

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE  NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: GERALYN JOHNSON

VOL. 7 NO. 1 JAN. 95

**CAAGS Meeting**

January 21, 1995, 9:00 am - 1:00 p.m. Martin Luther King Methodist Church, 6625 4th Ave., at 67th St.

Beginners class 9:00 am - 10:00 am.

**SPEAKER**

**Joan Rambo**  
Past President Orange OCCGS

**TOPIC**

**Getting The Most Out Of  
Public & Genealogical  
Libraries**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

New officers *Michael Addison, 1st V.P., Alva Griffith, Recording Secretary* and *Marjorie Higgins, Treasurer* for a second term.

**THANK YOU**

Michael Addison for her cash donation to our Christmas Party, and Johann Hassan for providing

us with the beautiful centerpiece and helping with the after party cleanup and everyone else who helped with the cleanup. Also thanks to Marjorie Higgins for providing refreshments at the December meeting.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

**Headstones Can Tell Interesting Stories**

Submitted by: Johann Hassan

A monument in the Tombstone Arizona Boot Hill Cemetery reads: "Here lies Lester Moore, Four slugs from a forty-four. No Les. No Moore." While not a poetic masterpiece, it does tell about the circumstances of Lester Moore's death.

"Descriptive epitaphs have always been a part of cemetery lore," says John Silva, a spokesman for the Monument Industry Information Bureau.

Cemeteries the world over contain brief looks at the lives of the famous and not-so-famous. Some epitaphs tell the story of death, others of how the life was lived. Still others provide a warning or lesson. And there is humor, as the headstone of a traveling salesman buried in Iowa reveals: "My trip is ended. Send my samples home".

In a survey by the information bureau, the question was asked of some well-known American personalities: "If you could write your own tombstone epitaph today, what would you say?" Some answers were:

*I wish I were standing here  
reading this instead of you.*

George Burns

*Here lies the head Stone.*

Mick Jagger

*I'll be right back.*

Johnny Carson

*She did it the hard way.*

Bette Davis

The most prevalent of all memorial types are markers and headstones. Headstones were the first type of cemetery memorial of their origins. They were simple slabs of stone, but they were enriched with carvings and epitaphs.

One of the reasons Puritan gravestones were decorated with graphic images such as skulls, angel wings and hourglasses was that so many were unable to read the epitaphs. By learning the picture codes you can figure out the meanings on these old monuments. Puritan stones were designed to honor the dead and teach the living moral lessons. The winged skull meant the certainty of death, a crowing cock reminded of the rooster that called the Apostle Peter to repentance, while the trumpet or the rising sun testified to eventual resurrection.

Valuable genealogical clues can be found on the tombstones of our ancestors. Many stones of first generation Americans carry the name of the town. Genealogists should make every effort to locate the burial places of their immigrant ancestors for this reason.

Early churchyard stones hold a fascination for most people, because they are imbued with

human sentiment and emotion. Colonial headstones move and inspire us because they tell a story or inspire us with some beautiful or humorous tribute. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, VA., would be just another public monument were it not for the superb inscription that reads "Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known but to God."

If you discover tombstone markings that you are unable to translate, make a rubbing of the stone or reproduce it as exactly as possible and take it to a local monument works or sales outlet. Most of them have the illustrated book by American Monument Association, Inc. entitled "Memorial Symbolism, Epitaphs and Design Types." Or your local library may have a copy. The book contains illustrations of designs and explanations and meanings of various flowers, trees and other symbols, such as lambs (a favorite found on children's stones), and the symbols used by religious, fraternal, military and labor organizations.

Myra Vanderpool Gormley

L.A. Time 5/89

### Cook County Cemeteries

**Mount Glenwood Memory Garden South**, formerly known as Mount Glenwood Park, is a non-sectarian cemetery. 18301 Glenwood-Thornton Road, Glenwood, IL 60425. This is primarily an African American cemetery and its records date back to 1902.

**Hazelwood Cemetery** is now known as Washington Memory

Gardens. It is located on 701 Ridge Road, Homewood, IL 60430. African Americans, Germans, Dutch, and "Gypsies" are interred there. Washington Memory Gardens is famous for its Gypsy section. Early records are incomplete.

**Restvale** is an African American cemetery located at 117th St. and Laramie Avenue in Alsip, IL. The cemetery was founded in 1932 and has records from the beginning. A researcher may write to the office at 176 West Adams Street, Suite 2210, Chicago, IL 60603.

**Lincoln Cemetery** is located at 12300 South Kedzie Avenue, Alsip, IL, 60655. Lincoln is an African American cemetery and dates back to 1911. You may obtain records at the office.

**Burr Oak Cemetery** is located at 4400 West 127th St., in Alsip, IL. It is an ethnic cemetery, primarily African American. The first burial was in 1926. Records are housed at 471 East 31st St., Chicago, IL.

**Oak Woods Cemetery** is located at 1035 East 67th St., Chicago, IL 60637. There are many ethnic groups interred at Oak Woods, including African Americans. Camp Douglas prisoners (5000 Confederate soldiers) are buried at a federal governmental burial ground. The late Mayor Harold Washington is also buried there. You may call Patricia Liddell, Researchers member Soubretta Skyles for records at (312) 288-3800.

**Cedar Park** is located at 12540 South Halsted Street in Calumet Park, IL. Cedar Park is a commercial cemetery. African Americans are interred there, even though it is not primarily

African American. You may contact the office for records at the above address.

**Tinley Park Mental Health Cemetary** has been closed since 1976. It was previously located at Tinley Park on the hospital grounds, next to the Rock Island Railroad. All interred bodies were removed to Mantano State Hospital, Mantano, IL. For information, you may write to Bremen Township Registrar, 6825 West 167th St., Tinley Park, IL, 60477. A list of the removals appeared in the publication: "Where The Trails Cross", Vol. 16:4 (Summer 1986), South Suburban Genealogical Society.

**Cook County Cemetery** known as **County, Oak Forest, and Potter's Field**. It is located at Oak Forest Hospital on its grounds at 195th and Cicero. It was established in 1910, and it was discontinued in 1970. Most of the burials included the indigent, unknown, babies, and stillbirths. The patients from the hospital were buried elsewhere by their families. Records are available at the Oak Forest Hospital Medical records Department, 159th and Cicero, Oak Forest, IL 60452. You need to send a copy of a death certificate along with your request.

Patricia Liddell Researchers  
News Journal  
Fall/Winter 1993

## HISTORY NOTES

### 1878 Rules For Teachers

Teachers are expected to keep the schoolroom clean and neat by sweeping the floor at least once each day, and starting the fire by 7:00 a.m. so that the school room will be warm by 8:00 a.m.

Teachers will not dress in bright colors.

Dresses must not be more than 2 inches above the ankle.

At least 2 petticoats must be worn, and they will be dried on pillowcases.

A teacher will not marry or keep company with men during the term of her employment. Men teachers may take 1 evening each week for courting purposes, or 2 evenings a week if they go to church regularly.

After 10 hours in school, the teacher may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.

Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.

Each teacher should lay aside from each payday a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit in his declining years so as not to become a burden on society.

Teachers are expected to be at home between the hours of 8 PM and 6 AM, unless in attendance at a school function.

It is understood that teachers will attend church each Sunday and either teach a class in

Sunday School or sing in the choir.

A teacher will not get into a carriage with any man except her brother or her father.

Teachers will not loiter at ice cream stores.

Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, integrity, intentions and honesty.

The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for 5 years will be given an incentive of 25 cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

The teacher will not leave town at any time without permission of the Chairman of the School Board.

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## QUERIES

**Theresa Hutson** is seeking info on a plantation owner in Virginia or W. Virginia named "Mr. Guest" and his slaves. Upon Freedom, slaves were given last names, including: Hutson, Lawson and Toller and sent to Guest Settlement, in Brown County, OH.

Theresa is also seeking information on David Knowell, a Cherokee that worked on a plantation in W. Virginia. He ran off with the plantation owners daughter Elizabeth and their child to Chillicothe, OH where they developed a tobacco farm. If you can help, please

write to: Theresa Hutson, 1206 N. Commonwealth Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90029.

**Alva Griffith** needs information on the following 3 queries: pre-1800 info on Scipio aka Sipeo, Sippio Conrad and family of 5 free blacks in Marlboro District/County S.C. In 1800, selling crop, farm animals, and utensils for move to Chesterfield Co. S.C. son William was given a horse by Michael DeBruhl of Charleston "for good will & esteem". Later the family moved to Anson, Richmond, and Guilford Counties, N.C. with his wife Hester aka Easter, children Samuel, Thomas, Absalom, maybe Laney. Absalom is my G-G-G Grandfather. How and when did Scipio and Hester get free?

Need info on John Mason, born about 1805-1810 in Person County N.C. or Halifax County, VA. His father may be Patrick Mason of Caswell Co. N.C., who married Patsey Going 1790. 1/2 of Caswell became Person County. Brothers of John may be Jesse, Jeremiah. John is my G-G-G-Grandfather. His son Harrington Mason was born about 1835 in Person Co., N.C. Other children: Nancy, Matilda, Frances, Courtney, Martha, Isabella. The family moved to Guilford Co. N.C. about 1845. Harrington aka Herrington died around 1863, Guilford County, N.C.

Alva is also looking for connection between Robeson CO, N.C. progenitor Edmund Revels, 1790 head of household of 9 Free Colored Persons, and my G-G-G-Grandfather, David Revills, who married Mary Helen Jones in Robeson Co. in 1836. Edmund is believed to be

David's grandfather, but through which son? No parents listed on the marriage bond. Bondsmen were Jarvis Hammons and Lewis West. Who were the parents/family of Mary Helen Jones? David moved his family to Guilford Co., N.C. by 1850. Children were: Delana, Helen, Dilvena, Edmund, Winny, John and Daniel. If you have any information contact: Alva Griffith, 1928 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016, (213) 735-7261.

**Barbara J. Matthews Young** - is searching for information on her great-grandmother Trannie Barnes Matthews; her great-great-grandparents Mark and Lucinda Matthews, who were born in Batesburg, Saluda County, SC; and two great-uncles, George G. Matthews and Sidney Matthews.

Young is also searching for information on the origin of the name Matthews. If you can be of assistance, write to: Barbara J. Matthews Young, 1546 Delia Ave., Akron, OH 44320-1616.

**Charlotte Carrington Love** - is searching for information on her great-grandfather Henry Carrington, who was born between 1845 and 1849 and died between 1950 and 1954 in the Roanoke, VA., area. Carrington had two sons of whom Love is aware--her grandfather Mark, and Searcy, who she thinks lived in or near Chicago.

Love is also searching for information on her grandmother Julia Straton, who was born April 15, 1876. If you can be of assistance, write to: Charlotte Carrington Love, 201 W.

Ainsworth, Ypsilanti, MI 48197-5340.

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## BOOKS

**North Carolina Wills: A Testator Index, 1665-1900** - by Thornton W. Mitchell. This book contains an alphabetical index to more than 75,000 persons who left wills in North Carolina between 1665 and 1900. Includes counties when wills were proved, dates of probate, locations of recorded copies of wills, and locations of original wills. Indexed. 630 pp. hardbound. \$49.50.

**Tennessee Records: Tombstone Inscriptions and Manuscripts** - by Jeannette Tillotson Acklen et al. A cemetery-by-cemetery listing of Tennessee mortuary inscriptions with over 100 pages of biographical and historical sketches. Contains an index of approximately 12,500 entries. 517 pp. Softbound, \$36.00.

**The First Census of Texas, 1829 - 1836** by Marion Day Mullins. This book includes Texas Citizenship Lists, 1821-1845 and other early records of the Republic of Texas. 63 pp. softbound, \$10.25.

**Apprentices of Virginia, 1623-1800** by Harold B. Gill, Jr. This publication contains the most complete collection compiled of apprentices in Virginia. The information provided includes names, occupations, masters, apprenticeship data, locations, services, and sometimes father's names. Indexed, 296 pp. softbound, \$16.95.

**Entitled! Free Papers in Appalacia Concerning Antebellum Freeborn Negroes and Emancipated Blacks of Montgomery Co., Virginia** by Richard b. Dickenson. Freeborn Negroes and emancipated blacks identified from 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, and 1867 censuses and 1866 Marriage Register of Montgomery Co. This book should assist anyone studying black genealogy in the Appalachian area of Virginia. 102 pp. hardbound, \$18.50

All of the above books can be ordered from the **National Genealogical Society, 4527 17th St., North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399, (703) 525-0050.** Shipping \$3.00 for first book, \$1.00 for each additional book.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NGS Home Study Course, American Genealogy: A Basic Course.** A course for everyone who wants to do genealogical research more effectively and efficiently. \$350 non members, \$270 members. NGS Education Department, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

**The Mississippi Department of Archives and History:** will take requests for genealogical searches by phone or mail. If you would like to search for names in the Freedmen's Bureau records; you should include all variations of the spelling of the surname and county if known. You may also search for names of plantations or plantation owners. The fee is \$10.00 for out-of-state residents, not including photocopying costs.

There is no fee for Mississippi residents. Call 601-359-6876. Write Department of Archives and History, Charlotte Capers Building, 100 S. State St., Jackson, MS 39205.

**The Mississippi Archives** has compiled an index of labor contracts (paying jobs) for 36,359 former slaves between 1865 and 1866. Research your ancestor's occupation in the 1870 census and then write for further information to the Mississippi Archives at P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205.

Parliamentarian/Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
310-559-0181

Historian  
George Jenkins  
909-626-3408

Public Relations  
Deborah Fountain  
310-327-6944

**California African American Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442**

Send articles to Gerri Johnson, 5130 Village Green, L.A., CA 90016, 213-296-6792.

**CAAGS OFFICERS**

President  
Ronald Higgins  
213-777-4816

1st Vice President  
Michael Addison  
909-874-3220

2nd V.P.  
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213-933-8381

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Alva Griffith  
213-735-7251

Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
213-931-8350

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Marjorie Higgins  
213-777-4816

Newsletter Editor  
Geraldyn Johnson  
213-296-6792

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# HERITAGE

# NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: GERALYN JOHNSON

VOL. 7. NO. 5., MAY, 1995

## CAAGS MEETING

May 20, 1995, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Martin Luther King Methodist  
Church, 6625 4th Avenue, & 67th  
Street. Beginners class 9:00 am -  
10:00 am.

### SPEAKER

*Clint Hayes*  
*Computers & Genealogy*

Jamboree.

We couldn't have done it without you.

## RESEARCH NOTES

Submitted by: Marilyn White

### Free Negroes in Tuscaloosa County 1830 & 1840

Census figures of 1830 list 22 free Negroes in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama grouped into six families headed by:

*Abbott, James Fenner, James Johns, Levin Love, Zadock Perteet, Solomon.*

Ten years later the number had increased to 60 persons. Heads of families are listed as:

*Abbott, James Berry, Ned Blank, Paschal Burgess, Celia Dunstan, Stephen Fenver, James Goin, William Greer, Martin Lopper, David Love, Zadock McCoy, Archibals Neajson, Dade Perteet, Solomon Turner, Manuel.*

Among them these free families held about a dozen slaves".

James B. Sellers  
Alabama Review Vol. XXIII  
Jan. 1970 #1

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## PRESIDENTIAL NOTES

By: Ron Higgins

**WELCOME** to all of our new 1995 members. We look forward to helping you with your research and in your participation within the organization. Don't hesitate to let us know what you would like in the form of; speakers, projects, committees you would like to chair or work on or officers positions you desire to serve as.

**Jamboree Volunteers!** Thank you very much for your participation at our booth at the SCGS

Please Give your ancestor's full name, possible location and date. **ETHS, P. O. Box 1629, Knoxville, TN 37901-1629, 615-544-5732.**

The Family Tree  
Feb. Mar. 95

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### Free Ohio Land Search

In Ohio, Land Office research services are free of charge. Thomas E. Ferguson, the Auditor of State considers such services a taxpayer service. Copies are provided at cost.

To begin your search: if you have ancestors who may have received their land from the federal government write to the Auditor, who will search the index of land patents and record books for original entries under the surname you provide. The service is free, but please provide a SASE, give ancestors full name, possible location and date. Send requests to P. O. Box 1140, Columbus, OH 43216-1140. It takes about 6

weeks.

Paradise Gen. Soc.  
P.O. Box 460  
Paradise, Butte Cty., CA 95967

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### Cherokee Help

If you are tracing a Cherokee ancestor who came from Tennessee, Georgia, Eastern Alabama or South Carolina you may want to contact The Eastern Bank of Cherokees, Qualla Boundary, P.O. Box 455, Cherokee, NC 28719. Call 704-497-4636. You also might wish to write The Cherokee Nation Registration Department, P. O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465.

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### RESEARCH NOTES

#### Black Village in Central Park

Submitted by: Lorraine Hassan

New research into the history of Central Park in New York City has discovered that near the West 85th Street entrance there was an

African American settlement called Senneca with about 250 inhabitants. It extended from 79th to 86th streets and from 7th Avenue to Central Park West. It was one of the largest settlements in the park area. Most of the residents were working class blacks with jobs in lower Manhattan.

Blacks first came to the area in 1825, when John Whitehead, a deliveryman began selling off parcels of his farm. The first purchase was by Andrew Williams, a 25 year old African American shoeshiner, who bought three lots for \$125. Epiphany Davis, a laborer and trustee of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, bought 12 lots for \$578 the same day. The church itself then bought 6 lots. Between 1825 and 1832, real estate records show, the Whiteheads sold at least 24 land parcels to black families.

Within the village were multi story frame houses, gardens, three churches and at least one school.

Seneca Village offered blacks something that they were denied elsewhere in the city; the opportunity to own property. Because of racial discrimination in land sales, limited financial resources and the high price of downtown real estate limited their opportunities. In 1850, there were 71 black property owners in New York City, about 20 percent in Seneca Village, according to land records.

Seneca residents displayed an unusual permanency at a time much of America was in motion. Virtually every black Seneca family counted in the 1850 census was still there five years later; in contrast with 40 percent of the population of Boston moved in the same five years. And of the 100 black New Yorkers eligible to vote in 1845, 10 lived in Seneca Village.

There were actually a variety of ethnic settlements in the Central Park area. The Irish

lived in the southwest corner, and in the village's last years rented almost a quarter of the homes in Seneca. Germans cultivated small gardens scattered over much of the park. Jupiter Zeuss K. Hesser, a German-born music teacher, had seven lots, called Jupiterville, near what would be Seventh Ave. and 100th Street.

The movers and shakers of the city wanted to say it was a shanty town but according to condemnation proceeding records there were more stable structures than shanties. Motivated real estate developers got their way and in 1857, the community was demolished, and none too peaceably, to make way for the famed Central Park.

New York Times

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### QUERIES

Submitted by: Marilyn White

The following are queries

from the computer Internet Sable program, continued from April.

**Margaret J. Durham** - researching Cheek, Chappell, Barrow, Brown. 6514 Perry Ct., St. Louis, MO 63121.

**James J. Evans** - researching Evans, Prade, Clavelle. 9797 Kerrigan Ct., Randallstown, MD 21133.

**Gloria Fleming** - researching Brevard, Beyard, Bynum, Kearse. 1200 S. Courthouse Rd. #101, Arlington, VA 22204.

**Alfred Frank** - seeking information on Julia Gloston born 1800 in Virginia who shows up in the 1900 Census. 29635 2nd Place, SW, Federal Way, WA 98023 (206) 839-5574.

**OSP Sister Elaine Frederick** - researching Maddox, Bond, Thomas, Willis, Wilson, Young from southern Maryland.

**John Gourdin** - researching Gourdin, Gourdine. 6323 Early



Red Court, Columbia,  
MD 21045.

**Lillian E. Grandy** - re-  
searching Love, Adams,  
Holman, Degreer. 507  
Webster St. NW,  
Washington, DC 20011.

**Jamie L. Harris** -  
researching Williams,  
Walker, Russell, Johns,  
Biffel, Burgett in Texas,  
Ohio, Indiana, South  
Carolina. 8355 S. Prairie  
Ave., Chicago, IL 60619.

**James H. Holland** -  
researching Holland,  
Christian, Johnson,  
Waves, Nocho. 2805  
16th Pl. NE, Washington,  
DC 20018.

**Anne G. Holmes** -  
researching Smith,  
Edwards, Jennifer. 1190  
W. Northern Parkway,  
Apt. 718, Baltimore, MD  
21210, (410) 433-2834.

**Lorraine P. Jackson** -  
researching Poindexter,  
Scott. 3507 Platinum  
Rd., Richmond, VA  
23234.

**Phyliss H. Jackson** -  
researching Lawson,  
Sanders, Newson in  
Kentucky, Indiana,  
Minnesota. 333 N.

Stafford St., Yellow  
Springs, OH 45387.

**B. S. Fahamisha  
Jarqamogi** - researching  
Antonio, Chisolm, Ficklin,  
Ouden, Snipes. 2315  
Wilker Ave., Parkville,  
MD 21234-3918.

**Julia B. Johnson** -  
researching Jordon,  
Clanton. 1276 Holbrook  
Terrace NE, Washington,  
DC 20002.

**Robin Semple Larkin** -  
researching Semple,  
Johnson, Allison. 815  
Lyons Ave., Irvington, NJ  
07111.

**Ernestine Garrett Lucas**  
- researching Whitman,  
Lucas, Minor, Garrett,  
Bright in Bristol VA, TN  
prior to 1859. 815 Lyons  
Ave., Irvington, NJ  
07111.

**Kimberly Lewis** -  
researching surnames  
Brassfield in Missouri,  
Lewis in Oklahoma,  
Offett in Georgia and  
Dickerson in Mississippi.  
725 Amelia St.,  
Springfield, OH 45506-  
1864.

**Argyrie Taylor McCray** -  
researching Taylor,

Joyner, Dunston,  
Strickland, McCray. 10  
Walden Laurel Ct.,  
Baltimore, MD 21207.

**Reginald McKay** -  
McKay, McCay, Riddick  
in Norfolk, VA. 301  
Avant Dr., Hazelwood,  
MO 63042 (314) 921-  
9565.

**Kathi Rudolph** - is  
looking for any African  
American with the  
surname **Wassmuth** or  
**Wasmuth**. Contact Kathi  
Rudolph, 1820 Bushnell  
Avenue., South  
Pasadena, CA 91030,  
818-799-9767.

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**Darlene Y. Webb** - need  
information on Webb,  
Gilkey, Thompson,  
Dooley, Blevins, Duly,  
McIrwin and McClevin in  
the Macon, Noxubee  
County, Mississippi area.  
Tennessee and Alabama  
are hot pockets, too! All  
information welcomed.  
**Darlene Y. Webb, 3867  
Welland Avenue, L.A.,  
CA 90008, (213) 291-  
0019.**

**Herbert William Laffoon**  
- is researching William  
Burnett and Livicie

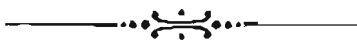
Crocker (Crooker)-- husband and wife both born in North Carolina, Circa 1820. Herbert W. Laffoon, Jr., P.O. Box 4983, Carson, CA 90745.



**THANK YOU**

April refreshment committee: Marjorie Higgins, Martha Abrams White, Michael Addison, Kamau Ramsey.

Apologies to Okella Trice, who was left off of the March refreshment committee list.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CAAGS Inland Empire Chapter** - Anyone interested in a forming a chapter or becoming a member of a proposed Inland Empire Chapter should contact Michael Addison 909-874-3220 . **Civil War Commemorative Stamp Set** - On June 29, 1995 the United States Post Office will issue a set of stamps commemorating the Civil

**War**, covering various people and places, including presidents, generals, nurses, abolition advocates and major battles.

**Genealogy Stamp** - As part of the 150th anniversary this year, the New England Historical and Genealogical Society is urging genealogists to support a U.S. Postage stamp honoring genealogy. If you would like to express your support, write: **Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC 20260-6753.**



**Attention All Desktop Publishers!!!!** - *Heritage Newsletter is seeking an Assistant Newsletter Editor* to publish CAAGS Heritage Newsletter every other month. You would be responsible for the wordprocessing and publishing of the July, September and November 1995 newsletters. If you are

interested in this assignment, please call **Gerri Johnson, Newsletter Editor, (213) 296-6792.**

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**WHITE ELEPHANT SALE-YARD SALE!!!!** - gather up all those goodies that you love but have no more room for and contribute them to CAAGS for our 10th Anniversary fundraising effort. We're looking for items such as dishes, glassware, jewelry, small furniture, compact discs, tapes, computer software, books etc.....you get the idea.

We are also seeking to use someones garage for storage and yard, sidewalk or driveway for the sale to take place. So if you live in a busy neighborhood with foot and auto traffic the 10th Anniversary Committee would appreciate the loan of your facilities.

**Contact:** Gerri Johnson, Yard Sale Coordinator, (213) 296-6792 if you can volunteer, loan us your space, have items to

donate or just share some ideas. Thank You in advance for your participation.

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## EVENTS

**June 17, 1995**

William Grant Still Art Gallery - Annual Juneteenth Festival - 2520 Westview St., L.A., CA 90016 (213) 734-1164.

**June 17, 1995**

CAAGS Annual Juneteenth Picnic at Allensworth State Historic Park. \$20.00 Adults, \$18.00 Children. See flyer for more details or contact Ron Higgins 213-777-4816, Valerie Holton, 213-750-9267.

**October 8 - 15, 1995**

CAAGS trip to the Family History Research Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. \$400.00 per person includes hotel and airfare. Single supplement add \$230.00. Deadline July 31, 1995. Contact Colette

DeVerge, 213-933-8381.

**November 1-10, 1995**

**Black Biblical Heritage Cruise** - Aboard Royal Cruise Lines. Come journey with Black L.A. tours as we cruise to the eastern seaboard and stop in Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Baltimore, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and finally Nassau, Bahamas. Price includes round trip airfare, cruise and port taxes. For more information, contact **Black L.A. Tours, Valerie Holton, 213-750-9267** after 5:30.

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Send all articles and queries for the newsletter to Gerri Johnson, 5130 Village Green, L.A., CA 90016 or call 213-296-6792

California African  
American  
Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 8442  
L. A., CA 90008-8442

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**Ronald Higgins**  
213-777-4816

1st Vice President  
**Michael Addison**  
909-874-3220

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Membership  
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213-933-8381

Recording Secretary  
**Alva Griffith**  
213-735-7261

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**Carolyn Conway**  
213-931-8350

Treasurer  
**Marjorie Higgins**  
213-777-4816

Newsletter Editor  
**Geralyn Johnson**  
213-296-6792

Parliamentarian  
Librarian  
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310-854-6967

Historian  
**Marilyn White**  
213-758-2804

Public Relations  
**Deborah Fountain**  
310-327-6944

## CAAGS MEETING

CAGGS will be celebrating  
Juneteenth

AT  
Allensworth State  
Historic Park  
June 17, 1995

The next regular meeting is  
July 15, 1995

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Martin Luther King, Jr. United  
Methodist Church, 6625 4th  
Avenue, & 67th Streets.

Beginners class will meet from  
9:00 am - 10:00 am.

### SPEAKER

*Janel Powers*  
*Researching Land Records*

Juneteenth at Allensworth  
Theres still room  
on the bus!!!

CAAGS Annual June-teenth  
Picnic at Allensworth State  
Historic Park. \$20.00 Adults,  
\$18.00 Children. Contact: Ron  
Higgins 213-777-4816, Valerie

Holton, 213-750-9267.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAAGS at the Gene Autry Museum,  
Juneteenth. On June 17 and 18 Beginning  
Genealogy will be taught by Deborah Fountain.  
Call 310-327-6944 for more information.

Jamie Hammons will be teaching a class on how  
to organize your notes and research in the  
Family History Library in Salt Lake City. For  
those of you who are going on the CAAGS Salt  
Lake trip in October this class will be very  
helpful. Cost: \$25.00 for 3 sessions which  
includes 1 group session and 2 individual  
sessions. Contact Jamie for more information,  
(213) 636-8947.

## RESEARCH NOTES

### Juneteenth

Only 130 years ago, Africans in Texas were still  
slaves; although, the Emancipation Proclamation  
Act was signed into law by President Abraham  
Lincoln in 1862, it took almost 3 years for the  
word to reach those slaves. The date was June  
Nineteenth, thus dubbed Juneteenth, and  
celebrated by many in Western area states.  
Palo Alto, California has one of the longest  
running Juneteenth celebrations in the state  
(21+years).

Sankofa Times  
June 1995, Vol. 1 No. 5

## EVENTS

**JUNE 18, 1995**

**Songs For Our Fathers:  
A Musical Tribute to  
Black Fatherhood -**  
Artists: Mr. Paul Manning, Rhythm & Blues Historian, songwriter; Mr. Kweli Jabari, vocalist, songwriter, musician. 3 PM Sunday. African American Cultural Center, 2560 W. 54th Street, L.A., CA 90043. (213) 299-6194

**JULY 22, 1995**

**CAAGS day at the Races!!!!** Join us for some for some fun, food and a relaxing day at the Hollywood Park Race Track. This is a fund raising event for the upcoming 1996 10th Anniversary celebration. For \$20.00 you get admission, parking, programs, reserved seating and lunch. See the enclosed flyer for



**October 8 - 15, 1995  
CAAGS trip to the  
Family History  
Research Library in Salt  
Lake City, Utah. \$400.00**

per person includes hotel and airfare. Single supplement add \$230.00. Deadline July 31, 1995. Contact Colette DeVerge, 213-933-8381.

**November 1-10, 1995**

**Black Biblical Heritage  
Cruise - Aboard Royal  
Cruise Lines.** Come journey with Black L.A. tours as we cruise to the Eastern seaboard and stop in Eastern Coastal ports on our way to Nassau, Bahamas. Price includes round trip airfare, cruise and port taxes. For more information: **Black L.A. Tours, Valerie Holton, 213-750-9267 after 5:30.**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Send all articles and queries for the newsletter to Gerri Johnson, 5130 Village Green, L.A., CA 90016 or call 213-296-6792.*

California African American  
Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 8442  
L. A., CA 90008-8442

## OFFICERS

**President  
Ronald Higgins  
213-777-4816**

**1st Vice President  
Michael Addison  
909-874-3220**

**2nd Vice President  
Membership  
Colette DeVerge  
213-933-8381**

**Recording Secretary  
Alva Griffith  
213-735-7261**

**Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
213-931-8350**

**Treasurer  
Marjorie Higgins  
213-777-4816**

**Newsletter Editor  
Geraldyn Johnson  
213-296-6792**

**Parliamentarian  
Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
310-854-6967**

**Historian  
Marilyn White**

**213-756-2804**

**Public Relations  
Deborah Fountain  
310-327-6944**

COME ONE COME ALL!!!!!!!

CAAGS 10TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE IS HOSTING A  
DAY AT THE RACES

AT THE BEAUTIFUL HOLLYWOOD PARK RACE TRACK &  
CASINO  
INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

JULY 22, 1995

POST TIME 1:00 PM

COST \$20.00

Includes: Parking, entrance fee, racing program,  
reserved seats in the Cinema Terrace Clubhouse  
and a Fried Chicken Lunch with vegetables,  
desert and drink.



TICKETS  
MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE NO  
LATER THAN JULY 8TH.

Contact any of the following to purchase  
your tickets. Tickets can also be picked up  
at the July Meeting.

Carolyn Conway: 213-931-8350  
Barbara King: 213-754-5551  
Marilyn White: 213-756-2804  
Ronald Higgins: 213-777-4816  
Herb Laffoon: 213-979-0376  
Rozella Hall: 213-291-2843  
Barbara Jones: 213-296-2226  
Gerri Johnson: 213-296-6792

OR MAIL A CHECK FOR \$20.00 TO:  
CAAGS AT THE RACES  
P. O. BOX 8442  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90008



## CAAGS MEETING

September 16, 1995

9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

Martin Luther King Jr.  
United Methodist Church  
6625 4th Ave., & 67th St.

Beginners Class

9:00 am - 10:00 am.

The balance of the meeting  
will be:

### SHOW & TELL

Featuring

"YOU"

CAAGS Members

Participate in our Annual Show and Tell. Do you have artifacts, pictures, or stories of your research and ancestors that you would like to share with us?? I know you do, and we would like to see and hear it too. So, contact Ron Higgins to place your name on the

program. 213-777-4816.



## HISTORY

### INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF COLORED MEN

During the first three decades of the twentieth-century, the historical evidence suggests that African Americans in Indianapolis developed a network of business, political, literary, social, and fraternal organizations. One of these organizations was the Indiana Association of Colored Men.

This organization was headquartered at 426 West North Street in Indianapolis in 1916. Nahum D. Brascher served as executive secretary. The letterhead on its stationery asserts: "To advance the interests of the Colored People of Indiana." In February 1916 the association sponsored an Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass memorial program. The purpose of the memorial was to eulogize Lincoln and Douglass through the presentations made by two speakers. James E. Watson, a Rushville resident and unsuccessful candidate for the 1916 Indiana Republican primary for United States senator, immortalized Lincoln, and Robert H. Terrell, a Washington, D. C., Municipal Court judge, paid homage to Douglass.

The Indiana Historical Society has a small collection of materials related to the Indiana

directory lists the person researching a particular surname and the state of research and other pertinent information. **Get yours soon**, it may be the missing link. **Contact Ron Higgins 213-777-4816.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**The 1795 Chimney-Tax of New Orleans: A Guide to the Census of Proprietors and Residents of the Vieux Carre**

- by Winston De Ville. The Chimney-Tax was imposed on property owners and residents of new Orleans in 1795. Until now, however, the document bearing the actual census had not been published nor had it been cited adequately and the names appearing on the census were not available to genealogists and historians. The editor discovered the documentation in the Spanish General Archives of the Indies in 1986 and has prepared a detailed guide and abstract of the 1795 New Orleans census. Included are names of all proprietors, persons residing in rented prop-

erty, and house numbers. An introduction provides historical perspectives and references that have not before been easily available on the subject. Order from Smith Publications, P.O. Box 894, Ville Plate, LA 70586, 31 pages, \$15.00 postpaid.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Natchitoches Documents 1732-1785: A Calendar of Civil Records at Fort St. Jean Baptiste in the French and Spanish Providence of Louisiana**

- by Winston De Ville. A book covering a half-century of French and Spanish rule in the Province of Louisiana. Detailed description of all document that existed in the archives of Ft. St. Jean Baptiste des Natchitoches as they were found in 1785. Included are documents of land sales, petitions, partnership agreements, sequestrations, proclamations, marriage contracts, apprenticeships, succession records and many other data. Order from Ramona Smith, P.O. Box 894, Ville Platte, LA 70586, 96 pages \$25.00

postpaid.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mississippi - Louisiana Border Country**

- by Marie T. Logan is now available. A new index to this book compiled by Ann Beckerson Brown of Jefferson County, covers both the first edition published in 1970 and the revised edition which was published in 1980. It is a full name index and a subject index on the Rodney Presbyterian Church or Hole-In-The-Wall Plantation in Claiborne-Jefferson County. Order through Claiborne-Jefferson Genealogical Society, C/O Harriett Person Memorial Library, P.O. Box 1017, Port Gibson, MS 39150 for \$4.50 postpaid.

Mississippi Memories  
1st Quarter, 1995



**FYI**

**White house recognizes family reunions.** The White House will recognize your reunion! Send a



Association of Colored Men. Several years ago the Western Reserve Historical Society donated the collection.

The collection consists of letters, political leaflets, programs, tickets, printed speeches, and newspaper clippings. Also, included is campaign material relating to James E. Watson's unsuccessful candidacy for the 1916 Indiana Republican primary for the U.S. Senate. The association endorsed Watson, sending out letters of support and coordinating poll workers for the primary election.

Other items of interest include campaign memorabilia relating to Mr. Watson, and newspaper clipping pertaining to the coverage of the Lincoln-Douglass program held in Indianapolis and similar events held in Chicago, Cleveland, and Detroit and political activity in Indiana and Ohio. The clipping include pictures of Watson and Terrell.

\*\*\*\*\*

**First African American School Board President Elected To The Cypress-Fairbanks School District**

On June 3, 1995, George Edwards, Jr. 40, a CPA with Exxon Co., made history by being the first black ever elected to the 50,000 Student Cypress-Fairbanks School Board in Houston, Texas. Cy-Fair is the 4th largest school district in the state. Ten thousand people voted in the runoff election that was the largest turnout ever in the school district. George Edwards is the son of Mr. & Mrs. George Edwards of Gloster, Texas.

Wilk-Amite Record, Gloster, MS  
Friday, June 23, 1995

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**Presidential Cemeteries**

There are two small cemeteries in Ohio owned by the President of the United States. One in Wooster, was willed in 1853 to President Franklin Pierce and all succeeding Presidents. Another near

Lancaster, was deeded to President James Monroe and his successors in 1817.

Family Tree  
Feb/Mar 1995

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**RESEARCH NOTES**

**Looking For Clues**

Driving Records are a matter of public record. Write to the commissioner of motor vehicles in the state in which you believe the missing person lives and ask for his or her driving or vehicle record. This may provide the current address. The information you need to provide is the birthdate. The cost is about \$3 to \$7 depending on the state.

Essence Magazine  
July 1993, Pg. 34

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**PUBLICATIONS**

The 1995 2nd Edition of the **CAAGS Surname Directory** is available. They can be purchased at our monthly meeting or by mail order. This

letter a minimum of four weeks in advance to Carmen Fowler, Room 91, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500. Be sure to include the name of your family, school, or military group, the reason for the reunion, date of event, and name of contact person. Busiest times are March through July and October through January. Arrange for local commendations through the offices of your mayor, county executive or even your state governor's offices.

Reunions Magazine via The Family Tree, Apr/May 1995, p. 11A

\*\*\*\*\*

☛ **Florence, North Carolina National Cemetery Census Need Your Help.** The Old Darlington District Genealogical Society is attempting to identify as many of the more than 2,300 Union soldiers who were buried in long trenches at this former site of the Florence Confederate Prison Stockade. Many prisoners were transferred to Florence from the more infamous Andersonville

Prison in Georgia in 1864 and those who died were buried at the site. The first burial occurred in September, 1864.

Identities of the soldiers in the Florence National Cemetery can be discovered in the pension applications of the soldiers widows. These applications included information concerning the death of the soldier. Many times the date of death, as well as the place of death was noted. Some Union Army unit histories published after the war contain information on each member of the unit. If the soldier died in prison, which is usually noted with the location given.

If you have any information relevant to the Florence National Cemetery, please contact Cemetery Committee, Old Darlington district Chapter, SC, P.O. Box 175, Hartsville, SC 29551. They are looking for documentation of names, rank, state, unit, date of birth and death and survivors.

Family Tree,  
Feb/Mar 1995, p. 58

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## QUERIES

**Michael Kelly of Brownwood, Texas** is seeking information on family members Bennie or Benjamin Perkins, born in Lampasas, TX in 1898 to Jefferson Perkins and Mary Moore. Benjamin married in Brownwood, TX in 1917 to Katherine Warren. Both moved to Los Angeles around 1918 or 1919. Also seeking info on Vance Hawkins who married Bennie's sister Bernice and son Jr. Fieldmore. Bernice died July 4, 1942. **Contact Michael Kelly, 1503 Third St., Brownwood, TX 76801.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Los Angeles Public Library History and Genealogy Department has been selected as a test site for interlibrary loans from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. From now

until December 31, 1996, you can borrow microfilm and microfiche from the Family History Library for use at the Central Library. The usual loan fees will be applied for short and long term loans.

**Parking fees** have been reduced at the Downtown Public Library. The most advantageous time is after 3:00 p.m. weekdays and all day Saturday and Sundays at 524 S. Flower St. Garage, price \$1.00. 550 S. Hope St. Garage, validated at the library with current library card before 6:00 p.m.; after 6:00 p.m. \$1.10 flat rate, Sat. & Sun \$2.20 all day.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CAAGS Inland Empire Chapter** - Anyone interested in forming a chapter or becoming a member of a proposed Inland Empire Chapter should contact **Michael Addison 909-874-3220**.

## THANK YOU

Thanks July Refreshment

Committee: Colette DeVerge, Vera Merritt & Ruth Logan, Gloria Powers, Irma Hurse.

## EVENTS

**October 8 - 15, 1995**

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Send all newsletter articles and queries to Gerri Johnson, 5433 W. Slauson

Avenue, 310-568-0437.

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Librarian  
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Marilyn White  
213-766-2804

Public Relations  
Deborah Fountain  
310-327-6944

Heritage Newsletter  
ISSN: 1083-8937

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October 21, 1995  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Martin Luther King Jr.  
United Methodist Church  
6625 4th Ave., & 67th St.

Beginners Class  
9:00 am - 10:00 am

Show & Tell Continued

**CAAGS 1996  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

Our **1996 Membership Drive** kicks off this month and will run through December. 1996 Membership Dues are \$20.00 Individual, \$25.00 Family and \$30.00 Organizations and Libraries. Dues paid now will be for January to December 1996.

**Election Time**

The following positions are currently up for election; President, 1st VP - Membership Chairperson, and Correspondence Secretary. The term of these positions will be for 1996 and

1997. Anyone wishing to run for these positions please contact Gerri Johnson, 310-568-0437.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

**World War I Selective Service Draft  
Registration Cards 1917-1918  
- Film Series M1509**

The Selective Service Act was passed on May 8, 1917, authorizing the president to increase, temporarily, the military establishment of the United States. There were three registrations during World War I. The first on June 5, 1917, for all men between the ages of 21 and 31. The second on June 5, 1918, registered those who turned 21 after June 5, 1917. A supplemental draft was held on August 24, 1918 for those becoming 21 years of age after June 5, 1918. This was included in the second registration. The third registration was held on September 12, 1918 for men age 18-45.

There are approximately 24,000,000 cards of men who registered for the draft. It is important to note that not all of the men who registered for the draft actually served in the military and not all men who served in the military registered for the draft! Moreover, these are not military service records. They ended when the individual reported for army training camp.

Each registration differs somewhat but the general information shown includes serial number, (assigned by the Selective Service), full

name, date and place of birth, race, citizenship, occupation, personal description, and signature.

The holdings of Pacific Sierra National archives are only for the states of California, Nevada, and Hawaii. California has 157 rolls of microfilm, Hawaii has 14 and Nevada has 6 rolls. The rolls are alphabetical by County and alphabetical by registrant's surname.

CSGA Newsletter  
Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1995

\* \* \* \* \*

### Department of Motor Vehicles Message Forwarding Service

California Vehicle Code Section 1808.21 states that all residence address information in the department's files is confidential. They do offer a message forwarding service for those trying to locate someone. There is a non refundable fee of \$5.00 for this service. All you have to do is fill out the Message Forwarding form with your message and DMV will forward it to them. DMV has the right to reject forwarding message if the content is contrary to the public interest. Rejected messages will be returned to the requester.

CSGA Newsletter  
Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1995

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### National Surname Index

The Institute of Chicago has begun a National Surname Index. Forward the surnames you are researching, where the family lives (state, county, city) and the time period. Send to AGFRI, P. O. Box 2142, Chicago, IL 60690-2142.

Fred Hart Williams Gen. Soc.  
Newsletter Vol. 13, No. 3, 3/95

\* \* \* \* \*

### Portuguese Genealogy Society

Those with Portuguese ancestry are invited to join Portuguese Ancestry, a group of individuals helping each other in their research. Four newsletters are published each year. Write Rosemarie Capodocci, 1155 Santa Ana, Seaside, CA 93955.

Lifeline, Gen Soc. Of Riverside.  
Vol. XXX, Dec. 94/95

\* \* \* \* \*

### Irish Research

The Northern Ireland Tourist Board has published an Information Guide to Ancestral Heritage - Tracing Your Ulster Roots. The full color fold out guide offers information in Irish Genealogy Centers and other organizations with attractions and activities linked to heritage in Northern Ireland. To obtain a copy call 1-800-326-0036.

SCGS Root Digger  
Feb. 95

\* \* \* \* \*

### Meanings of Early Tombstone Art

**Anchors & Ships:** The seafaring profession. **Arches:** Victory. **Arrows:** Mortality. **Bouquets:** Condolences, Grief. **Buds:** Renewal of Life. **Bugles:** The resurrection or military. **Candle Being Snuffed:** Time, mortality. **Coffins:** Mortality. **Crossed Swords:** High-ranking military person. **Darts:** Mortality. **Doves:** The soul, purity. **Father Time:** Mortality, the Grim Reaper. **Flowers:** Brevity of early existence, sorrow. **Flying birds:** Flight of the soul. **Fruits:** Eternal plenty. **Garlands:** Victory in death. **Imps:** Mortality. **Hand of God Chopping:** Sudden Death. **Handshakes:** Farewell to earthly existence. **Hearts:** The soul in Bliss, love of Christ. **Horns:** The resurrection. **Hour-glass:** Swiftiness of time. **Lambs:** Innocence or small children. **Picks and Shovels:** Mortality. **Portals:** Passageway to eternal life. **Roses:** The brevity of earthly existence or love. **Sheaves of**

**Wheat:** Time, or divine harvest. **Shells:** The pilgrimage of life. **Trees:** Life. **Willows:** Earthly sorrow. **Winged Death's Head:** Mortality. **Winged Effigies:** The flight of the soul.

Allen County Lines  
Vol. 19, 3/95

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### Washington County Ohio Census

The 1800-1810 Census, Washington Co., Ohio - thought lost, does exist and has been filmed on Family History Library film #940/916. The original enumerators copy is at Marietta, Ohio.

## HISTORY

### Presidential Honors

on September 28, President Clinton recently awarded the nation's highest civilian honor, the **Presidential Medal of Freedom**, to three African Americans. The honorees are: **William T. Coleman, Jr.**, a Lawyer who served as U. S. Secretary of Trans-

portation, board chairman of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. **John Hope Franklin** a prominent and accomplished historian and author who has spent his life illuminating the history of the South and the roles that black played throughout America's development. **A. Leon Higginbotham** a highly respected judge and academician who has worked to advance the needs of those who have long been denied access to the American Dream. He has served as a civil rights attorney, professor at the Kennedy School of Government and Judge on the Third Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals.

### 1816: The Year Without A Summer

As a result of the eruption of the Tamboro Volcano in Java in 1815, 12,000 island residents lost their lives. The volcano is also probably to blame for an unusual weather pattern the following year in North America, resulting in mass migrations of

people trying to avoid the climatic anomalies.

The summer of 1816 was unusually cold, with killing frosts and even snowfall destroying newly-planted crops throughout the United States. June and July were the coldest months. 19 states had snow in June! There were no fall harvests; animals and people starved; wild animals ravaged the frontier. Not understanding the meteorological causes, people blamed the Wrath of God for their hardships. Some, destitute and despondent, committed suicide.

By 1817, the climate had returned to normal. However, many had moved to warmer parts of the country, and numerous farmers left for the cities to go into industrial work.

If you have no explanation for why your ancestor may have migrated, or you can't determine exactly when it happened - sometime around 1815-1820... consider that this event might have been the cause.

Jefferson County, Tenn  
Genealogical Society Newsletter

\*\*\*\*\*

### Knights Of Labor

American labor organization started in Philadelphia in 1869. Becoming a national body in 1878, it was organized on an industrial basis, welcoming women and African Americans, and even employers. Among its aims were an eight-hour day, abolition of child and convict labor, and equal pay for equal work. The Knights of Labor attained its peak membership of 702,000 in 1886, but unjust blame for the Haymarket Square Riot of that year, together with factional disputes and weak management, resulted in its virtual extinction by 1900.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sisters Meet For The First Time

After 76 years, sisters Ruth Foster and Violet Mishler had a lot to say when they met for the first time.

Their family was broken up in 1919 when their father died. The mother was pregnant with Violet and placed her five oldest children in a Montana orphanage. She hoped to return to reunite them, but all of the children except the oldest boy eventually were adopted.

It was a project that stretched over five decades for family members to track each other down. One by one, family members Walt Hough, Marie Mottrem, Rober Stoner, Ed Crough and ruth Foster were reunited --all of them except for the baby, Violet Rose. The big break came recently when a family member discovered the mother's maiden name and traced her to Fond du lac, Wisconsin, where she returned after her husband's death.

The local historical society provided the name of a man with the same last name as the mother's maiden name and he provided the leads necessary. Ruth Foster located Violet in Gillette, Wyoming. Violet, when

told that family members had found their missing sister, said "I didn't know I was lost".

The sisters have spent a lot of time together in the last few weeks, as has the entire family. At ages 83 and 76, Ruth and Violet are determined not to let any more time slip away.

L.A. Sentinel 9/28/95  
Section C1, PG.1

## BOOKS

**An Account of African Americans in Southeast Kansas 1884-1984** - Marguerite Marshall Mitchell. Manhattan, KS University Press, 1531 Yuma, Manhattan, KS 66502.

**The Basic Researcher's Guide To Homesteads & Other Federal Land Records** - This newly released publication takes researchers through the process of locating, requesting and obtaining copies of the valuable land files of homesteaders and other entrymen. Learn what documents you can

expect to find in a file, where the records of patented and cancelled claims are held, what information to provide when requesting a copy of a file, how to get that information, and much more! Order from Nuthatch Grove, 5144 N. Academy Blvd., Suite 302, Colorado Springs, CO 80918-4002. \$15.90

## THANK YOU

September Refreshment Committee: Oziel Smith George Jenkins, Algena Weaver, Ronald Higgins LaVerne Anderson.

## EVENTS

**October 14, 1995**

**Allensworth Rededication Ceremony** - The California Afro American Museum, Exposition Park, has scheduled a bus tour to Col. Allensworth State Historic Park for the 19th Rededication Celebration. The bus tour will leave from the Museum at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday Oct. 14th. For more info call 213-299-

2137, 213-293-2152.

**October 15, 1995**

**1st Annual Leimert Park Jazz Festival** - featuring Black Note, Horace Tapscott Quartet, Patrice Rushen & The Sisters of Jazz, All-Star Bank, The "Skipper" Henry Franklin. Vendor Space Available, contact: LPJF Hotline 213-960-1165.

**October 17, 1995**

**An American Genealogy Workshop** will be held at the Family History Library Tuesday from 1 p.m. - 9 p.m. covering research FHL catalog, IGI, AIS, Gazetteers, Film, Book, Census, Land Records, Newberry Index and more 10741 Santa Monica Blvd. W. L.A., 310-474-9990 or 310-474-2202.

**October 28, 1995**

**Sequoia Genealogical Society and the Vasilia Family History Center** are hosting a genealogy seminar titled **Search For Family Treasure**. Marjorie Higgins will be

speaking on Researching



African American Roots as well as other speakers and topics. The seminar is being held at the LDS Stake Center, 650 N. Lovers Lane, Visalia, CA. \$18.00 pre registration including lunch, \$25.00 at the door no lunch. Send to Genealogy Seminar, 1448 S. Burke St., Visalia, CA 93292.

### November 4, 1995

**The Society of Hispanic Historical & Ancestral Research** have invited CAAGS members to be guests at their quarterly meeting to be held at the LDS Family History Center 674 S. Yorba, Orange, CA. Directions: from Los Angeles, take the 5 Santa Ana Fwy south to the 22 Orange Fwy east to the 55 Costa Mesa Fwy. north, exit on Chapman make a right go to Yorba make a right go south on Yorba to the church. Meeting starts at 9:00 A.M. Call Alma Valdez at 714-846-3629, Lillian Wold 714-847-5082.

Note: Ron Higgins will be caravanning to this meeting. Anyone wishing to follow him meet at the Martin Luther King

United Methodist Church,  
6625 4th Avenue, 67th &  
4th Avenue at 8:00 am.

March 16,  
1996



*California African  
American Genealogical  
Society  
10th Anniversary  
Dinner Dance  
Hollywood Park Casino  
Inglewood, CA*

*watch for more details*

### FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Members, we would like to hear from you. Tell us about your research finds, helpful tips and interesting stories you've come across. We invite you to contribute to the Heritage Newsletter. Mail to Gerri Johnson, 5433 W. Slauson Avenue, 310-568-0437.

52

### OFFICERS

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213-777-4818

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ISSN: 1083-8937