



Lorena Shell Eaker Genealogical Papers (CG0024)

Collection Number: CG0024

Collection Title: Lorena Shell Eaker Genealogical Papers

Dates: 1902-1905, 2001-2004

Creator: Eaker, Lorena Shell, 1927-2017

Abstract: Lorena Shell Eaker transcribed family Bible records provided to her by several families in southeast Missouri and North Carolina. These records were used to compile her two-volume work *The Shoe Cobbler's Kin, A Genealogy of the Peter (Ecker) Eaker, Sr. Family (1701-1976)*. These papers include both hand-written transcriptions and photocopies of the original Bible records. Also included is the marriage record and sermon notes for Presbyterian minister William G. Peyton of Piedmont, Missouri.

Collection Size: 0.2 cubic feet
(5 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at capegirardeau@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use:

The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Lorena Shell Eaker Genealogical Papers (CG0024); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Cape Girardeau].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by William R. Eddleman on March 13, 2018 (Accession No. CGA0024).

Processed by: Processed by Katie Lewis, April 2018

Historical Note:

Lorena May Shell was born on May 31, 1927, in Hahn, Missouri, to Vernon E. and Hallie Fisher Shell. She married Odis Cleo Eaker on June 27, 1942. They had their daughter, Cheryl in 1947. Not long after the birth of their daughter, Eaker and her husband began their genealogical research of Bollinger County, Missouri, and early settlers from North Carolina. After many years of research, the couple gathered enough information to publish their first book, *The Shoe Cobbler's Kin, A Genealogy of the Peter (Ecker) Eaker, Sr. Family (1701-1976)*. Eaker and her husband published Volume II of *The Shoe Cobbler's Kin* in 1985. Five years after the publication of Volume II, Odis Eaker passed away on June 3, 1990.

After the death of her husband, Lorena began her research on the migration patterns of the early settlers of North Carolina to Southeast Missouri and Bollinger County. In 1994, she published *German Speaking People West of the Catawba River in North Carolina (1750-1800)*. In 2002, she published another book titled *One Wise Man: A Genealogy of Fredrick Wise of Lincoln County, NC and His Descendants*.

Throughout her research, Lorena became her husband's caregiver while he suffered with dementia. During this time, she learned how dementia not only affected her husband, but how it had an effect on her as the caregiver. Through this experience, she wrote *One Step at a Time: A Definitive Study of Alzheimer's Disease and a Practical Guide for Caregivers* in 1996.

Lorena spent much of her time speaking at genealogical societies, county archives, and libraries, and helping others research their own families. She also spoke to Alzheimer's support groups. In 2013, she donated all of her research files to the Lincoln County, North Carolina Genealogical Society. Lorena May Shell Eaker passed away on September 16, 2017, in Church Hill, Tennessee, and is buried at the Liley Funeral Home in Marble Hill, Missouri.

Arrangement: The collection has been arranged into a single series.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains family Bible records from Bollinger County, Missouri, and North Carolina compiled by Lorena Shell Eaker. The family Bible records are arranged alphabetically by last name. Of interest in folder one are membership records for the Clubb Creek Baptist Church in Bollinger County from 1932-1970. Folder three contains photocopies of original family Bible records. Folder four contains handwritten documents by Lorena Shell Eaker that are of the Eaker family Bible records. This folder also contains photocopied records that pertain to the Eaker family. Folder five includes sermon notes and marriage certificate for Presbyterian minister William G. Peyton from 1902-1905.

Container List:

- | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| f. 1 | Family Bible records, B-M, circa 2004 |
| f. 2 | Family Bible records, P-S, 2001-2004 |
| f. 3 | Photocopied Bible records, 2001-2004 |
| f. 4 | Eaker family, 2003 |
| f. 5 | Rev. William G. Peyton, 1902-1905 |

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