



Alabama Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 2 - SUMMER 2016

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

is published quarterly
near the first of March,
June, September and
December.

Email

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

The Alabama Genealogical Society, Inc. is the publisher of this Newsletter and reserves the right to select and edit material submitted to us for publication.

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AGS welcomes these new members:

Michael Blackmore	Cambridge MA
Patti Brooks	San Antonio TX
Dale L. Dawson	Huntsville AL
Joyce Llanell Dillard	Irondale AL
Susan Field	Huntsville AL
Michael Hullett	Cullman AL
Katherine Scheuerman	Palm City FL
Betty Thompson	Stone Mountain GA

AGS Board Business - Dues increase

The Alabama Genealogical Society Board in its regular meeting on March 3, 2016 voted to increase dues for individual and family members for the 2017 membership (calendar) year to \$30.00 and \$35.00 respectively

To ease the change, all members who renew their membership on or before December 31, 2016, or who have paid for years beyond 2016 will continue at the current dues rate until their next renewal period. Anyone whose new membership application or renewal was sent on or after January 1, 2017, will be subject to the new dues rate.

If you want to keep the current dues rate for year 2017 or beyond, please consider renewing for extra years, and do it before January 1, 2017.

Re-Indexing Complete

An AGS project to re-index an original index to the **Talladega County Loose Papers** project has been completed by members and non-members of AGS. Re-indexing added critical reference data that aids in locating a specific person's estate images on *Family Search* or on computers at the county's probate office. It will enable AGS to add more than 5,000 records to our own online database in the near future.

AGS Member Makes National News

Congratulations are in order on the election of our society's own **Benjamin Spratling** as President of the *National Genealogical Society*. His two-year term begins in October 2016.

Ben, a past president of AGS and a regular faculty member of the *International Genealogical and Historical Institute (IGHR)*, is a Birmingham attorney with the firm *Haskell Slaughter and Spratling*.

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 #405

Susan LeMarsh Field

Issued: 17 April 2016

Ancestor: Lewis Clapp

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

Certificate #404

Gresham T. Farrar, Jr.

Issued: 15 March 2016

Ancestor: Margaret (Stracener) Robertson

Through lineage: CHAPPELL, ABERCROMBIE, GODWIN, ROBERTSON, STRACENER

Certificate #403

Gresham T. Farrar, Jr.

Issued: 15 March 2016

Ancestor: Elizabeth (Brashear) Stracener

Through lineage: CHAPPELL, ABERCROMBIE, GODWIN, ROBERTSON, STRACENER, BRASHEAR

Certificate #402

Gresham T. Farrar, Jr.

Issued: 15 March 2016

Ancestor: Michael Stracener

Through lineage: CHAPPELL, ABERCROMBIE, GODWIN, ROBERTSON, STRACENER, BRASHEAR

IN MEMORIUM

Frances Smith AGS member from 2000 died October, 2015.

AROUND THE STATE

Collection Donated

Michael E. Gewin of Mobile donated a genealogy collection focused on the Gewins of **Greene** and **Hale** Counties to the *Black Belt Archives* of the *University of West Alabama's Division of Economic Development and Outreach*. (DEDC)

"The Gewin family played a significant role in the establishment of Greene and Hale counties, and even in Colonial America," said **Dr. Tina Jones**, Executive Director DEDC. "This collection represents a tremendous amount of hard work on behalf of the family and is a wonderful resource for ... genealogists with Alabama Black Belt connections."

Contact the archivist, **Amy Christiansen** at (205) 652-3655 or achristiansen@uwa.edu for more information. A finding aid for the Gewin Collection will be made available on the Black Belt Archives website <http://centerforblackbelt.org/units/black-belt-archives-2/>.

TGS Project Moves

With the help of many volunteers the **Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society's** Historical Records Preservation Office was successfully moved from space donated by Alabama

Credit Union to offices donated by *Angel Flight Soars* located in the terminal of the Tuscaloosa Regional Airport.

Jan Hutchison, the project coordinator, praised Probate Judge **Hardy McCollum** for providing archival folders and boxes in preparation to transporting fragile papers and for sending a crew of movers to carry the equipment and over 500 large 19th century court books and 30 plus boxes of loose records to the airport location and to the county storage facility.

TGS has been working for the past eight years to preserve records that sat unorganized and neglected in the Tuscaloosa County Courthouse for decades. Volunteers have been working to restore, photograph and index the pages from hundreds of bound books and boxes of loose records. and has digitized ninety-two books this year. Thirty-seven books covering the period between 1822 and 1829 have been indexed. All indexes and book images will be available online when the project is complete.

EVENTS

Cemetery Walking Tour

Take a walk on Saturday, June 4, from 10 am - 11 pm at the **Old Cahawba** Archaeological Park, Orrville (near Selma).

The decaying ruins of Old Cahawba's historic cemeteries provide an opportunity for a deeper understanding of the richly layered history surrounding the events that occurred at the site of Alabama's first capital. Take a one-hour guided tour of the New Cemetery, established in 1851. This tour will explore the personal sagas of many of those who lived there before joining its community of perpetual residents. Fee: \$8.00 per person.

For more information contact Jonathan Matthews at cahawbam@bellsouth.net or call the park at 334-872-8058.

Digitizing for the future

The Panhandle Library Access Network (PLAN) announces a Digitization Conference August 18-19, 2016. The event will be held at Florida State University's Panama City campus. If your library or organization is involved with digitizing or planning the digitization of historical records, photos, audios, or moving images, this conference will provide both basic and advanced learning opportunities. A full day pre-conference entitled Digitization 101 will also be offered on August 17.

For more information visit <http://plan.lib.fl.us/digitization-conference>.

AGS is happy to publish events and news of societies in Alabama if timely notice is sent by email to newsletter@algensoc.org. We reserve the right to edit submissions to best fit the content of the Newsletter.