



The Genealogical Record

Published by

The Houston Genealogical Forum

P.O. Box 271466 ♦ Houston, TX 77277-1466



50th YEAR SPECIAL EDITION

Volume L (50)

2008

No. 5 (Special Edition)

The Houston Genealogical Forum

www.hgftx.org

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**The Houston Genealogical
Forum**

P.O. Box 271466
Houston, TX 77277-1466
www.hgftx.org

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US \$10 per issue. Payment is due with order.

Distribution is primarily by bulk mail. Recipients are responsible for keeping addresses current with the Membership Committee.

The Genealogical Record is indexed for subject matter in the *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)*, which is accessible at Heritage Quest.

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50th Year Dedication Issue



The 50th Year was dedicated to the founders of the Houston Genealogical Forum, all officers of the organization and to all who have supported the organization through their membership, donations and volunteer efforts throughout its 50 years.

This Special Edition issue celebrating 50 years is prepared in tribute to those officers who have served for each of its 50 years. Included is the full name of the officer and the office that they held. A new board is voted on and elected each year.

All of the items found in this 50th Year Special Edition are to preserve in one edition some of the basic history of the organization, the founders of the organization and those officers who have served to carry forth in their actions the by-laws set forth by the organization. Some historical documentation of the organization is also included in this issue in carrying out that purpose including those who have been awarded Honorary Lifetime Member status for their dedication and service to the organization.

Included is a special Oral Interview with last remaining Charter Member, a story regarding the HGF Logo Quilt and included also are some of the fun pictures of the 50th Anniversary as members enjoyed a wonderful presentation by noted speaker, Elizabeth Shown Mills, a delicious catered lunch with Anniversary Cake and Punch served at the afternoon intermission.

I prepared this Special Edition as a labor of love dedicated to all who are and who have been associated with the Houston Genealogical Forum over the past years and in the years to come. I found that the research involved in preparing this issue was much like looking for those ancestors we seek to find and they want to play “hide and seek” with us. Of course, as in any history of fifty years, there is more that could have been covered but space and size of the publication did not permit it. I hope you enjoy the results of my labor.

Gloria

Gloria LaVonne Wright Russell

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*Congratulatory Letter from
Elizabeth Shown Mills*

Houston Genealogical Forum

Fiftieth Anniversary Program

1958 - 2008

Featuring

National Genealogical Speaker & Author of *Evidence Explained*

Elizabeth Shown Mills

CG, OGL, FASG, FIAS, FUSA

Saturday, May 3, 2008

*Opening Remarks: 9:30 am ~ Program 10 am - 3:30 pm

1. Genealogical Problem Solving with the Genealogical Proof Standard
2. Margaret's Baby's Father and the Lesson He Taught Me
3. How to Find the Truth about a Family Story
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ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS
Trustee & Past President, Board for Certification of Genealogy
Fellow & Past President, American Society of Genealogists
Course Director—Advanced Research & Evidence Analysis
Samford University Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research

7 May 2008

Ms. Gloria Wright Russell, President
Houston Genealogical Forum
PO Box 271466
Houston, TX 77277-1466

Dear Gloria:

The past fifty years have seen an incredible transformation in the pursuit of American genealogy, and the Houston Genealogical Forum has played a major role in that transformation. HGF has been more than a society. It has been a forum in the classic sense of the word: an arena where learned and inquiring minds discuss history and historiography, a stage for issues that affect records and research, a marketplace of ideas for promoting the field, and an educational platform that has advanced the quality of much work produced today under the canopy of personal and family history.

The success of your 50th Anniversary Celebration demonstrates *why* the HGF has been so effective. Strategic planning, dedicated volunteers, and skilled leadership were evident in the execution at every stage. It was indeed a pleasure to be a part of your celebration and to contribute, in some small way, to your educational mission.

Appreciatively,

Elizabeth Shown Mills
Elizabeth Shown Mills

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Houston Genealogical Forum 50th Anniversary Commemorative Pin & Commemorative Brief Bag

The items below were available for sale to all on a limited amount basis as commemorative items during the 50th Year Anniversary Celebration.

Both the pin and the brief bag were designed by HGF President, Gloria LaVonne Wright Russell and produced by George Alan Awards.



One of each of these commemorative items has been placed in the HGF archives for posterity only.

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Actual size 1" in diameter
Colors: Gold tone pin with black enamel background and bright gold lettering



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