



Alabama Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 4 - Winter 2016

Alabama Genealogical Society

PO Box 293921
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.

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.

© 2016

Spring 2017 Seminar Date Set

The annual AGS Spring Seminar is scheduled for March 25, 2017 at Samford University. The speaker will be **Diane L Giannini**, whose bio can be found on the Seminars section of our AGS web site. Topics will be announced when registration opens at a later date. Those wanting advance notice may send an email to <ags@algensoc.org>.

Board Approves Project

An AGS Board and Executive Committee meeting was held December 1, 2016 at the Family History Center, Altadena Rd. Birmingham.

Among items discussed was an expansion and enhancement to the *Loose Records Project Web Index* site <www.lrp.algensoc.org> which currently maintains a searchable database of over 57,000 names from case-files in twenty four Alabama counties. The project seeks to provide a "one stop" location to discover an ancestor's presence in Alabama between the earliest years and a cut-off date of 1950. The site is a companion to a statewide project to film or digitally photograph the case-file papers in the probate courts.

Jim Anderson, AGS Webmaster, requested funding to expand the number of counties to 36 in the database while adding some 43,000 searchable records. Ultimately the index could expand to 55 counties by adding 19 more that were known to have participated in the microfilming project if the society can find volunteers to locate missing index files or create indexes from identified sources. Enhancements to the site will include the ability to track a found record to images published on the FamilySearch web site.

Counties initially to be added are: *Autauga, Blount, Elmore, Etowah, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Perry, St Clair, Talladega, Crenshaw, and Winston*. Persons who have a research interest in those counties can send an email to <webmaster@algensoc.org> for notifications as the project progresses.

Did you know? Loose Probate Records are some of the most valuable resources for a family history researcher. They document the estates of those who died with or without a will and they identify heirs, property locations, and the disposition of real estate and chattels. They are also the most fragile of historic materials in a courthouse and are often discarded when storage becomes scarce. The Loose Records Project (LRP) of Alabama (1999-2013) has saved many such documents from decay or destruction.

Member News

**AGS welcomes these new members
(including those pre-joining for 2017)**

Nancy J. Bailey	Mineola TX
Laurel Wheeling Farrar	Prattville AL
Robert Keith Farrar	Prattville AL
Margaret Wynn Fox	Happy Valley OR
Betty Harrison Hall	Gulfport MS
Martha J. Ivey	Birmingham AL
Karen Hodges Johnson	Orlando FL
Katherine Bliss Joyner Kaye	Annapolis MD
Sandy Lewis	Thompson Station TN
Keaton Manners	Ragland AL
Mindy Manners	Ragland AL
Deborah WestBrook Marsh	Jacksonville NC
Teri Elisa Lancaster McLemore	Gainstown AL
Charles Ray McLemore Sr.	Gainstown AL
Dot Moore	Montgomery AL
Howard D. Poarch	Hoover AL

Three **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 #409

Delise Hall Sanders

Issued: 12 November 2016

Ancestor: **John Johnston**

Through lineage: HALL, HARRISON, FOSTER, JOHNSTON, MIDDLETON, WIGGINS, CATO

Certificate #408

Katherine Bliss Joyner Kaye

Issued: 12 November 2016

Ancestor: **William M. Duncan**

Through lineage: JOYNER, BEANE, BIAS, ROWLAND, DUNCAN, BLACKWELL, HORTON

Certificate #407

Howard D. Poarch

Issued: 8 October 2016

Ancestor: **Isaac Criner**

Through lineage: HURST, TERRY, SCOTT, CRINER, MCCAIN

AGS is seeking a NEWSLETTER EDITOR to continue our tradition of publishing news of our society's activities, projects, and members. A journalism degree is not required but experience in gathering news and basic page-layout is desirable.

If interested please send an email to president@algensoc.org.