



# Heritage Newsletter

January 2006

## California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 1  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian  
Marjorie Sholes – Former President

### Committee Chairs

Marietta Sue Welch – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Open – Special Events  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## President's Message

Marjorie Sholes

The year 2005 is behind us and we have a changing of the guards. Congratulations to our new president Ronald Higgins. It was a very close race. The new officers will be installed at the January meeting.

We have had a very busy year and the society continues to grow. We have lost some members but we continue to gain new members. We have had a few successful fund raising activities that include a stay at home tea, a trip to the tamale festival and a raffle for accommodations in Salt Lake City. The membership drive is on, so if you have not renewed your membership you have until March to remain on our mailing list. Don't miss out on getting your newsletter, please renew now.

We will celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and there are several projects we hope to complete - the society members ancestral charts, a book is in the final phase and will be ready for publication, a new edition of "Jus Vittles," our cookbook will be published and a research trip to Salt Lake City in March are a few of the things we are looking forward to this year.

In January, we will have Nancy Carlberg as our guest speaker who will give a presentation on resources in the Family History Library. In February, we will have the president of FGS Wendy Elliot who will speak on planning a research trip. Even if you are not going to Salt Lake City you will gain some valuable information on researching at both of these meetings.

The newsletter editor is hard at work putting together an excellent newsletter but can only continue with your support by submitting articles or queries. The slave

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to CAAGS@hotmail.com or submit them on computer disk to the editor.*

research column is generating a real interest. At the Jamboree last year there were several attendees who stated they did not have African American in their families but they had some documents where slaves were mentioned. They were asked to share those documents, which we are publishing in a monthly column. Hopefully they will be of help to other African Americans.

Thank you so much for your support during my tenure as your president.

### 2006 Calendar of Events

#### Jan 21

CAAGS general meeting 10am - Installation of officers; Nancy Carlberg guest speaker, resources in the Family History Library

#### February 3

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### February 18

CAAGS general meeting 10am - FGS President Wendy Elliot guest speaker on planning a research trip

#### February 25

Discover Your Roots IV: Special African American Family History/Genealogy Conference, Guest Speaker: Rev. Chip Murray, 9am to 4pm; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3115 South Vermont Ave., Los Angeles 90007; \$20 pre registration, \$25 at door

#### March 3

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### March 5-12

CAAGS Research Trip – Family History Center, Salt Lake City, UT

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

### Websites of Interest

National Archives Microfilm Rental Program, a private company but on the National Archives web site <http://www.archives.gov/research/order/renting-microfilm.html>. You can rent from them as an individual or through your local public library if it is a member of the program. They rent U.S. census and soundex records and selected Revolutionary War records.

Consider joining other societies or private libraries. For info visit <http://www.godfrey.org>.

### Welcome New Members

New email Cartellia Bryant - [hunter.cummings@gmail.com](mailto:hunter.cummings@gmail.com)

### Congratulations to Lulla Denison on winning our raffle for hotel accommodations to Salt Lake City.

#### CAAGS 2006 Election Results

<b>President</b>	<b>Second Vice President</b>
Ronald Higgins – 33	Barbara Thomas - 43
Ronald Batiste – 11	
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	<b>Parliamentarian</b>
Melrose Bell – 43	Marjorie Sholes - 36
Harris – 1 (write in)	Weaver – 1 (write in)
<b>NGS Delegate</b>	<b>FGS Delegate</b>
Charlotte Bocage – 22	Ronald Batiste - 18
Marjorie Sholes – 21	Colette DeVerge - 24

#### From Ronald Higgins - 2006 President Elect

My sincere thanks to everyone for your vote of support in the December election. It is an honor to serve as your president. As a charter member, it is my desire to see our society grow and meet the needs of our people. One of my goals is to strive for all of us to work to build a better society. I encourage each of you, no matter how long you have been a member, to get more involved in our society. We need you to step up and be available to assist CAAGS with your talents and time.

The month of March marks our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We plan to celebrate with a research trip to Salt Lake City that month. We'll let you know about other special events during the year.

Meanwhile, please mark your calendar for the 2006 Roots Conference in Los Angeles on February 25<sup>th</sup>. I hope you begin now to make preparations to attend this event.

I look forward to seeing everyone at January's general meeting and installation ceremonies.

#### Genealogy's 'Alphabet Soup' - A Consumer's Guide to Credentials

by Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA

You see them after a lot of names in genealogy. Sitting there in all-caps--sometimes a whole string of them--after the name of a writer or a researcher or a lecturer, they definitely command attention. But what do they mean? If you need research help in a certain area and find someone with impressive "letters" after their name, are you a savvy consumer? Do you know whether those letters represent expertise or whether you're about to be hoodwinked?

The acronyms we typically see in genealogy come in five types:

- Earned genealogical credentials
- Honorifics from genealogical societies
- Educational degrees (rarely in genealogy)
- Credentials earned in other fields
- Abbreviations of everything under the sun, added to a name that imply that one has genealogical credentials.

### **Earned Credentials**

In the United States, two agencies certify or accredit genealogists after rigorous testing. Both were founded in 1964 as a cooperative effort by leaders of the genealogical field. The certification program conducted by the D.C.-based Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), [www.bgc certification.org](http://www.bgc certification.org), is a standards-based program that certifies researchers, writers, lecturers, and teachers across the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Those who carry BCG credentials have been tested on their knowledge of historical resources within their specialty; on their skill at evaluating and interpreting evidence; and on their ability to resolve genealogical problems. They are also required to undergo renewal testing at five-year intervals to retain their credentials.

The accreditation program, founded by Salt Lake City's Family History Library to test researchers on their knowledge of FHL holdings, has been operated since 2000 by the Salt Lake-based International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen), [www.icapgen.org](http://www.icapgen.org). Accredited Genealogists, who also undergo renewal testing every five years, are fairly evenly distributed between American specialists and other international specialists, although most are based in Utah.

Remembering the key words certification and accreditation can help you identify researchers who are credentialed by these organizations. Certification credentials begin with "C" while the accreditation credential (AG) begins with "A." Historically, BCG has offered certification in several research categories and two teaching categories, creating a series of "C" credentials, as follows:

- Research categories
  - CG (Certified Genealogist)
  - CGRS (Certified Genealogical Records Specialist)
  - CLS (Certified Lineage Specialist)
- Teaching categories:
  - CGL (Certified Genealogical Lecturer)
  - CGI (Certified Genealogical Instructor)

BCG has recently announced the upcoming consolidation of its three research categories into a single credential, CG, although individual genealogists will retain their specializations. That move to a single research credential should help to clarify genealogy's alphabet soup.

Outside the U.S., genealogists in several other nations have developed credentialing programs of their own. In Canada, the Genealogical Institute of the Maritimes offers credentials patterned somewhat after the BCG credentials although the testing process is significantly different. The Canadian credentials are distinguished by a parenthetical (C) at their end-i.e., CG (C) and CGRS (C).

### **Genealogy's Scholastic Honor Society**

One credential often seen in genealogy represents an intermediate step between tested credential and honorifics: FASG. Since 1940, the American Society of Genealogists has served as genealogy's scholastic honor society. As with scholastic honor societies in other disciplines, no one "applies" for membership. Fellows of ASG are tapped by the society for the quality and quantity of their published scholarship, and the ranks are at all times limited to 50 living fellows. FASG represents a "tested" credential in the sense that holders must publish extensively in peer-reviewed journals and their published interpretations and conclusions must have withstood further testing by the profession. Unlike fellows of other societies, no one is inducted into FASG for "service to the field" or for prominence achieved in ways other than published scholarship.

### **Other Honorifics**

Two of the other acronyms attached to my own name at the head of this column represent the typical "honorifics" given by "learned" societies in such fields as genealogy. FNGS stands for Fellow of the National Genealogical Society, while FUGA stands for Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Society. Both are honors bestowed by the societies. Those who are graced by a respected society in this manner use their honorifics with pride. However, honorifics are typically given for service to a society or widespread service to the field; and "service" is never synonymous with "tested expertise."

### **Educational Degrees**

Degree granting programs are still rare in genealogy. Within the U.S., Brigham Young University offers a standard four-year degree, a B.A. in Family History--Genealogy, <http://history.byu.edu/family/index.htm>. Vermont College of Union Institute and University, a

distance-learning program, offers a custom-designed B.A. or M.A. in Family History under the guidance of a Certified Genealogist with a Ph.D. in History, [www.tui.edu/prospective/lifelong/online/family](http://www.tui.edu/prospective/lifelong/online/family). The new Salt-Lake based Heritage Genealogical College offers a combination of onsite and online classes leading to two-year and four-year degrees (A.A. and B.A.), [www.knowyourheritage.org/Courses/courses.htm](http://www.knowyourheritage.org/Courses/courses.htm). The University of Toronto's two-year program that has attracted many U.S. students, [www.genealogicalstudies.com/](http://www.genealogicalstudies.com/), offers a Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies. While the PLCGS does not represent a "degree" from the University of Toronto, it has become a valued educational credential among practicing genealogists.

All education is worthy. However, to avoid misleading the public as to what an educational degree actually represents in terms of genealogical expertise, the Association of Professional Genealogists has adopted guidelines for the use of academic credentials <http://apgen.org/organization/policies/postnominals.html>. Under these guidelines, professional genealogists who use academic credentials from other fields in their resumes and advertisements should clearly indicate the field in which they hold that degree--e.g. B.A. (Mathematics); M.A. (Education); or Ph.D. (Physics). This policy also applies to those who hold honorary degrees, such as Sc.D. (Honorary Doctorate in Science), granted for contributions or service to an educational institution.

### **Non-Genealogical Credentials**

Genealogy as a field is greatly enriched by the fact that most of its practitioners come into genealogy as a second career or hobby, after training in other fields. Certifications earned in those other fields may or may not be relevant to genealogical work. For example, a Certified Genetic Counselor who becomes a Certified Genealogist would typically advertise herself genealogically as Jane Jones, CG--that being her genealogical certification. However, if she were lecturing or writing on genetics in a genealogical context, then she might validly use her "non-genealogical" credential and bill herself as Jane Jones, CG, CGC.

*Copyright 2005, MyFamily.com*

## **Slave Research**

*Submitted by Judith D. Vanskike*  
**Will of Feathergill Adams 8 Nov. 1807**

DEATH: Feathergill Adams suffered a stroke or heart attack on the pulpit of Antioch Church. He was able to return home and make a verbal will from his death bed. His plantation was on Sugar Creek in Garrard Co., KY. He was a Baptist minister. Shortly after arriving, he built a church on a hill overlooking Sugar Creek at the point where present day KY 39 crosses the creek. DAR papers National Number 490683 establishing Feathergill Adams as a veteran of the Revolutionary War. Was a wagoner in the Revolutionary War.

Will of Feathergill Adams deceased made and spoken at his habitation in Garrard County in his last sickness the night he proceeding his death being the eighth day of November 1807 after calling the attention of Bailor Jennings, Luke Adams and others standing by on the subject of disposing his estate observed as follows that I want my son John to have his mare and colt, and the price of his colt that was sold to Mr. Ballinger and a bed and furniture and such other things as I gave my other children when they left me and one hundred dollars and a suit of clothes and a new saddle and bridle and provide for himself and horses one year. I want my daughter Patey to have my Brown mare and bed and furniture and such other things as I gave my other children when they left me, one hundred dollars a suit of clothes and a complete saddle and bridle and provisions for himself and beast one year I want my son John and Patey to live with their sister Juda I want each of my children whom I have not hereto for given a horse to have one I want the balance of my Estate to divided between my children and my daughter Peggy children that each of my children may have an equal share and my Daughter Peggy's children to have one equal share between them I want my son John to have my Negro boy Kara and my daughter Pattey to have my Negro girl Betty my daughter Polley to have negro boy ---my daughter Juda to have my Negro woman Sarah and I want Sarah to go to Juda at a good price and I think Sarah worth one hundred pounds I want the grainery and post and out of my estate I want James Thompson to be my Executor. The above words were spoken by the said Feathergill Adams whilst he was in his disposing mind as his last will and testament.

Feathergill Adams was a farmer, Baptist Preacher and Wagoner in the Revolutionary War. Feathergill resided in Fauquier County VA, Montgomery Co., VA and Garrard Co., KY. Notes on Feathergill Adams from Family Bible in possession of Mary Folger Hemphill, Nicholasville, Ky. in the 1960's.

Garrard County Cemetery Records, Published by Garrard County Historical Society, 1997.



# Heritage Newsletter

February 2006

*Celebrating Black History Month*

## **California African American Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 2  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### **General Meetings**

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### **2006 Board of Directors**

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian  
Marjorie Sholes – Former President

### **Committee Chairs**

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Open – Special Events  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## **President's Message**

Ronald Higgins

It's a new day and a new year. Open your heart and mind to your genealogy research and don't stop looking – they are looking for you too. The light bulb is on and all you need to do is find it. I hope your goals and your family research will bring you promising results this year.

Genealogy is a cold case that we all have been working on in each of our families. Don't forget about using DNA in your genealogical research when you are trying to match the names on your list to those on the census, marriage license, birth certificate, land grants, and head stones.

If each CAAGS member recognizes the potential of this Society and understands that it will only work with the help of all its membership, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish as a group. Please volunteer to chair or be on a committee if you can.

Speaking of working together, CAAGS will co-sponsor the Roots Conference on February 25<sup>th</sup>, along with the Long Beach Historical Society and the Church of the Latter-day Saints. If you have not attended a Roots Conference, you should try to attend this year.

February is Black History Month. Please wear your African attire at the general meeting. During this month of love, have a wonderful Valentine's Day.

If you missed episodes 1 and 2 of African American Lives on PBS be sure to catch episodes 3 and 4 airing on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Check your local listings or PBS.org for details.

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to CAAGS@hotmail.com or submit them on computer disk to the editor.*

## 2006 Calendar of Events

### February 18

CAAGS general meeting 10am - FGS President Wendy Elliot guest speaker on planning a research trip

### February 25

Discover Your Roots IV: Special African American Family History/Genealogy Conference, Guest speaker: Rev. Chip Murray, 9am to 4pm; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3115 South Vermont Ave., \$20 pre registration before 2/17, \$25 at door; contact roots4@comcast.net or call 800/553-2444 for more info

### March 3

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### March 5-12

CAAGS Research Trip – Family History Center, Salt Lake City, UT

### March 17-19

15<sup>th</sup> National Family Reunion Conference Temple University's Family Reunion Institute and the Commonwealth of PA's Tourism Office invite family leaders from across the nation to attend the upcoming conference at the Marriott Pittsburgh City Center in Pittsburgh, PA. Info [www.temple.edu/fri](http://www.temple.edu/fri)

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

Special Census Records, 1850 - 1940 - Kansas State Historical Society [www.kshs.org](http://www.kshs.org)

## A Message from First Vice-President

Charlotte Bocage

At our next general meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup> Odessa Yocum will lead the beginning class and Ron Batiste will lead the intermediate class on researching your AME family.

Our first February field trip will be on Tuesday Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at the Family History Center, from 3-7 p.m, located at 10741 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, ph. 310-474-9990. Please call the facility for directions. I hope to see some of you so I can help jumpstart your research. Also bring your pedigree charts and family group sheets. Next, Sunday Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> at the Downtown Los Angeles Public Library, 630 W. 5th St., from 1:30-3p.m. Meet at the lower level four, reference desk, phone 213-228-7000 (Parking \$1 under the library with validation).

Also, I also volunteer at the Southern California Genealogical Society Library in Burbank on MOST Wednesday's between 10:30am-4:00pm. Please call me at home before Wednesday at 323-669-1982 or call the library that day at 818-843-7247 to verify if I'm there. If you want me to meet you at any research facility to provide a guided tour please call me to make an appointment.

## Websites of Interest

Besides the subscription sites (Ancestry.com, Genealogy.com, and HeritageQuest Online) and membership sites (such as Godfrey Library) that give access to digitized images of census records, there are a number of transcriptions and abstracts, not just for U.S. censuses but for Canadian and UK censuses. Of course, Cyndi's List has links to lots of sites. Here's one: [www.census-online.com/links/index.html](http://www.census-online.com/links/index.html). See also [www.cyndislist.com/census2.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/census2.htm) for census-related sites worldwide

The Family History Library has put its 1880 US Census and National Index (from the CD-ROM set) online, along with the abstracted 1881 Canadian census and the 1881 UK census. They are all searchable. They work a little differently from the US 1880 CD set, but are still great sources. The databases are at <<http://www.familysearch.org>> under Search and then under Census.

This page is an open letter appealing for professional and financial assistance on behalf of the Archives Division of the New Orleans Public Library. [www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~dwilliam/savethehistory.htm](http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~dwilliam/savethehistory.htm)

## The Filson Historical Society

The Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Kentucky, invites applications for fellowships and internships. Applications must be postmarked by February 15, 2006. The Filson fellowships and internships encourage the scholarly use of our nationally significant collections by providing support for travel and lodging. The Society's collections are especially strong for the frontier, antebellum, Civil War and postbellum eras of Ohio Valley and Kentucky history. The fellowships are designed to encourage research in all aspects of the history of Kentucky and the regions of the Ohio Valley and the Upper South. Internships provide practical experience in collections management and research for graduate students. Fellows as well as interns are expected to be in continuous residence at The Filson.

For more information about fellowships, internships, and application procedures please consult The Filson's website [www.filsonhistorical.org/fellowships.html](http://www.filsonhistorical.org/fellowships.html).

Information about The Filson's research collections can be found on the online catalog. Questions regarding the fellowships and internships program should be directed to Dr. A. Glenn Crothers, Director of Research for The Filson Institute; crothers@filsonhistorical.org or glenn.crothers@louisville.edu

FHC microfilm fees increased starting in January 2006 to \$5.50 per film. Fiche fees will remain the same 15 cents per sheet. The church has not increased fees since 1997.

### **Research Trip Tips**

By Juliana Smith

When I read Michael Neill's article of 10 August 2005, "Ready for the FHL?" I went into panic mode. Am I ready for the FHL? Ouch, the answer is a resounding "No."

Michael's article contains some great suggestions and if you missed it, it is available online. As I race to prepare for the trip, I thought of a few other ideas that I thought I'd share with you in this column. Most of these ideas will help with any research outing, so even if you aren't able to attend this year's conference, read on as it may help with future trips you have planned to other repositories.

#### **In Fifteen Minutes or Less. . .**

This week I learned that my mother-in-law is coming from Texas to stay with us for a couple weeks, beginning on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I have several projects that must be finished in addition to creating all the newsletters through the conference and a couple days beyond. All this is in addition to my daughter starting back to school and my resuming PTA duties. You get the idea. This isn't your typical panic mode; I'm actually freaking out. Breathe deep Julie—that's right, in and out—you can do it . . . O.K., I'm better now. (Better is a relative term.)

So how am I supposed to find time to prepare my family history research before I leave? Regular readers of this column may remember that I'm fond of things that can be done in "fifteen minutes or less. (See "In Fifteen Minutes or Less ..." and "More Projects In Fifteen Minutes or Less" as well as Pat Hatcher's article, "Genealogy on Four Hours A Week.")

If I only devote fifteen minutes per day to getting my ducks in a row, it will add up to nearly five hours of preparation time. That seems doable. (And since I'll probably get carried away on one or more of those

sessions, I'll end up going over that fifteen minutes and I can probably count on even more than that five hours.)

#### **The Joy of Manila Folders**

As soon as I learned I was going to be able to attend this year's conference, I began making preparations. Knowing how quickly paperwork can become lost on my desk . . . not that I have piles on my desk mind you--well at least not too many---O.K., my desk is pretty much covered. Anyway, I pulled out a manila folder and labeled it 'SLC.' My airline ticket, hotel confirmation numbers and all other documents related to my travel arrangements are going into that folder. Another folder is labeled 'FHL' and is slowly growing with my "to-do" list for the library. As I think of things I should check, I print off catalog entries or jot down notes on post-it notes when those ideas that pop up while I'm in the middle of something else (like breathing into a paper bag). Then when my next 15 minute session comes around, I look up the appropriate entries in the catalog.

#### **Setting Goals and Preparing for Them**

When you are faced with a unique research opportunity such as this, it's tough to decide where to focus your energies. I tell myself to set goals, but when I open my cabinet to see a long row of family binders, the first thought in my mind is, "Where do I start?"

I usually start with a review of one family. If you have no idea what family you want to look at, close your eyes and do eeny-meeny-miny-mo. Once you get started, you'll probably find that it gets easier. It's a good idea to look at recent finds. Records you have looked at in previous trips, may need another look in light of new information. It's like getting a second chance at bat after you strike out. (If only the Cubs were so lucky!)

If your research has taken you to a new location, you'll want to investigate what records are available for that area. Search the FHL Catalog for the locations in which your ancestors lived, and as Michael suggests, print out the call or microfilm/fiche numbers for the records you want to explore. With this information at hand, you can make a beeline for the books or films of your choice and be at a reader searching for ancestors, instead of playing computer vulture, circling and waiting for someone on the computer catalogs to either drop from exhaustion or abandon their seat.

If you're planning on searching in a record type that is unfamiliar, this particular trip could give you a distinct advantage. The conference offers a wide variety of lectures and this year includes an FHL track that focuses on the resources available at the Library. I've been

looking at the FGS Conference program and working on my schedule, so that I can coordinate lectures with the research I plan to do in the evenings in the library. (You may even see me sprinting down the street between lectures to catch a quick reel of film in between.)

### **The Little Things**

I don't travel as often as many of my colleagues and I'm always afraid of forgetting something. For that reason, I'll be printing Paula Warren's articles on packing for research trips:

What's in Your Suitcase?

(*Ancestry Daily News*, 04 May 2004)

What's In Your Suitcase? Part 2

(*Ancestry Daily News*, 25 May 2004)

Did You Forget Your Pen and Paper?

(*Ancestry Daily News*, 19 February 2004)

*Copyright 2005, MyFamily.com.*

## **Slave Research**

John K. Gatt, Abstracts Of Fauquier County, Virginia  
*Submitted by Judith D. Vanskike*

Will date 4 Sept. 1760

Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. 1980

Pages 41-43 Hamilton Parish

Will abstract of Bryan Obanon: to son John Obanon - plantation whereon he now lives, 212 a. - Negro woman Judy, after death of son John and his wife Sarah, sd. Negro (if living) to granddaughter Sarah, dau. of John - the said Negroe Judy shall after my decrease be Totally Exempted from Labouring without Doors during her Natural Life. Still and young unbroken horse. To son, William - plantation on which he lives, 212 a. To son Samuel- plantation and lands in King George County, 300 a. - L 100 - all wearing apparel. To daughter Elizabeth Ambrose L60 - chair & horses, To daughter Ann Miller - L 100, To grandson Thos. Obanon, son of son John - plantation whereon I now live 220 .a., on this side of Broad run

To grandson Wm Obanon, son of my son Wm. Obannon - remaining tract of Land I now live on lying Chiefly on the North side of the said Broad run. To grandson Bryan Obanon - son of my son John Obanon - negro girl, Lucy. To grandson Bryan Obanon, son of my son, Wm. Obanon negro girl, Cate. --To each of my Grand Children both Male and Female being twenty-seven in Number the sum of Ten pounds Current Each Natural Children: Aron Johnston and Francis Johnston, children of Margaret Johnston - plantation and lands in Frederick

County, 257 a. - should they die before they come of age or marry the part of one to go to the survivor, if both should die, the bequest to go to Bryan Obanon, Grandson, son of son John Obanon.... direct & appoint my son-in-law, Jacob Hita, my Grand Daughter Elizabeth Hite to have the care & management of the said Children. To Frances Johnston - 500 lbs. tobacco to be yearly paid to Margaret Johnston; Mother of the aforesaid Francis for the support & maintenance of the said Francis during the space of four years. Exors; Sons, John and William; son-in-law Jacob Hits. Signed Bryan (x) Obanon

Proved 25 Feb 1762

Inventory: Bryan O'Bannon, 25 Feb 1762, 27 March 1762, value of estate 863 pounds, 6 shillings, 2 pence for carpenter tools, com, food stuff, horses, household items, stock & slaves: Peter Q0 pounds, Tom 60 pounds, Jean 50 pounds, Winney (girl) 35 pounds, woman & child Nan 55 pounds, Judy (girl) 45 pounds, James (boy) 20 pounds, Harry 20 pounds, Toney 40 pounds, Solomon 35 pounds, woman & child 35 pounds, 2 shillings, 6 penoe. Hannah & girl Lucy 55 pounds & Cate 20 pounds, report prepared by George Lamkin, John Rector, Wm. Edmonds & Wm. Wright, Book 1, 48.

### **Getting Through Barriers**

Let's talk about the Index to Selected City Streets. (M1931-National Archives film).

1. If your ancestors lived in a city or fairly large town, check a city directory or telephone directory or family papers for a street address.
2. Get hold of the roll of microfilm that includes that town in M1931. Look up the street address and the guide will tell you the enumeration district where that address is listed in the 1930 census.
3. Get the roll of film that includes that E.D. and look for your folks.

Most of the city directories are on microfilm and you can buy the rolls (but they're expensive). You may be able to rent them through the FHL. Check on [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) under the name of the state, then the county and city. You may be able to call the reference staff at the public library in the city where the ancestors lived in 1930 and get the street address (or hire a person to look it up).

### **Genealogy Quick Tip**

A source of great information are the funeral books signed by those who paid their respects to the deceased. They tend to be saved by the family and well-preserved.





# Heritage Newsletter

March 2006

*Celebrating CAAGS 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

## **California African American Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 3  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### **General Meetings**

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### **2006 Board of Directors**

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

### **Committee Chairs**

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Open – Special Events  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## **President's Message**

Ronald Higgins

As President I'm proud to have been a part of CAAGS for the past 20 years. I want to congratulate everyone who has been a member or officer to carry on the legacy of our genealogical society. We currently have the largest membership of African Americans in the country.

There are many good things about CAAGS. Take a minute and ask yourself how the society has helped you. Many have found family members and made lasting friendships, you gotta love it.... Take time to help others learn about genealogy.

I believe each one of us has been in good company because we're on the same path hunting our ancestors. Only you can feel the fulfillment, joy and gladness that comes with it.

Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

## **Bring Your PDA to the Library**

By Catherine R. Davidson

Many times you are not permitted to bring a laptop to the library, but you can take a PDA. I have a Palm LifeDrive PDA and an infrared keyboard for it. When the PDA is attached to the keyboard it becomes a miniature computer. It has a 4GB hard drive and I have an expansion card for 1GB, so I am able to do almost anything with it that I would with my laptop. When I get home I download to my computer and then I am able to go again. I use the PDA program, MyRoots, which syncs beautifully with my RootsMagic program. This is really having my cake and eating it, too.

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor.*

## 2006 Calendar of Events

### March 3

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### March 5-12

CAAGS Research Trip – Family History Center, Salt Lake City, UT

### March 17-19

15<sup>th</sup> National Family Reunion Conference  
Temple University's Family Reunion Institute and the Commonwealth of PA's Tourism Office invite family leaders from across the nation to attend the upcoming conference at the Marriott Pittsburgh City Center in Pittsburgh, PA.; Info [www.temple.edu/fri](http://www.temple.edu/fri)

### March 18

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm; 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration; Show and Tell

### April 7

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### April 15

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm

### April 22

Richmond, VA – Virginia Genealogical Society – “Real Work Y-DNA Testing” and “Beyond DNA: Your Genetic Genealogy Options”

### May 5-6

37<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogical Jamboree  
Burbank Hilton and Convention Center; early registration before March 31<sup>st</sup> \$35/day or \$60 for both days; for info or to register [www.scgsgenealogy.com](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com)

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

## Websites of Interest

African Ancestry can help you trace the ancestry of any of your many lineages. If you want to trace your maternal lineage, you can use your own DNA. However, you may also want to determine the ancestry of your maternal grandfather or paternal grandmother. You cannot find those using your own DNA. Their Interactive Learning Center can help you decide which lineages you want to trace and which family members to use. For more info go <http://africanancestry.com/index.htm>

Membership dues must be received by March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006 to keep your name on CAAGS' roster and to continue receiving our newsletter. The 2006 membership roster will be printed and available April 15<sup>th</sup> to members in good standing.

## A Message from First Vice-President

Charlotte Bocage

At our general meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> we will have a beginner class and Asilah Shakoor will lead the intermediate class on how she found her family.

Our first March field trip is on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> to the LDS Family History Center located at 10741 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, phone 310-474-9990. We will be there from 3-7 p.m. We will also visit the center again on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Please bring your pedigree charts and family group sheets. I hope to see some of you so I can help jump-start your research. Please call the facility if you need directions.

Next will be Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> to the Downtown Los Angeles Public Library, from 1:30-3 p.m. meet at the lower level four reference desk. The library is located at 630 W. 5<sup>th</sup> St., phone 213-228-7000. Parking is \$1 under the library with validation.

Also, I also volunteer at the Southern California Genealogical Society Library in Burbank on MOST Wednesday's between 10:30am-4pm. Please call me at home before Wednesday at 323-669-1982 or call the library that day at 818-843-7247 to verify if I'm there. If you want me to meet you at any research facility to provide a guided tour please call me to make an appointment.

## Enumeration District Descriptions (T1224)

This NARA microfilm series covers 1830 to 1950, the 1930 part is rolls 61-90. Within each state, the counties are listed alphabetically and for 1930 each county has been given a number by its order in the alphabetical list. For example, Angelina County, Texas, is the 3rd county in the Texas alphabetical list. So every E.D. number begins with 3. They will read 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, etc. This is the same for all the states (and American Samoa, Panama Canal Zone, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands).

If you know where your ancestral family was in 1920, you should have the E.D. number from 1920. The 1930 list for each county shows the 1920 ED numbers and which 1930 districts cover that same territory. This helps you find the ED you need to search for your folks in 1930.

However, this is not foolproof. My grandfather was in ED6 in 1920. For 1930, there were 3 EDs that came out of that area. I searched all 3 and he wasn't there.

Apparently his farm was just outside the city limits. So he was actually enumerated on the last page of another ED. When they drew the lines for the 1930 EDs, they apparently did not include any farms in with the town enumeration. Nevertheless, after I read the 3 EDs that came out of ED6 from 1920 and discovered I had to look elsewhere, it was easier to scan 19 ED descriptions to try to figure out which one to try next than it was to read the whole county on the census.

### **The History of the California African American Genealogical Society (CAAGS) 1986-2006**

James Dent Walker, Edgar Love and Lonnie Bunch, realizing the need for African American genealogists in Los Angeles to network with each other, began organizing a society which would provide a vehicle for Black genealogists to track their roots. They were encouraged by the acting director of the California African American Museum to form a society associated with the museum. We were associated with the museum for two years.

The first organization meeting took place on March 23, 1986 at the California African American Museum, located in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, CA. CAAGS was the first society on the West Coast formed specifically to research the genealogies of slave descendents.

The charter members of the society were L.R. Bunkley, Frankye Charles, Marianna Cushnie, Alva H. Griffith, Zelda A. Grubbs, Jamesetta C. Hammons, Loveen D. Harris, Brenda Heavens, Ronald W. Higgins, George B. Jenkins, Herbert W. Laffoon, Edgar F. Love, Zakiyah Munir-Ahmad, Dorie Russell, William Russell, Mrs. Wendell H. Scott, Nettie Simons, Oscar L. Sims, Betty Jean Smith, Ozieal F. Smith, Carol L. Thomas, Doris L. Williams and Gerald L. Wilson. With James Dent Walker and Edgar Love together as the driving force, members learned the skills of research and documentation from expert genealogists.

The mission statement of the California African American Genealogical Society is to foster genealogical research and documentation through presentations, educational classes, state and national caucuses and publication of sound genealogical research. Our four objectives are:

To encourage and support the utilization of genealogy as a tool for African Americans to become aware of their history, heritage and self-worth; To encourage the collection, preservation and maintenance of African

American genealogical materials by supplementing various museums and library collections and such other repositories as the Society deems appropriate; To stimulate the membership and the general public to study, research and record their own family histories; To promote and maintain ethical standards in genealogical research and publications.

Past presidents in the order of their presidency are: Edgar Love, Jamesetta C. Hammons, Robert Taylor, Vernon Robinson, Mark Greenfield, Ronald Higgins, Kwame Welsh, Ronald Batiste and Marjorie Sholes.

We have a diverse membership of over 140 members researching almost every state as well as Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean. We have sponsored research tours to Salt Lake City as well as seminars, workshops and educational outreach programs.

Our community involvement has included the Black Family Reunion and the Gene Autry Museum Conferences. CAAGS has been represented at many genealogical conferences such as AAHGS, FGS, GENTECH, Jamboree, NGS and the San Diego Family History Fair and the LDS Roots Conferences.

Our show and tell meetings are legendary. The CAAGS Writers' Group has produced manuscripts and stories documenting their family histories. Many are already published authors.

CAAGS publications include: Beginning Genealogy, Los Angeles Townships 1850-1880, Los Angeles Township 1900, Surname Directory 1995 and soon to come our Members Ancestral Charts.

The California African American Genealogical Society was featured on the PBS Ancestors Series episode on African American Research.

CAAGS current President Ronald Higgins, on behalf of the society, welcomes all to join us at our regular meetings held the third Saturday of each month. Our society strives to encourage all African Americans to begin reclaiming their heritage.

#### **LDS Family History Center**

LDS Family History Library has announced that it has begun the process of digitizing and making available on the Internet all of the Family History books in their collection. About 5,000 books have been digitized and are available, and they have announced that they are adding about 100 titles a week to the on-line collection.

## Irish Census Records to Go Online

We'll have to be patient – it's going to take one to three years -- but thanks to an agreement between the Irish and Canadian archive offices, the Irish 1901 and 1911 Census Records are all going to be put online -- and made available for free! It's estimated that 70 million people around the world claim Irish roots and all of us will be chomping at the bit for December 2006, when the first phase of the 1911 Dublin census will be released. The records include name, age, sex, marital status, occupation, county and country of birth, literacy level, ability to speak Irish, the number of years women were married, and the total number of children born.

## Denver Cemetery's Data "Very Valuable" To State Genealogists, Unearth Roots of 5,000 Blacks

*By Sheba R. Wheeler, Denver Post Staff Writer*

Denver's oldest cemetery has yielded a historical gold mine for genealogists who now have access to important information about the early history of African-Americans in Colorado.

More than 5,000 previously unresearched burial records of blacks who lived and died in the area in the late 1800s have been cataloged by a local genealogy group. Researchers hope the data will paint a more complete picture of the black community at the time, as well as provide clues of lineage for blacks nationwide.

It took a year for a half-dozen members of the Black Genealogy Search Group of Denver to review more than 86,000 burial cards dating from 1876 and kept in file cabinets in the cemetery's administrative office in Denver.

Information from index cards identifying individuals as "Colored, Negro, Black or African-American" - including name, age, residence, employment and next of kin - was converted to a single database. The group also is working with the Fairmount Heritage Foundation to make the information available online.

*For complete article go to [DenverPost.com](http://DenverPost.com)*

## Slave Research

*Submitted by Norma Gilbert*

### Henry Co., VA Will Book One p. 203 William Graves Will, Twelfth Day of May 1790

The name of God, Amen. I, William Graves of Henry

County, Virginia my perfect senses & Calling to mind the mortality of my body, do make & Constitute this my Last Will & Testament in manner and form followeth (viz) - I give my soul to God who gave it me & my body to be buried at the Discretion of my Executor, Item I Leave to my beloved wife Mary Graves During her Natural life the tract of Land where on I now live together with four Negroes Namely Martin, James, Daniel, & Betty (Martin's wife). Also my household goods & furniture and stock. Except some horses that I shall hereafter mention.

Item I give unto my son Thomas Graves & his heirs forever. One Negro boy named Will, when he is of age or Married, and Daniel at his Mother's decease. And the house where I now live to him and his heirs forever.

Item I give unto my daughter Polly Graves and her heirs forever, three Negroes namely Black Betty, & her children Lucy & Diner & one horse. Item I give to my Daughter Sally Graves & her heirs forever Three Negroes, Namely Rachel, Isaac, & Davy & twenty pounds and one horse when of age or Married. Item I give to my daughter Betsey Graves & her heirs forever, three negroes Namely Mosey, Sam & Ford & one horse & saddle when of age or married. Item I give to my Daughter Nancy Asbury & his heirs forever two negroes namely, Lucy & Peter. Item I give to Susannah Martin & her heirs forever, two negroes namely Ralph & Doll. Item I give to my son John Graves at his Mother's decease One Negro named Martin to his & his heirs forever. Item I to my son William Graves at his Mother's decease one Negro named James, to him and his heirs forever. Item My will is that at the Decease of my wife, that the part lent her son and the Residue of my Estate not already mentioned, be equally Divided among all my Children and further my will is that if any of my Children Dies without Heirs Lawfully begotten of this body, that part of my Estate bequeathed to them be equally divided amongst my then surviving Children. Item I appoint my son Thomas Graves & Joseph Anthony, Executors of my wife Mary to this my last Will and Testament, renouncing all others. In Witness whereof I have here unto set my hand & affixed my Seal this Twelfth day of May in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety. N. B. Daniel Henry Lord Intestined and bequeathed to Thomas before signed

Test.  
D. Lanier  
Joseph Bauldin  
Wm. Graves, Sr. SS  
July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1791



# Heritage Newsletter

April 2006

## California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 4  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

### Committee Chairs

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## President's Message

Ronald Higgins

The Discover Your Roots IV conference, held in February was a success, thanks to all who attended. The Rev. Cecil "Chip" Murray was an exceptional speaker, his presentation was enjoyed by all. Over 400 people attended the conference that was sponsored by CAAGS, African American Heritage Society of Long Beach and the LDS church under the leadership of sister Lillian Glover, public relationship director of the Genesis Group. Your president was presented with a plaque from Lisa Lee of the Northern California African American Genealogical Society. It read "Appreciation Award Presented to Ronald Higgins, The Grandfather of Black Genealogy in the West."

Thirty-two CAAGS members, two Oakland members and four Nevada members joined in celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CAAGS on the research trip to Salt Lake City, UT on March 5-12. It was good to have our sister genealogy groups share with us. Each participant either learned something new or located a hidden relative.

It was exciting to have a professional genealogist, George Ott assist those of us who struggle with the "brick wall" illness.

Another highlight of our trip was meeting Dr. Rick Kittles, CEO of African Ancestry, Inc. Dr. Kittles took the DNA sample from celebrities showcased on "Roots To African American Lives." Those samples were processed by Relative Genetics and Sorenson Molecular.

I would like to thank our hosts Sacha Masek of the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation and Darlene Odenwalder a genetic genealogist at Relative Genetics.

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor.*

Thanks to everyone who participated at the March 18<sup>th</sup>, CAAGS 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting, it was a great success. I would like to extend a special thanks to Colette DeVerge and Marjories Shoes. Our *Show and Tell* was very interesting with a lot of good information shared with our members. For those of you who took pictures they will be sold for \$4, a video will be available for \$12 and a DVD for \$16. Please contact Ron Higgins if you are interested in making a purchase.

### 2006 Calendar of Events

#### April 15

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm

#### April 22

Richmond, VA – Virginia Genealogical Society – “Real Work Y-DNA Testing” and “Beyond DNA: Your Genetic Genealogy Options”

#### May 5

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### May 5-6

37<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogical Jamboree, Burbank Convention Center; early registration extended to April 20<sup>th</sup>; for info or to register [www.scsgenealogy.com](http://www.scsgenealogy.com)

#### May 6

New City, NY - Genealogical Society of Rockland County – Trace Your Roots with DNA

#### May 20

Newport News, VA - Tidewater Genealogical Society - Trace Your Roots with DNA

#### May 20

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

Congratulations to CAAGS member **Darelene Warren Rothwell**, for her newly published book winning first place in the Texas State Genealogical Society's writing contest for Best Genealogy Book of the Year 2005. The book entitled, “A history of African-American Families in Cass County, East Texas, from the Colonial Days and Slavery to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” was submitted by the Cass County Genealogical Society in Atlanta, Texas for entry into the state's writing contest. She was honored with an Award of Excellence and the book will be permanently housed in the archives of the Texas State capitol library in Austin, TX and in the Genealogy Department of the Atlanta, TX. public library. The book is available for sale directly from the author or publisher Creative Continuum, Inc. ([www.creativecontinuum.com](http://www.creativecontinuum.com)) or contact the author at 951.601.9479, PO Box 9835, Moreno Valley, CA 92552

### A Message from First Vice-President

Charlotte Bocage

Just a reminder that I volunteer at the Southern California Genealogical Society Library in Burbank on MOST Wednesday's between 10:30am-4pm. Please call me at home before Wednesday at 323-669-1982 or call the library that day at 818-843-7247 to verify if I'm there. If you want me to meet you at any research facility to provide a guided tour please call me to make an appointment.

### 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Jamboree and Resource Expo

Friday and Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Burbank Airport Hilton Convention Center  
2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA 91505

For the first time, Jamboree will feature a special series of sessions to address the needs of family historians: interviewing, writing, publishing, and storytelling. If you haven't yet started to write your own story -- the story that your descendants will cherish a hundred years from now -- these sessions will help you get started. They will celebrate the diversity of Southern California with a focus on ethnic specialties, including African American, German, Hispanic, Native American, Scots-Irish, Mexican, Jewish, French-Canadian, British Isles, and others. Learn the secrets of successful researching these special ethnic and cultural groups.

Single day registration for SCGS members (Friday or

### Websites of Interest

Internet Genealogy  
Download Free Preview Issue!

Internet Genealogy is a new magazine from the publishers of Family Chronicle and History Magazine. The first issue will be on newsstands at the end of February and will carry a cover date of April/May 2006. For a limited time, you can download a FREE preview issue of Internet Genealogy. You can also take advantage of a limited time introductory subscription offer of \$20 (U.S.) or \$23 (Cdn) for one year. Visit [http://internet-genealogy.com/IG\\_subsANC.htm](http://internet-genealogy.com/IG_subsANC.htm).

It's a poor family tree that doesn't have either a thief or madam hanging from its branches.

- Source Unknown

Saturday) \$30 or both days \$50 (includes a \$5 food coupon), non-members - \$40 single day (Friday or Saturday) or \$70 for both days. You can register online through their secure shopping cart, using your credit card or by sending a check. You can also download the registration form and register by mail.  
<http://www.scsgenealogy.com/>

**New At The Los Angeles Public Library**  
*Submitted by Michael Kirley*

The Los Angeles Public Library now makes available access to the Los Angeles Times through ProQuest from 1985 to the present. Previously this had been offered by the library through NewsBank. At the same time, the library has now started to offer access to the ProQuest Newsstand, which currently includes 606 titles. These include The Sentinel of Los Angeles beginning with 1991 and the Daily News of Los Angeles beginning with 1995. Many of the other titles are American newspapers, but foreign titles are included as well. Examples of the latter are the Times of London beginning with 1992, the Jerusalem Post beginning with 1988, and the Vancouver Sun beginning with 1987. These databases are available at the Central Library as well as our 71 branches and at home as well for patrons with library cards.

Obituaries are included in the ProQuest version of the Los Angeles Times from 1985 to the present, but death notices are not. In order to do a search at home, you should begin at the library's home page, which is <http://www.lapl.org>. Once there click on Access the Databases.. At this point you will be prompted to enter your library card number. When you have been verified, you can scroll down through the alphabetical list to Los Angeles Times (ProQuest) and click on it. If you want to search the ProQuest Newsstand instead, you can scroll down to where it is found and click on it.

The death notices from the Los Angeles Times are now available on Legacy.com. If you go to their web site at: <http://legacy.com/Obituaries.asp> you will find a listing for the Los Angeles Times under browse. By clicking on it, you will be able to search the last 30 days of death notices and read the full text for free at: <http://legacy.com/LATimes/LegacyHome.asp>. Towards the bottom of this page, you will see the word Archives, if you click on it, you will go to this page: <http://legacy.com/LATimes/LegacySubpage1.asp?Page=ArchiveSearchGateway> where it is possible to search for death notices from 5/26/2001 to a date 31 days from today. Here you will be given the date that the article

ran in the paper. You can view the full text for a \$2.50 fee. If you are in the Central Library or want to come to the Central Library and view the microfilm, you will be able to read the death notice for free.

At this point all obituaries in the Los Angeles Times are now available online through the Los Angeles Times, Historical Archives (ProQuest) from 1881-1985, and through the Los Angeles Times (ProQuest) from 1985 to the present. (Note that the year 1985 overlaps in the two separate databases.) The library offers access to the Historical Archives at the Central Library and at our 71 branches, but not at home.

All death notices in the Los Angeles Times are now available online through the Los Angeles Times, Historical Archives (ProQuest) from 1881-1985 and through Legacy.com from 5/26/2001 to the present. The only unindexed period for death notices is now the approximately a fifteen year period from 1986 through 5/25/2001.

The library is still offering access to America's Newspapers (NewsBank) which includes 585 titles. However this will only be until June 2006 when our current subscription expires. There is some overlap of titles between the ProQuest and NewsBank products, but many titles are offered by only one of the two databases. If you want to do an obituary search in one of the titles which are only in America's Newspapers (NewsBank), the time to do it is now.

**Slave Research**  
*Submitted by Norma Gilbert*

Edward Moseley  
Will Book 3, Charlotte County, Virginia

[Page 95] I, Edward Moseley of the County of Charlotte and the state of Virginia, being of sound mind, & memory do make & ordain this to be my last will & Testament in manner & forever following [illegible] I give and bequeath to my son Edward Mosely, a Tract of Land supposed to contain about (or more than) six hundred acres, which shall include the lands I purchased of - & to begin at Mitchells & Staples Corner and by a line to - from thence where Foulhis live cross the South fork of Buffalow Creek, also four negroes namely Tracie Pegg, Daniel, and Bob, I give & bequeath to my said Hillary Mosely three negroes, namely, James, Braddock & Sam. I give & bequeath to my son William Mosely all the slaves Jack and every other thing, which I have heretofore put into his possession. I give and bequeath

to my daughter Mary Gande (?) several negroes namely Pitchy (?) and her children and [Page 96] security whereupon he with John, Patrick, Hillary Moseley, Thomas Graves, Edward Herndon, his security entered into & acknowledged this bond according to law for that purpose.

Test: Thomas Readle Toby Braddick, Thomas Read

Isham, Polly, Edwards, Martha, and Uriah also waggoner (illegible) I leave Mary daughter of Rebeccah I. Herndon the resident of my land during her natural life, and after her death I give and bequeath the said land to her children to be equally divided between them. I also leave to my said daughter Rebeccah six negroes, namely Sharper, Adam; Teller, Alexander, Butcher, and Jean and after her death to be equally divided between her children.

I also give her my said daughter, three horses, viz a Grey, a black mare, & a sorrel colt, also fifteen heads of cattle, the stock of hogs on the plantation where I now reside, also eight head of sheep, also my household furniture. It is my will and desire that all the residue of my Estate of every kind, and sort, not within mentioned, shall be equally divided between my daughter, Martha Bouldin, Henry Collier, Elizabeth Bouldin, Sally Herndon, and Sally Patrick. I give to my son Arthur Mosely dec.d. children, namely Elizabeth, Brooks, William, Sally and Susannah, one dollar each and lastly I appoint Hillery Mosely, Edward Mosely d Mack Guide Executor this my will, In interest of which I here unto set my hand and seal this twentieth day of May, One thousand eight hundred & eight

In my bequest to my daughter Mary signed. Done in presence of us Archibald Hatchett, Rachel Allen, Josiah Mosely

Courthouse for Charlotte County, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 1808

This last will and Testament of Edward Mosely, deed, was presented in Court & offered for proof, which was objected by Richard Bouldin by his attorney, who contests the validity of said will, & on his motion the same is continued until the right court. At a court held for said county, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 1809. This will was this day offered for proof by the Executors therein named. On hearing the Testimony of sundry witnesses and arguments of Counsel as well on behalf of the executors as the said Richard Bouldin and tile testimony of Archibald Hatchett, Rachel, Allan, & Josiah Mosely, the three subscribing interest to the same will who made

oath that the said Edward Mosely acknowledged the same as his last will and Testament, in their presence and they believe he was then in his perfect senses & memory, ordered that the said will be admitted to Record. On the motion of Edward Mosely one of the Executors, therein referred- who made the oath according to law. Certificate is - granted him, for obtaining a probate of the said will indue form beginning (missing word).

## 12 Steps to Genealogical Fitness

Is your genealogy in shape? When we hear the phrase “in shape” we automatically associate it with our physical health. So, what could these two concepts -- “fitness” and “genealogy” -- possibly have in common? Often you start off with a bang; you have the best of intentions that excite you and initially spur you on. With genealogy, you discover a detail about an ancestor. You feel great. Both activities require a great deal of hard work and also have similar obstacles. Below is a 12-step guideline for working on personal fitness and genealogy.

- 1) **Set Realistic Goals** - When starting any new project or endeavor like a diet or exercise regimen, or a genealogical quest, it is important to set realistic goals, and develop a workable timetable.
- 2) **Devise a Schedule and Stick To It** - With our busy lives, most of us have to schedule time to exercise, and this same discipline should be applied to genealogy.
- 3) **Make Time for a Check-up** - It is a good idea to make an appointment with yourself to take a “research inventory.”
- 4) **Trim the Fat and Toss Out the Junk** - Go through your family history files and purge what you don’t need.
- 5) **Diversify Your Tasks** - Strive to make your search fun and challenging throughout the year.
- 6) **Count Your Steps** - You must get organized
- 7) **Pick Up the Pace** - You may have to work harder to for a desired result in a limited period of time.
- 8) **Vary Your Location** - If you always do your research at your computer or desk, find a change of scenery.
- 9) **Find a Buddy** - When researching your roots, try to find a family member to share the research tasks.
- 10) **Take a Break** - Put aside the family line you have been researching and do something totally unrelated.
- 11) **Add a New Twist to Your Routine** - With genealogy, try subscribing to or using a new database or taking an on line class.
- 12) **Persist Over the Plateau** - If you find yourself facing an impasse, don’t give up.

*For complete article go to [MyFamily.com](http://MyFamily.com)*





# Heritage Newsletter

May/June 2006

## California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 5  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

### Committee Chairs

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## President's Message

Ronald Higgins

CAAGS April speaker Andy Pomeroy spoke about technology integration. As all of you know technology is a big part of our everyday life. We all have to be aware of identity theft. It was an interesting session.

At the May meeting we will be selling 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorabilia. There will be video cassettes for \$12 and DVDs for \$16.

Many of you have not returned the information sheet with your picture and list of surnames. Please take a moment to complete it for inclusion in our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary membership book.

We are in need of volunteers to lead several committees within our organization. Please consider volunteering your time to lead or be part of a committee.

There is no CAAGS meeting in June please take time to celebrate Juneteenth in your community.

## The Joys of Caring from A to Z

Achieving a sense of fulfillment  
Brightening the days of others  
Changing the world for the better  
Discovering the joys of helping others  
Earning respect and admiration  
Feeling good about yourself  
Giving back to others  
Hearing "thank you" time and again  
Inspiring others with your dedication  
Joining the community of caring people  
Knowing you give your best each day

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor.*

Lifting spirits  
 Making great use of your time and talents  
 Noting the difference your efforts make  
 Opening your heart to others  
 Putting compassion into action  
 Quieting others' concerns and fears  
 Reaching out to those in need  
 Spreading smiles wherever you go  
 Touching lives  
 Understanding the importance of giving  
 Valuing everyone you meet  
 Warming hearts  
 eXpressing your generosity  
 Year-round appreciation  
 Zeroing in on what's important – CARING!

### 2006 Calendar of Events

#### May 5

No CAAGS board meeting

#### May 5-6

37<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogical Jamboree, Burbank Convention Center; for info [www.scgsgenealogy.com](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com)

#### May 6

New City, NY - Genealogical Society of Rockland County – Trace Your Roots with DNA

#### May 20

Newport News, VA - Tidewater Genealogical Society - Trace Your Roots with DNA

#### May 20

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm; Instructors Dorothylou Sands, Family Group Sheets & Pedigree Charts; Marjorie Shoals, Timelines and Documentation.

#### May 21

The Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Long Beach presents Henry Z Jones, Jr., FASG, speaker from 1:15 - 4 PM at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

#### June 2

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### June 7 – 10

2006 NGS Conference, Chicago, IL for details visit [www.ngsgenealogy.org/2006Chicago.cfm](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/2006Chicago.cfm)

#### June 17

No CAAGS general meeting

#### July 7

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### July 15

CAAGS general meeting 10-2pm. Jean Wright-Calhoun, beginner class instructor; Ruth Palmer, intermediate class instructor.

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

### Websites of Interest

Photo restoration artist that writes articles about computers and photo restoration and archiving for the genealogical community, <http://www.abetterreality.net>

#### ➤ **Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes, Black Indians**

[http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~ewyatt/\\_borders/](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~ewyatt/_borders/)

➤ **Unclaimed Persons** - This web site is to provides information to the public regarding a deceased loved one for whom next of kin has never been located.

[www.unclaimedpersons.com](http://www.unclaimedpersons.com)

#### **Available on Ancestry.com**

#### ➤ **Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874**

The Freedman's Bank records show depositors' names and sometimes other personal information such as age, place of birth, and occupation.

#### ➤ **U.S. Federal Census, 1870**

The 1870 census is the first U.S. Federal Census to list formerly enslaved African Americans by name (in previous censuses they were included only as tally marks on a page).

#### ➤ **1850 and 1860 Slave Schedules**

Slaves were counted separately during the 1850 and 1860 U.S. censuses. Unfortunately, in most schedules, only the names of land owners were recorded; individual slaves were not named but were simply numbered and can be distinguished only by age, sex, and color.

#### ➤ **Civil War Service Records**

These records include more than 5.3 million men who served in the war. Each record provides the soldier's name, company, unit, the individual's rank when inducted and rank when discharged.

#### ➤ **Afro-Louisiana History and Genealogy, 1718-1820**

This database includes detailed information on more than 100,000 slaves who arrived in Louisiana between 1718 and 1820. The records include personal details such as name, gender, race, birthplace, family names and relationships, skill or trade, personality traits and information about how the person was freed.

➤ **Slave Narratives** A collection of one-on-one interviews with more than 3,500 former slaves collected over a ten-year period from 1929 to 1939. The interviews, written exactly as they were dictated to preserve the spoken dialect of the former slave, are very rich in family history data and often identify ages, places of residence and birth, and names of spouses, children, siblings, and parents.

#### ➤ **Selected Family and Local Histories**

This collection is a compilation of journals, memoirs, and other first-hand personal narratives that provide a

poignant picture of daily life, from everyday challenges to extreme hardships. Free databases are:  
The First African Baptist Church of North America  
The Black Presence in the Era of the American Revolution, 1770-1800  
Blacks in the State of Oregon, 1788-1971  
Slave Life in Georgia: A narrative of the life, sufferings, and escape of John Brown, a fugitive slave  
Slavery Petitions and Papers

➤ **The Kentucky Birth Index, 1911-1999** has been temporarily de-published on Ancestry.com. They recently received communication from the Kentucky Department of Library and Archives indicating that the copy of these records received by Ancestry contained names that should not have been included in the database. At the request of the state they have removed this database for the time being

The 2006 membership roster will be available at the May general meeting and will be distributed to current members in attendance.

### **A Message from First Vice-President** Charlotte Bocage

Just a reminder that I volunteer at the Southern California Genealogical Society Library in Burbank on MOST Wednesday's between 10:30am-4pm. Please call me at home before Wednesday at 323-669-1982 or call the library that day at 818-843-7247 to verify if I'm there. If you want me to meet you at any research facility to provide a guided tour please call me to make an appointment.

**Don't miss the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Jamboree  
And Resource Expo  
Friday and Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>  
Burbank Airport Hilton Convention Center**

**The Questing Heirs Genealogical Society** proudly presents Henry Z Jones, Jr., FASG as a speaker on Sunday, May 21, 2006 from 1:15 - 4 PM at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1900 E Carson Street, Long Beach, CA.

The first presentation, is Tracing The Origins of 18<sup>th</sup> Century German and Other Emigrants. A lively discussion emphasizing the how-to's of pinpointing and fully tracing the European roots of our ancestors. A step-by-step plan of attack, showing how "They Came Together, They Stayed Together!"

The second presentation is Genealogy In the New Millenium. An insightful talk about what's ahead in this amazing world of new genealogical technology, emphasizing how our new tools should never be allowed to divert us from celebrating the humanity of our ancestors.

Hank has been a professional genealogist since 1965. He is an entertaining genealogical lecturer, an accomplished writer and a respected Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists. He is best known for his extensive work with Palatine genealogy and for his popular book, *Psychic Roots: Serendipity & Intuitio in Genealogy*.

Hank also has a long career as an entertainer and screen actor. A full biography and bibliography can be found on his web page at [www.hankjones.com](http://www.hankjones.com).

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served and donations are accepted. To reserve program notes, please contact Chuck Mitchell, at 572/961-8895 or at [cmitchell696@charter.net](mailto:cmitchell696@charter.net).

### **The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy**

Written by Christine Rose, CG, FASG and Kay Germain Ingalls, CG, this orange classic covers everything from "roamin' the attics and basements" to autosomal DNA. Are you struggling with variations of a surname? Check out Chapter 7, "A Rose by Any Other Name." Want to let all those piles of papers organized? Then maybe you'll want to start with Chapter 18, "Order out of Chaos." Or maybe you have a cemetery quest in mind. In that case, Chapter 15, "A Picnic in the Cemetery" is just what you need.

If you're new to genealogy, you'd be well advised to read this book cover to cover, but for those with more experience, it's designed so that you can easily find a chapter or section on your trouble area and get some quick tips and examples. And as with all books in this series, there are user-friendly sidebars, including pedigree pitfalls (cautions to help you avoid common mistakes), genie jargon (definitions of common genealogical terms), tree tips (ideas to help your research), and lineage lessons (notes covering extra information to enhance your study of genealogy). For instance, I was pleased to find a lineage lesson on the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex system with a Web address to help me learn more.

### **Cherokee Nation Court Rules on Freedmen Case**

In a split ruling, the Cherokee Nation's highest court has

reversed a prior decision regarding the citizenship of Freedmen. The court ruled unconstitutional the Cherokee Nation's law requiring citizens to trace their ancestry to a person with either Cherokee, Shawnee or Delaware blood. The ruling means that the Cherokee Nation's citizenship roll is now open to the descendants of Freedmen who were included in the Dawes Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes.

The Cherokee Nation's registration office will fully implement the orders of the court. Descendants of Freedmen who can show proof of an ancestor on the Freedmen Roll of the Cherokee Nation are eligible to be citizens of the Cherokee Nation.

The full ruling from the Cherokee Nation Judicial Appeals Tribunal can be found on the Cherokee Nation's Web site, [www.cherokee.org](http://www.cherokee.org)

### **Enrollment in the Cherokee Nation**

Cherokee Freedmen are now allowed to enroll in the Cherokee Nation as citizens with full rights and privileges.

This is the result of the March 6, 2006 ruling in the Lucy Allen Case. Cherokee Freedmen are the *only* Freedmen Roll Descendants from the Five Civilized Tribes allowed to enroll with the same benefits of other citizens of their nation.

### **Enrollment Process**

Regarding the locations for Freedmen descendants and all Cherokee descendants to enroll, the best location is at the Tribal Complex, Registration office, Tahlequah. The toll free number is 800-256-0671 and the regular number is 918-456-0671. They can ask for an enrollment packet by mail or pick one up in person. The tribe also sends a representative out to various communities several times per month. The schedule for the field reps can be obtained from the Registration office.

Note that enrolling as a citizen of the Cherokee Nation is a separate process from registering to vote. Once the individual has a tribal membership card, the next step will be to visit the Voter Registration Office.

**Slave Research**  
*Submitted by Norma Gilbert*

Relinquishment From Neal to Harris and Others  
Proven and Recorded Nov. Term 1811  
Test. Wm. Green CCC

State of North Carolina I, Elizabeth Neal, Warren County do this day relinquish my whole right to a negro boy Tom which is/was the proceeds of the property left by my husband, to Newsom Harris, & Polly Harris, Ralph Neal, Brooks Neal, Stephen Neal, Ann Neal for them to devise according to the will of my Deceased Husband In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand therein. This 25th of October 1811.

Elizabeth Neal                      Seal  
X her mark                          Wm. Falkener, Jurist

*Writer's notes: Elizabeth Neal was the widow of Ralph Neal of Warren County, North Carolina. Their daughter, Mary "Polly" Neal, married Newsom Harris in 1782, Granville County, North Carolina. Ralph, Brooks and Stephen Neal, and Ann Neal were the children of Ralph and Elizabeth Neal.*

### **QUERY**

Looking for p and bpl of TILLIS m to Kate in AL or MS in mid 1860s. Died in MS before 1872.

Looking for p of Mary Belle ELLIS; 6 Nov 1874 in TX; attended Mary Allen Seminary in Crocket, TX; m. Ed King 26 Nov. 1891; died in Alexandria IA

Looking for anc of Katie b in NC, married TILLIS in mid 1860s; Green McQueen of Camden, TX before 1880.

Submitted by Jessie Louise McClennan, 4046 Athenian Way, Los Angeles, 90043, [EmlAthenian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:EmlAthenian@sbcglobal.net)

Mark your calendars for the **6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit** to be held on October 20-21 in Las Vegas at the Tuscany Suites Hotel and Casino. Sponsored by the Nevada African American Genealogical Society. For info contact Gerri Johnson 702/501-2270.

### **DNA Genealogy Cruise**

October 23-27 5 days/4 nights to Mexico

Sponsored by the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California

For rates and to make reservations visit  
[allcruisetravel.com](http://allcruisetravel.com) or (800)227-8473

Fees must be paid in full by August 1, 2006. You can also contact AAGSNC at 877/884-2843 or email [president@aagsnc.org](mailto:president@aagsnc.org)

### **We Need You**

CAAGS needs volunteers to lead or participate in our various committees. Please see Ron Higgins or any board member if you are interested.



# Heritage Newsletter

July/August 2006

*Have a Safe and Fun Summer!*

## President's Message

Ronald Higgins

This is the time for family reunions. Don't forget to interview older members of your family and get the names of new members but, most of all have a wonderful time.

If you are interested in going to the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit in Las Vegas please send in your registration form and fees as soon as possible. They need to know that we are supporting them. We considered chartering a bus but it was too costly. Contact other members that may want to car pool or take the bus or fly if you can. The Nevada African American Genealogical Society has a deadline of July 20<sup>th</sup> to confirm the Summit activities. If they do not have enough registered participants they will have to cancel the Summit. Please do not wait until the last minute to register.

Our sister society, the San Diego African American Genealogy Research Group is celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on July 22<sup>nd</sup> with a family BBQ from 10am – 5pm at Santee Lakes. Please RSVP at 619/262-5810 or 619/449-2320. Santee Lakes is located at 9310 Fanita Parkway, Santee, CA 92071. Bring your own chairs, hats, camera, etc. Water sports, boating and fishing are available thru the park for a fee. Parking is also \$3 at the park.

One last thing, no one signed up for July hospitality. Please call your president if you are interested in bringing a dish. CAAGS needs your support as a volunteer for this and other activities. Your support can make a big difference in the CAAGS family.

### California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 6  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

#### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA

(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

#### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

#### Committee Chairs

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor. Visit our new website at [www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org).*

## 2006 Calendar of Events

### July 7

No CAAGS board meeting

### July 15

CAAGS general meeting 10-2pm. Instructors - Jean Wright-Calhoun, beginner class and Ruth Palmer, intermediate class.

### July 22

San Diego Genealogy Research Group 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Family BBQ, Santee Lakes 10am-5pm. RSVP 619/262-5810 or 619/449-2320. Santee, CA 92071

### August 5

CAAGS board meeting

### August 19

No CAAGS general meeting

### August 30 – September 2

Boston, MA Federation of Genealogical Societies/New England Historic Genealogical Society Conference info [www.fgsconference.blogspot.com](http://www.fgsconference.blogspot.com)

### September 1

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### September 16

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm; Show and Tell

### October 20-21

6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit, Las Vegas, NV., Tuscany Suites Hotel & Casino. For more info contact Gerri Johnson 702/501-2270, registration \$85

### October 23-27

DNA Genealogy Cruise sponsored by the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California. For info/reservations [allcruisetravel.com](http://allcruisetravel.com), 800 227-8473.

**Fees must be paid in full by August 1<sup>st</sup>** also contact AAGSNC at 877/884-2848 email [president@aagsnc.org](mailto:president@aagsnc.org)

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

the standing U.S army which was deployed along the Texas-Mexico border in a vain effort to stem the flow of runaways. Defiant Mexicans stood their ground, refused to return runaways, continued supporting slave uprisings and providing assistance to escaping slaves. In the words of Felix Haywood, a Texas slave, whose experience is recalled in The Slave Narratives of Texas.

## CAAGS Surname Search

Starting in this month's issue we will list the surnames CAAGS members are researching in the hope that we can aid each other in our genealogical research. The member's name will be in bold print and their email address will be listed if we have it otherwise, you will need to refer to your roster for a phone number or address to follow up with the individual member.

**Anita Abner**, [abnerag@aol.com](mailto:abnerag@aol.com) Researching: Abner, Harris, Jackson, Bryant

**Rayonna Adams**, [adamsrs@adelphia.net](mailto:adamsrs@adelphia.net)  
Researching: McCloud- Madison Co. & Bell Co, TX; Eastland - Bell Co & McLennan Co., TX; Glover-Madison Co. TX

**Maria Alequin-Sosa**, [puertoricandoll@aol.com](mailto:puertoricandoll@aol.com)  
Researching: Alequin, Journet, Rosario, Pabon, Toro, Lugo, Rodriquez, Torres, Pina, Velez, Camacho, Acevedo, Dupre, Troche - LA, Puerto Rico

**Eva Allen**, [emaeva@email.com](mailto:emaeva@email.com) Researching: Denmark, Lewis, Porter, Jordan, Goldwire, Deadwiley, Wilder - FL, TX, SC, GA

**Allie Almore-Randle**, [akainger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:akainger@sbcglobal.net)  
Researching: Gatlin, Ward, Garrett, Almore- Hinds Co., Rankin Co., MS

**LaVerne Anderson**, [lasavage@comcast.net](mailto:lasavage@comcast.net)  
Researching: Savage, Burroughs, Foreman, Poole, Johnson - AL

**Odessa Anderson**, Researching: Code - DeSoto Paris, LA

**Shirley Andrews**, Researching: Hayes, Black

**Christina Ashe**, [cashel@msn.com](mailto:cashel@msn.com) Researching: Ashe, Fowler - Marion, NC; Prater - KY; Sullivan - TN

## A Message from First Vice-President

Charlotte Bocage

Just a reminder that I volunteer at the Southern California Genealogical Society Library in Burbank on MOST Wednesday's between 10:30am-4pm. Please call me at home before Wednesday at 323-669-1982 or call the library that day at 818-843-7247 to verify if I'm there. If you want me to meet you at any research facility to provide a guided tour please call me to make an appointment.

## Websites of Interest

### Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

A newsletter for genealogy consumers packed with straight talk <http://blog.eogn.com/>

### Tuskegee Air Men

<http://www.tuskegeearmen.org/images/nameslist2.pdf>

<http://www.nps.gov/tuai/index.htm>

<http://www.tuskegeearmen.org/pages/1/index.htm>

### The Slave Narratives of Texas

[www.afrigenas.com/library/SlaveNarr.html](http://www.afrigenas.com/library/SlaveNarr.html)

By the year 1855, the estimates were that as many as 4,000 to 5,000 formerly enslaved Africans had escaped to Mexico. Slaveholders became so alarmed at this trend, that they requested and received, approximately 1/5<sup>th</sup> of

Register today for the **6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit** being held October 20-21 in Las Vegas, NV at the Tuscan Suites Hotel & Casino, sponsored by the Nevada African American Genealogical Society. For info contact Gerri Johnson 702/501-2270. Your \$85 registration fee must be received by July 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Will Digital Photos Fade Away?**

*By Stephen H. Wildstrom*

Images stored on recordable disks won't last forever, but here are some tips to hang onto them longer

Memories of a great vacation may last a long time, but do the photos you've taken on that African safari and copied onto a recordable disk hold up over the long haul? That's what reader Allen Shattuck wants to know. He writes: I recently read an article that said CD-R and CD-RW disks used to store photos only last two to five years. The article stated that heat can degrade the recording surface of burned CDs, making the stored data unreadable by laser beams. I was under the impression (perhaps mistakenly) that digital images stored on CDs would last indefinitely.

Since they are relatively new, the exact longevity of recordable CDs isn't really known. The Optical Storage Technology Association (OSTA) gives a "conservative" longevity estimate of 5 to 10 years. I suspect that OSTA is being overly cautious, and you can expect a good bit more life than that. Their optical disks should be far more durable than magnetic media, which deteriorate relatively rapidly unless re-recorded from time to time. Magnetic films -- tape and floppy -- are the first to go. Optical media -- CDs and DVDs -- do better.

**Fade To Blank.** Commercially produced disks use tiny pits stamped into polycarbonate plastic. The main risks to the integrity of the data are scratches and corrosion of the reflective metallic layer. However, the data on the sort of recordable disks you are asking about are burned into a dye layer and could become unreadable if the dye fades.

The main risk would be exposure to direct sunlight, but I have never experienced such problems. Keeping any sort of media away from extreme heat is a good idea. Digital media won't warp like vinyl records when left in your car on a sunny day, but high temperatures will definitely shorten the life of any media.

In general, the biggest risk to data is not deterioration of the media but technological obsolescence. I still have

some 5 1/4-inch and even some ancient 8-inch floppies around, but I have no idea if they are readable because I have nothing to read them with. I keep a USB floppy drive on hand, but I can't remember when I last used it.

**Paper Trail.** These days I use USB memory keys for the jobs once assigned to floppies, but these aren't permanent either -- unless powered up occasionally, the flash memory will eventually fade too.

If you really want to save data for the long haul, libraries and conservators say your best bet is black laser printing on acid-free paper. Stored in a dry dark place, the pages should last for well over a century. And unless the art of reading dies entirely, there's no risk of technological obsolescence.

*Taken from Business Week May 12, 2006*

## **Rep. Lantos introduces bill to preserve post-Civil War Reconstruction records**

Congressman Tom Lantos (D-San Mateo) has introduced H.R. 5216, the Preservation of Records of Servitude, Emancipation, and Post-Civil War Reconstruction Act, legislation that would ensure that many of the records important to genealogists tracing lineages involving slave families will be preserved, digitized and catalogued.

While most Americans can research their genealogical history simply by searching through municipal birth, death, and marriage records almost all of which have been properly archived as public historical documents, many African Americans face a unique challenge when conducting genealogical research due to our nation's history of slavery and discrimination, Lantos said.

Instead of using traditional genealogical research documents, African Americans often need to identify the name of former slave owners. Compounding this difficulty is the fact that most records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction are frequently inaccessible, poorly catalogued, and inadequately preserved from decay. My legislation preserves these pieces of public and personal history to make them readily and easily accessible to all Americans.

H.R. 5216, builds on the Freedman's Bureau Preservation Act of 2000 (P.L. Number: 106-444), which passed both the House and the Senate unanimously in 2000 and was signed into law in November 2000. That law required the Archivist of the United States to create a searchable indexing system to catalogue the geological records from the post-Civil War

Reconstruction period. Lantos legislation builds on the success of the Freedman Bureau Preservation Act by requiring the National Archives to properly preserve additional post - Civil War Reconstruction records as well as establishing a grant program for the Archivist to work with various States, Universities, Colleges, and genealogical institutions to establish digitized databases so that anyone in this country will have access to these treasure troves of information.

H.R. 5216, was introduced with over 40 bi-partisan cosponsors and was referred to the Government Reform Committee. They look forward to working with Chairman Tom Davis to move this legislation very quickly.

**Slave Research**  
*Submitted by Norma Gilbert*

**William Graves Bouldin,  
Administrator of the Estate of Green Bouldin**

This day came William Graves Bouldin, Administrator of the Estate of Green Bouldin dec'd for the purpose of making a final settlement of his said administration. It appearing to the satisfaction of the court that his accounts and vouchers were duly filed for said settlement and legal notes given thereof and from the exhibits of said account. It appearing that the sums of Two Thousand nine hundred and twenty-four dollars and twenty-six and thno(?) fourth cents remained in said administration bonds which was paid as herein after decied will be his full this said administration. It is therefore ordered that said account be entered of Record.

In the petition of Richard T. Bouldin one of the heirs of Green Bouldin deceased for a distribution of the Estate of said Green Bouldin deceased which is yet in the hands of Wm. Graves Bouldin, Administrator of said Green Bouldin deceased and 1, Charles H. Peters, Judge of the county court of Morgan County, State of Alabama declare and decree that the Sum of twenty nine hundred and twenty four dollars, forty-two and a half, being the amount in the hands of said administrator be distributed among the following heirs, to Wit: I order and decree to William Graves Bouldin the sum [next page] of two hundred and ninety-two dollars, forty-two and a half cents, being interest from the 11<sup>th</sup> January 1831, being the amount which the negroes apportioned To said Bouldin were valued less than five thou., seven hundred and twenty dollars and ten cents, the amt allotted to each heir to receive of said negroes.

I further order and decree that said administrator pay to Richard T. Bouldin the sum of two hundred and ninety two dollars, forty-two and a half cents, deducting this from the sum of Eighteen dollars and ninety cents with Interest from the 11<sup>th</sup> January 1831 being the amount of the value of negroes received by him above the sum of seven hundred and twenty dollars and ten cents.

I further order and decree that said Wm. Graves Bouldin, Administrator pay to Thomas L. Dupree in right of his wife Massey, formerly Massey Ann Bouldin, the sum of two hundred and ninety two dollars and 42/100 cents and also the sum of thirty-five dollars and ten cents with interest from the 11<sup>th</sup> January 1831, being the amount the negroes received by him were valued at less than the sum of seven hundred and twenty dollars and ten cents.

**We Need You – Please Volunteer**  
CAAGS needs volunteers to lead or participate in our various committees. Please see Ron Higgins or any board member if you are interested.

**Saving Graves**

Saving Graves is a collaborative effort of cemetery preservation advocates working to increase public awareness and activism in preserving, protecting and restoring endangered and forgotten historic cemeteries worldwide.

Currently Saving Graves has its main page at:  
<http://www.savinggraves.org>,  
All 50 states, Canada at <http://www.savinggraves-ca.org>,  
Australia: <http://www.savinggraves-au.org>,  
The UK at <http://www.savinggraves-uk.org>, and every country around the world, along with the newest addition Historic Graveyards at:  
<http://www.historicgraveyards.com>.

Saving Graves was founded by Mr. William Spurlock of Norcross, Georgia in 2000. Mr. Spurlock handed over the Saving Graves websites and domains in November 2005. Along with the state and county coordinators, we continue to build the legacy Mr. Spurlock has begun.

People like you help us grow by submitting reports on endangered cemeteries across the country and around the world. We welcome all information on cemeteries in your state, state laws or legislation, photo pages, and other items. States and counties are available for adoption throughout the US and we welcome volunteers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [savinggraves@comporium.net](mailto:savinggraves@comporium.net).





# Heritage Newsletter

September 2006

## California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 7  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

### Committee Chairs

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## President's Message

Ronald Higgins

During the month of July the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza hosted a Family History Research Workshop. CAAGS and the LDS Church provided research classes. In the week leading up to the workshop several of our members and myself served as greeters passing out literature and inviting people to come to the workshop. Thanks to Thalia Clarke, Ron Fairley, Dorothylou Sands, Marie Bryant, Marilyn White and Marjorie Sholes who all volunteered as greeters.

Richard McBride, director of The Family History Center and Marjorie Sholes taught beginner genealogy classes. Plans are underway to have another workshop later in the year. I want to thank all that took part in making this workshop successful.

September is our Show and Tell meeting. Come ready to share your research news with the group. There will be no meeting in October. I hope you all are planning to attend the West Coast Summit being held in Las Vegas on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

Remember it is time to think of new officers for 2007. Offices needing nominations are 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Education and Outreach), Recording Secretary, Treasurer and NGS delegate.

San Diego (SDAAGRS) celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a family picnic. Marjorie Sholes and I attended their celebration.

Plans are also being made to for next year's Roots Conference. If you are interested in doing a presentation please contact me for additional information.

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor. Visit our new website at [www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org).*

## 2006 Calendar of Events

### September 1

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### September 6

Research Groups- Free and open to the public. French Canadian Research Group Every Wednesday 10am – 4pm. For more info [www.scgsgenealogy.com](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com)

### September 7

German Research Group, Every Thursday 10am – 4pm; For more info [www.scgsgenealogy.com](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com)

### September 16

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm; Show and Tell

### September 23

DNA Interest Group 10am – 2pm Guest speaker will be Andrew Yeiser co-author of DNA & Genealogy, who will take the audience through a step-by-step construction of a cladogram and show various styles that can help each surname group communicate the structure of the group to their members. For more info [www.scgsgenealogy.com](http://www.scgsgenealogy.com)

### October 20-21

6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit, Las Vegas, NV., Tuscany Suites Hotel & Casino. For more info contact Gerri Johnson 702/501-2270.

### October 21

No CAAGS general meeting

\* *Calendar is subject to change without notice*

## Websites of Interest

### Inglewood Park Cemetery

Genealogical information from cemetery records may or may not include the following:

Full name (and a.k.a. if applicable); dates and places of birth and death if available; date and location of interment; names and available information on other family members interred in the same location (see fees for additional names). Can not provide information about survivors, property owners, or interment-authorizing signatures for interments less than 50 years ago. For more info go to <http://inglewoodparkcemetery.com/genealogy1.html>

**Votaw Colonies** - CAAGRI is looking for the descendants of the Votaw Colonies established in Kansas. If you have family in Kansas or have ever been told that you had family in Kansas, please contact them. For more information on the migration, please visit the website or to see if your family member is in their database go to [www.caagri.org](http://www.caagri.org)

**1914 CA Map** - In the beginning stages of making pages

of counties of each state, CA, MT, OR, and SC are complete and have started Utah. For more info go to [http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~shastaca/maps\\_index.html](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~shastaca/maps_index.html)

**RootsMagic** is an exciting new full featured genealogy program from the same company that wrote Family Origins. Take a free test drive and discover why the experts are praising RootsMagic. RootsMagic is family history made easy. <http://www.rootsmagic.com>

## CAAGS Surname Search

To aid our members with their research, each month we will list CAAGS members and the surnames they are researching. Each member's name will be in bold print followed by their email address. If we do not have an email address you will need to refer to your roster for a phone number or address to follow up with the individual.

**Donald & Anjail, Baker**, [anjail1209@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anjail1209@sbcglobal.net)  
Researching: Sullivan, Boseman, Howlett, Brown, Payne, Baker

**Gloria Ballard**, [lithenia@sbcyahoo.net](mailto:lithenia@sbcyahoo.net) Researching: Williams- TX; Hall- LA

**Ronald Batiste**, [Ronbatiste@aol.com](mailto:Ronbatiste@aol.com) Researching: Baptiste- LA; Wright- GA, PA; Howard- GA, AL, FL; Hightower- GA, AL; Liner, Lyner, Lynah- SC; Thomas- MD, DC

**Darnell Bell**, [kofikyini@att.net](mailto:kofikyini@att.net) Researching: Lockett, Christian- TX; Burbridge- LA

**Melrose Bell**, [esorlem21@msn.com](mailto:esorlem21@msn.com) Researching: Carson, Dansby, Foster, Thomas, Stewart, Tarver, Belle  
**Tressia Bennett**, [tannel@prodigy.net](mailto:tannel@prodigy.net) Researching: Breedlove, Winans, Randle, Washington, Liscome, Davis- LA, TX

**Charlotte Bocage**, [rbymoon4@pacbell.net](mailto:rbymoon4@pacbell.net) Researching: Bocage, Charles, Lamothe, Pizero, Bloom, Gayaut, Thomas, Jones, St. Louis- LA

**Diane Bramlett** Researching: Bramlett, Hubbard- MS

**Edna Briggs**, [ebriggs123@aol.com](mailto:ebriggs123@aol.com) Researching: Briggs, Moorehead, Jones, Walker, Clinger, Strickland

**Donald Brown**, [dbrown375@aol.com](mailto:dbrown375@aol.com) Researching: Brown- NC; Crawford- NJ, PA, SC; McKee- PA, SC; Curry- NC, NJ

**Richard Brown**, [brownjr\\_r@msn.com](mailto:brownjr_r@msn.com) Researching: Brown, Edwards, Smalls, Bennett, Broughton- SC, NC, VA, TN, GA, FL, AR

**E. Brown-Lawson**, [eonja2@yahoo.com](mailto:eonja2@yahoo.com) Researching: Brown or Browning - Fitzgerald (Albany Co) GA; Robert & Elizabeth Browning (poets) - England; Patience

## QUERY

Looking for the d and dpl of Mose WHITE, in LA;  
Looking for m of Adeline BROWN and m of Jane KINCHEN; Looking for the mo of Anabella WHITE;  
Looking for the p and d and cem of Phillip WHITE.  
Willing to xch info on the desc of ch, gch (5 gen).  
Contact Sandra K. Oten-Jackson, PO Box 36119, Los Angeles, CA 90036-9559; jackson9972@sbcglobal.net.

## Update On Hurricane Damage by Judy Riffel

The December issue of *Le Raconteur* reported on damage to Louisiana records from the two hurricanes, Katrina and Rita. The following information was current as of mid-February.

**Notarial Archives** - On January 9th the Notarial Archives Research Center at 1340 Poydras St., Suite 360, reopened to researchers. Its hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. According to Archivist Ann Wakefield, FEMA had initially told the agency that it would not assist in paying the expense of moving the books from their temporary location in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center to the new location on the 5th floor of the Poydras building because the original location (i.e., the basement of the Civil District Courthouse) was in a functional building. Fortunately, FEMA came back a couple of weeks later and said that it would actually be illegal for the Notarial Archives to move the records back into the basement because of the possibility of its flooding again. Therefore, FEMA will assist in the cost of moving the books to the new location.

**Vital Records Registry** - As reported in the December issue, birth, death, and marriage records housed at the Loyola Ave. building were moved from the basement to higher floors before the flood and were not significantly impacted. Since then, all records have been moved to a building near the intersection of Airline Dr. and Causeway Blvd. This facility, however, does not offer counter service for walk-in patrons. Walk-in service is being offered at 1855 Ames Blvd. in Marrero and at 111 North Causeway Blvd. in East Jefferson.

**New Orleans Public Library** - The week after Thanksgiving, the Louisiana Division of the New Orleans Public Library reopened two days a week. Then in January, it expanded its hours to Monday through Friday, 12 to 4 p.m. The City Archives remains in the basement for the time being, however, the library is working with their foundation on a solution to this

problem. Diana Williams, a graduate student at Harvard University, is also urging an effort to microfilm and remove records from the basement. For more information, see her website, [www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~dwilliamsavethehistory.htm](http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~dwilliamsavethehistory.htm).

**Tulane University** - As previously reported, Jones Hall, which housed the library's Special Collections, had about four feet of water in the basement. According to the library's website, [http://library.tulane.edu/news/archive/02032006collections\\_katrina.php](http://library.tulane.edu/news/archive/02032006collections_katrina.php), an effort was made to retrieve everything of value, more than 4,000 boxes of material. Manuscripts including the personal papers of several local figures and the records of a local bank were damaged. All salvaged material is now frozen for transfer to Belfor's restoration facility in Fort Worth.

**Archdiocese of New Orleans** - The archives is currently operating out of the Catholic Life Center in Baton Rouge. Although none of the records in the archives itself were damaged, some records in the individual parish churches were lost or damaged. Damaged records have been relocated to Baton Rouge. Lost or damaged records will be reconstructed from microfilm. Genealogical and historical research in the archives is suspended until after the return to New Orleans, tentatively scheduled for this summer. Each request will be assigned a number and notification of when research is resumed will be forwarded at a later date. Requests should be submitted (without fees) to [archives@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:archives@archdiocese-no.org).

**Louisiana Historical Center** - As previously reported, the roof of the Old Mint building in which the Louisiana Historical Center was housed was damaged and will not reopen before 2007. According to Kathryn Page, Curator of Maps, Manuscripts & Special Projects, the French and Spanish Colonial Court records housed in the building were undamaged and have been placed in storage. The Louisiana Historical Center will be reformulated, but it is unclear at this time whether or not it will be housed in the Old Mint or another Louisiana State Museum facility in New Orleans.

**St. Bernard Parish Clerk of Court** - According to information given by the Clerk of Court to the State Archives staff, all real estate records (mortgages and conveyances) had been digitized prior to the storm and backups are safe. Juvenile, adoption, civil, DCC, and probate records are at the BMS Cat facility (a disaster recovery firm) in Fort Worth and should be returned shortly. The marriage records are also in Fort Worth and

are believed to be 99% fine. The status of the 1% will not be known until they are returned. The records that were lost were some of the most current civil records, which the Clerk's office is currently recreating, all of the criminal records, and all evidence and exhibits (both civil and criminal).

Cameron Parish Clerk of Court - According to the Clerk of Court, some of the probate and succession records were damaged from Hurricane Rita and have been sent to Fort Worth for restoration. The Clerk's office is working out of a trailer in front of the courthouse.  
Welham Plantation - According to a Le Comite member, records from Welham Plantation (St. James Parish) which were in the possession of a former owner who lived in Metairie were completely destroyed.

LSD Special Collections - The LSD Libraries provided valuable assistance in the recovery of historical artifacts, manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, and books from around the state. For a detailed article on their efforts, see the What's New update on the Special Collections' website at [www.lib.lsu.edu/special/whatsnew.html](http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/whatsnew.html).

*- Taken from the Le Raconteur Newsletter*

### **SCGS Annual Book Sale**

The SCGS Annual book sale is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the library. Now's a great time to make some room on your bookshelves at home and show your support for SCGS. Bring your book donations to the library any time before the 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Slave Research**

*Submitted by Norma Gilbert*

#### **Will of Thomas Bouldin. Dec'd.**

Thomas Bouldin of Henry Co, Virginia, being weak of body but of sound in mind and disposing memory, thanks to God for his mercies. Calling to mind that it is ordained for all men since to die, do make this my last will and Testament, First, I desire to be buried in Christian like form, hoping for happiness in the world to come.

Through the merits of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. Item, I desire all my just debts be paid.

Item, my worldly goods I dispose of as follows. I give and bequeath to son Green Bouldin & his heirs forever a certain negro man named Charles, and no more of my

Estate in slaves. - Item, I give and bequeath to my son Thomas Bouldin and his heirs forever a certain negro man named Abram and no more of my Estate in slaves.

Item, I give and bequeath to my son William Bouldin and his heirs forever a certain negro woman name Aggy, her child and all her future increase and no more of my Estate in slaves. Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Polly Rowland a negro boy named Jack, one negro woman named Salley, and her increase. Which negroes are now in her possession and Fifty dollars to be paid her in twelve months after my death and no more of my personal perishable Estate.

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter Patsey Mosby for the life time of my daughter Patsey, and then the children of said Daughter Patsey a negro boy named George and negro woman named Billy and the future increase of said slaves and Fifty dollars to be paid her in twelve months after my death and no more of my personal, perishable Estate.

Item, I give to my friend and neighbor General John Dillard of Henry County in trust the following Slaves, viz a negro woman Micca, negro man Martin, a negro woman Jinny and their increase except Jordan, the heir of said slaves to be applied to the maintenance of my daughter Nancy C. Potter Cole, Nancy C. Rowland during her life and then said slaves and increase to be equally divided between the children of the said Nancy C. Potter excepting from said division Mary Ann Rowland, her first ....

Item, I give to, my granddaughter ... heir forever a negro boy Jordan, as trustee my friend Gent John Dillard will take possession of said boy apply the hire to the support and education of my said granddaughter, and surrender full possession of said boy to my granddaughter when she becomes of age or marries.

Item, I give to my daughter Nancy C. Potter and my granddaughter Mary Ann Rowland the whole of my landed estate to be divided between them as follows, beginning at a corner white oak on the meadow branch mooring a short line to the Bridge where the main road crosses the creek, thence with the road to the back line. I give and bequeath to my Granddaughter Mary Ann Rowland, and her heirs forever, all the land on the south side of said line, and all the north side. I give and bequeath to my daughter Nancy C. Potter and her heirs forever which land so given to be managed in any way which .... Genl John Dillard, a trustee, may think most advisable for the benefit of my said daughter and granddaughter.



# Heritage Newsletter

November 2006

*Happy Thanksgiving*

## President's Message

Ronald Higgins

The spotlight was on Las Vegas, NV where the Nevada African American Genealogy Society held the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit, Oct 21 & 22. The Tuscany Hotel and Casino was the site for the conference on Flamingo Rd., just off the strip.

The theme for the Summit was "Discovering Your Roots and Branches." There were approximately 130 people in attendance seeking information about their roots. A number of speakers gave us points to help with various research topics. I would like to thank all of the CAAGS members who attended the Summit this year. A special award was presented to me in appreciation of my work and support with various societies and summits.

A special thanks from me to Gerri Johnson-Ratliff, Darell White and their spouses for all their hard work and hospitality in putting this summit together for all of us who attended. Thanks to all!

Lastly, please remember we'll be holding elections and having our Thanksgiving pot luck at the November general meeting. We need members to bring entrees, your favorite side dish, vegetable or dessert to our feast. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

§

Well, every man has something in heaven or earth which he will give up everything else for or something which absorbs him which may be regarded by others as being useless. Yet it is his dream, it is his lodestar, it is his master. That, whatever it is, seized upon me, made me its servant, slave, induced me to set aside the other ambitions, a trail of glory in the heavens, which I followed, followed with a full heart.

- Walt Whitman

### California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 9  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

#### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)  
Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

#### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

#### Committee Chairs

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor. Visit our new website at [www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org).*

## 2006 Calendar of Events

### November 3

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### November 18

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm. Intermediate instructor Edna Briggs; Elections, By-Laws ratification and Thanksgiving pot luck

### November 19

Research trip at Los Angeles Public Library; Contact Charlotte Bocage for details.

### December 1

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

### December 16

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm; Installation of officers and holiday party

### February 17, 2007

#### **Genealogy Society of Riverside - 8th Annual Genealogical Seminar - Rolling Along The Ancestral Trial**

Magnolia Presbyterian Church 7200 Magnolia Ave, Riverside, CA. Pre-registration: Members \$15; Non-Members \$17; Registration at the door \$22 Class Syllabus: Pre-order \$9; at the door (while supplies last) \$11 Keynote Speaker: Jean Wilcox Hibben. For more info [www.gsor.org/](http://www.gsor.org/)

### February 24, 2007 – Whittier, CA

The Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) has announced their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar featuring Curt B. Witcher. For more info contact Barbara Wilks, Seminar Director at (562) 696-5915, [barbwilks@earthlink.net](mailto:barbwilks@earthlink.net) or John Hergesheimer at (562) 941-3184.

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

## 2006 – 2008 Request for nominations

It's not too late to contact us if you are interested in running for one of our vacant offices. Also plan on joining us at the November meeting to place your vote.

## Websites of Interest

### ➤ **Colorado State Archives: Online Indexes**

Includes some unique items, such as voter registrations, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Enrollment Index, inheritance tax, and old-age pensions.

[www.colorado.gov/dpa/doit/archives/](http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/doit/archives/)

See the indexes and search the historical records at [www.colorado.gov/dpa/doit/archives/hrd/index.htm](http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/doit/archives/hrd/index.htm)

### ➤ **Pennsylvania State Archives**

Various military records, including Pennsylvania National Guard Veterans' Card File, 1867-1921; World War I Service Medal Application Cards and Mexican Border Campaign Veterans' Card File.

[www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/overview.htm](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/overview.htm)

For best results spend some time learning how to use ARIAS (Archives Records Information Access System) to search its 1.5 million records.

[www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/](http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/)

### ➤ **Roots Television**

The website features video segments about genealogy. Will feature more on this site next month.

[www.rootstelevision.com](http://www.rootstelevision.com).

### ➤ **U.S. National Slavery Museum**

[www.usnationalslaverymuseum.org](http://www.usnationalslaverymuseum.org)

## CAAGS Surname Search

To aid our members with their research, each month we will list CAAGS members and the surnames they are researching. Each member's name will be in bold print followed by their email address. If we do not have an email address you will need to refer to your roster for a phone number or address to follow up with the individual.

**Lulla Denson** - Researching: Denson, Smith, Wiley, King, Bryant, Williams

**Colette DeVerge'** - [CDeVerge@aol.com](mailto:CDeVerge@aol.com) Researching: Grundy, Light, Moncrief, Norton, Walker, Wallace, Washington

**Ethel Dillon** - [teesally@yahoo.com](mailto:teesally@yahoo.com) Researching: Rutledge, Celestin; Creasy

**Rosetta Dunbar** - [rose\\_d@hotmail.com](mailto:rose_d@hotmail.com) Researching: Dunbar, Clark, Kimber

**Caldwell Durham**- [cdurhamc@juno.com](mailto:cdurhamc@juno.com) Researching: Durham, Tillman

**A. Nelson & Asilah El-Amin** - [elasili@earthlink.net](mailto:elasili@earthlink.net) Researching: (Nelson) - Nelson, Logan, Thomas, Sampson, Sandifur, Suttles, Thomas- AR; (Asilah)- Anderson, Crockett, Wade, Whitehead, Winn- TX

**Asbury Ellis** - [aeejbe@dslxtreme.com](mailto:aeejbe@dslxtreme.com) Researching: Ellis, Maddox, Hodges, Anderson, Valentine, Kennedy, Ware, Young, Pruitt, Wilson- SC; Moore, Taylor, Williams, King, Gordon, Gross, Roberts- MS; Clifford, Redman, Kent, Bruce- WV, PA, OH

**Ronald Fairley** - Researching: Fairley- AL; Hardeman, Payne- TX

**Faye Faulkner** - [fayefaulkner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fayefaulkner@sbcglobal.net) Researching: Pipkin, Faulkner, Falkner, Brown, Hall

**Edward & Mary Fletcher** - [fletchvii@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fletchvii@sbcglobal.net) Researching: Ed-Fletcher, Brown, Hughes, Walls, Jackson- AR, MS; Mary- Daniels, Mathews, Smith, Johnson, Hansey, McDowell- LA

**Rita Flowers** - Researching: Jeffery, Talley

**Marion Gardner** - [plowforward@hotmail.com](mailto:plowforward@hotmail.com)

Researching: Weeb Black, Braxton, middleton, Godbolt-

MS

**Lillian Glover** - lglover318@yahoo.com Researching: Young, Beard- NY, MA

**Don Goodwin** - dongoodwin2001@yahoo.com Researching: Goodwin, Carter, Smith, White, Session, Pllum, Jones, Holland, Wallace, Stanley, McDowell-TX

**Alva Griffith** - alvagriff@comcast.net Researching: Rhodes, Phillips, Conrad, Revels, Jones, Logan, Hargrave, Allen

### Bring a Young Person to CAAGS

For the December meeting CAAGS is inviting all members to bring a young person to our meeting with you. We are trying to get YOUTH or YOUNG people interested in genealogy.

### FGS Call for Papers

The Federation of Genealogical Societies is pleased to announce an invitation to submit lecture proposals for the **2008 FGS Conference, *Footprints to Family History*** to be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA, September 3-6, 2008

We're looking for a wide variety of presentations – including immigration (given Philadelphia's role as number 1 port of entry in the 18th century) and migration (focusing not just on trans-Atlantic groups but also movements of African-Americans from the Southern Gulf states).

Proposals must be received by January 5, 2007, and may be submitted through regular mail, e-mail, or the Federation Web site at [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org).

E-mail submissions must be in Word, Word Perfect, or PDF format. Please do not duplicate electronic and print submissions. For additional information you may e-mail, write, or telephone conference program chair Catherine "Casey" Zahn at (609)273-8064; [caseywilkz@aol.com](mailto:caseywilkz@aol.com).

### Kids Contest

On 28 October the Statue of Liberty celebrated her 120<sup>th</sup> birthday! To mark the occasion, The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation has announced a picture contest for children, kindergarten through fifth grades. To celebrate this birthday in a special way, the Foundation is encouraging children to send in their original drawings. There will be 12 finalists and then, three winning entries will be selected from the 12 by the Superintendent of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. There are also some great age-appropriate prizes for all finalists.

Full details can be found at [www.statueofliberty.org](http://www.statueofliberty.org)  
The final date for entries is January 31, 2007.

### Turn Genealogy into a Business

The Wall Street Journal has an article about the work done by professional genealogists. Searching for Life's Connection With the Past Aided by Online Records, More Hobbyists Turn Genealogy Into a Business by Riva Richmond describes the paths that several genealogists took to become professionals.

Laura Prescott is mentioned a number of times in the article, described as "a college history major who worked in banking and marketing, is turning her love of a good puzzle, a gripping story and an era gone by into a full-time profession." Last year, she joined the growing ranks of self-employed professional genealogists who make a living tracing and chronicling the lives of ordinary families.

"You can be a professional genealogist if you can get as interested in someone else's family as you are in your own," she says. "My big passion in genealogy is not just the names and the dates and the facts. It's tying it into history and putting flesh on the bones of the data you can gather."

Other professional genealogists interviewed include Kathleen W. Hinckley, executive director of the Association of Professional Genealogists; Loretta Dennis Szucs, author of genealogy's modern bible, *The Source*; Megan Smolenyak, the author who recently corrected history by uncovering the identity of the real Annie Moore, an Irish girl documented as the first immigrant to enter Ellis Island; and 21-year-old D. Joshua Taylor who began compiling genealogies at age 10 and used his skills to help pay for his college education.

You can find the article on page B6 of the October 10, 2006 edition of the Wall Street Journal. If you have a subscription to the online version, you can also read it at [http://online.wsj.com/article\\_print/SB116045254910287738.html](http://online.wsj.com/article_print/SB116045254910287738.html).

*Taken from Eastman Online Genealogy, 10/10/2006*

### Bernadene High Coleman's New Novel BEYOND COLOR

Bernadene High Coleman, is the author of three best sellers: *Mama Rose*, *I Leave You My Dreams*, and *Listen my Children*. She has presented at the Library of

Congress and at many colleges and schools around the country. She lives in Los Angeles and is a former member of CAAGS.

In this novel, you will meet three generations of women who had to endure incredible struggles to know and understand their ethnicity as well as their self-identity.

Order online at: [www.mamarose.com](http://www.mamarose.com)  
\$14.95 ea. Plus S. & H. \$3.00 (additional books; S. & H. \$2.00) CA residents- add 8.25% tax. Or send check or money order to: B H Coleman -- P O Box 4372 Culver City, CA 90231

### Information on Cemetery Preservation

More and more citizens are becoming concerned that historic cemeteries (especially African American cemeteries) are being endangered by development or lack of maintenance. If you are concerned about cemetery preservation in your community, please read our article "Cemetery Preservation: A Growing Concern." Two related offsite resources are the Grave Matters Brochure from the Chicora Foundation and The Saving Graves Learning Lab. The Grave Matters brochure points out important differences between European American and African American cemeteries, and the Saving Graves Learning Lab is an incredible collection of articles on every aspect of cemetery preservation, from gathering support in your community, to actually restoring headstones, iron work and gravestone foundations.

### Maps and Land Records

Government land records can provide many starting points for locating your ancestors. Government Land Office Records Search offers online images and parcel descriptions of land records dating from the 1800s to the present.

Map archives can help you to pinpoint, and learn more about, the places where your ancestors were born, and where they lived. Two extensive collections of online maps are the United States Digital Map Library at the USGenWeb Project and the David Rumsey Historical Map Collection. Both sites contain beautiful high resolution maps for you to download and print.

### **The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy**

Ancestry has just released the Third Edition of the company's great genealogy reference book: The Source:

A Guidebook to American Genealogy. This is the definitive book for anyone researching American ancestry. The Second Edition of this great reference was published 14 years ago.

This 965-page hardcover publication provides a wealth of information. It has twenty chapters, followed by eight appendixes. Each chapter provides a mini seminar written by an expert in a specific genealogical field that shows what sources are available, how to find them, and most importantly, how to use those resources

### **Slave Research** *Submitted by Norma Garbert*

WILL OF JOHN KIMBRO, dec.  
Davidson Co., TN  
*Part II (continued from October 2006 Newsletter)*

State of Tennessee, Davidson County Court, March Term 1852.

A paper writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of JOHN KIMBRO, dec'd was produced in open Court for probate and moved thus. I.G. BRILEY and W.S.TURNER the subscribing witnesses there to being first duly sworn, depose and say that they became such in presence of the said JOHN KIMBRO dec'd and at his request and in presence of each other and that they verily believe that he was of sane and disposing mind and memory at the time of Executing the same--Ordered that said paper writing be admitted to record as such last Will and Testament of the said JOHN KIMBRO, dec'd. Whereupon Samuel KIMBRO, the Executor named in the Will came into Court and gave bond of Five Thousand dollars there being no security required and qualified according to Law. Ordered that letters testamentary issue to him.

### JOHN KIMBRO'S BEQUEST OF PROPERTY

The personal property amounting to eleven hundred dollars willed to Elizabeth's heirs was probably the value of slaves.

In Johnson County Court, Arkansas, April Term 1853: "Bartlett Zachary and H. L White petitioned court to sell 5 slaves jointly owned by Matilda; Louisa C., and W. B. Ogilvie and Ellen Zachary." (Book 0, p. 23) Then in July Term 1853: Hiram L. White filed report of sales of Negroes.





# Heritage Newsletter

October 2006

*Celebrating Family History Month*

## President's Message

Ronald Higgins

Remember there will not be a CAAGS meeting in October. We're going to Las Vegas to attend the West Coast Summit.

The society is in search of individuals to serve as officers on our board, we need you. Please be sure to attend the November meeting and vote. Also, at the members meeting in November I'm asking all members to bring their favorite Thanksgiving dish to share at our Thanksgiving celebration. Call Ruth Palmer or your president to let us know what you will be bringing.

I want to truly thank each of you who took part in Show and Tell during the September meeting. This was the best Show and Tell I've seen in the many years we've had it. Colorful, insiteful, informative and helpful. Those that shared included Mary Alequin-Sosa, Charlotte Bocage, Darelene Rothwell, Daisy Saffold, Nelle Becker Slaton, Don Goodwin, Sandra Oten-Jackson, Asbury Ellis and Edna Briggs.

The African American Genealogical Society of Northern California, our sister society in Oakland will be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the month of October. I will be attending the celebration on October 8<sup>th</sup> representing CAAGS.

§

## Genealogy and A Possible Guinness World Record

The town of West Union in Doddridge County, West Virginia, was 125 years old in July 2006. Now, why is that important to anyone who doesn't have Doddridge County roots?

### California African American Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 8  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

#### General Meetings

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

#### 2006 Board of Directors

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

#### Committee Chairs

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor. Visit our new website at [www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org).*

The organizers of the celebration hope to be listed in the Guinness World Records. The plan is to be listed as having created the "Largest Family Tree Chart." Nobody has ever submitted an entry before for the "Largest Family Tree Chart!" This will be a new category for Guinness.

### 2006 Calendar of Events

#### October 6

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### October 20-21

6<sup>th</sup> Annual West Coast Summit, Las Vegas, NV.,  
Tuscany Suites Hotel & Casino

#### October 21

No CAAGS general meeting – See you in Las Vegas

#### November 3

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### November 18

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm. Elections and  
Thanksgiving Pot Luck

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

### 2006 – 2008 Request for nominations

In addition to the normal positions up for election this year, First VP, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer, we need a Corresponding Secretary. Please contact us if you are interested in running for one of these offices.

### CAAGS Surname Search

To aid our members with their research, each month we will list CAAGS members and the surnames they are researching. Each member's name will be in bold print followed by their email address. If we do not have an email address you will need to refer to your roster for a phone number or address to follow up with the individual.

Cartellia Bryant cartellia\_b@hotmail.com -  
Researching: Bryant, Cummings, Grayson, Smith - TX;  
Hunter - TX, TN; Holleman - TX, LA  
Barbara Butts - Researching: Means- NC, SC; Emsery,  
Moffitt, McHenry, Hawkins, Woods- LA; Ruffin- SC,  
LA; Hargrove, Hoggro- LA, SC; Hanes- NC, SC, VA,  
Ethiopia  
Harold Campbell - Researching: Campbell, Wright,  
Morrow, Johnson  
Betty 'Mimi' Carmichael, mimi5625@aol.com -  
Researching: Callier, Sibley, Carmichael, Mathis,  
Searcy- GA  
Thalia Clarke - Researching: Clarke, Nethersol-

Kingston, Jamaica; Montgomery, McDougle, Allen -  
TX

H. Cochee, tallroots@sbcglobal.net - Researching:  
Amory, Brownbill, Thompson, Tuta, Pennyfeather,  
Basfield, Scott, Williams- TX, OH, TN, NC, St. Kitts &  
Canada

Wilfred & June Coggins, juncoggins@aol.com -  
Researching: Williams, Johnson, Earley, Coggins,  
Coward

Marianna Cushnie, m\_cushnie@hotmail.com -  
Researching: Cushnie- Jamaica; Lovett- WV, PA;  
Waugh- PA

Sonya Davis, sgreenda@sbcglobal.net - Researching:  
Reese, Vaughn, Maxwell, Sercy, Tabor, McCall,  
Brooks, Meeks

### Bring a Young Person to CAAGS

For the December meeting CAAGS is inviting all members to bring a young person to our meeting with you. We are trying to get YOUTH or YOUNG people interested in genealogy.

### Recognition of Black Confederate Soldiers Committee Announced

Recently, President General Esther Cope of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) appointed a committee to gather information on Black Confederate soldiers, including information on markers and monuments honoring these Confederate heroes.

Each UDC Chapter has been directed to search out and document graves, markers, pensions, military records and other information on these men. Individuals are asked to collect the following information: the names, military records or pensions, if possible. Location of grave and type of marker. If possible, include a photograph. Photos of monuments to Black Confederates, including location, date erected and other dedication information. Any other pertinent information.

You can send this information into the Oran M. Roberts Chapter 440, UDC - Attn: Lynna Kay Shuffield, P. O. Box 16604, Houston, Texas 77222 or via e-mail to lksfriday@sbcglobal.net

*[This announcement is from the UDC Magazine, Aug 2006, Vol. LXIX, No. 7, p. 10]*

### Forensic Genealogy At The Los Angeles Public Library

Forensic Genealogy: Dissecting Old Photographs will be

presented by Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. in the Mark Taper Auditorium of the Central Library. Learn how to unlock the information found in old family photographs using simple techniques borrowed from forensic science, as featured on NPR's "Talk of the Nation with Neal Conan."

A book signing will follow the lecture. The Los Angeles Public Library is located at 630 W. Fifth St. Validated parking is available at 524 S. Flower St. for \$1 on Sundays after 1 p.m. To obtain the validation, patrons must show their library card to the attendant at the Information Desk on the first floor of the library. For further information call (213) 228-7413.

On the same day, it will also be possible to view the Puro Muerto Contemporary Imagery of Day of the Dead exhibit in the Getty Gallery on the Second Floor of the Central Library. This exhibit will be on display from September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 through March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

### **Locating Hispanic Ancestors Getting Past Frequently Misspelled Names**

Spelling errors for Hispanic names occur for various reasons:

- Unfamiliarity with Hispanic names and their spelling on the part of a census enumerator, tax collector, or other recorder.
- Transcription errors on the part of an indexer/transcriber of handwritten records.
- Use of abbreviations or phonetic substitutions on the part of the original recorder or the transcriber as a "shortcut."
- Inadvertently reversing two letters when writing or transcribing information.

Spelling errors occur not only when transcribing handwritten names into typed lists but also when creating typed indexes (e.g., Texas Birth Index, Texas Death Index). Use some of the following tricks to locate Hispanic ancestors whose names may be misspelled in various types of records:

- Reverse the "ua" with "au" (e.g., Gaudalupe for Guadalupe or Jaun for Juan).
- Truncate online searches after the first syllable using the wildcard symbol \* for multiple letters. (e.g., Ben\* retrieves Ben, Benito, Bengamin, Benjamin, Benancio, Bennie, Benny). Replace ending vowels that indicate gender with single character truncation (e.g., Fideli? retrieves

Fidelio and Fidelia).

- Try "anglicized" forms of the name (e.g., Richard or Richardo for Ricardo, Charlie or Charles for Carlos, Joe for Jose, Albert for Alberto, Mary or Marie for Maria, Rosie for Rosa, Louis for Luis, Pete or Peter for Pedro, William or Willie for Guillermo, Alfred or Fred for Alfredo, Nick or Nicholas for Nicolas, Alex or Alexander for Alejandro or Alexandro).
- Replace single vowels with the single character truncation (e.g., Guad?lupe retrieves Guadalupe and Guadelupe).
- Try abbreviated forms of the name (e.g., Franca for Francisca, Franco for Francisco).
- Try diminutive forms of the name (e.g., Lupita for Lupe or Guadalupe).
- Replace diminutive endings with the truncation symbol (e.g., Guadalup\* retrieves Guadalupe, Guadalupita, Guadalupito).
- Try nickname forms (e.g., Lupe for Guadalupe).
- Try replacing consonants with other consonants that are phonetically similar (e.g., Birginia for Virginia, Venancio for Benancio, Dionisio for Dionicio, Felan for Phelan, Ozuna for Osuna, Lopes for Lopez).
- Try replacing vowels with other vowels (e.g., Erma for Irma, Deonicio for Dionicio, Ygnacia for Ignacia, Elaria for Ilaria, Dalfina for Delfina).
- Replace "ll" with "y" and vice versa (e.g., Aguallo for Aguayo).
- At the beginning of names, try substituting "G" or "L" for the letter "S" (e.g., Salinas may have been transcribed as Galinas or Lalinas because of unclear handwriting).
- Be creative. Use phonetic spellings (e.g., "Monwell" or "Manwell" for "Manuel," Morralles for Morales).
- Try "tion" at the end of names that normally end in "cion" or "sion" (e.g., Conception for Concepcion).

This list is not comprehensive but may get you thinking about alternate spellings (or misspellings) that appear in various types of records. Create a list of all the misspellings that you've found for future reference and routinely search using these misspelled forms of the name.

Where possible, compare spellings provided by indexers/transcribers to original handwritten versions of records. You may immediately recognize a spelling error that was introduced by an indexer versus a spelling error

on the part of the person who handwrote the record (e.g., the census enumerator or tax collector).

You can help yourself and others in the future by submitting corrections to Ancestry.com databases. As you find misspellings, use the comments and corrections feature where it is available to submit corrections or alternate spellings.

*Taken from Ancestry.com*

**Slave Research**  
*Submitted by Norma Garbert*

Will Of John Kimbro, dec.  
Davidson Co., TN  
Recorded June 1852

I JOHN KIMBRO, of Davidson County, TN give and bequeath to my wife Tabitha KIMBRO forever a negro girl by the name of Celia, the same she owned when we were married. I give and devise to my said wife during her natural life and my negro Pete or Peter and my negro woman Sabra. I also give and devise to my said wife forever two, gelded horses to be selected by her out of the stock of that kind on hand at my death and if none such shall belong to me at my death I direct that said horses shall be purchased for her by my Executors & paid for out of my Estate. I give my said wife all the horned cattle and their increase that she brought with her when we were married.

I give and devise unto my said wife during her natural life One Hundred Acres of Land to include the house in which I now live and the Spring to be laid off to her so as to be bounded by the lands of Stephen H. HAM and my son Thomas H.B. KIMBRO. I also, give her out of stock of provisions a year's support for herself.

I charge my children severally, with the following amounts of personal property given and devised by me to them. To wit: to my daughter Frances NEAL the sum of eleven hundred dollars (\$1100); Mary HAM Eleven Hundred and Seventy Dollars; Samuel KIMBRO one thousand and fifty-two Dollars; Lucinda KIMBRO eleven hundred and forty-one dollars; Thomas H.B.KIMBRO twelve hundred and eighty-nine dollars; Sarah Caroline ZACHARY thirteen hundred and twenty-three dollars; Louisa F. WHITE eleven hundred and eighty-one dollars; Elizabeth OGILVIE eleven hundred and ninety one dollars.

I also have heretofore deeded to my said Sons and Daughters Lands in Davidson County the lands intended

for my above named daughters being deeded to them and their husbands jointly except as for as concerns my daughter Elizabeth who being dead. I made the deed to her children. These deeds will all be found registered in this County and the consideration therein impressed shall as I now will direct to be charged to my said Children and the children of my daughter Elizabeth severally and added to the amounts of personal property herein before charged to them severally.

I appoint my son Samuel KIMBRO Executor of this will and direct that he shall qualify as such without giving Security. Now these things promised I will and direct that my said Executor shall at my death take possession of ALL my estate, real, personal and mixed except the portion thereof herein given to my wife & that he shall sell and dispose of the same on such items of Credit or for Cash as he shall deem best for the interest of all concerned and on such sale he shall have full power to convey my land and negroes and other estate and pay tithes theretofore as fully and completely as I can provide. It is my will that from the proceeds of such sale or sales my said Executor shall first pay all my debts as he shall, next after summing of the several advances herein charged to my children to pay them severally as to make their amounts equal, This being done I will direct that my Executor shall direct all the rest and residue of the said sale or sales equally among my above named children, giving the children of my daughter Elizabeth the share that would have fallen to her if she had been living and giving to my daughter. Mary HAM her share to dispose of as she pleases without the control of her husband.

I further will and direct that after the death of my wife my Executor shall take possession of the land and negroes herein willed to my said wife & the increase, if any there be and that he shall as herein before empowered as regards the rest of my Estate, sell and convey said Land and Negroes and divide the proceeds equally among my above named children or their legal representatives as herein before directed respecting the residue of my Estate

In witness whereof I hereinto set my hand the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 1851.

Test.  
I.G. BRILEY  
W.S.TURNER  
John Kimbro - his X mark

*Part 1 of 2 (To be continued in November newsletter)*



# Heritage Newsletter

December 2006

*Wishing All A Safe and Happy Holiday Season*

## **California African American Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

Volume 18  
Number 10  
ISSN 1083-8937

**Published monthly except June and August**

### **General Meetings**

Third Saturday monthly at 10 am (except June and August)

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church  
6625 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA  
(East of Crenshaw; between Gage and Florence)

### **2006 Board of Directors**

Ronald Higgins - President  
Charlotte Bocage – First Vice President/NGS Delegate  
Barbara Thomas – Second Vice President /Membership  
Melrose Bell – Corresponding Secretary  
Jean Wright-Calhoun – Recording Secretary  
Colette DeVerge – Treasurer/FGS Delegate  
Marjorie Sholes – Parliamentarian/Former President  
Gena Weaver – Webmaster ([www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org))

### **Committee Chairs**

Open – Book Sales and Acquisitions  
Ruth Palmer – Publications Editor  
Ruth Odell – Public Relations  
LaVerne Anderson – Librarian  
Marilyn White – Historian  
Monica Maurasse – Newsletter Editor

## **President's Message**

Ronald Higgins

Our general meeting in November was an exciting one. Starting with Edna Briggs presentation on how to make a video. Her presentation was so insightful and informative we had to stop her before she was actually finished. I would like her to present the remainder at another meeting.

When I walked into the meeting there was a big surprise waiting, CAAGS first president, Dr. Edgar Love was in attendance. Thanks to Marilyn White for bringing him to our meeting. It has been many years since we have had so many of our charter members attend a meeting. They included Dr. Edgar Love, Herbert Laffon Jr., Jamesetta "Jamie" Glosson-Hammons and Ron Higgins.

We had another first on this day. Five of our past presidents were in attendance, they included former president #1 Dr. Edgar Love, #2 Jamesetta "Jamie" Glosson Hammons, #6 Ronald Higgins, #8 Ronald Batiste and #9 Marjorie Sholes.

We also had a historic guest at the meeting. This person has made the world of genealogy research much better with his book "Black Roots, A Beginners Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree." This internationally known genealogist, author and teacher was Tony Burroughs. Thanks to Colette DeVerge for bringing Tony to our meeting. Tony and Colette shared the stage in the nationally televised PBS Ancestry series back in 1977. Tony was gracious enough to answer questions from members in attendance.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the pot luck and who helped in the kitchen. There were a

*The newsletter editor nor CAAGS guarantees publication of any submission. Submissions for the newsletter are due by the third Saturday of each month. Please email your submissions or inquiries to [CAAGS@hotmail.com](mailto:CAAGS@hotmail.com) or submit them on computer disk to the editor. Visit our new website at [www.caags.org](http://www.caags.org).*

variety of tasty dishes. A special thanks to Dorothylou Sands for her tireless work in coordinating everything for us. We are in need of your continued support in providing the same for December which is our traditional Christmas holiday meeting.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Kwanzaa!

### 2006 Calendar of Events

#### December 16

CAAGS general meeting 10am-2pm; Installation of officers and holiday party

#### January 12

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### January 20

CAAGS general meeting 10am – 2pm

#### January 24 – 26

Three-Day Intensive Family History/Genealogy Training Course - Los Angeles Regional Family History Center Located downstairs in the Visitors Center behind the LA Temple 10741 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90025 for more info to to larfhc.org

#### February 2

CAAGS board meeting 6:30pm

#### February 17, 2007

#### Genealogy Society of Riverside - 8th Annual Genealogical Seminar - Rolling Along The Ancestral Trial

Magnolia Presbyterian Church 7200 Magnolia Ave, Riverside, CA. Pre-registration: Members \$15; Non-Members \$17; Registration at the door \$22 Class Syllabus: Pre-order \$9; at the door (while supplies last) \$11 Keynote Speaker: Jean Wilcox Hibben. For more info [www.gsor.org/](http://www.gsor.org/)

#### February 24, 2007 – Whittier, CA

The Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) has announced their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar featuring Curt B. Witcher. For more info contact Barbara Wilks, Seminar Director at (562) 696-5915, [barbwilks@earthlink.net](mailto:barbwilks@earthlink.net) or John Hergesheimer at (562) 941-3184.

*\* Calendar is subject to change without notice*

### Websites of Interest

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have launched a web page dedicated to helping African Americans with family history research. The page will provide:

- Links valuable African American

genealogical sources

- Family indexing projects
- Digital downloads of keynote speakers and classes from African American Family History conferences
- Help in Family History Centers nearest to you
- Genealogy software (Download Personal Ancestral File)
- Helpful guides for beginners and the more advanced
- Forms - Family group worksheets etc.

[http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/default.asp?page=home/welcome/site\\_resources.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/default.asp?page=home/welcome/site_resources.asp)

Congratulations to the new board members. Officers to be installed at the December meeting are First VP Ronald Batiste; Recording Secretary Jean Wright-Calhoun (vote held to waive two-term limit); and Treasurer Catherine Watkins.

### CAAGS Surname Search

To aid our members with their research, each month we will list CAAGS members and the surnames they are researching. Each member's name will be in bold print followed by their email address. If we do not have an email address you will need to refer to your roster for a phone number or address to follow up with the individual.

**Jamesetta "Jamie" Hammons** - [jhamo4@msn.com](mailto:jhamo4@msn.com)  
Researching: Glosson, Richardson, Brooks, Lyles, Beatty, Sands, Hammons

**Gwendolyn Harris** - [gwendolyn@cyberhotline.com](mailto:gwendolyn@cyberhotline.com)  
Researching: Goree, Lee- OK; Gilbert- WY, VA, KY  
**Ronald Higgins**- Researching: Higgins- TX, MO, TN; Henderson, Walker- MO; Hinton- TX, NC

**Dolores Horn** - [ddhorn2000@yahoo.com](mailto:ddhorn2000@yahoo.com) Researching: Coombs, Johnson, Gaines, Camlin, Lincoln

**Harold Jackson** - [halamjac@comcast.net](mailto:halamjac@comcast.net) Researching: Jackson, Manns, Stray

**Daisy Jenkins-Saffold** - [hvenlyrest@aol.com](mailto:hvenlyrest@aol.com)  
Researching: Johnson, Thompkins, Ruffin, McRae, Ford- Choctaw Co, AL; Jenkins- Sumter Co., AL; Saffold- LeFlore Co., MS

**Janice Johnson** - [jjohns1641@yahoo.com](mailto:jjohns1641@yahoo.com) Researching: Moore, Johnson

**Katie Johnson** - [maykaty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maykaty@sbcglobal.net) Researching: Wall, Thomas- AR; Norman- TX

**Ellis Jones** - [EJones3858@earthlink.net](mailto:EJones3858@earthlink.net) Researching: Jones, Barnes, Watts, Fairley

**Ethel Jones** - Researching: Sears, Yates MS

**Michelle Le Doux** - mdoux@earthlink.net Researching: LeDoux, ledoux, Pierre, Marcellin, Bernard, Leufroy-Pointe Coupee Parish, LA; Moore, Childress, Childers-OK, TX, Mexico; Moore- CA

**Beverly LeMay** - beverly.lemay@gmail.com Researching: Polk, Finnie, Kirven

**Leon Martin** - marlnrd1@aol.com Researching: Martin, Mack, Young, Sheppard, Warren, Pruitt

**Monica Maurasse** - dasouthern girl@hotmail.com Researching: Clinkscales- SC

**Jessie McClennan** - athenian@sbcglobal.net Researching: Reese, Benton, Perryman, McQueen, King, Marcus

**Rose McDuffy** - rmcduffy58@yahoo.com Researching: Hadnot, Hennington, Seals, Riley- TX, AL, GA, LA

### Bring a Young Person to CAAGS

For the December meeting CAAGS is inviting all members to bring a young person to our meeting with you. We are trying to get YOUTH or YOUNG people interested in genealogy.

## Roots Television™ Quiet Launch Not So Quiet!

When Roots Television™ (www.rootstelevision.com) debuted on September 29, 2006, it was a quiet launch in beta mode intended to draw enough traffic to test the site and work through the inevitable technical bugs that accompany new ventures into cyberspace. That “quiet” launch quickly became an international roar, as word spread lightening-fast and Roots Television™ drew viewers from five continents in the first 24 hours! Not surprising really, since family history commands one of the largest and fast-growing markets in the world. Perhaps what is surprising is that no one thought of launching a family history channel sooner. After all, there’s a golf channel, a wine channel, a sailing channel, a horse channel, and poker channel, and even a shipwreck channel. Why not a channel for what’s said to be the second most popular hobby?

Today, roots fever is hotter than ever, with over 113 million Americans interested in their family history, and roots-sleuthing running at near-epidemic proportions in other countries, such as the U.K. Yet this audience has been largely neglected by television. Roots Television™ is uniquely positioned to be one of the first media outlets to take advantage of the inevitable merge between television and the Internet -- and in so doing, serve this global and long-ignored audience.

## About Roots Television, LLC

Headquartered in Utah, Roots Television, LLC is an independent media company that is the brainchild of national media producer Marcy Brown and professional. Largely a virtual operation with partners scattered around the globe, Roots Television™ takes a broad view of family history and is committed to providing programming -- both original and from talented producers and independent filmmakers around the world -- that appeals to avid genealogists and family history lovers of all stripes.

Whether you’re an archives hound, scrapbooker, cousin collector, roots-travel enthusiast, Civil War re-enactor, DNA fan, reunion instigator, sepia-toned photos zealot, Internet-junkie, history buff, old country traditions follower, cemetery devotee, story-teller, multicultural food aficionado, flea market and antiques fanatic, family documentarian, nostalgia nut, or mystery-solver, Roots Television™ has something for you -- and that “something” is quality programming.

### Contact:

Sam Butterworth  
801-473-4173  
info@rootstelevision.com

## The Smallest Backup Device?

One piece of hardware that has become popular in the past year or two has several names: USB drives, jump drives, thumb drives, or similar names. Each of these devices contains a bit of computer memory and supporting circuitry. The jump drives are designed to be plugged into your computer's USB port. Once plugged in, these devices act like tiny disk drives. You can copy files to and from jump drives in the same manner as between any other disk drives. Storage capacities vary from 16 megabytes to 4 gigabytes or more.

Best of all, these devices save their contents when unplugged. You can copy most any data to these portable devices and then take that data with you. Many people store backup copies of critical information on jump drives and then easily take them to another location for storage.

I keep a jump drive in my pocket at all times as I find these devices useful for copying data from my desktop PC to a laptop computer, from the office computer to my home computer, or to and from a friend’s computer when I am visiting. The next time I visit my extended family, I can bring an entire digital scrapbook or slideshow on my jump drive to share with them, often using my relative's computer to show the results. I find

these jump drives to be more useful than a Swiss Army Knife; at least, I seem to use them more often. While most of these devices are small, the one I obtained this week is amazingly tiny. Indeed, the name, "thumb drive," suits it well: two of them would fit on my thumb without stacking!

Individual retailers may offer slightly different prices. The upcoming 4-gigabyte version should be able to hold up to 12 gigabytes of compressible data. However, if storing ZIP files, JPG images, MP3 music, or other file formats that are already highly compressed, the savings will be much less or perhaps even negligible. I would suggest that you always plan on the capacity that is printed on the front of the device.

These devices are perfect for backing up your genealogy data and scanned family photographs. Of course, they can also be used for a myriad of other purposes as well. Now you can store your genealogy data in less space than ever before.

*Taken from Eastman's OnlineGenealogy Newsletter*

### **DNA helps American Blacks 'go home' "Who are your people? Where do you come from?"**

Stephanie Stanley often made a pest of herself by asking family and friends. Although many Americans of European ancestry can search records at Ellis Island and find the name of a country or village of origin, for many years, Stanley and other African-Americans could claim a mother continent and nothing more. The Atlantic Ocean swallowed up the names, languages and history of African-Americans' enslaved ancestors.

Revolutionary advances in genetic testing allow people such as Stanley to leap over the Atlantic in their quest to identify a country or individuals who share genetic markers.

In February, Stanley, 36, rubbed a cotton swab along the inside of her cheek. The pharmacist mailed the swab and test kit back to a genetic research company. A few months later, the results from African Ancestry arrived on her doorstep.

Hands shaking, Stanley opened the envelope. In an instant, the broken link between Africa and her spirit connected. "I was astounded," she said. "I didn't know (the test) could pinpoint that I'm 99.7 percent Mende from Sierra Leone" in West Africa.

The African Ancestry database features more than 20,000 DNA samples collected over a dozen years from 250 ethnic groups in 30 of the 54 African countries. More than 7,000 people have taken the test, including Oprah Winfrey and Houston preacher T.D. Jakes. In February, these celebrities and others shared their family histories and experiences in the television series African American Lives on PBS.

Tani D. Sanchez of Tucson hopes DNA tests will connect her to kin. Sanchez grew up listening to her grandmother's stories about her own grandmother, a mulatto ex-slave. Sanchez wrote down many of the stories she heard on the porch or listened to while resting under a shade tree. The stories, the love, the pride made being a Black child in Arizona a little easier.

The University of Arizona professor, who is in her 50s, can trace her maternal line back to the 1600s through oral history. But the slave records and paper trail stop well short of the 1600s. Hoping that other relatives had taken the DNA tests, Sanchez sent swabs of cheek cells to different ancestor-testing companies.

A certificate of ancestry from GeneTree, one of several companies Sanchez has used to trace her roots, estimates a racial mixture of 76 percent sub-Saharan African, 16 percent European, 5 percent East Asian and 3 percent Native American.

African Ancestry linked Sanchez with the Ashanti tribe in Ghana, a sub-Saharan nation in West Africa, whose people are known for rice farming.

Single tests range from \$99 to more than \$800. Deciding which test to take will depend on what you want to do with the information, Sanchez said.

*For complete article - Sadie Jo Smokey; The Arizona Republic; Sept. 25, 2006  
Reach the reporter at [sadiejo.smokey@arizonarepublic.com](mailto:sadiejo.smokey@arizonarepublic.com) or (602) 444-8148.*

#### **FGS Call for Papers**

The Federation of Genealogical Societies is pleased to announce an invitation to submit lecture proposals for the **2008 FGS Conference, *Footprints to Family History*** to be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA, September 3- 6, 2008

Proposals must be received by January 5, 2007 and may be submitted through regular mail, e-mail, or the Federation Web site at [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org).