



# Alabama Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 29 NUMBER 1 – SPRING 2015

## AROUND THE STATE

### Alabama Genealogical Society (AGS)

REMINDER: The Spring Seminar will be held March 28, 2015, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM in the Beeson Business Building, Brock Forum Auditorium, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. Further information and the flyer are on the web at <[algensoc.org](http://algensoc.org)>.

AGS Welcomes the following new members  
(as of February 28, 2015)  
Rae Gibson **Beebe**, Indian Springs AL  
Jody **Benson**, Foley AL  
William **Calhoun**, Cropwell AL  
Anita Rene **Dillon**, Gardendale AL  
Lisa **Hullett**, Cullman AL  
John **Jones**, Foley AL  
Larry Dan **Jordan**, Mesquite TX  
Annette Kay **Kripchak**, Wetumpka AL  
True Ann **Lewis**, Brandenburg KY  
JB **McCrummen**, Rochester WA  
Charles **Mitchell**, Citrus Heights CA  
Mary K. **Prinz**, Homewood AL  
Becky Boyd **Scarborough**, Vestavia Hills AL  
Susan Kelley **Schofield**, Georgiana AL  
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### MEMBER NEWS

AGS member and LDS Missionary, *Pat Coleman*, reports that she will soon be going through extensive training to be one of those you might be talking to if you call the FamilySearch.org helpline. The USA number listed on their website is 1-866-406-1830.

AGS is looking for enthusiastic individuals who want to make a positive contribution in the genealogical community. Below are the areas where there are opportunities. The current president's term ends in December and a Nominating Committee is needed as soon as possible. There are also vacancies in several appointed offices: Historian, By-Laws Committee, and Finance

Committee. Anyone interested in any of the above opportunities, please contact Yvonne Crumpler at [president@algensoc.org](mailto:president@algensoc.org)

New First Family Certificate #392 issued to  
*Anita Reno Dillon* for Ancestor: *Smith Dawkins*  
Through lineage: RENO, SCHMIDT, BLIZZARD, DESKINS, GLADDEN, KENT

### AGS MAGAZINE GOOF

The AGS magazine editors are aware of at least one omission from the recently mailed Fall/Winter 2014 issue of the Table of Contents (TOC) of our magazines from 1967 forward. Please pencil in on page 27 (key 105) the following that was brought to our attention by AGS member and magazine contributor Dr. Gresham Farrar. His well documented article titled "Tying the Knot" with a focus on the family name "Crump", appeared in the Spring/Summer 2011 Magazine on page 15 (4 pages), key item 105. The county focus is St. Clair. There may be more omissions or corrections reported to us and we will provide them to you as an addendum and errata page to print and add to your paper copy. The full TOC will soon be available on our website.

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

**Website**

website: [www.algensoc.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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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*AGS is sad to announce :*

*Genie Blue Mathews Palmer, 92, a longtime resident of Birmingham and a member of AGS since 2000, died Sunday, January 18, 2015. She was a lifelong Girl Scout and volunteer, serving on the Board or Board Committees for over 50 years. She had served as Treasurer of the Business and Professional Women of Birmingham, had been a member of the American Businesswomen's Association, as well as serving on the Board for Gateway Services.*

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*AGS member Susan Parker Reed passed away at her home in Hoover on October 15, 2014. She was born in Florence, Alabama, on February 8, 1961 and grew up in Killen. She was a graduate of the University of North Alabama and had a long career with AT&T where she held a leadership position as Director – IT Account Management. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her husband, Richard Michael Reed, continues his membership in AGS.*

*AGS expresses condolences to the families of Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Reed.*

## **Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH)**

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Selma-to-Montgomery March and the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the ADAH introduced a new, temporary exhibit in its Milo B. Howard Auditorium on February 2, 2015. *“The Whole World Saw Your Pictures”*: *Spider Martin and the 1965 Voting Rights Campaign* is an exhibit of iconic photographs of the Selma-to-Montgomery March taken by Spider Martin in March of 1965. These images were seen around the world, drawing attention to the struggle for civil rights in Alabama and across the South. Public outcry over these stirring images helped to increase momentum towards the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In early 1965, photographer and Alabama native Spider Martin was dispatched by The Birmingham News to cover the events underway in Selma. Over the next few months, Martin chronicled the day-to-day events of the Selma campaign, from church rallies and strategy sessions to the marches themselves. Through his lens he captured the dramatic events of the “Bloody Sunday” march attempt on March 7, 1965, the second march attempt, and finally the 54-mile march from Selma to Montgomery ending at the State Capitol on March 25, 1965.

“These images captured by Spider Martin are among the most powerful in our historical consciousness,” said ADAH director Steve Murray. “They helped prompt the country to action in 1965, and today they offer a connection to one of the great turning points in Alabama and American history.”

The exhibit will be on display through September 8, 2015.

On Saturday, February 21, the public was invited to attend a free, open sewing session at the Archives. During this session, participants created 7” quilt blocks that will be sewn into large, narrative quilts that will be displayed in Selma and Montgomery in March and then later in Birmingham. The quilts will be displayed at the ADAH the week of March 23 – 28. This project is in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Selma-to-Montgomery March.

Located in downtown Montgomery across the street from the State Capitol, the ADAH serves as the state’s official government records repository, as a special collections library and research facility, and as the home of the Museum of Alabama. The ADAH and the Museum of Alabama are open Monday – Saturday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

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*ArchiTreats: Food for Thought* begins another year of exciting and interesting talks on Alabama history at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. The 2015 schedule offers a wide range of unique topics spanning centuries of Alabama history. Bring your lunch and join them at noon on the third Thursday of every month and learn something new about our state’s past! Admission is always free. Visit [archives.alabama.gov](http://archives.alabama.gov) and [museum.alabama.gov](http://museum.alabama.gov) to learn more. Find the ADAH on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @AlabamaArchives. Alabama.

### **Alabenton Genealogical Society (ALABGS)**

The ALABGS monthly meeting at 1:00 PM Sunday, March 7, will feature Tom Mullins and his “Virtual Tour of Edgemont Cemetery.” The meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of he

Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library on the corner of Wilmer and 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Anniston. The programs for April and May have not been finalized; please check their website ([rootsweb.ancestry.com/~alabgs](http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~alabgs)) for updates. There are no meetings in June, July or August.

### **Morgan County Genealogical Society (MCGS)**

Monthly meetings are generally held the first Sunday of the month (dates may vary due to holidays) at 2:00 PM, on the 3rd floor of the Morgan County Archives, located at 624 Bank Street, NE in Decatur. Confirmed speakers and topics for upcoming meetings are:

Apr 12 - John Bush (author) will share his new book *Patriots & Rebels*.

May 3 - Tim Troutman (National Weather Service) speaking on "Historical Weather Events in the Tennessee Valley."

Jun 7 - \*\* open \*\*

Jul 12 - Robert Parham (The Blue/Grey Museum) will share information about his Civil War Museum that is also located on Bank Street in Decatur.

### **Black Belt African American Genealogical & Historical Society (BBAAGHS)**

One of the current projects is the Black Belt of Alabama DNA Project, which is intended to use DNA as a tool for African Americans researching their central Alabama roots. Anyone who can trace his or her ancestry to Dallas, Marengo, Perry or Wilcox counties (or to areas that border these counties) in the period from about 1840 through 1880 is welcome to participate.

The Black Belt of Alabama project is co-sponsored by AfriGeneas.com, the premier African American genealogy

website.

Another activity is the Funeral Programs Project. Funeral Programs are important to African American genealogy because in many communities obituaries for Blacks weren't printed in mainstream newspapers. The Funeral Programs Project is a joint project with AfriGeneas.com that has a Death Records Database with over 15,000 obituaries and funeral programs. Please go to <[afrigeneas.com/drdb/](http://afrigeneas.com/drdb/)> for further information. There are currently 24,539 African American death records in the database.

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BBAAGHS is a Community Partner of the StoryCorps Griot Project. The society has the responsibility for scheduling interviews in the western Black Belt region. Interview sites will be Camden, Demopolis and Greensboro. BBAAGHS is headquartered in Selma, Dallas County, Alabama. Go to <[storycorps.net/special-initiatives/griot](http://storycorps.net/special-initiatives/griot)> for more information.

### **The Gardendale Historical Society** Gardendale, Alabama:

A Grand Opening of the new Gardendale History Museum was held on January 19 on Bell Street. The event, in conjunction with the society's 9th anniversary, included a ceremonial ribbon cutting with about 125 visitors attending. Many artifacts from Jugtown and Gardendale are represented plus photographs, books, files and the Burchfield Family Files.

The museum is open from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Thursday and Saturday and is available for tours anytime with a reservation. Call Kermit Dooley at 205-631-5662; Mary Taylor at 205-631-3079

or Patsy Duncan at 608-3375 for more information.

### **Institute Of Genealogy And Historical Research (IGHR)** Samford University Birmingham:

The 2015 Institute begins at 2:00 PM. Sunday, June 7th, and concludes at 12:00 PM Friday, June 12th. Wait lists have been established for *Intermediate Genealogy & Historical Studies* (#2), *Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis* (#3), and *Research in the South: The Colonies of the South* (#8).

According to the website, seats are available in all other courses. There have been several changes that will be effective with this institute. Please go to <[samford.v1.libguides.com/ighr](http://samford.v1.libguides.com/ighr)> for complete, up to date information on registration, costs, housing, courses and meals.

### **Northeast Alabama Genealogical Society (NEAGS)**

The NEAGS 2015 Ancestor Swap Meet will be held April 16, 17 and 18, 2015.

The Ancestor Swap Meet has been the main fundraiser for NEAGS since 1999. This year there will be three special events. Mark Lowe, a Certified Genealogist and a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker, will present a DNA workshop from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Gadsden Church of Christ, 1203 Piedmont Cutoff. He will also speak April 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM in the senior activity center at 623 Broad Street, in Gadsden.

There will be a "Salute to Veterans Dinner" with the Kings of Swing Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the historic Pitman Theater at 623 Broad Street. Since registration requirements

and prices differ for each of these events, please go to <neags.com> for complete information and a registration form.

NOTE: Any members living outside Etowah County willing to do lookups for society members in your local area for the cost of copies and mailing are requested to contact NEAGS at [neagslib@comcast.net](mailto:neagslib@comcast.net).

### **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. Usual attendance is over 100. A reasonably-priced buffet style meal begins at 5:30 PM and our free program at 6:30 PM. Upcoming programs include the following:

March 12, 2015: Glenn LaFantasie, WKY University. "Colonel William. C. Oates and the Trauma of Gettysburg"

April 9, 2015: A. Wilson Greene, Pamplin Historical Park, Petersburg, VA. "From Petersburg to Appomattox: The End of the Army of Northern Virginia, April 2-9, 1865"

May 14, 2015: Steven M. "Sam" Hood, Huntington, WVA. "John Bell Hood; The Rise, Fall, and Resurrection of a Confederate General"

June 11, 2015: Richard Bailey, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL. "Reconstruction in Alabama"

July 9, 2015: Jacque Reeves, Huntsville, AL. "David Todd: Mary Lincoln's Huntsville Brother"

Topic titles are subject to change. Watch the website (<tvcrwt.org/> for developments.

### **Wallace State University**

Hanceville, Alabama:

The Evelyn Burrow Museum's Travel Abroad program will return to Greece in May, 2015, for a nine-day trip that includes visits to Athens, Delphi, Patras, Olympia, Argolida, Epidaurus and Mycenea. Participants will enjoy guided tours of ancient ruins, temples, museums and take part in a pottery workshop. For information, call (256) 352-8118 or visit <wallacestate.edu/abroad>.

The following genealogy classes will be offered at Wallace State. All classes will be from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM Wednesday and Thursday in the basement of WSCC Library. They are continuing education classes and the fee for each is \$25.

March 4th and 5<sup>th</sup>  
*Southern Genealogy*

March 25th and 26<sup>th</sup>  
*Advanced Genealogy And Book Publishing*

April 8th and 9<sup>th</sup>  
*Civil War Era Genealogy*

For more information contact Mandi Perkins  
[mandi.perkins@wallacestate.edu](mailto:mandi.perkins@wallacestate.edu)  
Current phone number (256) 352-7826.

## **AROUND THE AREA**

### **Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society (MTGS)**

The MTGS regular meetings are held on Saturdays at 1:00 PM, at FiftyForward Knowles, Nashville, Tennessee.

The March 21, 2015, meeting will feature Trent Hanner, Senior Research Librarian at the Tennessee State Library

and Archives, will present “Getting the Most out of On-Line Genealogy Resources.” Trent will explain the partnerships the Tennessee State Library and Archives has established with Ancestry and FamilySearch to digitize thousands of records from that institution. In addition to these sites, he will also discuss Fold3 and other databases which are available for use in-house at TSLA.

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MTGS members are currently participating in the indexing of Tennessee county marriage records through the <FamilySearch.org> website, so that the records can become searchable online.

### **Tennessee Genealogical Society (TGS)**

Held at 7779 Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN, the program for March 14, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM will be presented by Gail Braddock, who will demonstrate the access and use of HeritageQuest Online, At the same location, Saturday, April 18, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM Joe Burns will present a workshop on Military Records Research, including methods for researching those that have fought for our country. Joe currently serves as President of the Tennessee Genealogical Society. This workshop is free and open to the public. No registration is required. For more information contact the TNGS office at (901) 754-4300 or go to <tngs.org/>.

### **West Florida Genealogical Society (FLWFGS)**

WFGS meets monthly at 10:00 AM in the West Florida Genealogy Library at 5740 N. 9th Avenue, Pensacola Florida.

The March 7th meeting will feature Amy Raley, who will discuss why researching migration patterns can be helpful in genealogy; the major migrations trails coming into our area from Georgia and the Carolinas; the history of those trails/roads; and how to use that information in your research today. Focus is on the The King's Highway, The Upper Road, The Fall Line Road, and The Federal Road.

April, May and June programs have not been finalized. For further details go to <rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flwfgs/>

### **NATIONAL NEWS Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)**

FGS is giving interested parties a chance to take their genealogy to new frontiers on the FGS 2015 Alaskan cruise. FGS conference attendees will set sail from Seattle, Washington, on August 28, 2015 for seven nights aboard Royal Caribbean's luxurious *Jewel of the Seas* in the Federation's maiden voyage of genealogy cruising. The ports of call will include Alaskan cities Juneau and Skagway and Victoria, British Columbia, and cruise goers will experience breathtaking views while cruising the Alaska Inside Passage and Tracy Arm Fjord. Speakers include Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA; Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL; David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA; and D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS.

Go to <fgs.org> for further information and registration information about a week of genealogy at sea.

## **National Genealogical Society (NGS)**

The National Genealogical Society 2015 Family History Conference will be held May 13th through 16th, 2015, in the St. Charles Convention Center, One Convention Center Plaza, St. Charles, Missouri. The convention center and all hotels offer free parking. Attendee registration is now open.

There is a lot of information on the NGS website about the upcoming conference. Some sessions that require pre-registration are already full. The website (<[ngsgenealogy.org/](http://ngsgenealogy.org/)>) has all that information plus registration and accommodation information.

There is also information about a new blog and a new digital publication *NGS Monthly*, which will feature a selection of original articles on genealogical methodology, research techniques, sources, and the latest news from NGS. Published mid-month starting after the February launch, *NGS Monthly* was created to replace the Society's older newsletter, *What's Happening*, with a new content and design strategy.

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If you are a 2014 member who has not renewed for 2015, AGS extends its member privileges through the month of March. Please renew so you will continue to receive our Magazine and email notifications of events as well as this Newsletter. If you have questions about membership, drop a note to us at our postal address or email <[membership@algensoc.org](mailto:membership@algensoc.org)> If you have renewed, *thanks* for your continued support of our society.