



Alabama Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 3

Editor Brenda Briney

Fall 2014

AROUND THE STATE

Alabama Genealogical Society (AGS)

The AGS Fall Seminar will be held Saturday, October 11th at the Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama. The theme of *Searching, Sharing and Solving* will be presented by C. Ann Staley.

Ms. Staley, CG, CGL, is an instructor, consultant, trip leader and lecturer. Her specialties are Methodology, research sources, computer resources, conference planning and assisted research trips. She is a member of the National Genealogical Society, the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the Florida State Genealogical Society and the Jacksonville (Florida) Genealogical Society.

The conference begins at 8:30 AM with registration and refreshments. The topics of discussion include "Overlooked Research Sources: A Gold Mine to be Discovered," "Organizing, Analyzing, and Sharing: Using Technology to Your Advantage," "Claws or Clues: Scratching for the Elusive Ancestor," and "Genealogical Research: Online Sources – For Free."

See algensoc.org for further information and the registration form. Please note that registration must be received by October 6th to insure the inclusion of your information in the surname booklet, a handout packet and lunch.

Alabama Cemetery Preservation

The 13th annual Alabama Cemetery Preservation Workshop and Membership Meeting will be held in the Brock Forum, Dwight M. Beason Hall, Samford University, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, Saturday, November 1st, from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

For further information about this and other cemetery preservation projects around the state visit alabama-cemetery-preservation.com/welcome.lasso.

United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC)

Leslie Kirk, a member of one of the Alabama divisions, has scanned, copied and indexed 1,490 applications for the Southern Cross of Honor. These are applications filed by Confederate Veterans to UDC Chapters in Alabama, although the veteran may have served in another state. She has completed those in the possession of the Alabama Division and the First White House of the Confederacy. She hopes to add to this list from files obtained from individual chapters.

The index has been placed on the Alabama Division website under "Projects." Anyone whose ancestor is listed on the index can secure a copy. Leslie can be contacted at dixiedaughter@live.com. She will send a copy of that application either by email or USPS for a small donation of \$10.00. This donation will go toward the conservation of Confederate flags at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Checks should be made payable to Alabama Division Treasurer and mailed to Ms. Leslie Kirk, 44 Waterscapes Drive, Pike Road, AL 36064. Leslie has transcribed the names on the index as she interpreted the handwriting. The names were difficult due to the handwriting, bleeding of the ink, paper color, and also the condition of the application due to deterioration. The list can be accessed online at rootsweb.ancestry.com/~aludc/SouthernCross.html.

Alabama Genealogical Society
Samford University
Birmingham, AL 35229
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Website
website: www.algensoc.org

**The Samford University
Library**
Special Collection Department
is the depository for the Society.

**The Alabama Genealogical
Society Newsletter**
is published quarterly
near the first of March, June,
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Editor
Brenda Briney
assisted by
Sue Steele-Mahaffey
and Jim Anderson

Email the editor
news of meetings,
conferences and projects of
genealogical and historical
societies in Alabama
and adjacent states.
newsletter@algensoc.org

Membership
\$20.00 individual
\$25.00 family
\$15.00 for libraries.

Magazine
Members are encouraged to
submit articles
to the AGS Magazine
www.algensoc.org/magazine

Books for Review
Authors who would like to have
their publications considered for
review should send them to the
Book Review Chairman
in care of the Society.

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Mary "Frances" Lewis Etheredge, 94, died on Aug. 22, 2014

She was a former long-time member and past president of our society and a First Families of Alabama (FFA) certificate holder. She also belonged to Daughters of the American Revolution, Hoover Historical Society, and WAVES National - Heart of Dixie Unit. Frances was a graduate of the University of Alabama, attended school at Samford University and received a Masters from The University of Montevallo. Frances worked for the Jefferson County School System and the Birmingham Public School System teaching at many of the elementary schools where she left a lifelong impression with her students.

Our condolences to the family

Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH)

The Museum of Alabama is located at the Alabama Department of Archives and History in downtown Montgomery, across the street from the State Capitol. The Archives and the Museum are open Monday through Saturday, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM and the Research Room is open Tuesday through Friday and the second Saturday of the month from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Admission is always free. For more information call (334) 242-4364 and visit <museum.alabama.gov>.

In addition to the exhibits, ADAH provides special activities.

The schedule of ArchiTreats for the remainder of the year is as follows:

- September 18th *Bishops, Bourbons, and Big Mules: A History of the Episcopal Church in Alabama* presented by J. Barry Vaughn.
- October 16th *See Alabama First: The Story of Alabama Tourism* presented by Tim Hollis.
- November 20th *The Alabama National Forest: 1914-1936* presented by Bob Pasquill.
- December 18th *The Slaves' Gamble for Freedom: Choosing Sides in the War of 1812* (in conjunction with the statewide *Becoming Alabama* commemoration) presented by Gene Allen Smith.

Also, beginning Saturday, July 12th, the Museum of Alabama began offering free, themed tours of its all-new exhibits on the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM. Led by expert staff members, these tours will focus on a wide variety of Alabama history topics. This is a unique opportunity for visitors to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of Alabama's story through the museum's Smithsonian-quality exhibitions.

The September 13th tour, led by Shaelyn Amaio, Curator of Education, will focus on how Alabamians mark special occasions from the Green Corn Ceremony to the Iron Bowl to Mardi Gras to World's Fairs.

Sara Kunau, *Hands-On Gallery* Manager, will lead the October 11th tour of exhibits designed for the young and young at heart.

During Veteran's Day weekend (November 8th) Graham Neeley, Collections Curator, will help explore Alabama's participation in WWI, one hundred years after the start of the conflict.

The December 13th tour, led by Bob Bradley, Chief Curator, will explore Alabama's part in the Civil war and the life of a soldier. This tour will be followed by a period rifle firing demonstration.

No pre-registration for tours is required.

AGS welcomes the following new members:

(as of August 29, 2014)

Donna Cox **Baker**, Tuscaloosa AL
George **Carnline**, Many LA
Judy **Carnline**, Many LA
Susan C **Culpepper**, Slocumb AL
Tommy M **Culpepper**, Slocumb AL
Carolyn Murray **Greer**, Ocala FL
Ray **Isbell**, Mobile AL
Roy B. **Isbell**, Spanish Ft. AL
Alice Ball **Jones**, Northport AL
Sharon Leslie **Morgan**, Wurtsboro NY
Susan **Reynolds**, Tuscaloosa AL
Colleen **Sanders**, Birmingham AL

**Congratulations to these new
First Families of Alabama Recipients.**

Certificate #391

Alice Ball **Jones**

Issued 29 July 2014

Ancestor: **Abel Pennington**

Certificate #390

W. Ray **Isbell**

Issued: 29 July 2014

Ancestor: **John Short**

Certificate #389

Roy Bruce **Isbell**

Issued: 29 July 2014

Ancestor: **John Short**

Certificate #388

Carol Crane **Kitchens**

Issued: 26 June 2014

Ancestor: **Margaret Byrne & William Mcvoy**

AlaBenton Genealogical Society (ALABGS)

For the rest of the year, meetings will be held at 1:00 PM the first Saturday of the month in the Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library at the

corner of Wilmer & 10th Street, Anniston, Alabama.

In the September 6th meeting, Tom Mullins, Librarian, Genealogist/Historian, will share what he learned at the Samford Genealogy Institute.

The October 4th meeting will feature Veneta McKinney presenting "How to Read Old Handwriting." Both new and more experienced researchers can benefit from seeing the differences in handwriting during different eras.

The last meeting of the year, November 1st, promises to be especially helpful. Bob Davis, from Wallace State, who has contributed so much to genealogy with the articles and books he has written, will present "Writing a Local or Personal History."

For further information, please visit
<rootsweb.ancestry.com/~alabgs>

Autauga Genealogical Society (ALAGS)

Except when announced otherwise, meetings are held the third Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM, at 131 N. Washington Street behind the Primary School and across the street from Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Prattville, Alabama.

The September 21st meeting will feature Professor James S. Day of the University of Montevallo who will present "The Cahaba Coal Fields."

Catherine Evans Davies, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics at the University of Alabama, sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Foundation, will speak on "The Southern Accents of Jimmie Rodgers and Hank Williams" on October 19th.

For more information about the speakers, meetings and the society itself, visit
<rootsweb.ancestry.com/~alags>.

EDITOR NEEDED FOR AGS MAGAZINE

The Alabama Genealogical Society needs an editor for the Alabama Genealogical Society Magazine immediately. Our Publications Chair, Jyl Hardy, and our Webmaster, Jim Anderson, have been performing this task for the past three and half years, however they have resigned as interim editors as of December 2014. The magazine will not be published after this year unless someone, hopefully a member, will volunteer to perform this job. The editor will be responsible for obtaining, editing, and the layout of the magazine. The AGS Editorial Board will provide strong support to the editor by assisting in decisions on content as well as helping by promoting authorship among new members and previous contributors. Please send an email to me, with your qualifications and experience if you would like to be the editor of the AGS Magazine. Email address: president@algensoc.org
Yvonne Crumpler, President

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society (HGCS)

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month in the Huntsville main Public Library auditorium, 915 Monroe Street, Huntsville, Alabama, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

The September 15th meeting will include a presentation via DVD by John Phillip Colletta, Ph.D, a well-known genealogist who has participated in numerous seminars, as well as at the Institute of Genealogy and History (IGHR) at Samford University. His topics will be “The Genealogical Proof Standard” and “Assembling an Account of Your Discoveries.”

Ms. Marcy McKinley, a HGCS member, will present “On the Waters of Back Creek: Searching for the Old Home Place in Ranolph County, North Carolina” on October 20th.

And colonial cemeteries will be the subject of Ms. Candy Jones, also a HGCS member for the November 17th meeting, the last regular meeting of the year.

For further information about the programs and/or the society go to hgcsociety.org.

Northeast Alabama Genealogical Society (NEAGS)

The next NEAGS meeting will be Saturday, September 12th at 1:30 PM in the Nichols Library, 1 Cabot Avenue, Gadsden, Alabama. Unfortunately neither the speaker nor the topic was available at this time. Information will be available on the website neags.com.

Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society (TVGS)

The next meeting of TVGS will be 7:00 PM, October 23rd, at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, Huntsville, Alabama. Mike D. Wright, Marshall Space Flight Center Historian, will discuss the genealogy and early history of Wernher von Braun’s life. Go to tvgs.org for further information about this and upcoming events.

AROUND THE AREA

Muscogee Genealogical Society

The Muscogee Genealogical Society and the Columbus Public Library will be sponsoring an

all-day workshop on September 6, 2014, featuring widely-acclaimed genealogical speaker/blogger Judy Russell, a.k.a., the Legal Genealogist. The workshop will be held at the Columbus Public Library, 3000 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia, September 6th from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Topics to be covered are: “The First Trip To the Courthouse”; “Polls, Personality and Property”; “No Vitals? No Problem!”; and “Where there Is—or Isn’t--a Will.”

For more detailed information (including the registration form), please visit muscogeegenealogy.com or call 706 322-3175.

The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society (MTGS)

The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, The Tennessee Historical Society and The Brentwood Historic Commission present the 26th annual Genealogical Seminar Saturday, November 22nd, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Brentwood Library, Brentwood, Tennessee. The speaker will be Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FMGS, FUGA, an internationally recognized genealogical educator, researcher and consultant focusing on unusual resources, manuscripts, methodology, and analyzing records. The theme of her presentation will be *Transportation, Education, and Government Programs: Records for My Family Story*.

Her topics include “The WPA Era: What It Created for Genealogists,” “The Three Rs: Reading, ‘Riting, and Research in School Records,” “Railroad Records and Railroad History: Methods for Tracking,” and “Controlling Chaos: Organizing Genealogical Materials.” For further information and the registration form, go to mtgs.org and follow the links. Registration must be received by November 14th.

Tennessee Genealogical Society (TNGS)

Although the Germantown Festival (Saturday and Sunday September 6th and 7th) is not a genealogical event, it being held at the Germantown Civic Club Complex, 7745 Poplar

Pike, Memphis, Tennessee, which is right behind the Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center and the TNGS offices. TNGS will have a booth close to the center with give-a-ways, door prizes, and drawings. Everyone is invited.

TNGS is hosting *Beyond the Paper Trail: Finding Ancestral Origins and Distant Cousins via DNA Testing* at the TNGS Center from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM, Saturday, September 20th. The speaker is Bill Hickerson, who will give a general overview of the way he has learned to use the results of DNA testing to further his understanding of the subject as well as to connect with other family members. The program is free and open to the public. For more information contact the TNGS Center at (901) 754-4300.

TNGS will be holding its annual fall seminar Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM at the Pickering Center, 7771 Poplar Pike, Germantown, Tennessee. The speaker will be Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL (better known as “the Legal Genealogist). Her topics include “That First Trip to the Courthouse (What to Look for and What to Expect,” “From Blackstone to the Statutes at Large – How Knowing the Law Makes Us Better Genealogists,” “Dowered or Bound Out: Records of Widows and Orphans,” and “The ABC’s of DNA.” Box lunches and drinks will be provided with registration payment.

The conference flyer and registration form can be downloaded and registration can be done online. Go to <tngs.org> and follow the links.

West Florida Genealogical Society (WFGS)

WFGS will hold its regular meeting at 10:00 AM, September 6th, at the West Florida Genealogy Library, 5740 N 9th Avenue, Pensacola, Florida. Adam, from Laser Images in Pensacola, will present *Picasa*, a free application program available from Google. It allows the editing, organizing, and enhancing of genealogy photos without disturbing the original photograph. It also includes face recognition software which can assist in identifying unknown pictures. The program is available for

downloading and accessing prior to the meeting. Members and guests are welcome; refreshments will be available at 9:45 AM.

NATIONAL NEWS

Online USGS Historical Topographic Map Explorer

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) recently launched a GIS-based website that allows viewers access to more than 178,000 USGS maps, dating back to 1884. The maps can be searched by location and viewed over current maps.

See <historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/> and the article at <citylab.com/design/2014/07/track-a-century-of-us-development-with-a-new-tool-that-centralizes-old-maps/373788/> for more information about the project.

The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC)

The NMAAHC, FamilySearch, and the National Archives have joined forces to create an online, searchable database of former enslaved persons whose names appear in the Freedmen’s Bureau Records between 1865 and 1872. Volunteers are needed to index the records that will form the bulk of this database. Please visit <nmaahc.si.edu/GetInvolved/FreedmensBureau> to learn more about this exciting opportunity to contribute to the new museum in a significant way and build a body of knowledge about African American Family History.

**WEB SITES RELATED TO LINKS
MENTIONED IN THE NEWSLETTER CAN
BE EASILY ACCESSED AT:
www.algensoc.org/newslinks**

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