



## 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. Additionally, there are reprints of photographs of the Miller, Penzel and related families.

**Collection Size:** 0.2 cubic feet  
(6 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](http://www.shsmo.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at [capegirardeau@shsmo.org](mailto:capegirardeau@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**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). An addition was donated by the Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society on May 29, 2019 (Accession No. CGA0024.1).

**Processed by:** Processed by Katie Lewis, April 2018. Revised by Garret Kremer-Wright, May 29, 2019. Revised again by Ann Lowe and Daisy Mowery March 16, 2024. Revised again by Daisy Mowery and Ann Lowe November 2024.

### **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 influenced 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 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 three series.

### **Scope and Content Note:**

#### **Genealogy**

This series 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. Folder six includes reproduction photographs of the Miller, Penzel, and associated families. Most individuals are unidentified. An inventory of these images is included in the folder with names of known individuals.

### Personal Correspondence

This series contains correspondences between Lorena Shell Eaker and several individuals pertaining to a variety of research requests, personal stories, and genealogy. The folders in this series are arranged by chronological order. Some items of interest include: “Palatines to America,” World Connect Project – Lenhoff family, and various family records.

### Publications

The items in this series range from historical society newsletters to Lorena Shell Eaker notes related to *One Wise Man* and *German Speaking People West of the Catawba River in North Carolina, 1750-1800*. Of interest includes the “Echo” Bollinger County Historical Society bulletins, “Ancestors Unknown,” and *A Condensation of Sardis Presbyterian Church*. (Note: CG0075, the Joe Huskey Papers, contains Vol. II-Vol. V of the Bollinger County “Echo” publications.)

### Container List:

f. 1-16	Genealogy	
Box 001	f. 1	Rev. William G. Peyton, 1902-1905
	f. 2	“records of Prosperity,” Smith family, 1957
	f. 3	Wise family chart, 1984
	f. 4	Hahn family history, 1997, 2000
	f. 5	Eaker family, 2003
	f. 6	Family Bible records, B-M, 2004
	f. 7	Family Bible records, P-S, 2001-2004
	f. 8	Photocopied Bible records, 2001-2004
	f. 9	Miller and Penzel family photographs, no date
Box 002	f. 10	Conrad, Crites, Statler family history, n.d.
	f. 11	Arthur Croan Hahn biography, n.d.
	f. 12	The Richard Rhynes House, n.d.
	f. 13	Wise and Rhynes family notes, n.d.
	f. 14	John S. Rhyne family notes, n.d.
	f. 15	James T. Rhyne family notes
	f. 16	Carpenter Genealogy, n.d.
f. 17-84	Personal Correspondence	
	f. 17	Correspondence – Nonna Crites, 1972
	f. 18	Correspondence – Palatines to America, 1974 & 1979
	f. 19	Correspondence – Phillip Leonard, 1977
	f. 20	Correspondence – “D. M.,” 1978
	f. 21	Correspondence – Charles R. Baker, 1978
	f. 22	Correspondence – Nedra Courtaway, 1978
	f. 23	Correspondence – Theresa Warlick, 1980 & 1983
	f. 24	Correspondence – Dorthy G. Brown, 1981
	f. 25	Correspondence – Annie Ray Dodd, 1981 & 1983
	f. 26	Correspondence – Fay Price, 1982
	f. 27	Correspondence – Viola Call Nelson, 1982

f. 28	Correspondence – Samuel Probst, 1983
f. 29	Correspondence – Louise Jones, 1983
f. 30	Correspondence – Lorena Shell Eaker, 1984, 1991, 2005, n.d.
f. 31	Correspondence – Paul, 1984
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f. 36	Correspondence – Bonnie Baker, 1986 & 1988
f. 37	Correspondence – Mary L. Hahn, 1987
f. 38	Correspondence – Cohn (Mildred) Eaker, 1987
f. 39	Correspondence – Hellen Huckenpahler. 1987-1988, 1990, 1992, 1994 & 1999
f. 40	Correspondence – Carolyn Sue Bouska, 1987-1989, 1995, & 1997
f. 41	Correspondence – Gayle Seig, 1988, 1991-1992
f. 42	Correspondence – Hazel Mae 1988
f. 43	Correspondence – Jane Toone, 1988
f. 44	Correspondence – Katherine E. Ryan, 1988 & 1990
f. 45	Correspondence – Joy Baker, 1989
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f. 47	Correspondence – Johana Blackburn, 1989
f. 48	Correspondence – Ura Morgan family, 1990
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f. 51	Correspondence – Irene Kilgore, 1991
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f. 53	Correspondence – William (Bill) Eaker, 1994
f. 54	Correspondence – James A. Scott, 1994
f. 55	Correspondence – Bettye Lynn, 1994
f. 56	Correspondence – Millie, 1994
f. 57	Correspondence – Joyce Handsel, 2001
f. 58	Correspondence – Evelyn Eaker, 1995
f. 59	Correspondence – Sally and Bob Parker, 1996
f. 60	Correspondence – Rachael Choate, 1997
f. 61	Correspondence – Anna Bell Barks, 1997
f. 62	Correspondence – Louise Boyd, 1997
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f. 69	Correspondence – Suzanne Campbell, 1999
f. 70	Correspondence – World Connect Project, Lenhoff’s, 2000
f. 71	Correspondence – Joyce Handsel, 2001
f. 72	Correspondence – Connie Castor, 2002

	f. 73	Correspondence – Lela Cooper, n.d.
	f. 74	Correspondence – Vera Paul, n.d.
	f. 75	Correspondence – Fern and Leonard, n.d.
	f. 76	Correspondence – Bess, n.d.
	f. 77	Correspondence – Christina Williams Sobel, n.d.
	f. 78	Correspondence – H. R. Eaker, n.d.
	f. 79	Correspondence – Reba Newell, n.d.
	f. 80	Correspondence – Rhonda Eaker, n.d.
	f. 81	Correspondence – Ethel Myers, n.d.
	f. 82	Obituary – Odis C. Eaker, 1990
	f. 83	Obituary – Truman D. Shell, 1991
	f. 84	Healthcare notes, n.d.
f. 85-96	Publications	
Box 003	f. 85	“The Crater” excerpt, 1864
	f. 86	The Gaston County Bulletin, vol. XV, no. 2, 1964 & 1986
	f. 87	“Echo” Bollinger County Historical Society vol. I, 1978
	f. 88	“Echo” Bollinger County Historical Society vol. III, 1980
	f. 89	Carroll County historical society, vol. XXIX, no. 4, 1983-1984
	f. 90	The Caquelin Chronicle bulletins, no. 3, 4, 5, 1984
	f. 91	Calhoun County historical society newsletters, 1988
	f. 92	“Ancestors Unknown” vol. I, no. 3, 1995
	f. 93	Hoyle Historic Homestead news, 2000-2003, 2006
	f. 94	King’s Mountain, 225 <sup>th</sup> anniversary, 2005
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