



Alabama Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 4 – WINTER 2014

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We come to the end of another year, a year of changes. I would like to thank all those who made the AGS Newsletter possible: Co-Editor Jim Anderson, who was instrumental in getting the printed newsletter ready for the printer and now is indispensable in getting the electronic version send-able and sent out to all of us; Sue Steele-Mahaffey, who has been doing a wonderful job proofreading; Carol Payne, who dealt with the printer and the post office; and of course, our fearless leaders Jyl Hardy and Yvonne Crumpler; as well as everyone who sent me information to include in the newsletter.

Again, I would like to extend an invitation to all Alabama societies to let me know whenever your group is having an event or working on a project. As long as I have the information by the 20th of February, May, August or November, I can include it in the appropriate newsletter. The spring issue would include events in March, April and May; the summer issue, June, July and August; the fall issue September, October and November; and the winter issue, December, January and February 2015. You can send your info to bjbriney@gmail.com.

I am looking forward to 2015.

Brenda Briney

Co-Editor
AGS Newsletter

AROUND THE STATE

Alabama Genealogical Society (AGS)

The AGS Fall Seminar was excellent. We received evaluations, which included some

**AGS welcomes the following
new members**

Betty Ogle **Barrett**, Biloxi MS
Shawna **Carter**, LaPorte TX
Tim **Carter**, LaPorte TX
Robert **Cason**, Montgomery AL
Paul David **Holmes**, South Holland IL
Nancy Newberry **Irvin**, Midland GA
Bonnie **Schlagel**, Setauket NY
Peggy **Wade**, Setauket NY

very helpful information. Among the pros were comments about the speaker, C. Ann Staley, her knowledge, presentation, and inclusion of handouts, which matched the information on the screen. She gave a good overall summary of general resources and techniques and included a lot of information and some good tips. Also included in the evaluations were some good ideas for future seminar topics. Among the cons were some fixable items (late coffee, not enough juice) and, unfortunately, an unfixable one (the table arms too small). The consensus was that the seminar was a good one.

We can now look forward to the next one, March 28, 2015, in the Brock auditorium, with Michael John Neill speaking. There will be more information coming on the website

<algensoc.org>

Alabama Genealogical Society
Samford University
Birmingham, AL 35229
ags@algensoc.com

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,
September and December.

Editors

Brenda Briney
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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Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH)

ADAH, in partnership with Alabama Public Television (APT), will host *Abbey at the Archives* on Thursday, December 11, 2014. Two preview screenings of the first hour of the new, season five premiere of *Downton Abbey* will be shown at 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. A special presentation of 1920s fashions from the Archives collection will precede each screening at 3:45 pm and 5:45 pm respectively. Period attire is encouraged. Refreshments will be served.

The event is free to the public, but a ticket to attend the event will be necessary as seating is very limited. Tickets for each showing will be available for pick-up only at the ADAH beginning Monday, December 1. They can be picked up in the Archive's Museum Store from 8:30 AM to 4:00 pm, Monday through Saturday. Tickets are limited to 4 per person.

The Museum of Alabama's new temporary exhibit, *Alabamians in the Great War*, opened to the public on Sunday, November 9, 2014. The exhibit is housed in the newly restored Alabama Treasures gallery on the second floor of ADAH. *Alabamians in the Great War* tells the story of Alabama's contributions to victory in World War I, the conflict that made the United States a leading global power. Artifacts from the museum's extensive holdings, including numerous recent acquisitions, are complemented by items on loan from private collections—many never before available for display. This exhibit is expected to be on display for the next several years as Alabama and the nation commemorate in 2017 the centennial of America's entry into the war. The Alabama Treasures gallery, where the exhibit will be located, has been restored to its original 1940s appearance, utilizing many of the museum's original display cases.

The Museum of Alabama offers 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 December 13th tour will be *Alabama's Civil War Soldiers* led by Bob Bradley, Chief Curator. This tour affords an opportunity to learn about Alabama during the Civil War and the life of a soldier. It will be followed by a period rifle firing demonstration. No pre-registration for tours is required.

The December 18th ArchiTreats noon presentation will be *The Slaves' Gamble for Freedom: Choosing Sides in the War of 1812* by Gene Allen Smith.

For further information on any of the above items, please call (334) 353-3312 or visit archives.alabama.gov.

The Friends of the Alabama Archives is sponsoring two \$1,000 Student Fellowships in 2015. The fellowships are available to senior-level or graduate students in an Alabama college or university or to Alabama residents in study at a school outside the state. They are intended to help offset expenses incurred while conducting research using the collections of the Alabama Department of Archives and History or while participating in a supervised internship at the Archives. A committee of the Friends Board of Directors will review the applications and make awards based on its evaluation of project significance and work plan feasibility.

For more information, contact Georgia Ann Conner at 334-353-3312 or georgiaann.conner@archives.alabama.gov.

Alabama Society SAR

The Cahaba-Coosa and Birmingham Chapters will jointly host the Annual ALSSAR Convention and the 125th Anniversary Celebration on February 20-21, 2015 at the Birmingham Marriott located at 3590 Grandview Parkway. Many exciting and entertaining events have been planned. Convention Registration may be paid by check or credit card. The keynote speaker at the Banquet on Saturday night will be NSSAR Secretary General Thomas E. Lawrence from the Texas Society. More info at www.alssar.org/events/

Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance (ACPA)

Any society interested in scheduling a Cemetery Preservation Workshop or lecture, or has an event for the ACPA Calendar or an article or news event, please contact the ACPA Secretary or Web Master by going to [\[cemetery-preservation.com/\]\(http://cemetery-preservation.com/\) and click on "Contact Us".](http://alabama-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Birmingham Public Library (BPL)

BPL has an online virtual library designed to be an overview of resources for selected Alabama counties <http://bplonline.org/virtual/>.

Although not exhaustive, they will give the researcher an idea of what sources to use when researching a particular county. This is a work in progress; it should be checked often, and anyone with suggested additions is requested to contact askgenlocal@bham.lib.al.us.

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)

IGHR has a new web address samford.libguides.com/ighr. This is important to remember because registration for IGHR 2015 will open at 10:00 am Tuesday, January 20, 2015. A link to the online registration will be provided on the "Registration" tab at that time. To prevent an overload of the online registration system, the opening of course registration will be staggered with different courses being opened each half-hour.

Every year, some courses fill up in a matter of minutes, so be sure to be wherever you have your fastest Internet connection at registration time. In the event that a course fills, links will be provided to online wait list forms.

The 2015 Institute begins at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, June 7th, and concludes at 12:00 p.m. Friday, June 12th.

Websites mentioned in this newsletter are listed and clickable on one page at www.algensoc.org/newslinks



Montgomery Genealogical Society (MGS)

MGS meetings are now held bi-monthly at 2:30 pm on the second Sunday of the month, and are located at the Figh-Pickett-Barnes House on the corner of Court and Mildred Streets in Montgomery.

The Sunday, December 14, 2014, program will be the “Antique Road Show.” The program will be presented by all members who would like to bring an item that has been in their family for a long period of time and share its story. Members who may not have an item to share may also tell stories they discovered about their family during research.

Admission is free and the meetings are open to the public. Refreshments will be served after the presentation.

North East Alabama Genealogical Society (NEAGS)

NEAGS is beginning to work on a book for the World War II Veterans of Etowah County. The forms will be at the Nichols Memorial Library for now and hopefully placed all around Etowah County. There is very little printed material on individuals that were in WWII and this book will honor those that protected our freedom.

Please contact Kathy Peoples Burttram at kpburttram@hotmail.com or phone 206-467 -6766 or Lynda Peach at idogenealogy@yahoo.com for more information. Forms can be mailed or emailed to interested parties. They are also available at the library.

Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society (TVGS)

TVGS will hold its regular membership meeting Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Huntsville-

Madison County Public Library. The program will be “*A Professional Historian Using Genealogical Tools and Practices... Gasp! : Conducting Research on the Nineteenth Century South*,” presented by Dr. John Kvach, Assistant Professor of History, University of Alabama, Huntsville, TN. Further information will be available on their website tvgs.org closer to the event.

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table (TVCWRT)

TVCWRT meets the second Thursday of every month except December at the Elk’s Lodge, 725 Franklin Street SE, in Huntsville, Alabama. A reasonably priced buffet style meal begins at 5:30 PM and our free program, at 6:30 PM. Organizational announcements precede the program that begins at 6:45 PM. Typically, the program will last an hour.

There is no meeting in December but TVCWRT has announced its tentative 2015 program schedule. January’s program is “Atlanta, Chancellorsville and Suffolk Corollary” presented by Brian Steele Wills. In February Steve Davis will present “Atlanta. What the Yankees Did to Us.” And Glenn LaFantasie of West Kentucky University will speak in March on William C. Oates and the trauma of Gettysburg. This is a tentative schedule and changes are possible. Any changes and more information will be available on the website tvcwrt.org at the link “Programs/ 2015 Programs.”

AROUND THE AREA

West Florida Genealogical Society (WFGS)

The last meeting of 2014 will be at 10:00 am December 6th. The speaker,

Jacquelyn Wilson, is a 4th generation Escambia County native. She has a BFA and an MA in History, both from the University of West Florida (UWF), and she is the archivist for the UWF Historic Trust Archives, 117 E. Government Street, a position she has held since 2007. No information is presently available for the 2015 meetings but it will be posted to the website rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flwfgs as it becomes available.

North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data

This free site nclandgrants.com contains searchable data for over 216,000 land grants issued by the state of North Carolina from 1663 to 1960, including around 12,000 grants issued for what is now Tennessee. Over 36,000 grants are linked directly to an image of the page in the corresponding Land Patent Book where the land description was recorded. For Mecklenburg County, over 5,000 grants are linked to over 28,000 high quality images of original warrants, surveys and other related documents.

Grants recorded in volumes 1-30 will link to an image of the page where the grant was recorded, which in almost all cases has the complete metes and bounds. Those who are unfamiliar with the land grant process for North Carolina and associated documents can click on "Resources." The website offers other helpful links.

NATIONAL NEWS

Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)

The FGS 2015 National Conference, *Connect.Explore.Refresh*, is a one-of-a-kind special family history event being held concurrently with Rootstech. The 2015 FGS Conference, being held in Salt Lake City, Utah, February 11th through the 14th, is a don't miss event! FGS and Rootstech will be sharing the same venue, each offering a diverse selection of presentations from leading genealogy experts and organizations. Plus, the world's largest collection of family history materials will be just minutes away. Registration is now open by going to fgs.org and clicking on "Conferences".

National Genealogical Society (NGS)

The Online Program and PDF Registration Brochure is now online for the NGS 2015 Family History Conference to be held May 13th through the 16th in St. Charles, Missouri. Registration for the conference will begin Monday, December 1st, 2014.

The theme of the thirty-seventh NGS Family History Conference is *Crossroads of America*. Some examples of the diverse program offerings include DNA, ethnic research, technology, immigration, military, migration, methodology, religion, and skill-building. For further information go to conferenceblog.ngsgenealogy.org

Membership renewals will be due in January, 2015 for those whose membership expires at the end of this year. We will be mailing letters to all members as a reminder. Your contact information will be included to review, confirm, or update.

A return envelope will be included for your convenience.

If you have questions about your membership please email membership@algensoc.org or drop a note to AGS, PO Box 293921, Birmingham, AL 35229