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   c Carriage clock, DAR insignia, quartz movement, $210
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### Image

- Cover: Gaze Crosby, courtesy of the Historic New Orleans Collection, photo illustration: Betts Hayes

**American Spirit March/April 2002**
With this issue, the American Spirit magazine celebrates Spain’s contributions to America’s cultural heritage. The Spanish influence in America began during the 16th century when Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon first sighted the coast of Florida in 1513 on a voyage into the New World. Spain sent many explorers and settlers to North America long before the first English settlers arrived in Jamestown in 1607. Later another Spanish explorer, Hernando de Soto, discovered the Mississippi River, which he called the “Father of Waters.” The Spanish expansion into the New World also brought the new religious culture of Christianity to the various indigenous peoples. From this introduction, Spanish missions were established across the area and settlements developed. Years later, as the American colonies became discontented with English tariffs and taxes, these Spanish settlements were sympathetic to the colonists.

The American Revolution became a significant factor in the dynamics of European politics. After hearing of the French alliance with the American colonies, the King of Spain, Charles III, embraced the American Revolution providing critical aid and economic support. Spanish troops under the command of Bernardo de Gálvez brought weapons and equipment to fortify Washington’s army, thus history accords them their rightful place as Patriots of the American Revolution.

From this auspicious beginning, the influence of the Spanish helped to create a rich cultural heritage in many parts of the United States. In addition to the friendship that helped to support America in the quest for independence, Spain shared her wonderful legacies of art, music, cuisine, architecture and fashion, which continue to add to the traditions and culture of our nation. We hope that you will enjoy learning more about the Spanish trail to the American Revolution.
Dear Editor,

I’m happy to write that California also had a DAR member participate in the Olympic Winter Games. Mary Lynn Dalrymple Brown, of Conejo Valley Chapter, was one of only 11,500 nationwide chosen by the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics Committee to be a Torchbearer. Her relay segment was January 16 beginning at 5:13 P.M. in Santa María, California.

Mary doesn’t know who nominated her for this prestigious honor. She said, “I am overwhelmed that I must have touched someone’s life in such a positive manner as to have them submit me to the Olympic Committee, and that I was actually chosen. I am blessed with such friends and family. Now all I have to do is make it through my segment.”

The theme is “Inspiration”...who inspired others and serves their community in an exemplary manner, who embodies the Olympic spirit and has overcome adversity.

Currently Mary is serving as National Advisor DAR Magazine/Advertising and California State Chairperson for the National Magazine. Outside of DAR, Mary belongs to over 15 other societies actively serving on the board or in other positions. She currently holds the position of Governor of the Jamestowne Society. The list of Mary’s dedications and services go on and on.

When she questions “Why me?” for being chosen as a Torchbearer for the 2002 Olympics, let it be known that Mary Brown has been a cancer patient since 1989; her dedication, contributions and inspiration truly embody the “American Spirit” and the theme of the 2002 Olympics: “Inspiration.”

Sincerely,
Pat Griffin, Regent
Conejo Valley Chapter
Thousand Oaks, California

The New Magazine
Dear Editor,

This reader feels she must write and tell you what a wonderful magazine has evolved during this administration! American Spirit, a name which truly says what we are about and after 9-11 we are seeing the words American Spirit everywhere ... from t-shirts to lapel pins! We, the members of DAR truly exemplify the American Spirit ... as does this outstanding publication. It is patriotic, it has such beautiful and rich colors, the print is very readable and it makes me proud to see it on the table at our local library where others can read and learn about our America and what we, the members, stand for.

This magazine has had a new birth and every member should be delighted to subscribe to it, to digest it and then to pass it on in order for others to learn about our American Spirit.

Sincerely,
Sally Egert
Anthony Wayne Chapter
Ortonville, Minnesota

Dear Editor,

The American Spirit magazine is awesome! I have read it cover to cover and intend to share with many others—including our local library. It is by far a premiere historical magazine and one of the finest new magazines to be published in a long time. Congratulations to DAR staff and to DAR members!

Sincerely,
Susan B. McDonald
John Hoyle Chapter
Hickory, North Carolina

Dear Editor,

Hurray for this committee! I love this new format. As a dental hygienist, I bring American Spirit to my office and let my patients read it. The magazine has started many conversations and given me the opportunity to ask patients about their families. I must admit that I have enjoyed the articles myself. They are uplifting, educational, the photography is wonderful and the overall quality is excellent.

Sincerely,
Victoria Barnett, Regent
Pensacola Chapter
Pensacola, Florida

Dear Editor,

I love the new American Spirit magazine, and what a delight it was to get to page 18 in the first issue—“Touchstone of the Nation’s birth”—and find a picture of my godson, Robby Welch, at age 12! He was marching and playing his drum with the re-enactment group, His Majesty’s 5th of Foot, and is the front drummer at the front of the picture.

The articles and the beautiful pictures throughout the magazine are great, and I think it is a change in the right direction. Now those of us who are really interested in the members’ news and Board of Management news can have that, and the new American Spirit magazine will interest those who may not even know about the the wonderful work of the DAR.

Sincerely,
Martha Edwards
Comte de Grasse Chapter
Yorktown, Virginia

Dear Editor:

When I was a young lady I loved history. Well, somehow history got lost in the business of living and I just did not have time for it all. How wonderful to sit down with American Spirit and learn all these details about history in well written articles. My husband and I read it from cover to cover. There is something for all of us. Please keep up the good work and we cannot wait for the next issue!

Sincerely,
Carol B. Tavares
Ohlone Chapter
Fremont, California

We encourage you to send us your questions and comments. Please limit letters to 200 words.
American Spirit Editor
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1776 D Street, NW
Washington, D.C.
20006-5303
DARMagazine@aol.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PLEASE WRITE TO US
SPIRITED ADVENTURES

London, England
FLOWER SHOW, GARDEN TOURS AND PARKS IN BLOOM BECKON TRAVELERS

Whether you’re on the lookout for gardening ideas for your own backyard or want to stop and smell the roses in a country where gardening is a national passion, the Chelsea Flower Show offers plenty of inspiration. And so do the countless beautiful parks and gardens in and around London.

The Chelsea Flower Show, scheduled for May 21 to 24 and sponsored by the Royal Horticultural Society, features more than 11 acres of show gardens, courtyard gardens, floral pavilions and flower arrangements. Held on the grounds of the Royal Hospital of London, the show attracts thousands of people from all over the globe.

Another way to tour British gardens is to participate in Chelsea Week Garden Tours, sponsored by the National Gardens Scheme. Throughout the year, the Chelsea Week tours give visitors access to more than 3,300 exquisite private gardens in the London vicinity. Tours include admission, transportation to the gardens, lunch and wine.

Do-it-yourselfers can always tour London’s famous gardens and parks at their own pace. Possibilities include:

Royal Botanic (Kew) Gardens, a botanical research center spread over 300 acres, this beloved garden has six glass houses, including the Palm House and the Princess of Wales Conservatory. The water lilies and orchids are among the most stunning of Kew’s 40,000+ plant species.

Hampton Court Palace Gardens, situated along the banks of the Thames River, Henry VIII’s palace features 60 acres of gardens, including a 300-year-old triangular maze of shrubs.

Overall, there are more than 200 gardens in the care of the National Trust in England, Wales and Northern Island. For a pocket-size map with details on 100 of these gardens, contact the British Tourist Authority.

- Margie Markarian

Charleston, South Carolina
FESTIVAL OPENS DOORS OF PRIVATELY OWNED HISTORIC HOMES, GARDENS

The old-fashioned streets and hidden gardens of Charleston will be awash in spring colors when the Historic Charleston Foundation hosts its annual Festival of Houses and Gardens from March 14 to April 13. This 55-year-old tradition offers visitors a rare peek inside many of the city’s privately owned historic homes and gardens.

During the festival, approximately 150 private homes are open for self-guided afternoon tours. Additional events include tours of the city’s Old and Historic District, luncheons with local authors and historians, afternoon teas, wine tastings and plantation oyster roasts. Some of the most intriguing homes on the various tours are:

The Robert Williams Roper House (1838-1839), a Greek revival home owned by Richard Hampton Jenrette, author of Adventures with Old Houses.

The Cooper-Bee House, home to Theodosia Burr Alston, daughter of Aaron Burr. Built in 1760, it is a variation of the classic Charleston single house.

The John Rutledge House Inn, built in 1763 and currently operating as one of the city’s most acclaimed bed and breakfasts. This Georgian colonial residence was owned by John Rutledge, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Exploring Charleston’s well-preserved cobblestone streets, yesteryear neighborhoods and historic attractions makes for an enjoyable visit any time of year.

- Margie Markarian

FOR MORE INFORMATION

British Tourist Authority
1-800-462-2748
www.travelbritain.org and www.travelbritain.org/gardens

Chelsea Flower Show (Royal Horticultural Society)
011-44-1293-453781
www.rhs.org.uk for overseas, nonmember bookings

Historic Charleston Foundation
843-723-3225
www.historiccharleston.org

National Gardens Scheme
www.ngs.org.uk

Charleston Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
843-853-8000
www.charlestoncvb.com
With this issue, American Spirit introduces a new regular feature on selected DAR buildings, beginning with four historically significant sites in Virginia.

"I'm proud that Virginia has contributed to the history of the United States and the world," says State Regent Mary Jane Irwin Davis. "The whole South was settled from here, and the West too, via the mountain passes." She points out that each of the four chapter houses described in the following pages tells stories from different eras of the rich history that the 129 NSDAR chapters in Virginia honor today.

The Yorktown Custom House survived the battle of Yorktown in 1781. Its walls are 15 inches thick.

**YORKTOWN CUSTOM HOUSE COMTE DE GRASSE CHAPTER, YORKTOWN**

On October 19, 1781, General Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington after the battle of Yorktown, effectively ending the Revolutionary War. In a grand spectacle, Cornwallis's defeated troops marched out of the city between two rows of allied soldiers, one French, one American, which stretched for more than a mile. After the decisive battle, the Yorktown Custom House was one of the few buildings left standing. The two-and-a-half-story brick structure, with a slate roof and 15-inch-thick walls, was built in 1720 by Richard Ambler, the customs collector for the Port of Yorktown, then one of the busiest ports on the eastern seaboard. In a later chapter of history, Confederate General J. B. Magruder made the Custom House his headquarters while he was in Yorktown in 1862.

In 1924 the Comte de Grasse Chapter—which takes its name from the French admiral who prevented a British fleet from sailing to the aid of Cornwallis—bought the deteriorating structure, renovating it in 1929 for use as a museum and chapter house. About 80 percent of the original building remains intact, with colonial-revival details such as paneled wainscoting added during the 1929 renovations. Today it is listed on the Virginia Landmark...
Registry and the National Register of Historic Places and maintained solely by the chapter and private donors. Inside, many historic artifacts donated by members are on display, including a lock of George Washington's hair, a gold watch that belonged to de Grasse and Spode china that General Thomas Nelson Jr. used to entertain Lafayette in 1824. "Members work tirelessly to preserve this national treasure, which is in the middle of what is now the Yorktown Historic District," says Chapter Regent Ann Clark.

The Yorktown Custom House is open on Sunday afternoons from June to October 19, on patriotic holidays and by special request. For more information, contact Ann Clark at 757-258-0519 or annclarkdar@aol.com; or visit the website at www.geocities.com/comtedegrassedar/index.htm.


CAROLE COFFMAN HOUSE
NARROW PASSAGE CHAPTER, WOODSTOCK

Woodstock's place in history is secure, thanks to Reverend John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, a.k.a. "the fighting parson." On January 25, 1776, Reverend Muhlenberg delivered a rousing sermon to his congregation. He then removed his clerical robe, revealing a colonel's Continental Army uniform, and called out for volunteers. Colonel Muhlenberg and his recruits marched out of the church to form the 8th Virginia Regiment.

Today, within a block of where Muhlenberg's log church once stood, a portrait of the fighting parson hangs in the parlor of the Narrow Passage Chapter House on Muhlenberg Street. The handsome brick and native limestone colonial building, ca. 1772, lies in the heart of Woodstock's historic district. It was built by Hessian artisans, says chapter member Carole Coffman, who has owned the home since 1972.

The home's 13 rooms are floored in the original random-width pine. One of the four fireplaces features a walnut mantel in a rare sunrise design with a matching cast-iron fireplace closure. Although the early history of the house has yet to be documented, 19th-century residents included distinguished lawyers, notably the statesman Judge Green Berry Samuels (1806–1859). Local historians view this house as a symbolic link between the settlement's founding in 1761 and the Revolutionary era.

Though not open to the public, tours can be arranged through Chapter Regent Beverly Polk at 540-984-8157. Contact Carole Coffman at 540-459-3668 (after April 1) for more information about the home's history.

LOUISE HINES HOUSE
COLONEL JOHN BANISTER
CHAPTER, PETERSBURG

Colonel John Banister (1734–1788) served his state and his country with both the pen and the sword. The Petersburg native was sent to the Virginia General Assembly, and in 1778 and 1779 to the Continental Congress, where he signed the Articles of Confederation. Banister then took up the sword as a lieutenant-colonel and defended Virginia against the treacherous invasion of Benedict Arnold and British troops in 1781.
In 1933, the Colonel John Banister Chapter was organized in the patriot’s name, and met in the home of the organizing regent, Lottie Williamson Hines. When Mrs. Hines died 10 years later, she left her house to the chapter in trust as a memorial to her daughter, Louise Hines. Chapter Regent Mary Ann Hampton explains that it took considerable research to figure out how to work with the trust to provide enough funds for upkeep.

Mrs. Hampton has done a pen-and-ink rendering of the two-story brick colonial revival house exterior, with its prominent first-floor porch supported by white columns, which has been printed on note cards sold by the chapter. Inside the house, the entrance hall displays a pleasing arch-shaped fireplace. In the dining room, a mahogany dining table and walnut corner cabinet owned by Mrs. Hines date from ca. 1780. The chapter rents the second floor as an apartment, but the first floor is open to the public by special arrangement.

To visit the Louise Hines House or to order note cards ($5.00 for 10 cards and envelopes), contact Mary Ann Hampton at 804-520-2184.

CHURCH QUARTER
SCOTCTOWN CHAPTER,
DOWSHELL

About 15 miles north of Richmond lies a rustic log cabin—called, for reasons lost to time, Church Quarter—surrounded by old rambling roses, lilacs, crepe myrtle, boxwood and arborvitae. The V-notched log walls, the white-oak shingled roof, the board-and-batten doors and the black-painted fireplace mantels all speak of a construction style once typical in the Chesapeake region. Two rooms on the ground floor and two unfinished loft spaces form the original core of the cabin, which dates from 1843, when Sarah Thornton owned the property. Her father-in-law, John Thornton Sr., who bought the surrounding acres in 1790, once sat on the jury of a famous trial argued by Patrick Henry.

The Scotchtown Chapter bought the cabin on a three-acre lot in 1969 to save it from deteriorating and restored it to use as a meeting house. It has since been listed on the state and national historic registers. Chapter Regent Betty Kniesche says the detached brick orangery, locally called the “flower house,” is one of only two left in Hanover County. Here tender plants were brought in to spend the winter, warmed by a pit filled with horse manure. “We featured Church Quarter in our garden tour last year,” says Mrs. Kniesche. “The boxwood is about 200 years old, and the old English rose came from China.”

Church Quarter is open to the public by arrangement. For more information, contact Chapter Regent Betty Kniesche at 804-883-5411.
Stratford Hall is the birthplace of Robert E. Lee and his Revolutionary War ancestors.

VAIRGINIA NSDAR HISTORIC SITES AND SHRINES

STRATFORD HALL PLANTATION, STRATFORD
On a bluff above the Potomac River, this 1,600-acre plantation had historic significance even before it became known as the birthplace of Robert E. Lee. The great brick house was built in the late 1730s by Thomas Lee, who sired the only two brothers to sign the Declaration of Independence. Although a separate nonprofit organization owns the site, the Virginia DAR has aided the preservation of Stratford Hall, a state DAR shrine, since 1936. It is open to the public year round.

For more information, call Stratford Hall at 804-493-8038 or visit www.vadanorg/shrines.html.

JONES POINT LIGHTHOUSE AND D.C. BOUNDARY MARKER, ALEXANDRIA
Built on the southeastern tip of this Potomac River port city in 1856, the Jones Point Lighthouse is probably the country’s oldest inland waterway lighthouse. The Mount Vernon Chapter acquired and restored it in 1926 and now leases it to the National Park Service. On the same plot of land lies a granite marker, placed in 1791, denoting the original southeast boundary of the District of Columbia. (Congress returned the land to Virginia in 1846.) The lighthouse and marker have been closed to the public because of the reconstruction of a highway bridge over the Potomac. Following the terrorist attacks in September, the National Park Service closed the area indefinitely due to security concerns.

CONSTANTIA HOUSE, SUFFOLK
In 1926, the Constantia Chapter built a replica of a 1720 house in colonial Suffolk Town (now Suffolk), which lies on the Nansemond River about 15 miles southwest of Portsmouth. The chapter later sold the wood-frame building to a private owner, who moved it from the original foundation. In 1994, the chapter erected a memorial tablet at the original home site, believed to be the first in the settlement. Constantia House is not open to the public, although the owner makes it available to the chapter for special events.

FORT WITTEN, TAZEWELL
Fort Witten, a replica of a two-story log fort, ca. 1774, stands in the far-western corner of Virginia on land settled in the 1750s. The Fort Maiden Spring Chapter and the citizens of Tazewell County rebuilt the historic fort in 1926 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence; the chapter restored the fort in 1964.

For visitor information, call the Historic Crab Orchard Museum and Pioneer Park at 540-988-6755.

KENMORE PLANTATION, FREDERICKSBURG
George Washington’s sister, Betty Lewis, and her husband Fielding, built this plantation house overlooking the Rappahannock River in the 1770s. Famous for its gardens, which include elements from the 18th and 19th centuries, and its decorative plaster ceilings, the house is now being restored by Washington’s Fredericksburg Foundation, which owns the property. Virginia DAR helps support Kenmore Plantation as one of its state shrines. The property is open to the public year round.

For more information, call the plantation at 540-373-3381, or visit www.vadanorg/shrines.html.

WOODLAWN PLANTATION, ALEXANDRIA
George and Martha Washington gave this property as a wedding gift.
to Nelly Custis and Lawrence Lewis in 1799. As Washington's adopted daughter, Custis was raised at Mount Vernon; Lewis was his nephew. The estate, located three miles north of Mount Vernon, is a Virginia DAR shrine. Purchased by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1949, Woodlawn is open to the public but closes in January and February.

For information, call 703-780-4000 or visit www.nationaltrust.org and click on sites. Brief historic background appears on the Virginia DAR web page, www.vadar.org/shrines.html.

SHOT TOWER, AUSTINVILLE

In the early 19th century, the gray limestone tower located in Southwest Virginia on a cliff above the New River outside Wytheville was used for making ammunition for settlers. Workers melted lead in a kettle at the top of the 75-foot structure, then poured the liquid metal through a sieve. The lead dropped through the tower and another 75-foot shaft beneath it, landing in a kettle of cold river water. Today the shot tower is part of a state park, but the Stuart Chapter owned the site from 1929 to 1952. For DAR First Vice President General Elizabeth Oglesby Haugh, a member of Albemarle Chapter in Charlottesville, the tower holds personal interest because of family ties to the original 18th- and 19th-century landowners. “My initial interest in the Shot Tower dates from the 1950s when I was given the diaries kept by my great-grandmother, Elizabeth Ann Jackson, for whom I was named,” says Mrs. Haugh. “These diaries covered several years preceding her marriage in 1862 to a Confederate soldier, Albert Micajah Oglesby, and were written while she was living in her uncle Robert Jackson’s home at Jackson’s Ferry, close to the Shot Tower.”

\[\text{Shot Tower Historic State Park is open to the public year round. For visitor information, call the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation at 800-933-PARK.} \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMERICAN HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS HISTORIC SITES OF THE DAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since its inception, the DAR has been committed to preserving sites of historic importance—from private homes, battlefields, cemeteries and monuments to national parks and forests. As we invite you to peek into some of the finest DAR historic homes in this new American Spirit series, it seems only fitting to tell you about one of the latest NSDAR efforts dedicated to historic preservation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The NSDAR American Heritage Committee and the Conservation Committee were recently combined in order to provide complete emphasis on both natural and man-made environments. As part of this effort, the newly combined Committee has initiated a project to document all historic sites that are currently or have been owned, maintained on an ongoing basis or restored at one time by an individual chapter or state society. The goal is to create a master collection documenting all DAR historic sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“For the first time we will recognize the outstanding work in Historic Preservation that DAR members have been doing since the beginning of our organization,” says Deborah Gaudier, national chairman of the American Heritage and Conservation Committee. “We have an opportunity to recognize this important—often unrecognized and unknown—work of our membership,” she says. Deborah’s excitement for this project is evident as she hopes the project will help promote the outstanding historic preservation efforts of the DAR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As this is a large undertaking, the committee has established a three-step process. “The first goal is to identify all appropriate buildings and sites to be included in the master collection. Secondly, a detailed history of the sites must be compiled. And then the final step is to photograph the sites in a uniform manner,” reports Ms. B. A. Church, national vice chairman. Once the committee receives the photos and histories, they will be archived in Washington, D.C. at national headquarters. According to B. A., “Our goal is to complete the project by the spring of 2004.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share your efforts with all members through documentation. Members and chapters are encouraged to send information on sites that meet the criteria mentioned above to either: Deborah Gaudier, National Chairman, Tel: 281-759-9922 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dgaudier@houston.rr.com">dgaudier@houston.rr.com</a> or B. A. Church, National Vice Chairman, Historic Preservation, Tel: 773-989-8407 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bachurch1@juno.com">bachurch1@juno.com</a></td>
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The Weekend Genealogist

Research your roots faster with these time-saving tips. By Marcia Yannizze Melnyk

Even if you can only squeeze in your family history search on weekends, you can still make progress towards uncovering your past—if you know how to make the most of your time. These five time-saving tips can help you organize your research and get more done by tapping the Internet, plain old "snail mail," research facilities and fellow genealogists. Approach your roots research with these tips up your sleeve, and you'll discover just how much weekend genealogists can accomplish with their family trees.

1. Make the U.S. Postal Service work for you.

Requesting information and records by mail can save you hours of research time. If documents can be delivered to your door, why spend precious time looking them up yourself? Preserve those hours for items that are not indexed or available by mail. Find out what copies will cost, whether documents can be photocopied and mailed to you, forms of payment and policies regarding faxed or e-mailed requests.

If you make a written request, keep it brief and include information regarding any spelling variations that may affect the search. Always include a self-addressed stamped envelope, as well as payment, your e-mail address and your phone and fax numbers.

Keep in mind that the less information you ask for in each request, the more likely the reply will be prompt. Using published indexes will enable you to request specific documents by volume, page number and so on. Once you've thoroughly looked at the indexes, decide if the number of documents warrants a trip to the facility. If there are more than a few, it might be more cost and time effective to obtain them yourself. In that case, write or call ahead and ask for the hours, restrictions and costs involved.

2. Recruit some help.

Membership in the historical or genealogical society in your research area has its privileges. You may be able to "swap" research time with someone living...
in that area. Societies may send you newsletters with educational articles and upcoming events. Some organizations, such as the New England Historic Genealogical Society (www.nehgs.org) in Boston, have a circulating library that allows you to borrow books by mail that may not be available in your area. Also, if you have no local access to census records, ship passenger lists, military pension records and the like, you may be able to borrow them by mail from the National Archives and Records Administration (www.nara.gov) and use them at a local facility with a microfilm reader.

You can find a guide to genealogical societies across the country at the Federation of Genealogical Societies' website (www.fgs.org).

3. Leave no recorded “stone” unturned.

Most researchers don’t fully utilize the records they acquire. Many types of records provide clues that are often overlooked. Take the “Doberman” approach to your genealogy research: Latch on to a fact and don’t let go until you’ve gotten everything out of it. Squeezing every single scrap of information from a record as a clue to other research will pay big dividends. For every document you examine ask these questions before you let go:

- Why was the document created in the first place?
- Are you looking at the original or a copy?
- To whom does the document pertain?
- How close to the original event was the document created?
- Who are the witnesses, informants or other persons mentioned in the document?
- Are any relationships stated or implied?
- Did the person executing the document sign with a signature or mark?
- Is the information reliable and usable or simply clues to further research?
- What’s the full citation for the document?

Here’s where taking a few extra minutes upfront will save you time in the end: Completely transcribe the document, don’t just abstract it. By transcribing, you’re less likely to miss an important detail. Human nature allows us to understand the basic document we’re reading, whether or not we read every word. Some of those words, when we’re forced to decipher them, turn out to be important facts.

Terminology has changed over the centuries, and you may not understand what a fairly common term means in an old document. Having a good genealogical, general or law dictionary—or several of them—to refer to while you transcribe documents will also be a valuable time-saving tool.

4. Make every minute of research trips count.

After you’ve done as much advance preparation as possible, you’re ready to hit the road to a research facility. You should have a binder or folder containing the information about the facility and geographic area you’ll be visiting. Make a list of what you need to accomplish, highlighting “must-have” records. Read everything you can find on a particular subject, locality or research facility before you set out to research it. The preparation won’t eliminate every problem, but will certainly give you a more realistic approach to the records. Two good places to start are Ancestry’s Red Book: America State, County and Town Sources (Ancestry, $49.95) and The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy (Ancestry, $49.95). Keep in mind that your first trip to any facility is a reconnaissance mission. You need to actually use the facility before you truly know its advantages and disadvantages.

Before you set out, though, make sure you thoroughly understand the record types you’ll be using. Also, double-check that the facility has the records you need, that records actually exist for the time period in question and that they aren’t available closer to home (on microfilm, online or by mail).

Once you’ve arrived, stake a claim at one of the designated research tables. Take a brief stroll around to see how things are set up. Then get down to your research business. Check your progress about halfway through and prioritize the remaining records to get the most important ones first. When you do find the records at the facility, make photocopies rather than taking valuable research time to transcribe or abstract the record while at the
facility. Do that only if photocopies aren’t allowed or the print isn’t as readable as on the microfilm reader. Your time is worth more than the cost of a copy!

5. Tap others' expertise.

Networking with other genealogists, which has become a piece of cake thanks to the Internet, is one of the best time-saving tools you have available. Learning from others' mistakes and successes can be rewarding. The knowledge you can obtain from local societies and researchers is almost endless. Locals know what records are available and how you can access them. They may even be able to provide you with information about relatives or descendants still living in the area.

If you take a few minutes to list the different "groups" your ancestors fit into, you'll be amazed at the new research possibilities that arise. Classifying your ancestors by ethnic group, fraternal or religious association, residence locale (local, county and state), gender, occupation, military service, time frame or era, social class and any other classification you can think of will give you ideas of additional records to look for and ways to network.

One way to beef up your own research expertise is by volunteering at a facility that houses records, such as the library or an archive facility. Another often-overlooked resource is the local Council on Aging or senior citizens group. Like the historical society, many members of these groups have extensive knowledge of the town and its earlier residents. These sources are especially useful when researching ancestors who lived in the 20th century.

Making Miracles in the Mountains
Crossnore School, Inc. cares for children in crisis. By Kristin Woodworth

In the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina lies a haven—a special place that has nurtured children in need for nearly 90 years. Crossnore School, Inc., also known as “Miracle Mountain,” is a place where passion runs deep, community is family and miracles are bountiful.

Today, Crossnore School, Inc. is a residential children's home and charter school with a primary focus on helping families in crisis. Children who have been removed from their homes come to Crossnore where they find a safe, nurturing environment, loving guidance and a good education. Dr. Phyllis H. Crain, executive director, explains, “Our goal is to be a light for these children: children who, through no fault of their own, have not been safe in their own home, who have suffered years of abuse or neglect.” What Crossnore offers is a stable, healthy life—something completely foreign to many of the children.

From its inception, the goal of the school has been to provide the guidance and educational tools necessary to create brighter futures. Dr. Phyllis H. Crain, executive director, explains, “Our goal is to be a light for these children: children who, through no fault of their own, have not been safe in their own home, who have suffered years of abuse or neglect.” What Crossnore offers is a stable, healthy life—something completely foreign to many of the children.

From its inception, the goal of the school has been to provide the guidance and educational tools necessary to create brighter futures. Appalled by the moonshine and child marriages that debilitated Blue Ridge Mountain families in the 1900s, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop and her husband were determined to improve the lives of the area's children. Working with the community, Dr. Sloop founded and built the Crossnore School in 1913. The compassion, determination and earnest dedication that distinguished the school in the early 1900s continue to thrive on the 72-acre campus in Avery County, North Carolina.

The relationship of the DAR and Crossnore began with Dr. Sloop, founder and DAR member. Moved by the story of the school and all of the good work being done by Dr. Sloop, the national organization designated Crossnore a DAR-approved school in 1924. Since then, the DAR has been a great friend to Crossnore, donating educational supplies, classrooms, buildings, clothing, toys—and most importantly, a caring interest. Today, leading the way at Crossnore is another inspiring, compassionate DAR member—Executive Director Dr. Phyllis Crain. Dr. Crain's strength, determination, faith and heart have contributed to many miracles at Crossnore.

Because Crossnore receives only 45 percent of operating revenue from the custodial agencies of its residents, the school is dependent on the generosity of the DAR to ensure continued success.
in helping the many families the school serves. Recent donations of winter coats and Christmas pajamas, history books for grades K-12 and classrooms for the new Wayne Densch Education Building illustrate the range of needs that the DAR addresses. "It is like this never ending love for children that continues to flow from DAR friends. We're really blessed," Crain affirms.

Caring for large sibling families is Crossnore's specialty. As of this January, 10 sibling groups were living at Crossnore. "Some parents lack the ability to fulfill their responsibility as parents, but the entire family unit does not have to be destroyed," says Crain. "The children can still learn and grow as brothers and sisters—and grow together as a family." One remarkable success story focuses on sisters Ashley, Samantha and Lauren, who at ages 10, 8 and 5 had a history of severe sexual abuse. They arrived at Crossnore for emergency care on a cold December night. According to Dr. Crain, "It was a miracle that the girls learned to laugh again, trust again and sleep without night terrors." Another miracle occurred three months later when they were reunited with paternal grandparents.

Reuniting families and ensuring healthy, happy environments is the goal of the staff. However, that is not always possible. And when it is not, Crossnore provides other solutions, including adoption and residential care. The several programs offered at Crossnore include emergency care, residential care, daycare, a charter school and life skills care. The latter trains students to live independently. Every year, approximately 200 children from struggling families in 26 counties across North Carolina are served by Crossnore's residential program. On average, children in this program spend between one and two years living in one of Crossnore's nine cottages, each of which house eight or nine children.

Beyond the considerable emotional and social challenges of children in crisis lies the educational challenge. According to Dr. Crain, family turmoil leaves many children behind in their schooling by as much as two years. Switching schools and missing classes can be detrimental. That is why Crossnore Academy, the charter school, was established in 1999. Its supportive setting benefits students who may struggle in a traditional public school environment. With a student-teacher ratio of eight to one, the charter school meets the needs of these students and prepares them to re-enter their community schools. Currently, 66 students attend the charter school and 53 children from the community attend The Dr. Emma Sloop Fink Child Development Center and Afterschool Program.

"We have worked very passionately to improve the living and learning environment here. And what has happened for the children is just powerful," Dr. Crain emphasizes. She shares an inspiring story of a young teenage boy singing joyfully in the Christmas program. The son of a cocaine addict, Shaun came to Crossnore having lived a truly rough life. "At Crossnore, he's found this sanctuary, a place where he can be a child, get an education and be cared for, nurtured and loved. Shaun is planning for a bright future," says Crain. And that is what Crossnore is all about.

For more information about Crossnore School, Inc., contact Melynda Pennin at 1-800-557-4305.
Bill Bennett's "Educated Child" Can Now Learn Online

FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION CHAIRS K12.COM.

BY LUCILLE DANIEL

Parents who surf the Internet in search of educational resources for their children will find plenty of lesson plans and supplemental materials on the Web. But no other online program enjoys the built-in celebrity of K12, an Internet school cofounded by former U.S. Secretary of Education William J. Bennett. After nearly two years in development, the site was launched on September 4, 2001. Inspired by the educational philosophy and guidelines presented in Bennett's bestseller, The Educated Child, K12 offers online courses in six core subjects: language arts, math, history, science, music and art. This year, the curriculum spans kindergarten through second grade. Other grades will be added each year until 2004, when an entire 13-year academic program will be in place.

Bennett, who has also headed the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Office of Drug Control Policy, is chairman of the board of K12—and its educational guru.
K12’s cofounder and CEO is Ron Packard, who runs Knowledge Universe Learning Group, an education management company. Bennett credits Packard with being the force behind K12’s conception, development and implementation. “We were at a meeting together in Colorado, and Ron told me his idea of building an Internet school around my book,” says Bennett. “One of the things I liked about the idea was that it put parents at the center of a child’s education.”

Creating a Global School

In fact, Packard built K12 around the experiences he had with his own children. Unhappy with what his first grader was learning in a California public school math class, he searched the Internet for materials to help his daughter at home. “I found countless supplemental math sites, but there was no one place I could go to purchase a course in first grade math,” says Packard. He had read a draft of The Educated Child and began to think about using the Internet to create a global school modeled on the one Bennett envisioned. “I wanted to do something to help parents who were not being adequately served by their local schools,” he says.

Packard hired John Holdren as K12’s senior vice president of content and curriculum. Holdren had been vice president of the Core Knowledge Foundation and a teacher of English and literature at both the high school and university levels. At K12, Holdren oversees a corps of certified teachers developing courses that Packard says are geared to “the highest standards in the country.”

At the outset, Bennett’s only hesitation about K12—but it was a big one—was his distrust of technology as an educational tool. Packard, on the other hand, had already been involved in developing educational software. According to Packard, the two found common ground in the notion that computers are not an end in themselves but rather “a window into a new way to deliver high-quality educational materials to children.” Bennett asked Packard to enlist the help of David Gelernter, a professor of computer science at Yale, who signed on as K12’s chief technology advisor. Gelernter himself had originally been leery of using computers in children’s education but began to change his mind when his own sons showed improvement in their writing skills after using educational software. Gelernter calls K12 “an unprecedented venture [that] will use technology in new ways to tackle the nation’s number one problem: how to give our children a serious education, starting right now.”

A tour of the K12 site reveals a host of lively, easy-to-navigate pages adaptable to Windows or Macintosh operating systems. Two free program downloads permit voice-over narration and graphic displays.

Late last year, in response to the tragic events of September 11 and the subsequent war on terrorism, K12 began offering free online courses in American patriotism. Bill Bennett, cofounder of K12, cited opinion polls indicating that the attacks on the United States “have united us more as a culture.” Though unsure how long this countrywide patriotic fervor will last, Bennett sees it as an opportunity to offer lessons in the nation’s founding principles and to reinforce the foundations of our country. Since it can be used by people worldwide, he also views the “American Patriotism Program” as a way for Internet users from other countries to learn more about the history of the United States.

K12’s co-founder Ron Packard initiated the idea of the free patriotism courses, which he said resulted from his own family’s response to the national crisis. “I was looking for things to share with my children that would help them understand what our country stands for, and I knew other parents wanted to do this as well,” said Packard.

A visitor to K12’s website will find an American flag in the upper right-hand corner with the words “Try Our Free Lessons about Patriotism.” A click on the flag links to a series of units that include colorful primers on “America the Beautiful,” Christopher Columbus, Betsy Ross and the American Flag, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, the Statue of Liberty, Immigrants to America, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr., among other topics. The lessons are designed for an adult to read aloud to young children and for older children to peruse on
The K12 curriculum is founded on Bennett's strong educational principles, which stress high standards, parental involvement, character building, civic pride and good citizenship, and a rigorous core curriculum steeped in the language, history and achievements of Western civilization. Bennett, whose high-profile role as a moral crusader has made him a controversial public figure, is a plain-speaking man of enormous sophistication and wry humor who makes no bones about his belief that American education must supplement the three “Rs” with the three “Cs”: content, character and choice.

"As Secretary of Education, I wasn't an advocate of schools. I was an advocate of children," he says. "In my first month in office, I talked about parents needing more say in their children's education and more choice in where their children learned." His own children attend Catholic schools. One of the reasons he found Packard's idea of an Internet school appealing was that it was, in part, about "parental empowerment." At the heart of K12's mission are the Bennett espoused beliefs that "parents are children's first and most important teachers; that providing a rich, stimulating environment is critical; that children must first and foremost learn the academic fundamentals; that we must introduce children from an early age to humankind's legacies; and that essential skills (reading, writing, measuring, calculating, logical thinking, questioning and analysis) are as important as knowledge."

Despite its location on the Internet, K12 is designed to keep children involved in noncomputer activities 75 percent of the time. "Research shows that it's very important for young children to do tactile activities because they are connected to the development of intelligence and hand-eye coordination," says Packard, adding that higher grades might include more computer time. Each K12 course comes with a packet of teaching and learning materials, including books, art supplies, music CDs and items needed for special projects. There are also professional teachers on staff who can be reached 12 hours a day by e-mail or phone to answer questions or help solve problems. The curriculum is designed as a multipurpose tool that can be used for home schooling, home-based courses or grade-appropriate supplements. It can also be used by school districts in after-school programs—and is already being adopted by virtual (online) charter schools in Pennsylvania, California, Colorado and Alaska.

A Customized Curriculum

Courses can be purchased separately or as part of an entire grade, and since placement tests are provided, parents can individualize the program by choosing across different grades for the courses that match their child's level of ability. Lessons come with assessment tools for testing mastery and additional materials to use until that mastery is achieved.

"One of the great things about the program is that you can use it any time of the day, depending on when your child learns..."
best," says Packard. "It's particularly good for gifted children with learning disabilities and physically impaired students because it is flexible and self-paced."

Packard acknowledges that the K12 program is "not for everybody." Indeed, some might balk at a language arts curriculum based on phonics, a learning strategy that has attracted ardent proponents and detractors. And as more grades are added, parents will also be influenced by the choice of foreign languages, a subject now under discussion. Bennett says it is likely K12 will soon offer supplemental lessons on patriotism and virtues, and the staff is also discussing whether or not to include drug education among the optional offerings. However, he stresses that none of these is meant to "intrude on the core."

In this early phase, Bennett says that K12 is attracting go-getter parents, many of whom are homeschooled. The goal, however, is to reach out to a larger audience. Both Packard and Bennett express hope that their online school will soon be used where they feel it is needed most, in inner cities plagued with failing public schools. Packard says one of K12's partner schools has received grant funding to institute a tutoring program in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, providing supplemental help to at-risk children from 3:00 to 9:00 P.M. each school day. In another effort to reach a wider audience, Bennett met with the Black Caucus in Philadelphia in late fall. "When they heard about K12 they said, 'We want this for our kids,'" says Bennett. "Once we start making some money, we hope to begin offering scholarships." Currently, a full year of K12 costs approximately $1,000, with individual courses running about $200 each.

**Measuring Success**

A major question at this stage is whether K12 will stand up to standardized testing now being conducted in many states across the country. Packard, a high-intensity man with an impressive breadth of knowledge and an obvious passion for this project, exudes confidence, even while acknowledging that his program will be judged by the work of thousands of nonprofessional educators over whom he and Bennett have no control. "We assess every child every day," he says, backing up his claim that K12 students will do well on standardized tests. "There is a performance standard tied to each lesson. We can see by the mastery lessons how kids are doing. If they aren't mastering the material, we improve the course. This program is very rigorous, and there is no more effective way to teach than one-on-one."

For Bennett, the K12 for-profit enterprise is experimental in more ways than one. "I've been involved in public policy, so commerce is new to me," he says. "But I believe we've made something very good, and surveys from our customers bear this out." Packard, already a successful entrepreneur, identifies the biggest challenge facing K12 now as getting the word out. "We have to find ways to communicate how much you get and how good it is."
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Detail from the Mural of Viceroy Bernardo de Gálvez on a Calligraphic Horse; Opposite page: The Royal Standard Flag of Spain, which served as the flag of Spain for nearly two and a half centuries.
Spain and the American Revolution

All too often, when Americans think of the American Revolution, they think only in terms of the events that occurred in the 13 colonies. Important as they were, they do not tell the whole story. An oft-neglected part of it concerns the role of Spain in the War of Independence. Somehow obscured over the past 200 years, the vital role of Spain in America's independence is slowly but surely emerging back into our nation's consciousness. Recent research by scholars has brought to light new information about the Revolution. Consequently, old notions are starting to be dispelled, and Americans, as radio commentator Paul Harvey would say, are now learning "the rest of the story."
During the 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, Spain discovered, explored and colonized the most extensive territorial empire in the history of the world. Its empire extended around the globe and included most of the Western Hemisphere. At the time of the American Revolution, Spain owned or claimed all the land of the present United States west of the Mississippi River, plus the “island” of New Orleans. This vast area was a part of Nueva España, or New Spain, which extended from Central America to the “arctic snows.”

Spain’s Secret Support

From 1776 until declaring war against Great Britain in 1779, Spain covertly—through the merchants Diego de Gardoqui in Bilbao and American Oliver Pollock in New Orleans—sent generous amounts of money, muskets, munitions, medicine and military supplies to aid America in its unequal war against England, a longtime foe of Spain. Before and after the declaration of war, Spain had a complex network of “observers” throughout the Americas monitoring the course of the revolt. Two observers posted in Philadelphia, Juan de Miralles and Francisco Rendón, not only gave moral support but also served as conduits for material aid sent by Spain to American patriots throughout the Revolution. In 1781, Rendón even offered the hospitality of his home to General Washington during Washington’s Christmas visit to Philadelphia, an invitation that Washington willingly accepted.

In 1777, Benjamin Franklin, American representative to France, sent Arthur Lee to Spain, where Lee secretly arranged for a Spanish firm to ship 216 bronze cannons, 27 mortars, 4,000 field tents, over 12,826 grenades, 30,000 muskets, 30,000 bayonets, 30,000 uniforms, 51,134 musket balls and 300,000 pounds of gunpowder to Boston from a French port, by way of Bermuda. Later, in one of his letters, Franklin thanked the Spanish minister, the Count of Aranda, for 12,000 muskets sent to Boston. Eventually, Spain delivered much more aid, but because Spain was officially neutral at this time, the aid was kept a secret. The only records of shipments are those found in Spanish archives.

Another Spanish firm, Rodríguez Hortalez & Company, secretly

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The Coat of Arms authorized for Don Bernardo and the House of Galvez is made up of six elements:
1. For the Male Issue of GALVEZ: A silver escutcheon, divided in pale, with a green tree and two black wolves with red tongues passing across the trunk as descendants of the ancient Lords of Vizcaya, and three blue conches or scallops, acquired at the Battle of Clavijo.
2. For the Male Issue of MADRID: A quartered escutcheon with a red band on a gold field; a red cross with turned head on a silver field; a purple lion with its mouth open and tongue out on a silver field; and a castle of its color on a gold field, as a son of the illustrious family of this name, established in Madrid.
3. For the Male Issue of CABRERA: An escutcheon on a silver field, with two black goats, outlined in gold, as a son of the very noble family of Cabrera, established in the City of Cordova.
4. For the Male Issue of MARQUES: An escutcheon, divided in pale, with three gold frames on a crimson field, and a border of two rows of alternating blue and silver squares; and a gold castle, with a hoisted blue flag, as descendant of Alonso Marques, winner of the Castle of Vilches.
5. By Attainment: An escutcheon on a silver field with the Galveztown under sail, a human figure in the rigging and a pennant reading the motto, I Alone. Granted by Royal Decree in recognition for taking the Port of Pensacola.
6. Granted by Decree on May 20, 1783 at the request of the Province of Louisiana: a gold fleur de lis, on a blue field, part of the Royal Arms of France.

Source: Reeks Cedulas (1783), The Historic New Orleans Collection
transported money, arms, ammunition and military supplies from French ports to the American colonies. Interestingly, Rodríguez Hortalez & Company also secretly transported the Marquis de Lafayette and Baron von Steuben to America from France.

From 1776 to 1779, Spain provided the American colonies with credits of 7,944,906 reales through merchant and Continental Congress agent Oliver Pollock in New Orleans. These credits were used for all types of supplies: uniforms, shoes, blankets, food, medicine, lead, gunpowder, muskets, flints, cannon and other materials, which were shipped by way of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to the embattled forces of Washington and George Rogers Clark.

The Port of New Orleans

Equally important to the American rebels was Spain’s control of the Mississippi Basin through the port of New Orleans, which enabled supplies and communications to be sent along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. With the British blockading the Atlantic coast, the Mississippi and Ohio River system served as a veritable lifeline to the men following Washington and Clark. Only Spanish, American and French ships were allowed the use of the port of New Orleans, and most of the aid received by Washington and Clark was by way of this back door.

Gálvez Joins the Fight

After Spain formally declared war against Great Britain on June 21, 1779, Spain’s King Carlos III commissioned General Bernardo de Gálvez, Governor of Louisiana, to conduct a military campaign against the British along the Gulf Coast in North America. Accordingly, Gálvez raised an army and navy, took to the field and waterways, and defeated the British in battles at Manchac, Baton Rouge and Natchez in 1779, at Mobile in 1780 and at Pensacola in 1781. In the meantime, his Spanish forces secured the upper Mississippi and Ohio Rivers by defeating the British at San Luis (St. Louis, Missouri) and San José (St. Joseph, Michigan) and by assisting George Rogers Clark in his battles at Vincennes (Indiana), Kaskaskia (Illinois) and Cahokia (Illinois). In 1782, Gálvez’s forces defeated the British in the Bahamas and gained control of their naval base at New Providence. The Spanish were preparing for the grandest campaign of all, against Jamaica, when their plans were sidetracked by the negotiations under way resulting in the Peace Treaty of Paris in 1783, officially ending the war. By opening up a third front, the Spanish effectively diluted British forces that could have been used elsewhere.

To help feed Spanish forces, some 9,000 Texas cattle from the private and mission ranches in the San Antonio River Valley were trailed by Spanish Texas ranchers and escorted by Spanish Texas soldiers to Gálvez’s troops in their campaign from Louisiana to Florida. Additionally, several hundred horses were sent along for cavalry and artillery purposes.

In the meantime, Gálvez responded to letters from Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, General Charles Henry Lee, Captain George Morgan and Captain George Gibson.
for aid, which he continued to provide. Notably, a part of the French fleet was under his command during the two-month siege of Pensacola, March to May 1781. After the successful battle to capture Fort George in Pensacola, Gálvez dismissed the French fleet and provided them with 500,000 pesos, which they used to repair and reprovision their ships at Havana. Then the French fleet sailed along the Atlantic seaboard toward Chesapeake Bay, arriving there just in the nick of time to help General Washington defeat Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown on October 19, 1781.

Spain Mobilizes Resources

A worldwide Spanish solidarity movement that reached from Spain to its viceroyalties in Mexico, Lima, Buenos Aires and Manila mobilized resources to assist Gálvez in Florida. Donations were collected from soldiers and citizens throughout Cuba and New Spain, including the provinces of California, New Mexico and Texas, to support the war effort. Some of this money, recent scholarship indicates, was probably included in the half-million pesos that Spanish commander Francisco de Saavedra received from Veracruz, which he in turn disbursed to Chevalier de Monteil. Monteil then forwarded the money to Comte de Grasse, commander of the French fleet in the Caribbean, who used it to pay his sailors and reprovision his ships at Havana and Guariaco, en route to Yorktown. Another million pesos from Veracruz was forwarded to de Grasse while he was en route to Chesapeake Bay. This money was used by General Rochambeau to pay his troops shortly before the Battle at Yorktown. Spain fought the British not only in North America but also in the Philippines, Galapagos, Juan Fernández Islands, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Bahamas, Jamaica, Minorca and Gibraltar, while constantly posing a threat of a Spanish-French invasion of Great Britain. France also extended the worldwide dimensions of the war by fighting the British in India, Hudson Bay and Sierra Leone in addition to North America and the West Indies.

Under the Command of Gálvez

Many people can identify with the Gálvez campaigns. Gálvez had men from Spain, Mayorca, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Hispaniola and Ireland under his command. From Louisiana, he recruited the French, Acadians, Germans, Canary Islanders, Indians and Blacks—both slave and free. A contingent of the First Continental Marines and a part of the South Carolina Navy were also under his command.

Additionally, Gálvez had many troops and ships from Mexico (New Spain). One of his top generals was Major General Gerónimo Girón, a direct descendant of Montezuma. His aide-de-camp in the Pensacola and Bahaman campaigns was Francisco Miranda, the precursor of independence in Venezuela.

American privateers were offered and took sanctuary in the Spanish ports of Bilbao, La Coruña, Cádiz, Palos, Pasajes, Algeciras and Santa Cruz de Tenerife. John Paul Jones himself used La Coruña as his base for 18 months. American privateers and the Caribbean fleet of the French took refuge and provisions at the Spanish ports of Havana, San Juan and New Orleans. The French port of Guarico on Cabo Frances on the Island of Hispaniola was also an important haven for American, Spanish and French ships.
On his return trip from Spain to Havana in October 1784, Galvez was accompanied by Diego de Gardoqui, who was on his way to his new post as the first Spanish Ambassador to the United States, in Philadelphia. In the ensuing months, they represented Spain in negotiations over boundaries with the United States.

Shortly thereafter, King Carlos III acknowledged the aid given by the South Carolina Navy in the invasion of the Bahamas in 1782. Knowing Washington’s interest in animal husbandry, especially the breeding of mules, King Carlos III presented Washington with the gift of two special stallion burros for breeding purposes at his Mount Vernon farm. The American Congress subsequently commended Galvez for his aid during the War of Independence and gratefully acknowledged Spanish assistance.

In 1789, Ambassador Diego de Gardoqui stood at the side of George Washington during the latter’s inaugural parade in New York City, then our nation’s capital. Ambassador Gardoqui positioned the Spanish brigantine, the Galvez Town, which served as Galvez’s flagship during the Gulf Coast campaign, in New York Harbor. The Galvez Town was the only foreign warship honored. While in the harbor, the guns of the Galvez Town fired a 15-gun salute to the newly inaugurated U.S. President. Since then, America seems to have forgotten not only Spain’s great contribution to American independence but also the great Spanish hero, General Bernardo de Galvez.

A Gift of Remembrance

To remind us that Spain offered the blood of her soldiers for the cause of American independence, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, a direct descendent of King Carlos III, presented the people of the United States with a magnificent equestrian statue of General Galvez. The statue was unveiled on June 3, 1976, in honor of the American Bicentennial Commemoration near the intersection of Virginia Avenue and 21st Street NW in Washington, D.C.

Spain’s contribution can only be characterized as munificent and vital to the patriots’ victory in the American Revolution. Scholars in Spain, Mexico and the United States are currently hard at work disseminating historical information so that Spain will receive the credit it deserves for its aid to the American patriots during the Revolution. Once Americans become fully aware of the life and deeds of Galvez, they will rightfully remember and honor him in the same light as Lafayette, de Grasse, von Steuben and de Kalb.

This brief discourse barely scratches the surface of a much larger story that could be told about Spain’s vital role in the Revolution. The best and most comprehensive book written thus far about the subject is Eric Beernée’s España y la Independencia de Estados Unidos. Scholars hope it will be translated from Spanish into English in the near future, so all Americans can read it. It and other publications will help earn Spain the recognition it so dearly deserves in the history of the American Revolution.

Robert H. Thonhoff, of Karnes City, Texas, is an author, historian, speaker, retired educator, retired Karnes County Judge and former president of the Texas State Historical Society.
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Although the days when lace made a fashion statement have long since past, attic trunks in ancestral homes across the country often contain antique lace items with the potential to be collectible treasures or revealing links to family history. Sometimes the lace has hidden sentimental value that, once disclosed, makes it a precious heirloom for future generations.
“All types of discoveries are possible, but usually people find lace that is off the garment—collars, cuffs, dress fronts and veils,” says Elizabeth Kurella, a lecturer on lace history and author of several books on lace, including Guide to Lace and Linens (Antique Trader Books). “The lace was saved, but the garment wasn’t because it was worn out or recycled for another use.”

Kurella and many casual collectors find it fascinating to uncover the stories intertwined with the lace: “What’s absolutely wonderful is when you find portraits of relatives wearing the lace and then find a similar piece of lace in another portrait or photo in a later generation. It could be that the original lace was used on a shawl or maybe a wedding gown. Then, later on, it was remodeled and used in a wedding crown or hat, with fragments continuing to be used by different brides in different generations.”

“It’s also fun to test word-of-mouth history by identifying a piece of lace,” she continues. “Sometimes people are convinced that their great-grandmother made the lace. But by looking at the technique, design and workmanship, you can see whether or not the piece of lace could have logically been made during that time. Sometimes, it’s ‘Yes! Absolutely.’ Other times, it’s clearly a commercial piece of lace used in a handmade garment.”

Although early forms of lace date back to ancient times, the English word *lace* originated in the early 1500s, the same time lace became a commercial endeavor in Europe. By definition, lace refers to airy, decorative, open fabric work made of thread that has been twisted, looped or knotted by a needle, bobbin, hook or, since the Industrial Revolution, machine.

The most highly prized laces come from Europe and were handmade via the bobbin or needle technique. Although there is some uncertainty as to where each lace-making technique originated, bobbin lace is most closely associated with Belgium and needle lace, with Italy. However, lace making was also prevalent in France, England, Holland and Spain throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Bobbin lace was also commercially made in Ipswich, Massachusetts during the colonial era.

“The lace made in Ipswich was usually either black silk or white linen,” says Karen Thompson, a lace maker who conducts weekly Behind-the-Scenes Lace Tours at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. “It was mostly used as edging and insertions for collars and shawls. The Smithsonian has a painting at the National
Much of the lace worn in America during the 1700s and 1800s was from Europe. Lace was clearly a sign of wealth, and the gentry class took their fashion cues from European courts.

As far as lace-making techniques are concerned, bobbin lace is made by twisting, braiding and weaving threads (attached to bobbins) over a thin piece of parchment that rests on a pillow. The parchment contains a design that has been pricked with pins. Lace makers create the design by working pairs of bobbins through the pins and up and down parallel rows containing from a dozen to thousands of bobbins, depending on the size and intricacy of the item. The end result is a filigree pattern in which the threads and open work are the lace design.

Needle lace is based on the buttonhole stitch and is created with a single needle. The stitches are sewn through a pattern on top of a thick piece of paper backed by fabric. The first step in making needle lace is stitching the outline of the pattern to the paper. This outline becomes the framework for the lace. Subsequent stitches are sewn to the framework without piercing the paper or fabric below. When the needlework is complete, the backing is removed and the lace lifted.

For the most part, even an untrained eye can distinguish handmade bobbin lace from needle lace. "Look at it under a strong magnifying glass and see which way the threads are going," explains Thompson. "In bobbin lace, look for multiple threads woven together. In needle lace, look for variations on the buttonhole stitch."

Much of the lace worn in America during the 1700s and 1800s was from Europe. Lace was clearly a sign of wealth, and the gentry class took their fashion cues from European courts. As the authors of Labor of Love: America's Textiles and Needlework, 1650–1930 explain in their book: "From Massachusetts to Virginia, the well-dressed colonist wore clothing adorned with lace and 'passements' of gold and silver. Inventories and wills frequently mention the elaborate lace trimmings that graced neckcloths, caps, whiskers, ruffs, gorgets and handkerchiefs. How well a family fared was reflected in the amount of lace that decorated their clothing."

Although lace fell out of fashion for men during the early 1800s, lace remained a key component of women's clothing and home fashions until the turn of the last century. In fact, the introduction of lace machines and the invention of plain, undecorated net triggered what Kurella likes to call "the democratization of lace."

"The Industrial Revolution changed everything," she reports. "Suddenly, anything was possible."

By the mid-18th century, fashionable boarding schools included lace-work and embroidery in their curricula. Women's magazines often featured European lace patterns for American women to copy. Among the most popular were lace lappets—long collar-type pieces that could be crossed over the chest and fastened
MEET MARTHA PULLEN—DAR MEMBER AND HEIRLOOM SEWING EXPERT

Among DAR members, one of the primary reasons for an interest in antique lace is its usefulness in restoring old clothing or creating new heirloom garments. Within its ranks, DAR has an internationally known expert on heirloom sewing: Martha Pullen, founder of Martha Pullen’s School of Art Fashion and host of a PBS series called “Martha’s Sewing Room.” Pullen also publishes two magazines—Sew Beautiful and Fancywork—and has published more than 30 books on heirloom sewing, smocking, embroidery and appliqué.

“My business was built around my love of old clothing and lace,” says Pullen, a member of the Twickenham Town Chapter (Huntsville, AL) who was recently named the ninth Daughter of Distinction, an honor that puts her in company with Elizabeth Dole and Janet Reno. “At the sewing school and in the books, we show people how to reproduce garments from the past. Sometimes we adapt the patterns to make them more modern, but overall, we’re helping people create beautiful clothes that will last 100 years. There is a tremendous interest in yesteryear, and we picked up on it in 1981 when I started the business.”

“My specialty is turn-of-the-century clothing,” continues Pullen, who often makes great finds at flea markets and antique shows. “In my TV series, I even have a segment called ‘Martha’s Attic,’ where I open ‘Grandmother’s Trunk’ and feature one antique garment from the turn-of-the-century period.”

As to why there is so much interest in heirloom sewing and antique garments, Pullen believes, “People are going back to their roots. They are looking at what was beautiful 100 years ago and trying to recreate it. Heirloom sewing is fun. It also enables a person to connect with future generations. It’s an emotional thing. You’re making something for someone you love.”

with a brooch. Other popular lace items were bonnets, shawls, veils, lingerie, handkerchiefs, christening garments and bridal gowns, doilies, tablecloths and curtains.

By the early 1900s, lace started to fall out of fashion. That’s when lace collecting came into vogue. The chaos prior to and during World War I created hard times for royal European families and many of them started selling off the exquisite lace items that had been in their palaces, courts and wardrobes for generations. They found a ready market among American society women, which included the wives of J. P. Morgan, E. F. Hutton and Philip Lehman. Lace from these royal collections could very well be stored in the attics of homes across the country along with the laces of other American ancestors.

When identifying and evaluating lace, there are many factors to consider. Top on the list are:

Design—How intricate and complex is the pattern?
Workmanship—How well is the lace technique performed?
Technique—Bobbin or needle? Hand- or machine-made?
Condition—How tattered, frayed or yellowed is the lace? Is it still an item or garment or just a fragment of a fan, collar, tablecloth or veil?
Rarity—How much of this lace is actually left in the world?

Of course, depending on the lace’s intended use, some of these factors may be of more or less concern. “True collectors care more about the technique, workmanship and design,” says Kurella. “They are collecting extraordinary examples of stitches and don’t care if it’s in fragments. But there are also people who want to use the old lace in some new way, so to them, it’s important that the lace be usable. The crème de la crème of collecting is a perfect item of extraordinary workmanship and technique.”

Ultimately, through the ages, people drawn to lace share a common thread—an appreciation for artistic beauty. “There is almost no situation where lace is a necessity,” concedes Kurella. “Nonetheless, it’s been around for centuries, and people are attracted to it because it’s beautiful, represents human creativity and ties us to our ancestors.”
Many Hands Make Heavy Work for Genealogists

EARLY AMERICAN HANDWRITING CAN BE A PUZZLE TO DECIPHER

BY LUCILLE DANIEL

Certified genealogists agree that if you want reliable evidence of your American ancestry, you must look to original sources. But the variety of handwriting styles, phonetic spellings and cryptic abbreviations used in 17th- and 18th-century diaries, letters, wills, deeds, church records, census documents and other primary sources makes the research time-consuming and often frustrating. It is worth the effort, however, since secondary sources are often inaccurate. Errors committed during previous hand-copying of originals or more recent computerization of the source data can send researchers down dead-end roads or cause them to add a wrong link to the ancestral chain.

To help genealogists and historians transcribe key information from seemingly illegible old documents, paleographers, experts in deciphering early handwriting, have come up with useful strategies that make the task less daunting and more productive.

The Challenges

By 1640 there were an estimated 52,000 people living in the 13 American colonies, but few knew how to write more than their own...
TOOLS OF PENMANSHIP

Writing by hand in colonial days took time and skill. Pens were made from feathers, mainly plucked from live geese but also from swans, hens and turkeys. From the mid-17th century until the 1830s, quills sharpened with a penknife were popular writing tools. Ink was made from oak galls (tree swellings caused by gallflies) mixed with copper sulfate and the sap or gum from trees. When this dense, pungent material was diluted with water, it produced dark purple ink that today appears brown. The writer had to hold the quill at just the right slant to control the amount of ink that flowed onto the page in order to form the hairline upward strokes and the thick downward strokes of the most popular handwriting styles.

Early colonial paper was imported from Europe. It was not until the late 17th century that papermaking got its start in the colonies, but even then it was cheaper to import it. All paper had a high rag content that has helped it survive more than two centuries of weather, war, neglect and other hazards. Because it did not contain sulfide and other chemicals used in modern paper, it did not self-destruct. Even old documents in good condition, however, will often contain rusty spots called “foxing,” splits along the paper folds and a certain amount of fading.

names. Scribes and secretaries from England, France, Scotland, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Sweden and other emigrating countries performed most of the writing tasks in these early days. Colonial Americans seeking to learn the skill sought out writing masters, who taught them to model the styles set forth in penmanship texts, called copybooks. Until 1748, when the first American copybook was published, these instructional manuals were imported from England. Typically, people attending writing schools learned from five to eight different "hands" or writing styles. Traditional English block-style writing was generally deemed proper for business, legal and civic purposes, and the more elegant Italian hands (which we call italic) were adopted for personal use.

Throughout most of the 17th century, good handwriting was considered appropriate only for businessmen, merchants and gentlewomen, whose "fair hand" was appreciated in letters and diaries. Scholarly gentlemen were taught classical languages, not writing, and flaunted their illegible scrawls as a mark of good breeding.

By the 18th century, as the colonies were becoming more sophisticated and self-directing, writing became a more valued skill.

By the 18th century, as the colonies were becoming more sophisticated and self-directing, writing became a more valued skill.

In addition, spelling in 17th- and 18th-century documents and records was often phonetic. So the word church might appear as chirch, or children as chylldryn. Another oddity was the use of a character resembling the cursive f to represent an s in certain positions in a word or in words containing a double s. Thus the word sense might look something like fenfe or the name Missy like Mifsy, with the long s or f leading the normal s.

Bobbie Thornton, a former DAR member in Oklahoma who now lives in Texas, has been helping people with genealogical research for more than 30 years. She finds the double s one of the most misread elements in old documents and cites as a particularly egregious example, the
published transcription of the Lawrence County, Alabama, marriage records from the 18th century, which actually list the brides' names as Mip rather than Miss, because the double s resembles a p. In the same document, the name Ross is mis-transcribed as Rop and Russell as Rupell.

Another character common in colonial writing was the archaic English letter known as the thorn. James W. Petty, AG, CGRS, who teaches courses through the Internet at the recently founded Heritage Genealogy College, says the thorn was a th written in cursive, which looked very much like a y. The thorn was transcribed into a printed word, it was almost always represented by a y, as in Ye Olde Inne. A number of common words, like ye and even you may have come from thee and thou.

Stephanie M. Thorson, PhD., a member of the Maryland Ann Arundel Chapter, NSDAR, warns that the letters u and v (and in Scottish documents, also w) were often interchangeable, as were i and j in many documents.

And Sally Light, from the Hendrick Hudson Chapter, NSDAR, points out that double letters at the beginning of words—such as ffrench—indicate a capital letter, in this case the surname French. Light also tells of her experience deciphering an 18th-century survey that contained a word appearing to be Lean. When she later reviewed the document, she realized the word was really Lease, with the s and e drawn in a way that resembled a cursive n. Light said, "This discovery made me realize that setting something aside temporarily and returning to it with 'new eyes' can be productive."

Not surprisingly, given the time it took to lay ink on paper with quill pens, abbreviations abounded in these early documents. Some shortened forms have endured to this day and so are easy to decipher, such as the use of the ampersand for and, @ for at, and etc. for eccetera. But others are a bit harder to read. In a preface to a collection of Thomas Jefferson's personal papers, the Library of Congress offers a list of common abbreviations used in 18th-century writing. They include p for per or par, as in the abbreviation pvse for peruse.

Deciphering Strategies

Before starting to read an old original source, paleographers advise researchers to determine the historical context of the document, its purpose and the specific handwriting style used in its creation. If possible, it is also helpful to find out the identity and nationality of the scribe and the tools used to produce the document.

Many resources exist to help guide a researcher through the deciphering process, and genealogical organizations often host regional seminars to help beginners get started. Books like Harriet Stryker-Rodda's Understanding Colonial Handwriting (Genealogical Publishing Company, 1986), Tamara Plakins Thornton's Handwriting in America: A Cultural History (Yale University Press, 1996), and Kip Sperry's Reading Early Handwriting (Genealogical Publishing Company, 1998) are extremely helpful in providing a historical context for early American handwriting. They also include numerous examples to help train the eye. Roger Minert's Deciphering Handwriting in German (GRT Publications, 2001) offers advice about reading documents in German, French and Latin. Early American Probate
Before starting to read an old original source, paleographers advise researchers to determine the historical context of the document, its purpose and the specific handwriting style used in its creation. If possible, it is also helpful to find out the identity and nationality of the scribe and the tools used to produce the document.

Inventories: The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife Annual Proceeding 1987 (Trustees of Boston University, 1989) and American Speech: 1600 to the Present: Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife Annual Proceedings 1983 (Trustees of Boston University, 1985) are particularly good at reviewing language and word use during colonial times and analyzing how others have deciphered old inventories.

Stephanie Thorson says that many archives produce self-help materials for researchers. Because she has worked extensively with Scottish handwriting, she uses a packet prepared by the Scottish Record Office in Edinburgh.

James Petty highly recommends Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, by Val D. Greenwood (Genealogical Publishing Company, 3rd ed., 2000). Considered a standard by experienced researchers, the guide contains several chapters on alphabet styles and includes step-by-step information on how to locate and analyze original documents. He suggests beginning your work on an old text by identifying individual letters and putting together an alphabet. Not only will your personal alphabet become your primary deciphering tool, but the practice of imitating the letters will familiarize you with the writing style and help you identify words more easily.

Diane Bassett Nelson, a certified genealogical research specialist (CGRS) and a member of the Chief Taughannock Chapter of the NS DAR, offers this practical advice to beginners working with 17th- and 18th-century sources:

- Learn the basic elements likely to be included in the document you are reading. If you know the wording traditionally used in deeds, wills, vital records and town records, you will immediately spot many words.
- Misspell the name you are working on. If you can't find the name under

![EXAMPLES OF EARLY AMERICAN HANDWRITING](https://www.amberskyline.com/treasuremaps/oldhand.html)
one spelling, try looking it up using alternative spellings. This is especially helpful with census records.

- Practice writing in the style of the time. By copying the old writing, you will come to understand how letters flow into each other.

- If you are working with microfilm and using an overhead projector, trace the words that appear on the projector's table-like surface by placing tissue paper over the image. As you begin forming the word, its meaning might become clear to you.

- Keep a chart nearby that shows the handwriting styles of the time. A chart is especially helpful when you are working with foreign language documents or when you are looking for a double s in a name.

- Enlarge the text when you photocopy it. Many original deed books have been photocopied, and might have been reduced in size when compiled.

Schooling yourself in the common names of the period will also give you an edge in deciphering old handwriting. Virginia Spiller, a member of the Maine Old York Chapter, NSDAR, said she recently came across a sentence that read: "Robert Swain gave Jehu Stoneman, Tea and Sugar in exchange for this book on board the ship Bettsy. Capt. Jonathan White 1755." Jehu, a biblical name, is not familiar to many of today's readers and so could be misread. In addition, the name jonathan had been abbreviated as Jn, with an o above the n.

Spiller also advises patience. "You cannot scan a document and get much information," she warns. "Set aside adequate time in your schedule to do a good job."

Diana Harvey, Salt Lake City Chapter, NSDAR, has helped many people decipher deeds, census information, and birth and death records. In her experience, intimidation is the researcher's worst enemy. "First relax and take a deep breath. Then slow down and really look at the document," she advises. If you know the text is a will, you are likely to find that it begins with the words: "In the name of God, Amen." A deed often opens with: "Know all men by these presents." Once you identify stock phrases, you can pick out how the letters are formed and use this knowledge as a key to unlock the rest of the document.

"Just think of it as a huge game of Hangman and have some fun," says Harvey. "And don't be afraid to ask for help from another researcher. That's the great thing about the genealogical community: We love to help each other."
Hear America Singing

Patriotic sheet music of today and yesteryear.

Patriotic tunes, both old and new, are topping the charts.

By Lucille Daniel
When Lord Cornwallis surrendered to General George Washington at Yorktown in 1781, the American troops celebrated their final major victory with a joyful rendition of "Yankee Doodle." The troops felt great affection for the song, which had come to represent the gritty determination that allowed Americans to overcome great odds and defeat the more seasoned British forces.

Composed by a British Army surgeon during the French and Indian War, "Yankee Doodle" was intended as a musical jibe at the rustic colonial soldiers, many of whom were outfitted in buckskin and fur. The verses ridiculed the "men and boys as thick as hasty pudding." The British used the song to intimidate colonial settlers and once paraded a tarred and feathered farmer through Boston while field musicians marched beside him playing "Yankee Doodle." Rather than be publicly scorned by the bullying Regulars, Americans appropriated the song as their own and reportedly sang it as a bold taunt to British soldiers retreating from Concord and Lexington on April 19, 1775. Treating the lyrics as a proud celebration of homespun simplicity—and adding new verses of their own—Americans turned "Yankee Doodle" into the most popular tune of the Revolutionary War era.

Patriotic Music Endures

Well over two centuries later, Americans across the country are still turning to music to solidify national bonds, soothe grieving hearts and express love for a country shocked by violence. The terrorist attacks of September 11 turned patriotic music of all kinds—classical, traditional, military, folk, country and rock—into best-sellers, with many record stores having trouble keeping the most popular albums in stock. Shortly after the attacks, God Bless America, an album featuring Celine Dion’s acclaimed version of the song performed during the blockbuster September 21st television benefit, "A Tribute to Heroes," was the top-selling album in the country. The collection, which also includes Frank Sinatra’s "America the Beautiful," Pete Seeger’s "This Land is Your Land" and Tramaine Hawkins’ "Amazing Grace," sold 180,894 copies in its first week, according to Billboard magazine.

Recent Bestsellers

"It’s hard to think of a time in the last 20 to 30 years when there has been such a wide embrace of patriotism," observed Geoff Mayfield of Billboard in an October 25th AP story. On November 24, Whitney Houston’s "The Star-Spangled Banner" topped Billboard’s "Hot 100 Singles Sales" for the sixth straight week, marking its 18th week on the list. The number two best-seller was Lee Greenwood’s "God Bless the U.S.A." In fact, six of the top 10 singles carried a patriotic theme, including Elvis Presley’s vintage rendition of "America the Beautiful." By early December, albums made from the "Tribute to Heroes" special and the equally star-studded October 18th "Concert for New York City" were front and center in music stores.

"Generally speaking, our patriotic songs pull us together and unify our culture," said music historian Dr. Carole Delaney in a December 1998 article in VFW Magazine. She was referring to our traditional anthems, but her comment also holds true for popular songs with a patriotic flavor. Music has played a unifying role dur-
## SEVEN PATRIOTIC ALBUMS
### OF NOTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT AMERICAN FAVORITES</th>
<th>(includes God Bless America, The Star-Spangled Banner, The Stars and Stripes Forever, George M. Cohan medley, America, Semper Fidelis and others).</th>
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<tr>
<td>GOD BLESS AMERICA</td>
<td>(includes Kate Smith’s rendition of the title song plus America the Beautiful, God Bless the U.S.A. by Lee Greenwood and American Patrol).</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPIRIT OF FREEDOM: PATRIOTIC SONGS AND SERVICE HYMNS</td>
<td>(includes Hail to the Chief, When Johnny Comes Marching Home, You’re a Grand Old Flag, God Bless America, The Marine Hymn).</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMERICAN PATRIOT: LEE GREENWOOD</td>
<td>(includes Pledge of Allegiance, America, Dixie, The Great Defenders, God Bless the U.S.A., Battle Hymn of the Republic and others).</td>
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<tr>
<td>PATRIOTIC SUPER HITS</td>
<td>(includes Amber Waves of Grain by Merle Haggard, In America by Charlie Daniels, America Is by B.J. Thomas, The Eagle by Waylon Jennings and more).</td>
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<tr>
<td>BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM</td>
<td>(includes 18 patriotic songs, marches and anthems performed by the Robert Shaw Chorale).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED WE STAND</td>
<td>(a benefit album to help victims of 9/11; includes I Love America by the O’Jays, Imagine, Lean on Me and The Star-Spangled Banner).</td>
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The Power of Music

Perhaps because of greater access to music of all kinds—through radio, TV, home music systems and the Internet—the post-September 11th interest in patriotic songs has risen to a new level. “Never in all my years as a musician have I seen America so drawn to [patriotic songs] or to music as a healing and inspiring tool,” declared Ruth Dobson, music professor and director of the Portland State University Opera Theater in an interview with Tricia Jones of the *Columbian*.

“We know from studying music that it has the ability to alter our moods,” said Jennings Bryant, who holds the Reagan Chair of Broadcasting at the University of Alabama. Quoted in the *Tuscaloosa Times* shortly after September 11th, Bryant speculated, “People are trying to build ... an esprit de corps that goes along with marshalling support for something that’s going to cost us a lot.”

When Walt Whitman wrote his now-famous 1860 poem about hard-working Americans from all walks of life, he titled it, “I Hear America Singing.” For Whitman, the music of America was its people, engaged in work that kept the country humming.

But it has been the inspiring tunes and lyrics of our patriotic composers that have given working Americans something to sing about, even during times of darkness. In the aftermath of September 11th, the entire world has heard America singing.

Scrawled in an autograph album carried through WWI and WWII are the lyrics and signature of the great Irving Berlin.
If big-ticket goals like buying a house, sending your children to college or saving for retirement seem like elusive dreams, then now is a good time to reevaluate your overall financial situation. Financial planning experts maintain that no matter what age you are, you can always take positive steps to achieve financial goals. They also stress that regardless of marital status or income level, every woman should take an active role in managing her money, in both the day-to-day tasks and long-range strategizing.

BY MARGIE MARKARIAN
WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Before you can start saving, you need to get a firm handle on what you’re spending every month and compare it to what’s actually coming in. Here’s how:

• Itemize all cash expenditures for a month. This task includes recording ATM withdrawals and noting how and where the money is being spent.

• Sit down with your checkbook and credit card statements for the past six months and track your regular monthly bills and intermittent expenses (insurance, taxes, etc.).

• Organize all your spending information into categories. Software programs like Quicken and MSN Money can streamline the process and help you categorize both discretionary and nondiscretionary expenses.

• Record your monthly income. This includes paychecks (after taxes), freelance income, interest payments, alimony, dividends, Social Security, rental income after expenses and any other income sources you have.

• Compare income versus expenses. If there’s a surplus, set financial goals and start saving. If there’s a deficit, take the necessary steps to pay off debt, control spending and cut expenses. Financial planners agree that realistic and meaningful financial goals are powerful motivators for fixing cash flow problems.

"Most people can only account for half of what they are spending," Adam explains. "But if you have financial goals and come to realize that you are spending thousands of dollars a year on restaurants and takeout, you can conclude pretty quickly whether or not that’s the best use of your money." Following are some ideas that will help make your financial dreams a reality.

Saving for a Home

Make a commitment to deposit a specific percent (five percent is a good place to start) from each paycheck into a savings account devoted to the down payment on your dream house. If there’s any chance you won’t religiously deposit the money each pay period, have the money automatically deducted from your paycheck and electronically sent to the appropriate account. Once you get used to saving five percent, try increasing the amount.

Since saving for a house is considered a short-term goal, save the money in a liquid account with low risk, such as money market funds and short-term CDs. One of the worst things you can do is to deposit down payment money into a mutual fund or the stock market. These types of investment vehicles are designed for long-term savings plans and have inherent risks for short-term goals. If the market dips, you could easily lose money and not have what you expected when the perfect house comes along.
Use mortgage calculators at bank and real estate websites to determine how much you can actually afford to spend on a house, based on your income. Since most lenders require 20 percent down (some 10 percent if you qualify for private mortgage insurance), study the real estate market to determine which communities in your area have properties in your price range. Then determine how long it will take to save the amount needed. Keep in mind that most people save for two-and-a-half years before actually buying a home.

**Saving for College Education**

The best strategy is to start setting aside money for your children's education as soon as possible after their birth. Indeed, with as little as $25 a month and a commitment to make monthly automatic deposits, you can open any number of stock mutual fund accounts. The younger your child is, the more aggressive these funds can be. As your child moves closer and closer to college age, stick with consistent performers and lower-risk funds.

The college savings vehicles getting the most attention these days are state-sponsored 529 plans. Each state has its own plan. The plans are usually managed by established, well-respected companies like Fidelity and TIAA-CREF. The money is held in the parent's name but taxed at the child's rate when withdrawn for educational purposes. Unlike Education IRAs in which savings are limited to $500 annually, there are no stringent deposit limits. And unlike prepaid tuition plans, there are no restrictions on where your child attends college. The money can be used for tuition at any accredited college in the country.

Another way to keep the college fund growing is to direct a portion of life's ordinary windfalls into savings vehicles earmarked for college. This includes all the metaphorical gifts the children receive through the years, from christenings to graduations. If you make a habit of depositing 80–90 percent of what the children receive from family and friends, you will be amazed at how much of a contribution it is over the long haul.

Series EE savings bonds continue to be a simple way to fund college education. They cost 50 percent of the face value, with values ranging from $50 to $10,000.

**Saving for Retirement**

The smartest thing to do is participate in your company's 401(k), 403(b) or 457 plan. Contribute the maximum possible, especially if your employer has a matching program. "Most people can't afford not to do this," Di Re emphasizes. "It's painless savings because the money never goes in your checkbook, and if your employer has a matching program, it's like getting something for nothing." The money compounds exponentially through your working years and is tax deferred.

If you or your spouse is self-employed, get in the habit of contributing to your retirement by opening either a Keogh or a Simplified Employee Pension Plan (SEP). A SEP allows the owner of a small business or a self-employed person to contribute up to 15 percent of income tax-free for the first $160,000 of income. A Keogh allows you to set aside even more than a SEP, in many cases tax-free. A certified financial planner or tax planning professional can help you assess which is the better option.

Regardless of whether or not you participate in a company pension plan, any working person can save for retirement by putting as much as $3,000 in a traditional IRA. You have a choice of investing the money as a lump sum or making ongoing contributions through automatic deductions from your bank account. The money deposited is tax deductible and your money grows tax deferred. You pay income tax on it when it's withdrawn sometime after you turn 59 1/2. Under a new law, a nonworking spouse can also contribute to traditional IRAs. Ultimately, a married couple can annually contribute $6,000 for retirement this way.

Another option is the Roth IRA, which is similar to the traditional IRA except that you pay taxes on the money now instead of when you withdraw the funds. To open a Roth IRA, you must have an earned income but not too much. Single people can't have earnings of more than $110,000. Married couples filing jointly can't earn more than $160,000. Married couples filing jointly can't earn more than $160,000.

Contact the Social Security Administration (800-772-1213) for information on what your monthly pension benefit is likely to be when you retire. Getting a handle on this figure is a powerful incentive to plan for retirement, because the benefits are much too low to cover all of your financial needs.

Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage, including health, long-term care and disability. The appropriate insurance goes a long way in circumventing...
LAST-MINUTE CHECKLIST FOR TAX PREPARATION

Tax day is just around the corner. If you haven’t already gathered up all your materials to prepare your taxes, here’s a rundown on the papers you need to have on hand.
• W-2 forms
• 1099 forms
• Alimony receipts
• Interest statements
• Receipts for charitable contributions
• Tax receipts: real estate, car excise, state income tax
• Receipts for deductible business/work-related expenses
• Childcare records: how much you paid; name, address, Social Security number or employer ID for care providers
• Receipts for medical expenses that are in excess of 75 percent of adjusted gross income
• Records of other distribution/income received, possibly from IRAs, an estate, a trust, a partnership, pension fund, dividends, etc.

LOOKING FOR A FINANCIAL PLANNER?

If the thought of doing financial planning completely on your own is too overwhelming, consider getting professional help. The Financial Planning Association can help you locate a certified financial planning adviser in your area. Call 1-800-282-PLAN or use the “planner search” at www.fpanet.org.

financial disaster should you or your spouse have serious health problems.

Saving, Investing and Spending During Retirement

Conventional wisdom has long guided retirees to favor fixed-income investments like bonds, CDs and money market accounts over variable investments like stocks and mutual funds. However, this type of investment strategy doesn’t necessarily allow for enough future growth in an era when many women are living into their 80s and 90s. Consequently, today’s financial experts tend to recommend asset allocations in stock/cash ratios of 80/20, 60/40 and 50/50 for the outset of retirement with gradual reductions to 25/75 as you approach 80.

Continue to have financial goals. Whether you want to spend winters in the Sunbelt, visit out-of-state children regularly, donate to your favorite charities, set up trust funds for grandchildren or enroll in a literature class, don’t shy away from new financial goals that will enhance personal happiness. Make sure that anyone you entrust with money management responsibilities understands that these goals are important to you and is on board to help you finance your dreams appropriately and responsibly.

Even if you delegate some of your financial bookkeeping to financial planners and adult children, don’t abdicate control. Monitor your investments and have a hand in day-to-day financial matters. Read documents before signing, review statements before filing them away, understand the fee structures involved in paying professionals and be mindful of the motives of the people to whom you delegate your affairs. Revisit your retirement plan at least once a year and make appropriate adjustments based on changes in your lifestyle, market conditions, the cost-of-living and other factors.

Consider new ways of charitable giving, including setting up a charitable trust. Besides having tax benefits, charitable trusts allow you to leave all or part of your estate to a charity or nonprofit while retaining some interest in the assets through either an income stream or the principal.

Ultimately, regardless of what your financial goals happen to be, the first step in saving money is having a “dream” account and funding it steadily in whatever ways possible. “If you earmark money for a financial goal, you tend to have more respect for the goal,” says Peg Eddy. A lot depends on discipline and having the right attitude.

If you are unsure about your financial management abilities, educate yourself by reading publications on personal finance, attending money management seminars and workshops and checking out financial planning software like Quicken and Microsoft Money. “Take time to learn more about your own financial situation and become better educated about financial planning,” suggests Ernst & Young’s Di Re. “In doing so, you’ll gain a feeling of control, and with that comes the confidence to really achieve your goals.”

This article reflects general investing trends. For individual advice consult your financial advisor.
Who Wants a Handheld?

The basics about what handheld devices offer as pint-sized computers on the go. By Nancy Cohen

Not so many years ago, buying a handheld device like a PalmPilot meant you were serious about tidying up your life. It meant you were gathering your phone numbers, to-do lists, birthdays, personal schedules, travel directions and calendar dates off of spiral notebooks, envelope flaps and receipts. You were about to transfer them to a single, battery-run featherweight gadget that would easily fit in your bag or briefcase.

As for serious computing involving research, formal correspondence, messaging and Internet browsing—that was still the domain of your home computer or your laptop. Away from home, though, busy women carrying laptops for on-the-go research and presentations soon discovered that even laptops get cumbersome.

There is another option, where you can leave pencil, pen and even laptop at home. Today's handheld vendors are offering more than glorified ways to create electronic lists. Handhelds and their associated accessories are beginning to take on a number of functions of their heavier and more expensive laptop relations.

Handhelds' price tags alone (anywhere from entry-level $99 to $699) tell a story that "handheld" is an umbrella term for devices that carry a wide range of add-on options, features and functions—from plain vanilla tools for personal organizers to rich enablers for illustrative viewing and composing. Advanced models may have wireless Internet access, for example, and multimedia capabilities. Generally, the more you pay, the more you get by way of features, functions and rich-color views.

Just as pricey cars have bells and whistles like sophisticated sensors and attractive interior accessories, high-end handhelds—also referred to as PDAs (personal digital assistants)—have luxury features, too. Depending on the model, the extras may include well-lit, high-resolution color screens; scroll wheels; headphones; greater memory options to accommodate large data files; longer battery power; easy synchronization with a conventional PC; built-in voice recorders and downsized versions of applications such as Word and Excel. Today's sophisticated PDAs can play music; record voice memos; and run word processing, spreadsheet, money manager and electronic book reading programs. They can also allow downloading of e-mail from your home computer and provide varying degrees of Internet access. Many PDAs
Compaq's iPAQ Pocket PC can exchange information with a desktop or laptop computer. Some PDAs come with such programs included. For others, you may have to buy extra software and add-ons to get the options you want.

PDAs can be screen based or keyboard based, or both. Some come with a stylus, which is a pen-like utensil for selecting keyboard characters on an on-screen keyboard and for navigating through on-screen menus and controls. What is the main difference between writing with a stylus and writing using your home PC's keyboard? Frustration. Painstaking stylus-pecking at small-screen letters can be a turn-off.

Some PDAs use common alphabet characters or give you the added option of using the Graffiti handwriting system. However, with the Graffiti writing option in Palm handhelds, you might find yourself straining to learn a new way of printing the alphabet. If you're a first-time buyer who wants to do extensive writing beyond entering addresses and phone numbers, try writing with different PDAs in the store before buying. If they all generate one big writer's ouch, then consider investing in a separate, PDA-attachable keyboard. By using the attachable keyboard, researchers and busy writers on the road can enter lengthy notes just as comfortably as they do on their desktop PCs.

Handhelds may offer memory ranging anywhere from 8 MB to 32 MB. As a rough guide, just a few MB of memory is adequate for address books, maintaining calendars, taking notes and loading useful programs. More memory may be necessary to store large files like digital photos or audio recordings, or to hold large software programs. You can expand the memory of some PDAs with small storage cards that are inserted into the PDA itself.

Word Soup

Shopping for a handheld presents not only a confusing array of model choices but also a confusing amount of lingo. You will find yourself listening to sales talk that comes across like alphabet soup. References to OS, PDAs and other acronyms sound intimidating but actually represent simple concepts. Still, the word circus can make a first-time buyer's head spin: What's a handheld? Is it the same as a PDA? What's the difference between a Palm and Pocket PC? How do I begin to know what I want?

A handheld (or PDA) is simply any electronic device that you buy to make your life more productive, and it's of a size that you can hold in your hand.

An operating system (OS) is the software that serves as the
other words, handhelds are likely to run on either Palm or Pocket PC operating systems. The most current version of the Pocket PC operating system is Pocket PC 2002. The Palm OS dominates the market, and most of the PDAs circulating are devices that run on the Palm operating system.

Many people like that Palms are simple and appropriate for entry-level users. The Palm has an address book, task list, calendar and notepad, a basic expense application and the potential for all sorts of add-ons. People who like Pocket PC handhelds are impressed with the color screens and the ability to do fancier things, like play music and display electronic text.

Pocket PC users also find it comforting to see the desktop look and feel of Windows. Another impressive feature is that Pocket PCs synchronize with desktop computers automatically each time they're placed in their desktop cradles. The Palm OS includes a desktop synchronization feature, HotSync.

**Built-In Obsolescence**

Technology thrives on obsolescence. As you read this article, there are probably headlines in your local paper's technology and business section announcing that some firm has closed down while an up-and-coming company has launched the best and brightest product to revolutionize our lives and make every handheld before it look trivial. Yet there are just as many comeback kids in this dynamic industry. Mergers are a frequent fact of life but can take a long time to transpire because of dissenting opinions or legalities or both. Because of the volatility of the technology marketplace and the constant refreshment of hardware models and software applications, no purchase is guaranteed to be of heirloom status. The sensible move is to stay with the more established name brands and vendors that stand behind them.

A final buying option: Don't buy a handheld at all. If it ever crossed your mind that it is senseless paying top dollar for both top-of-the-line mobile phones and personal information organizers, you are not alone. If it ever crossed your mind that you might like having one single device—a phone that carries a screen for text input to read e-mail, view information and compose messages—you are not alone. Vendors like Kyocera, with its Smartphone that combines a digital cellular phone with a medium-powered 8MB Palm organizer, hear you loud and clear. Technology watchers predict that more hybrids that will show smarter and smarter convergence are on their way.

**THE HANDHELD BUYER'S RESOURCE GUIDE**

There are always good finds to be had by shopping on the Internet, but first-time buyers wanting to make a sensible purchase will stand to learn most by visiting their local computer retailers to see the products firsthand. The Internet, however, is your best bet for learning more about the prices, model features and rankings. Some buyer's guide sites can help you come up with a preliminary shopping list to take with you when you visit your local computer retail store. We found these sites to be informative:

**GUIDE PICKS: TOP FIVE HANDHELD COMPUTERS**

http://palmtops.about.com/library/content/aatp112201.htm
The #1 choice on this site was the $563.95 Compaq iPAQ H3850, which is in the Pocket PC camp. The kudos were based on performance, beautiful color display and clear viewing indoors and out.

**GUIDE PICKS: TOP 5 POCKET PC HANDHELD COMPUTERS**

http://palmtops.about.com/library/content/aatp112101.htm
The #1 choice on this list was the $499 Compaq iPAQ H3765, cited as "the best value" in a Pocket PC 2002 device. Kudos included a tribute to its nice color screen.

**CNET EDITORS' TOP FIVE HANDHELDs**

http://computers.cnet.com
The #1 choice was a SonyClie PEG-N610CV (Metallic Purple) at $349.99. It was applauded for its colorful display and affordability. #5 on this list was the Palm m105 at a more affordable $199. It comes with a mobile Internet kit and docking cradle.
The following ancestors were approved on October 7 and on December 8, 2001 by the NSDAR Board of Management after verification of documentary evidence of service during the American Revolution.

For further information, contact the Genealogy Division of the Office of the Registrar General, 202-879-3268.
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In the May/June issue of American Spirit

European Alliances:
The role of the Dutch in the American Revolution

Colonial Gardens: A historic tour of three notable gardens

Capturing Modern Memories:
Making a family video scrapbook

Getting to Know Your Ancestor:
A social history of the Revolution

Travelling Back In Time: Planning a history-filled family vacation

The famous Dutch ship, Half Moon.

After years of planning and writing, a host of genealogists, edited by and including Elizabeth Shown Mills, editor of The National Genealogical Society Quarterly, have produced the first analysis and guide for those wishing to be professional genealogists. Readers seeking a guide to basic genealogical research might not turn to this volume, although they could gain much useful knowledge from its content. On the other hand, those who wish to conduct research for others should start with this book.

_Pro Gen_, as it is popularly called, covers the field from a business perspective, because that is exactly what it is. Chapters or sections on certification and accreditation, ethical standards, business record keeping and time management illustrate this point. Considerations such as of copyright, fees, client reports, standards of proof and teaching methods all receive attention. Editing, proofreading and book preparation are additional areas in which some professional genealogists become involved. The entire spectrum is presented in this fine compilation.


The use of the immense variety of records held by the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and its regional facilities is an essential part of any researcher’s investigations into his or her family’s story in the United States. Understanding where these sources are located, how and why they were created and how they should be used to enhance one’s genealogical studies is also essential. With this in mind, every genealogist should own a copy of _Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States_.

The first such guide appeared in 1964, and the immediate precursor to this new edition was published in 1985. This third edition is a “complete revision and enlargement” of the second. With the opening of Archives II in College Park, Maryland, the renovations of the main building in downtown Washington and the many resulting physical changes in the location of records within the National Archives, one cannot rely on the 1985 edition to plan a visit accurately. Among the updated information are recent developments such as e-mail addresses and online services.

Those familiar with the 1985 edition will recognize the basic arrangement, while those new to the subject will want to study carefully the introduction and learn the decimal layout for chapters and subsections. This is the place to begin one’s approach to the National Archives or to update existing knowledge of the agency.

—Eric G. Grundset, Library Director, NSDAR
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