



Alabama Genealogical Society NEWSLETTER

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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.

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Email

news of meetings,
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newsletter@algensoc.org

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SOCIETY NEWS

AGS Magazines on line

A joint project between the Alabama Dept. of Archives, Alabama Heritage, and AGS now makes available on line past issues of our Magazine from 1967 to 2010. The project also included an invitation for other societies in Alabama to submit their past publications for scanning and publishing on the Archives site. Plans include using OCR technology to eventually make the images text searchable.

The project was developed as part of the activities of the Alabama Bicentennial Commission leading up to the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Alabama's Statehood. To simplify access we have included a direct link on our web site. Go to: www.algensoc.org/main/publications.html and click on the link "AGS Magazines on the Web".

Probate Records at Talladega County

As far as we know, Talladega is the only Alabama county that has a system set up for *free-to-the-public* use to view images of their historic Probate Court case-file paper records. Talladega was one of the counties taking part in the Alabama "Loose Records Project" which preceded the "National Historic Probate Project." www.statearchivists.wordpress.com/2013/01/28/

A contact at the Ala. Dept. of Archives & History noted that *all 54* participating Alabama counties were offered the option to receive their images on a disk drive, but it was *only Talladega* that made it known to AGS that they received their image collection. The drive stored over 4,700 case-files from a collection of 237,742 imaged documents. As a result an AGS member and programmer created a user friendly search-and-view system to access the images. The system was set up in the Probate Office and personnel completed their training on January 24th.

Although the Talladega LRP images are available on *FamilySearch.org* and *Ancestry.com*, those sites lack an all name searchable index.

The AGS webmaster, points out that AGS will assist other counties who have received their image file collection with ways to use them. "All they need to do is ask ... like Talladega did."

Member News

AGS WELCOMES THESE NEW MEMBERS

Joyce Rush Bradley	Indianola MS
William E. Daniel Jr.	Pelham AL
Patricia Bryant Hartley	Florence AL
Beverly Burnett Howard	Alexander City AL
Jessica Howe	Cullman AL
Kimberly Martin Johnson	Scottsboro AL
Jennifer C. Romano	Williamsburg VA
Elaine Lee Thompson	Fairhope AL
Don L. Williams	Columbus GA

These **First Families of Alabama** (FFA) certificates were issued since our last Newsletter.

<p>Certificate #410 James Gaston Lowery, II Issued: 9 January 2017 Ancestor: Isaac M. Johnson Through lineage: LOWERY, SHIRLEY, JOHNSON, GOODWIN, HARLESS, FROST, MASSEY</p>	<p>Certificate #411 Lynda Thrower Lowery Issued: 9 January 2017 Ancestor: Edward Beeson/Beason Through lineage: THROWER, HOWLE, BEASON, TURNER, COOPER, KEY, PENNINGTON</p>
<p>Certificate #412 Karen Hodges Johnson Issued: 13 January 2017 Ancestor: William Lewis Allison Through lineage: HODGES, ALLISON, ROSS, MILLS, CHAMBLISS, CRISS</p>	<p>Certificate #413 Jason William Powell Issued: 13 January 2017 Ancestor: William Lewis Allison Through lineage: HODGES, ALLISON, ROSS, MILLS, CHAMBLISS, CRISS</p>
<p>Certificate #414 Sally Hellums Woolley Issued: 28 January 2017 Ancestor: David Murphree Through lineage: HELLUMS, SANDERS, CLARK, MURPHREE</p>	<p>Certificate #415 Betty Jean Purcell Jarrell Issued: 6 February 2017 Ancestor: Job Callaway Through lineage: PURCELL, BOND, MAY, MIMMS, ARLEDGE, CALLAWAY, MILNER</p>
<p>Certificate #416 Kimberly Martin Johnson Issued: 7 February 2017 Ancestor: Robert Higginbotham Through lineage: MARTIN, HALE, GAMBLE, BOLING, HIGGINBOTHAM</p>	<p>All certificates are listed on the web at <www.algensoc.org/main/firstfamilies.html>.</p>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Useful Records in Overcoming the Challenges of African-American Genealogical Research

March 11, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

The Levi Watkins Learning Center (LWLC) and the National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture, Alabama State University, Montgomery

There are many essential records and a mixture of procedures to follow with African-American family research. In recent decades, researchers have gained knowledge of ways to overcome the barriers to finding segregated records. It is the intent of this workshop to assist with this research. Join Alabama State University's Archivist and expert Genealogist, **Frazine Taylor**, during this workshop to learn how to locate available resources useful for researching your African – American family records. Details at: <www.lib.alasu.edu/lib-media/genealogyworkshop_2017.pdf> or call 334-229-4106

AGS Spring 2017 Seminar

March 25, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Alabama Genealogical Society

Beeson Business Building, Samford University, Birmingham

The speaker will be Diane L Giannini. Pre-registration closes *March 17*.

Topics and registration: <www.algensoc.org/main/seminars.html>.

NEAGS Spring 2017 Seminar

March 25, 8:30 am– 3:00 pm

North East Alabama Genealogical Society

Senior Activity Center, 623 Broad Street (Rear Entrance), Gadsden,

The speaker will be **Robert “Bob” Davis**. Topics and registration: <www.neags.com/>

Homes of the River's Bend Tour

March 25, 10 am - 4 pm

Wilcox Historical Society

The tour will feature the Canton Bend/Possum Bend/Sedan area of historic homes and churches with particular emphasis on the Tait family, whose homes are still so important to Wilcox County. Homes on the tour are Dry Fork, White Columns, Liberty Hall, Yaupon and River Bluff. Canton Bend Methodist Church, Wilcox Female Institute and the Beck-Miller-Bonner Law Office will also be on tour. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and will be on sale at Black Belt Treasures and the Ferry Terminal. Group discounts are available for advance ticket sales. Call 334-682-4929 for details.

TVGS 2017 Spring Seminar

April 22 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society

Marriott's SpringHill Suites, Huntsville

Presenters are Charles A. Sherrill and Gordon T. Belt. Charles is State Librarian and Archivist of Tennessee; Gordon is the Director of Public Services for the Tennessee State Library & Archives. Registration is \$40.00 and includes lunch. Topics and registration form: <www.tvgs.org>.

16th Annual Cemetery Preservation Workshop & Membership Meeting,

May 13, 8:30 am - ?

Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance

Main Library, Auburn University, Auburn

Registration at 8:30 a.m. in the classroom next to the Special Collections Department. The program will start at 9:00. The workshop will relocate after lunch to the historic Pine Hill Cemetery a few blocks east on Armstrong Street. Details: <www.alabama-cemetery-preservation.com/>

DID YOU KNOW?

The *National Historical Publications & Records Commission* (NHPRC) funds grants for record preservation projects and publishes the recipient's name, project description and amount for each state. (www.archives.gov/nhprc/projects)

It is interesting to see what types of projects are eligible. At the site one can read about each state's funded projects and how the project was used to further the purposes of records discovery and preservation. Clearly such project types fit into the preamble of the AGS mission statement on our web site...

"... to assist and support the research of its members by finding, safeguarding, preserving, and publishing records pertaining to Alabama families and their history..."

Here are the cumulative amounts (from 1976 to present) of these grants for Alabama and each of our bordering states. Below shows these amounts in order and by percentage of the total for all five.

Georgia	\$2,903,273	30.12%
Florida	\$2,155,573	22.36%
Tennessee	\$2,122,194	22.01%
Alabama	\$1,343,565	13.94%
Mississippi	\$1,115,664	11.57%

The *Alabama Historical Records Advisory Board* which, by state law, manages the distribution of Alabama's share of annual NHPRC grants funds (called re-grants). AGS is represented on the Board. Successful re-grant applications for funds from NHPRC have depended in large part on the efforts of Tom Turley and Tracey Berezansky of the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Both retired in 2016.

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." – Mark Twain