to visit my mother at Northwestern State College while she was working on her Master of Education degree. This was also one of those rare times that I would have my father, Frank Shively, to myself for a while. At 44 Dad was full of energy and seemed to work all the time as he was self-employed. I enjoyed these trips with just him even though he often didn't speak much, just a pleasant "yes" or a "no" or "sure" as a reply to my chatter. I often wished he would talk more, but then that was Dad. Fathers of his generation just didn't always have much to say to kids.

The visit with Mama in Natchitoches went fast. We ate at some nice restaurant and walked up and down the main street which is made of ancient bricks from long ago. Mama had to go back to her dorm room to study, and we could only go as far as the lobby. Then on the trip back home, Dad made a detour to the town of Friendship, Louisiana, without explaining anything, as usual, and we pulled up to a church and cemetery.

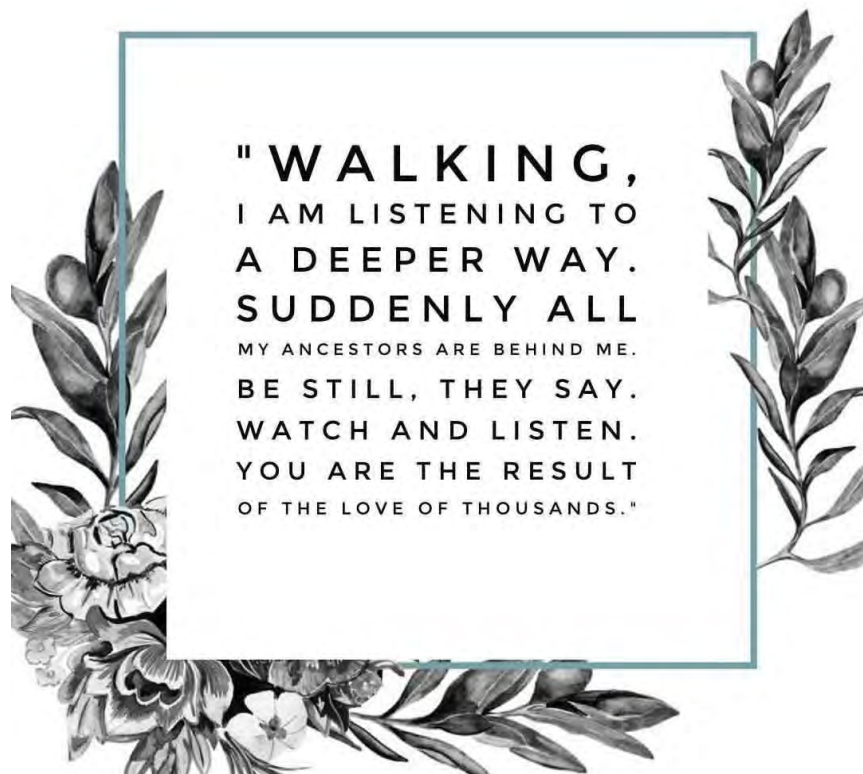
"Well here we are," he said as he shut the car engine off. I didn't know where "here" was, but I trotted along behind him as he walked quickly through the cemetery past what looked like ancient headstones until he arrived at the one we were headed to. I was amazed that I had a grandfather who had been born as far back as 1858, but there it was set in stone, literally. I doubted many other kids my age would have a grandparent born that far back, and as it stands now, I believe I've been proven right.

My grandfather, Jeff Shively, in the latter 1800s had apparently done well farming and with other skills he had. I have only two old photographs of him and one letter written by him on brown-lined paper in pencil telling some unknown person about how he enjoyed fishing. He had raised a large family, but after his first wife died, he married again to a much younger woman, my grandmother, who was young enough to be his daughter.

After they lost two children at childbirth, my dad was born in 1914. Sadly, Jeff died suddenly two years later of a heart attack one stormy night while asleep. The local small-town doctor blamed it on the aspirin my grandmother had given him in the night when he complained of feeling bad. She would never have aspirin in the house again.

Dad would never know his father, and he missed out on the stories he could have told about growing up during the Civil War era, when Lincoln was alive and the President, and of Jeff's uncles, two of whom fought in Lee's Army of Northern Virginia and one in the Battle of Mansfield, Louisiana, or perhaps about the Shively family who had emigrated from Germany to escape political turmoil and war over there just to find it again here. All that his father could have passed on to him was gone with the past.

Dad would never be a big talker. But he and I, years later, would talk more, and I would write down the stories from his life that he passed on to me. I now appreciate those rare times back then when he would break away from his busy schedule and important people who wanted to claim his time just to spend it with me, something his father was never able to do with him.





Have you registered yet? Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association will host an all day seminar in Shreveport on August 10, 2019, featuring John Sellers, a professional genealogist and lecturer. Mr. Sellers is a fifth generation native of Hopkins County, Texas, and former mayor of Sulphur Springs, Texas. He has been doing genealogy research over 25 years and has lectured at national genealogical conferences as well as over 60 regional, state, and local seminars. He specializes in courthouse research with an emphasis on land and probate records.

Lecture topics are as follow:

- History's Role in Your Genealogical Pursuits
- What's Hidden in Courthouse Records (2 hour presentation)
- Researching Newspapers in Cyber Space

Note: A description of each lecture is listed on the website and the back side of the flyer.

Location: Broadmoor United Methodist Church (Pearce Hall), 3715 Youree Drive, Shreveport

Seminar hours: 9:00am - 3:30pm

Hearthstone Legacy Publications will be the featured vendor with a wide selection of history, genealogy, and map materials.

Seminar fee is \$40 and includes lunch if pre-registered. Numerous door prizes will be given away. Click [here](#) for a printable seminar flyer/registration form or for online registration and PayPal instructions. For more information visit <http://www.altgenealogy.com/seminar.htm> or email Jim Johnson at jjohnson747@suddenlink.net.





An Ark of Biblical Proportions

Contributed by Leonard Gresens

As my wife Denise and I travel, we usually have an agenda, which consists of baseball stadiums, diners, drive-ins, dives (or places of local fare), coin shops, and now that my wife is quilting, quilt shops. We have an attraction we would like to see and seek out those agenda items the best we can. My wife does a better job of searching quilt shops; she has an app for that!

Recently we planned a trip to the Cincinnati/northern Kentucky area with our grandchildren. Our quest was to see "The Ark." The Ark Encounter, in Williamstown, Kentucky, is a ministry of *Answers in Genesis*, a website to search for answers to questions you might have about the Bible.

In addition to The Ark, we planned a visit to its sister site, the Creation Museum, in Petersburg, Kentucky. I have been following these two attractions on *Facebook* and other media outlets to see the progress that has taken place. The building of The Ark fascinated me when I learned it was being planned. It opened to the public in July of 2016 and has attracted over a million visitors a year since its opening. Also planned was a stop at the previously unvisited Great American Ballpark, home of the Cincinnati Reds and other attractions we could find to do for the week-long trip. A trip to Columbus, Ohio, to the Legoland Discovery Center for our seven-year-old grandson, the future engineer, was a must. Another sight to see were the many barn quilts throughout the area. I'll write more about that in another story.

No matter what your belief is about the biblical story of the flood or your personal beliefs on evolution vs. creationism, the visit can be enlightening. As a previous student of Architecture,

my main interest was to see this full-scaled model of the ship built to save a portion of mankind during the great flood. I was no doubt impressed. The mass undertaking of this project was astounding. And what really started my cranial fluids working was the thought process of what could have taken place.



Although many artistic liberties and presumptions were taken in the construction, the presentation was indeed a great work. The self-guided tour started on deck one of the vessel. Here we learned how they probably got rid of all that waste (human and animal) on board daily. We have three indoor cats, that is a job in itself! Think about over 2,500 to 7,000 (no one knows for sure) animals to clean up after, plus to feed and to care for. The system of crocks of water throughout is massive. There is much to take in and think about. All those simple stories in Vacation Bible School came nowhere near the undertaking that was required.

Deck two was more housing of animals. The caging system was impressive with a feeding and watering system incorporated into the center of four cages to care for four pairs of animals at once. This again makes you think of how the eight people on board took on these massive jobs and the ability to do everything in a quick and precise manner.

The third deck depicted the living quarters of Noah, his wife, three sons, and their wives. It's this area where I hear most doubt expressed about what is presented. The elaborate tapestries and furnishings are questioned. And maybe too many artistic freedoms were taken here. But who's to know?

Throughout the three decks were exhibits explaining, not only the historic elements of the early world, but also explanations of the creationism story. One exhibit that caught my attention was the evolution of man. Evolution describes early mankind as unintelligent, uncivilized beings who communicated in grunts, while creationism explains that early humans were highly intelligent, civilized, and educated in workmanship with all types of natural materials, and they developed skills which would have included building a ship over a period of a hundred years in order to sustain a great flood and house thousands of animals.

I walked into this presentation with an open mind. I wasn't sure what I was going to see or learn. I've studied the Scriptures and listened to commentary



God gave little detail into this story other than some dimensions and materials. Anything additional is our imagination and free thinking. And I'm sure there is a reason why it's limited. We can never know for certain what took place or how it was all accomplished.

If you think about it, isn't that how our genealogy research is? We are piecing together history from our past that we will never know for certain how or why it took place. We must use our imagination and investigate our work with an open mind. Taking the resources that we have and building upon what we can only assume. Take, for example, the interpretation of the living quarters and how elaborate they are depicted. Who knows, God could have easily given details about how they should be. Looking into scripture further, we see the explicit details given to the decorations in the tent of meeting. The skilled works of those who prepared the curtains, metal works, and clothing were instructed precisely. Maybe he didn't think we needed to know how Noah lived.

The trip to the Creation Museum was also an enlightening experience, but realize the title of the museum gives you a hint that it is focused on creationism. The tour of exhibits included comparisons to evolution and presented the story of the first three chapters of Genesis in the Bible. The tour began with our watching a 4D movie depicting the creation of the earth; we then took a walking tour of exhibits starting with the creation of man in the Garden of Eden, then sin coming into the world with the deception of the serpent, and ending with the flood of the earth, which we learned about from the other museum. The exhibits ended with another movie, this time presenting the gospel story of salvation.

I will say one thing about the whole experience. Both locations are well cared for and beautifully maintained. The souvenirs are rather expensive, but the dining at both places was good and not overpriced.

I highly recommend a visit to both The Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum. For the younger kids, there are playgrounds and zoos to visit. Our seven-year-old was more interested in those sites than the main attractions, so keep that in mind. But it was nice to see our 15-year-old granddaughter taking in all the information presented. Go with an open mind, and don't limit your imagination.