

## **Remember to check out our website**

[www.drghs.org](http://www.drghs.org)

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We are requesting your thoughts and prayers on behalf of DRGHS long-time member, Dixie Petty, whose lymphoma has returned. Dixie is undergoing treatments in Memphis and is staying with her daughter in Germantown, TN.



Officers installed during January business meeting are: front row, Robert Evans and Carolyn Gilchrist. Back row: Mona Raborn, Kathy Heidorn, Shirley Evans, Marilyn Strum, Henry Bryan, and Vivian Newkirk.

## **DRGHS Members Attend Seminar**

Five members of DRGHS attended the annual seminar of Mississippi Genealogical Society on January 17, 2015. The all-day seminar was presented by J. Mark Lowe, professional genealogist, author and lecturer. Topics included researching migration trails, an intro to land platting, finding insolvent estates and what to do when you are trapped by bad research. All agreed it was a very interesting and entertaining presentation. Those attending were Robert Evans, Carolyn Gilchrist, Vivian Newkirk, Mona Raborn and Kathy Heidorn.

## **A Passing**

Hal Thompson, Jr. of Newport News, VA., writes to advise of the passing of his mother, Mary Elizabeth Mills Thompson, on August 7, 2014. She was born (May 9, 1931) and raised in Carthage, the ninth and youngest child of James Dickens Mills and Louise Garrett Mills. Mary was married to Hal Thompson of Blytheville, Arkansas for almost 61 years. He passed away on December 23, 2014. Mrs. Thompson was a former member of DRGHS.

## **Mississippi Facts**

The state of Mississippi gets its name from the river that flows along its western border. It is the twentieth state to enter the Union. It has an area of 47,716 square miles. At the longest part it is 330 miles long and at its widest part, 180 miles. The average yearly temperature over a period of 50 years has been 65 degrees. The average winter temperature in northern counties is 51 degrees, in summer 75 degrees. The southern counties average a balmy 60 degrees in winter and 77 degrees in summer.

When Europeans arrived in the place now called Mississippi, native tribes living there were the Chickasaw in the north, the Choctaw in the central area and the Natchez and Pascagoula in the south. Though the natives were skillful hunters, they also tilled the soil for food. The most important crop was maize (corn) but they also grew red and black beans, pumpkins and tobacco.

## **Quotes**

Genealogy—tracing yourself back to better people.

I should have asked them before they died.

Genealogy is not fatal but it is a grave disease.

