



Connections

The Newsletter of GENCOM, The Computer Genealogy Group Editor: Patricia Minton Bettis

No November or December Meetings

The TRIGEN meeting held on
the 7th of November took
the place of our
November meeting.

As our end of the month meeting
date falls so close to Thanksgiving
and Christmas, we have found that
attendance is so low it is not fea-
sible to have meetings— With so
many members traveling, or busy
preparing for their family visits.

So, have a lovely holiday and we will
look forward to seeing each other
at
our next meeting
on January 24, 2010





GENFEST 09



Neither tornados or floods— fallen trees blocked streets or power outages
Were able to prevent GENCIOM from holding our annual fall festival!
Though we missed several members who were affected by the storm!



Jim Jones display of “DNA Basics for the Genealogist” drew a great deal of attention.



Special thanks to Esther Jones who chaired our traditional *Dinner on the Grounds!*



Visiting!

Photos by Glenda Conradi and Don Davis



Dinner on the Grounds Recipes

GENCOM is fortunate to have not only fine genealogists—but some fine cooks, as well! I wasn't able to sample all of the great variety of dishes that were served but those I selected were so good that I asked permission to publish these recipes. PMB

Jimmy's Bean Soup (Jim Jones)

Ingredients:

4 medium onions chopped
4 bell peppers chopped
3 tablespoon chopped garlic
1 pound package chopped ham and 1 pound package of smoke sausage chopped
2 cans Ranch Style hot pinto beans
2 cans Ranch Style beans
2 cans Campbells bean & bacon soup
2 cans water

Instructions: Mix all the ingredients in a large heavy pot. Cook without cover until almost boiling. Reduce heat to low and cover pot. Cook for 2 hours stirring from bottom every 20-30 minutes. Remove from heat. Mash beans and meat while still hot with potato masher before serving.

Parmesan Crisps Margaret Mc Gilvray

Grated Parmesan Cheese (I bought the aged cheese at Sams)
Black Pepper

Bake 325 degrees about 7 minutes
Drop Cheese by Tablespoon and spread into circle.

I just sprayed my cooking sheet with Pam, put the cheese on, ground on a little black pepper and baked it.
(Do not feel the parchment paper etc is necessary)

Tomato Basil Soup

2 Cans Tomato Soup (either Bisque or Plain)
1 can Chopped Tomatoes
2 1/2 cups Buttermilk
Chopped Fresh Basil
Black Pepper
Just heat long enough to blend flavors!
Garnish with Fresh Basil Leaf

The combination of the Parmesan Crisps and the gourmet tomato soup is perfect! PMB

Jean Whitaker

SOUTHERN STYLE SCALLOPED CORN

1 – 17 oz. can cream style corn
½ cup chopped celery
½ cup shredded American cheese
½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons melted butter

1 cup crushed cracker crumbs
½ cup chopped onion
¼ teaspoon paprika
2 eggs beaten
1 cup milk

Combine ingredients, pour into greased 1 ½ qt. round casserole.
Bake at 350 deg. For 50 to 55 minutes.

Chocolate Bundt cake

By Jimmie Davis

Combine:

1 German Chocolate cake mix
1 carton-Betty Crocker Coconut-pecan frosting mix
1 cup of water 1/3 cup Oil
3 eggs Beat for 3 Minutes, and then stir in:
½ cup chopped pecans
½ cup MINI chocolate chips Bake for 50 minutes at 350 degrees
when cool sprinkle with powdered sugar

Enjoy, Jimmie

Commonplace Books

(*Our president Roy Henderson, is such an avid journalist, it reminded me of this article on Commonplace Books! PMB*



Commonplace books (or **commonplaces**) emerged in the 15th century with the availability of cheap paper for [writing](#), mainly in [England](#). They were a way to compile [knowledge](#), usually by writing information into [books](#). They were essentially [scrapbooks](#) filled with items of every kind: medical recipes, quotes, letters, poems, tables of weights and measures, proverbs, prayers, legal formulas. Commonplaces were used by readers, writers, students, and [humanists](#) as an aid for remembering useful concepts or facts they had learned. Each commonplace book was unique to its creator's particular interests.

By the 1600s, commonplacing had become a recognized practice that was formally taught to college students in such institutions as [Oxford](#). The commonplace tradition in which [Francis Bacon](#) and [John Milton](#) were educated had its roots in the pedagogy of classical [rhetoric](#), and “commonplacing” persisted as a popular study technique until the early twentieth century. Both [Ralph Waldo Emerson](#) and [Henry David Thoreau](#) were taught to keep commonplace books at [Harvard University](#) (their commonplace books survive in published form). Commonplacing was particularly attractive to authors. Some, such as [Samuel Taylor Coleridge](#) and [Mark Twain](#), kept messy reading notes that were intermixed with other quite various material; others, such as [Thomas Hardy](#), followed a more formal reading-notes method that mirrored the original [Renaissance](#) practice more closely. The older, “clearinghouse” function of the commonplace book, to condense and centralize useful and even “model” ideas and expressions, became less popular over time.

“Commonplace” is a [translation](#) of the [Latin](#) term *locus communis* which means “a theme or argument of general application”, such as a statement of proverbial wisdom. In this original sense, commonplace books were collections of such sayings, such as Milton's commonplace book. Scholars have expanded this usage to include any manuscript that collects material along a common theme by an individual. From the standpoint of the psychology of authorship, it is noteworthy that keeping notebooks is in itself a kind of tradition among litterateurs. A commonplace book of literary memoranda may serve as a symbol to the keeper, therefore, of the person's literary identity (or something psychologically not far-removed), quite apart from its obvious value as a written record. That commonplace books (and other personal note-books) can enjoy this special status is supported by the fact that authors frequently treat their notebooks as quasi-works, giving them elaborate titles, compiling them neatly from rough notes, recompiling still neater revisions of them later, and preserving them with a special devotion and care that seems out of proportion to their apparent function as working materials.

Producing a commonplace is known as **commonplacing**.

Some modern writers see [blogs](#) as an analogy to commonplace books.^[1] Artists use sketchbooks to store ideas for future use. Bloggers have folders of bookmarks. And some authors keep notebooks or “commonplace” books.

One well-known author recorded “ideas, images, & quotations hastily jotted down for possible future use... for the most part they are merely suggestions or random impressions designed to set the memory or imagination working. Their sources are various—dreams, things read, casual incidents, idle conceptions, & so on...”^[1] [“Historical roots of blogging”](#) McDaniel, W. Caleb. “The Roots of Blogging.” *Chronicle of Higher Education*. 51.47 (2005): B2.

O Kline, David, etc.. (2005). *Blog!: How the Newest Media Revolution is Changing Politics, Business, and Culture*. ISBN 1-59315-141-1

O [“Blogging Clicks With Colleges”](#), [The Washington Post](#), Friday, March 11, 2005; B01.

[“The 18thc Online: commonplace book or coffeehouse?”](#). Notes from a lecture given at [NEASECS](#) by Miriam Jones, Associate Professor of English in the Department of Humanities , [Assumption College](#)

[[edit](#)] Examples in manuscript

- [Robert Reynes of Acle](#), Norfolk (Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Tanner 407).
- Richard Hill, a London grocer (Oxford, Balliol College, MS 354).
- Glastonbury Miscellany. (Trinity College, Cambridge, MS 0.9.38). Originally designed as an account book.

[Jean Miélot](#), 15th century Burgundian translator and author. His book is in the [BnF](#), and the main sources for his verses, many written for court occasions.

[[edit](#)] Published examples

- Francis Bacon, *"The Promus of Formularies and Elegancies"*, Longman, Greens and Company, London, 1883. The Promus was a rough list of elegant and useful phrases gleaned from reading and conversation that Bacon used as a source book in writing and probably also as a promptbook for oral practice in public speaking.
- John Milton, "Milton's Commonplace Book," in *John Milton: Complete Prose Works*, gen. ed. Don M. Wolfe (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1953). Milton kept scholarly notes from his reading, complete with page citations to use in writing his tracts and poems.

[[edit](#)] Literary references to commonplacing

- [Bronson Alcott](#), 1877: "The habit of journalizing becomes a life-long lesson in the art of composition, an informal schooling for authorship. And were the process of preparing their works for publication faithfully detailed by distinguished writers, it would appear how large were their indebtedness to their diary and commonplaces. How carefully should we peruse Shakespeare's notes used in compiling his plays--what was his, what another's--showing how these were fashioned into the shapely whole we read, how Milton composed, Montaigne, Goethe: by what happy strokes of thought, flashes of wit, apt figures, fit quotations snatched from vast fields of learning, their rich pages were wrought forth! This were to give the keys of great authorship!" Amos Bronson Alcott, *Table-Talk of A. Bronson Alcott* (Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1877), p. 12.
- [Virginia Woolf](#), mid-1900s: "[L]et us take down one of those old notebooks which we have all, at one time or another, had a passion for beginning. Most of the pages are blank, it is true; but at the beginning we shall find a certain number very beautifully covered with a strikingly legible hand-writing. Here we have written down the names of great writers in their order of merit; here we have copied out fine passages from the classics; here are lists of books to be read; and here, most interesting of all, lists of books that have actually been read, as the reader testifies with some youthful vanity by a dash of red ink." Virginia Woolf, "Hours in a Library," *Granite and Rainbow: Essays by Virginia Woolf* (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1958), p. 25.

In [Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events](#) a number of characters including Klaus Baudelaire and the Quagmire triplets keep commonplace books.

[[edit](#)] Notes

1. [^] Blogs as modern day commonplaces:
 - o "[Blogs, Definitions and Commonplace Books](#)"
 - o "[Historical roots of blogging](#)"
 - o McDaniel, W. Caleb. "The Roots of Blogging." *Chronicle of Higher Education*. 51.47 (2005): B2.

The TRIGEN Story

Ark-La-Tex Genealogy Assn
Friends of Genealogy
GENCOM



Phillip Adderley, Jim Roy chatting with Debi Adderley and Glenda Bernard after the presentation.

As you may remember, in March of this year, GENCOM joined with the other two local Genealogical Groups (Ark-LA-TEX Genealogy Assn. and Friends of Genealogy,) to sponsor the very successful Irish Seminar on St Patrick's Day. With our combined talent and resources we had a crowd of over 80, and received a very positive response from the attendees.

Jim Johnson, President of ALTGA and Brenda Randall, President of Friends of Genealogy and I have kept in touch and plan to jointly sponsor events in the future.

In planning for such, it seemed that our first move should be a database of the members. A surname db was developed which was ready for our next meeting on November 7.

The obvious name for our group seemed to be TRIGEN.

It has been a pleasure to work together on this meeting. We divided the responsibility with Jim Johnson of ALTGA making arrangements for the meeting room and emceeding the meeting.

FOG was to provide refreshments and GENCOM to make the surname database and TRIGEN name tags with the four surnames of each participant.

It had been agreed that we would present Phil Adderley's story of the Seabee his lost sweetheart. and the details of Phil's genealogical search to find Jim's Mary.

Jim opened the program with a brief outline of our plan to work together to present genealogical themed programs in the future. He mentioned each group and its mission. ALTGA the oldest and largest group offers genealogical classes regularly, presents an annual seminar with noted speakers, and focuses on local history in its publications.. Brenda Randall, president of FOG was out of town so Jim described their special interests—their most ambitious project of scanning obituaries and vital records of all sorts.

Then Roy Henderson, President of GENCOM told how GENCOM differs from the other two in that their mission is to keep up with technological advances that affect genealogical research. And, to share these new skills with each other.

Phil introduced his guest Jim Roy, and described the story of Jim's life in Shreveport and his romance with Mary and losing touch with her.

At break time the ladies of FOG provided a sumptuous array of refreshments., most attractively served. After the break Phil showed us the steps he had taken to find Mary...precise and careful study of census and city directories every source available ..it was most interesting to see how a professional genealogist reports his findings.

The surprise ending left us realizing how the smallest incident may prove the relationship we are seeking,



Carolyn's Corner

Carolyn's Corner

Carolyn Franklin

Well , it is getting close to the Holiday season. Where on earth has this year gone?
Here are a few tips that I have found for you.
Hope they will make your computing experience better.

2 Vista Tips & Tricks I Like

Vista has many tools and utilities that earlier versions of Windows do not have.
Here are some of the Vista features and functions that I like.

BACKUP:

If you have the Business, Home Premium, or Ultimate edition of Vista, Microsoft has included one of the most critical programs you can find on any computer. One backs up your data. Backup Status and Configuration is located in Accessories, System Tools is incredibly easy, with options to back up or restore individual files, groups of files, or even your whole PC. System. The process is simple. Bernie tells us that this is very important as if a catastrophe happens, you'll be very glad you did.

The Snipping Tool

Vista's Snipping Tool (found in the Accessories folder on the Start menu) allows you to capture only the part of the screen you want. Just start up the tool, click and drag the mouse until you've outlined the area you want to preserve, then release the mouse button. Once you've gotten your snip, you can draw on it with a pen tool, highlight certain portions or erase others, and save it as a JPEG, GIF, PNG, or MHT (HTML) file.

Compare drug costs

Are you struggling with the costs of prescription drugs? If so, you're not alone. Many of the seniors that have a Medicare part D plan are already in the donut hole.

Fortunately, the Internet can help you save some money.

Just visit DestinationRx. Type in the name of a drug. Verify the name and select the quantity you need. You'll get a list of reputable pharmacies that sell the drug. You'll see the price for refills, along with the cost of shipping. But DestinationRx can offer even more help. It lists lower-cost alternatives to brand-name drugs.

You may need to register to access some features.

<http://www.drx.com/>

Country/Bluegrass Jukebox

I am sure that some of you like country Bluegrass like I do. Go to this site and listen

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Valley/3595/countryjukebox.html>

An easy way to send (e-mail) a web page

1. Click on the web site you wish to send.
2. Click File at top left
3. Move cursor to Send and slide your cursor to arrow over to and click Page by E-mail...
4. An e-mail ready will pop up for you to enter an e-mail address. (you may enter your own for a test)
5. Change the subject as desired (optional)
6. Send! That's all it is to send this complete message from you and only you.

Forwarding Email

Windows All Versions

(1) When you forward an e-mail, DELETE all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). Click on Forward, Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You MUST click the "Forward" button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you don't click on "Forward" first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

(2) Whenever you send an e-mail to more than one person, do NOT use the To: or Cc: fields for adding e-mail addresses. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) field for listing the e-mail addresses. This is the way the people you send to will only see their own e-mail address. If you don't see your BCC in Outlook Express/Windows Mail, click View in the compose window toolbar and check "All Headers". In other email programs try clicking on where it says To: and your address list will appear - then highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, it's that easy. When you send to BCC: (and with no address in the "To:" field) your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients in the "TO:" field of the people who receive it.

(3) Remove any "FW:" in the subject line. You can re-name the subject if you wish or even fix spelling.

(4) ALWAYS hit your Forward button from the actual e-mail you are reading. Ever get those e-mails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? By Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many e-mails just to see what you sent.-

(5) Have you ever gotten an e-mail that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and address and to forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The e-mail can be forwarded on and on and can collect thousands of names and e-mail addresses. A FACT: The completed petition is actually worth a couple of bucks to a professional spammer because of the wealth of valid names and e-mail addresses contained therein. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient. Your position may carry more weight as a personal letter than a laundry list of names and e-mail address on a petition.

Frugal

We hear a lot these days about being Frugal. This site will give you some ideas how.

<http://www.stretcher.com/menu/tips.htm>

Hope that you and yours have a great Thanksgiving.



Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s

We continue with items from "The Crows Nest" by Pascal de Fuselier. The current interest in the Depression Years have drawn attention to the measures that were taken to hasten the country's financial recovery.. Projects similar to the CCC have been discussed and there is renewed interest in similar projects. M. Fuselier gives an excellent overview of the different functions of CCC... PMB

Someone once said it is not good to dwell on the past. That may be so, but it is kind of nice to revisit those bygone days occasionally

On March 4, 1933, I was in my second year in the first grade at the little red school-house in Johnson Cove. My teacher was Miss Hattie Guillory (God bless her soul) and on that date Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated as the 32nd president of the United States. Unless you were there it's hard to imagine how hard the times were during those Depression years. President Roosevelt was inheriting a nation whose economic fabric was close to shreds. More than a quarter of the work force was unemployed.

In his acceptance speech, FDR said, "Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." His "fear of fear itself" words were borrowed from Henry David Thoreau, descendent of French Protestant refugees, July 12, 1817. A revolutionary poet/writer, Thoreau built a cabin in the woods at Walden Pond in Massachusetts and moved in July 4, 1845, eight days before his 28th birthday. Probably the first American young man who left home "to find himself." He stayed in the woods 26 months and wrote some good stuff.

As soon as Franklin D. Roosevelt took office, the U.S. Congress, under his leadership, created an alphabet gumbo of government agencies: the NRA (National Recovery Act), PWA (Public Works Administration), AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Administration), NLB (National Labor Board), FCC (Federal Communications Commission) and WPA, probably the best known of the many New Deal programs because it put millions of Americans to work at reasonable wages building and repairing bridges, erecting thousands of public buildings, building thousands of miles of road, and constructing post offices, parks and airfields. The WPA also provided programs that employed artists, musicians, writers and scholars. The WPA funds made it possible for John Lomax, and his young son Alan to come to Acadiana in 1933-34 with almost 500 pounds of recording equipment in the trunk of their Ford - equipment borrowed from the Library of Congress - and take the back roads of Cajun country to record the music of the Cajuns for the Library. Okay, just what did W.P.A. stand for? It is interesting to note that when Congress first enacted the agency it stood for Works Progress Administration, but in 1939 it changed to stand for Works Projects Administration until it disbanded in 1943.

They had worked on projects that helped check soil erosion and control floods. They had built thousands of miles of roads and trails in remote areas and they had constructed cabins and campgrounds still enjoyed today, more than half a century later. They also fought many forest fires and worked to prevent others. One of the indirect results of the CCC was to bring the national parks and forests into the consciousness of million of Americans, who would continue to enjoy and appreciate their use for many decades to follow.

Naturally the CCC had its critics. Although the U.S. Army was initially charged with setting up the camps and supervising the volunteers, the pervading neutralist sentiment of the nation made sure the youths were not taught drill or weaponry. Some do-good critics preached that the CCC's basic approach seemed vaguely similar to that of Hitler's Youth in Germany. But the spirit of the C.C. Camps and the participants was very different - there was a minimum of pageantry, patriotism and propaganda. The majority of Americans believed that the young men of the CCC had improved both the country and themselves.

Today, young people think we are kind of coo-coo when we tell them of the hard times we had during those bygone days, and then we refer to that period as les bon vieux temps (the good old times). It is hard for today's young people to understand that though we had little money and luxuries, we managed to laugh and have as much, perhaps more, fun as they now have. Not only did our generation manage to survive the Depression, we are the generation that saved the world from tyranny. Not only those of us who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, but all of those who contributed on the home front helped to defeat Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. Without our generation's great sacrifices and contributions we'd live in a very different world today. Hope you enjoyed this flashback in what was happening over half a century ago, and when pepere tells you he was in the C.C. camps, tell him he did a good job!

Designed by L. McCauley



Robert Walker Lewis
1931-2009\
Bob passed away on Sunday November 8.
Our sympathy and prayers go out to Elizabeth,
son Ronald and daughter Laurie.

The President's Message



Roy Henderson



The TRIGEN program on November 7, 2009 was outstanding. Phillip Adderley, CG was an excellent interviewer and chronologist. He detailed the search and findings, leading to the locations of Mr. Jim Roy's school years girlfriend Mary Woods lost when he went into the service during WWII.

Jim Johnson, Ark-La-Tex Genealogy Society President and our own Patte Bettis arranged the fine program for our three local societies. Jim did an admirable job of moderating the event. Each society had a part and several members from each group volunteered by helping with physical arrangement, name tags, collecting information and food. Thanks to all that helped make the program so successful. Let us strive to have more successful TRIGEN programs like the first two we have had.

I was happy to see that some of our members have completed their family "history books" and several reported on their progress. It was good to see beautifully detailed and narrated scrap books on display at GENFEST 2009. We hope to see more examples and get progress reports at the January, 24th meeting.

It is time for us to secure personal 2010 calendar books and put in the GENCOM meeting dates. We have confirmed dates to meet at Hamilton /South Caddo Branch Library on January 24 and February 28, 2010. Other dates to be confirmed are March 28, April 26, May 23, June 27, and September 22, 2010. We will not have a scheduled meeting in August. However, the Program Committee will meet during the summer, the date will be announced later.

Roy L. Henderson

November 12, 2009

GENCOM

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2009-2010

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