



Alabama Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER

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AGS NEWS

Alabama Genealogical Society

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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

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Email

news of meetings,
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newsletter@algensoc.org

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AGS Spring 2016 Seminar Announced

The Spring 2016 AGS Seminar will be held at Samford University on March 12th. The speaker will be George G. Morgan. George, an avid genealogist, is President of Aha! Seminars. He is the author of twelve landmark genealogy books and is also a national and international speaker at genealogical conferences. The topic for his presentation has not yet been announced. More information is posted on our web site at www.algensoc.org.

AGS Officers Elected

At the October 10th annual business meeting of the Society, held in conjunction with the Fall seminar, the proposed slate for Officers was elected for 2016-2017: President, Yvonne S. Crumpler; 1st Vice President, Caroline Horton; 2nd Vice President, Jim Anderson; Recording Secretary, Gail Pugh; Corresponding Secretary, Carol Payne; Treasurer, Bill Wallace.

AGS welcomes these new members:

Michael & Deborah **Boykin**; Northport AL
Jean S. **Bradley**; Montgomery AL
Patricia Neill **Dotson**; Billings MT
Michael David **Haynes**; Talladega AL
Charlene E. **Hudson-Ross***; Avondale AZ
Jennifer Schoel **Maier***; Columbiana AL
Judy **Parks**; Hueytown AL
Kay R. **Paul***; Grove Hill AL
Anne E. and Lucy M. **Rose**; Birmingham AL
Delise Hall **Sanders***; Hendersonville TN
Jana **Younger***; Owens Cross Roads AL

*pre-joined for 2016

Alabama Death Records

At the AGS Board meeting on September 11, a motion was passed to fund the purchase of 57 microfilm reels of Alabama Death Records needed to complete the collection of the Family History Center on Altadena Road in Birmingham. Dates on reels of microfilm missing are: 1967 - 9 reels; 1968 - 8 reels; 1969 - 6 reels; 1970 - 7 reels; 1971 - 8 reels; 1972 - 5 reels; 1973 - 8 reels; 1974 - 6 reels. This center is part of the Family History Library of the Church of the Latter Days Saints of Jesus Christ (LDS). Wallace Community College in Hanceville has a complete set of the microfilm.

The AGS Board will have it's 4th quarter meeting Friday, December 4th, 10:00 AM, at the Altadena Family History Center.

First Families of Alabama

These First Families of Alabama (FFA) certificates were issued since our last Newsletter. All certificates are listed on the web at <www.algensoc.org/main/firstfamilies.html>

Certificate #395 to *Barbara S. Daniels*

Ancestor: Elijah **Presnall**

Through lineage: DANIELS, STABLER, RAY, BOWLIN, DELOACH, PRESNALL

Certificate #396 to *Barbara S. Daniels*

Ancestor: James **Presnall**

Through lineage: DANIELS, STABLER, RAY, BOWLIN, DELOACH, PRESNALL

Certificate #397 to *Barbara S. Daniels*

Ancestor: Joseph **Morgan, Jr.**

Through lineage: DANIELS, STABLER, DANIEL, HATTON, GURLEY, MORGAN, SHEFFIELD

Certificate #398 to *Barbara S. Daniels*

Ancestor: George **Morgan**

Through lineage: DANIELS, STABLER, DANIEL, HATTON, GURLEY, MORGAN, SHEFFIELD

Certificate #399 to *Barbara S. Daniels*

Ancestor: Isam **Sheffield**

Through lineage: DANIELS, STABLER, DANIEL, HATTON, GURLEY, MORGAN, SHEFFIELD

Certificate #400 to *Linda Grainger James*

Ancestor: Lewis **Clapp**

Through lineage: GRAINGER, MARSH, WALKER, CLAPP, LANG, COTTON, LOY

Talladega Probate Records

Want some fun homework? AGS is planning a project to "re-index" images of the loose records of the Probate Court of Talladega County. Re-indexing means we will be reviewing and correcting an existing list of over 4,000 probate cases and adding a reference for locating digital photo-images of the documents of each case-file.

Loose Records are those original papers filed with the court including estates guardianships, apprenticeships, and others. These are some of the most important records one can find when searching for an ancestor. Following completion of the project these records will be added to our LRPW database which currently has over 57,000 case-files from 24 Alabama counties on the web at <www.lrp.algensoc.org>.

The re-indexing will be a work-at-home at your own pace project, with game-like point & click action, and will require almost no typing. Besides re-index volunteers, we are looking for a few "detectives" who are good with spreadsheets to solve problems and help track the project's progress. The project has already started with a few volunteer testers and will get going in full in 2016. Send an email of interest to Jim Anderson at <webmaster@algensoc.org> or drop a note to our Samford postal address.

OTHER NEWS

Alabama Genealogy & History Publications Project

Alabama 200, the name for activities planned in conjunction with the Alabama Bicentennial celebration, is developing a project to digitize publications and indexes of all genealogical and history organizations across the state. The Project would allow the content to be searchable by any name, person or place, and available to anyone with access to the Internet.

It is estimated that at least 100,000 pages of genealogical periodicals have been produced and hardly any of them are available digitally. This project's plan is to collect, scan, process them through optical character recognition (OCR), proofread, and make them available to thousands of Alabamians.

Volunteers will be needed for proofreading and indexing of the materials once they are digitized and run through OCR. The project is a partnership with Alabama Heritage [magazine] and the Alabama Department of Archives and History. For more information contact:

Donna Cox Baker,
Alabama Heritage
Box 870342
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
<donna.baker@ua.edu>

IGHR Has A New Home

Samford University Library and the Advisory Board of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) have announced the new host site for IGHR starting July 23-28, 2017.

IGHR will be moving to Georgia in 2017 from its home of more than 50 years at Samford University and the Samford University Library. Samford has grown immensely, and demands on its space and staff can no longer accommodate the week-long, intensive series of courses according to the announcement posted on the Samford IGHR web site.

Georgia Genealogical Society, Inc. was chosen to be the organization to carry forward the tradition of excellence in genealogical education. The Institute will move to Athens, Georgia and the Georgia Center for Continuing Education (GCCE) in July of 2017.

GCCE is on the campus of the University of Georgia and will provide IGHR participants and faculty with a self-contained facility with classrooms, hotel, and food under one roof.

Georgia Genealogical Society, Inc., was founded in 1964, with its first stated objective being "to raise the standards of genealogical research over the State through educational programs, workshops and the publication of genealogical data." This statement makes it clear that the missions of IGHR and GGS are closely aligned, said Susan Sloan, President of GGS.

Want to be published? Our *AGS Magazine* needs articles. Have an interesting family history? Know of some old church records that need transcribing? Send your idea (or a finished article) to Carl Dykes, editor at <magazine@algenoc.org>.

TVGS Announces Spring Seminar

The Fall issue of *Valley Leaves*, published by the Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society, announced that Judy Russell will be the speaker at their Spring Seminar, April 2, 2016.

Judy is well known as the "Legal Genealogist" and is a Certified Genealogist (CG) and Certified Genealogical Lecturer (CGL). She earned a BA in journalism and a law degree from Rutgers. She serves on the faculty at IGHR, at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), and at Boston University's Center for Professional Education

Topics for the seminar are:

- Building a Family from Circumstantial Evidence
- Widows and Orphans Under the Law
- Using Court Records to Tell Family Stories
- Where There Is, or Isn't a Will

For more information visit the TVGS web site at <www.tvgs.org>.

Historical Records Grant Recipients For 2015

On September 24, the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) awarded \$35,500 in re-grants to local governments or other local historical entities. Nineteen applications out of 24 received full or partial funding. Funds for the awards were provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) State Board Programming Grant. AGS member Liz Wells represents our society on the sixteen member Board. Here is a description of the projects funded:

Autauga County Heritage Association. \$5,080 to rehouse and preserve historical records (including documents, photographs, and engineering drawings) from the Daniel Pratt Cotton Gin Company site. Grant funds will cover archival supplies and environmental improvements to the Prattaugan Museum, which will house the records.

Birmingham Black Radio Museum. \$2,500 to preserve and access oral history recordings, photo-graphs, phonographic records, and other memorabilia documenting the impact of Birmingham black radio on the Civil Rights Movement. The award will fund purchasing equipment and software to create a website that will make catalogued and digitized records publicly available.

Cherokee County Historical Museum. \$2,577 to organize, rehouse, and preserve historic Cherokee County probate and circuit court records held by the museum, as well as other historical collections. Grant funds will cover archival supplies and shelving.

Chestnut Creek Heritage Chapel. \$1,008 to purchase an air conditioner, data logger, and archival boxes and folders to preserve the historical records of Chestnut Creek Baptist Church. A room in this historic Chilton County church building is being renovated as an archive.

Cobb Memorial Archives (Chambers County Public Library). \$500 toward the purchase of archival supplies for acquiring, cataloging, and preserving the records of Valley, Alabama's civic clubs. Valley is the site of four historic textile mills.

Collinsville Historical Association, Inc. \$1,331 to purchase window tinting film and archival supplies to assist in preserving historical family papers; photographs; military memorabilia; and school, business, church, and cemetery records associated with the Town of Collinsville.

DeKalb County Genealogical Society. \$2,074 to purchase computers, shelving, and archival supplies, thereby assisting the society's ongoing work of rehousing, cataloging, and preserving historical DeKalb County probate and circuit court records.

Elmore County Historical Society. \$1,506 for a dehumidifier, environmental monitor, and flat file cabinet. The society requested these items to improve storage and environmental conditions in its historical museum.

Historic Mobile Preservation Society. \$2,149 to purchase a large-format scanner for digitizing the Minnie Mitchell Archives' map and photograph collection. After scanning, the

society intends to place these collections on a website.

Judson College Archives. \$2,586 for paying a consultant to provide on-site training for the archives' staff. The grant will also enable staff to take a distance-learning "Basics of Archives" course offered by the Council of State Archivists.

Marengo County History and Archive Museum. \$2,100 to fund a consultant to conduct preservation needs assessment of the museum and its collections. Grant funds will cover the consultant's fee, plus lodging and travel costs.

Montgomery County Landmarks Foundation. \$2,398 to inventory, catalog, rehouse, and preserve historical documents, photographs, maps, and publications at Montgomery's "Old Alabama Town." Grant funds will pay for a consultant to train Landmarks staff, and for purchasing a dedicated computer and printer/scanner.

Northeast Alabama Community College. \$2,250 to cover vendor's fees for digitizing taped, oral history interviews. The tapes were used as source materials by Dr. Ronald H. Dykes in publishing four books about Jackson County residents' experiences in the Great Depression and America's 20th-century wars.

Oxford Public Library. \$2,000 to fund the purchase of archival supplies to be employed in a project to rehouse, catalog, and scan historical collections in the library's Oxford Room. The collections include city records, photographs, private documents, and newspapers.

City of Prichard. \$1,350 to continue its ongoing project to collect, organize, rehouse, and catalog public and private records of historical Prichard communities. Grant funds will pay a consultant to oversee the project and will purchase archival supplies.

Springville Preservation Society. \$773 to assist in tinting windows, and in purchasing shelving and archival supplies, to renovate the society's historical museum. Its holdings include rare books, original photographs and newspapers, school and church records, scrapbooks, business ledgers, and family history materials.

Stockton Heritage Association. \$1,008 to purchase a security system and archival supplies for the 1894 building the association has renovated as an historical museum. Its current holdings include documents, photographs, and artifacts collected by Baldwin County historian Davida Hastie.

Talisi Historic Preservation Society. \$700 to purchase a flat file cabinet for the society's collection of photographs and blueprints, which includes original Frank Lockwood blueprints of an early Tallassee school.

Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society. \$1,610 to purchase computers, external hard drives, and a scanner for digitizing bound records and divorce case files. This grant continues the society's decade-long project to rehouse, catalog, and make accessible historical Tuscaloosa County circuit court and probate records.

For more information on the SHRAB's historical records grant program, contact Tracey Berezansky, Deputy SHRAB Director, at (334) 242-4452 or <tracey.berezansky@archives.alabama.gov>.

REMEMBER

Membership renewals will be due for those whose membership expires at the end of 2015. If you have not already renewed you will receive a reminder in January. If you have questions about your membership please email <membership@algensoc.org> or drop a note to:

AGS Membership, PO Box 293921, Birmingham, Al 35229

Dues are payable in the month of January. If dues are not received by the last day of March the member is considered inactive and will receive no further benefits of membership. An inactive member can renew at any time under the same provisions of joining as a new member. – from the published Membership Policy on the web.