

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR: Gena Weaver ISSN: 1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 01, January 1997

CAAGS MEETING

January 18, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
United Methodist Church  
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.  
Los Angeles, CA

Beginners/Intermediate Class  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule  
9:00-10:30 - Class  
10:30-11:00 - Business Meeting  
11:00-11:15 - Break  
11:30-1:00 - Guest Speaker  
Nancy Carlberg, will discuss  
"Research for Queen."

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

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**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!**

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DISCLAIMER

Neither the Editor or CAAGS  
takes responsibility for the  
articles submitted to the  
Newsletter by its members.

NEW OFFICERS

1st Vice President - Erma Hurse  
Recording Secretary - Alva Griffith  
Treasurer - Vera Merritt

\*\*\*\*\*

VOLUNTEER

Interim President - Charles Meigs

\*\*\*\*\*

THANK YOU

Ron Higgins, President, would like to thank the members of CAAGS for their vote of confidence by refusing to accept his resignation during the November meeting, but it may become necessary to vacate the position before the end of the term. A new president will be needed for the 1998 year.

Thank you Charles Meigs for your support by volunteering too be interim in my absence.

Rachelle Mc Murray for hosting our Christmas Party.



C.A.A.G.S.  
Post Office Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR: Gena Weaver ISSN: 1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 02, February 1997

CAAGS MEETING

February 15, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.
United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.
Los Angeles, CA

Beginners/Intermediate Class
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule
9:00-10:30 - Class
10:30-11:00 - Business Meeting
11:00-11:15 - Break
11:30-1:00 - Guest Speaker,
Mary Grindal will discuss
"Blacks in the American
Revolution."

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

I take full responsibility for
the late delivery of the
February Newsletter. I offer
you my apology due to an
uncontrollable family crisis.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Genealogy is communicating with
the past and future. The
knowledge we dig up about the
past we pass it to the future.

For most genealogist focusing
on a single name or person
becomes a challenge. When we
let our minds expand and move
beyond the direct ancestor we
explore the world they lived
in.

Keeping an open mind helps you
avoid problems. Your mood
affects the way you research.
Don't go into your research
with a negative attitude but
keep a positive attitude keep
your research fun. Fun carries
its own brand of rewards in all
areas of life.

Remember that Black History
Month is well and good, but to
us each and everyday is Black
History in the making.

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Love is never satisfied with
doing or giving nothing but the
best.

by Tennyson

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Ethel Dillon  
Don Goodwin  
Lula Griffith Harris  
John Lakatta  
Pamela McClester  
Ozieal Smith

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINES

March 15, 1997 for April issue

April 15, 1997 for May issue

May 15, 1997 for June issue

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NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

Elizabeth Lewis  
Sharon Y. Williams

Sharon Williams is researching Andrews, Jemmott, Newsum and Williams.

\*\*\*\*\*

DUES

Bylaws, Article I, Section 3

Membership fees are due and payable in January of each year. Members whose dues have not been paid to the treasurer by March 1, will have their names removed from all the organization's mailing and membership lists. A member removed for non-payment of dues will be reinstated by paying the delinquent fees.

NEW MEMBERS joining in November or December; dues shall apply to subsequent year.

LIBRARY AND MEETING PLACE

CAAGS Library is searching for a permanent home. If you or someone you know has a home or property to maintain CAAGS Library books and to house future meetings, please let Charles Meigs, Interim President, know.

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NEWSLETTER

Articles are needed for our Newsletter. If you have discovered an unique way or little tip that will improve the way we conduct our research, please write the Editor so that it can become a part of our Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

POETRY READING

Khadija Farabi-Nance, poet and resident story-teller for The Isis and Horus Bookstore, 143 E. Compton Blvd., Compton is having as a part of African-American History Month, "A Month of Sundays" of poetry and performance; coffee and conversation began on February 2nd with renown poet Manazar Gamboa.

Manazar, born in Los Angeles in a barrio destroyed in 1950 to build Dodger Stadium is also a novelist and playwright and the current Artistic Director of Homeland Cultural Center in Long Beach.

Khadijah Farabi-Nance also performed on February 2nd. Born in Kansas and raised in Denver Colorado, Khadijahh is

also a playwright, fabric artist and writing and English Tutor in Compton.

February 16th, will have international poet, writer, and actress the Rev. Victoria Lee-Owens who has been featured at the New York Poetry Festival and the Island Poetry Festival in Jamaica. She is the author of several volumes of poetry, including "Love Speaks From a Rainbow" and the very successful INTERNET publication "May I Touch Your Silk Softly?"

Also February 16th, will be C. Rhune' Bugge, poet/performance artist and freelance business writer and editor. C. Rhune' is currently working on a novel and a screen play entitled "The L-Shaped Room."

February 23rd is an open invitation to local poets and performance artist to come together for an open mike.

All performance will be at Isis and Horus Bookstore, 143 E. Compton Blvd. (Compton Renaissance Shopping Center) from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and are free and open to the public.

For information call Khadijah Farabi-Nance, (310) 638-6468.

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QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any queries you may for the Newsletter.

OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month between 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

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THE HENRIETTA MARIE: OUR SUNKEN HISTORY

by Paul Kvinta

(continued)

Moore says no Africans were likely on board when a hurricane later ran the Henrietta Marie and a crew of about two dozen onto New Found Reef, plunging the vessel to a watery grave in the late summer of 1702. The ship had already unloaded its passengers in Kingston, Jamaica - the New World's commercial slave center - and was heading back to England with a load of cotton, sugar and indigo. Splintered into several pieces, the wreck remained unnoticed on the gulf floor for nearly three centuries.

While many of the Henrietta Marie's artifacts appear on display year-round at the Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society Museum in Key West, little of the actual ship remains at the wreck site other than the stern (or rear) and scattered timbers. Hurricanes and currents have likely spread boat fragments for miles, but members of NABS (an organization with 23 chapters

and 1,500 members nationwide) say they felt compelled to mark the wreck site as a grave of sorts for all Africans who died in the slave trade.

"When you think of the Holocaust, you think about lots of people dying," says Hank Jennings. "When you think about slavery, you usually think of people working in the fields. But lots of people died on these ships."

Sykes organized the May 1993 dive along with NABS president, Miami diver Ric Powell, and vice president, Washington, D.C., environmental scientist Jose Jones. "This takes our history back to the continent, rather than starting it on these shores," explains Powell.

For Miami artist and philosophy professor Gene Tinnie, also present at the memorial dive, learning about the Henrietta Marie discovery meant rethinking one of his lifelong projects - creating a replica of a slave ship. "The Henrietta Marie accomplishes much of the same kind of purpose that a replica would," he explains. "And that is, if we're going to be serious global players in the 20th century, we have to get in touch with our history. All Americans do."

With that in mind, the divers swim out to the pyramidal monument suspended over the wreck and carefully deflated the surface buoy. While curious yellow-tailed snappers and queen angels look on, two of the divers wrap their arms around the 3 x 3-foot base of

the concrete mass and descended, spinning like underwater ballerinas as they guided the piece safely to the floor.

The monument falls neatly between a tuft of green sea whips and a small stand of white tube sponges. And the bronze plaque purposefully faces east, in the direction of Africa. After the stirred-up sediment settles, the words read clearly: *Henrietta Marie. In memory and recognition of the courage, pain and suffering of enslaved African people. Speak her name and gently touch the souls of our ancestors.*

submitted by Evelyn Ross

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BLACK HEROES OF UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FORGOTTEN BY HISTORY

Los Angeles Sentinel, November 1995

John Parker was an iron worker who ran his own foundry, an inventor with several patents and an escort on the Underground Railroad who helped hundreds of slaves to freedom.

A former slave himself, he worked out of Ripley, a tiny Ohio River town 50 miles east of Cincinnati. He was a colleague of famed abolitionist minister, the Rev. John Rankin.

Rankin long ago earned a place in history. His sermons and letters were published soon after he wrote them. The state enshrined his longtime Ripley home. To be continued.  
submitted by Marjorie Higgins

CAAGS CALENDAR

February 15, 1997 - Guest speaker, Mary Grindal will discuss "Blacks in the American Revolution."

March 15, 1997 - Guest speaker, Peter Carr will discuss "Caribbean Research."

April 19, 1997 - The meeting will be held at the Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree in Pasadena. The time is to be announced. The Jamboree will held from the 19th to the 20th.

May 7-10, 1997 - National Genealogical Society Conference in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

May 17, 1997 - Tentative library visit.

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COMMITTEES

If you have any interest in joining one of the following committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meggs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Nomination

OFFICERS

President  
Ronald Higgins  
(213) 777-4816

Interim President  
Charles Meigs  
(213) 295-3020

1st Vice President  
Erma J. Hurse  
(909) 736-5461

2nd Vice President/Membership  
Colette DeVerge  
(213) 933-8381

Recording Secretary  
Alva Griffith  
(213) 735-7261

Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
(213) 931-8350

Treasurer  
Vera Merritt  
(310) 215-1626

Newsletter Editor  
Gena Weaver  
(213) 526-2971 (pager)  
(213) 291-7984 (fax)

Parliamentarian/Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
(310) 854-6967

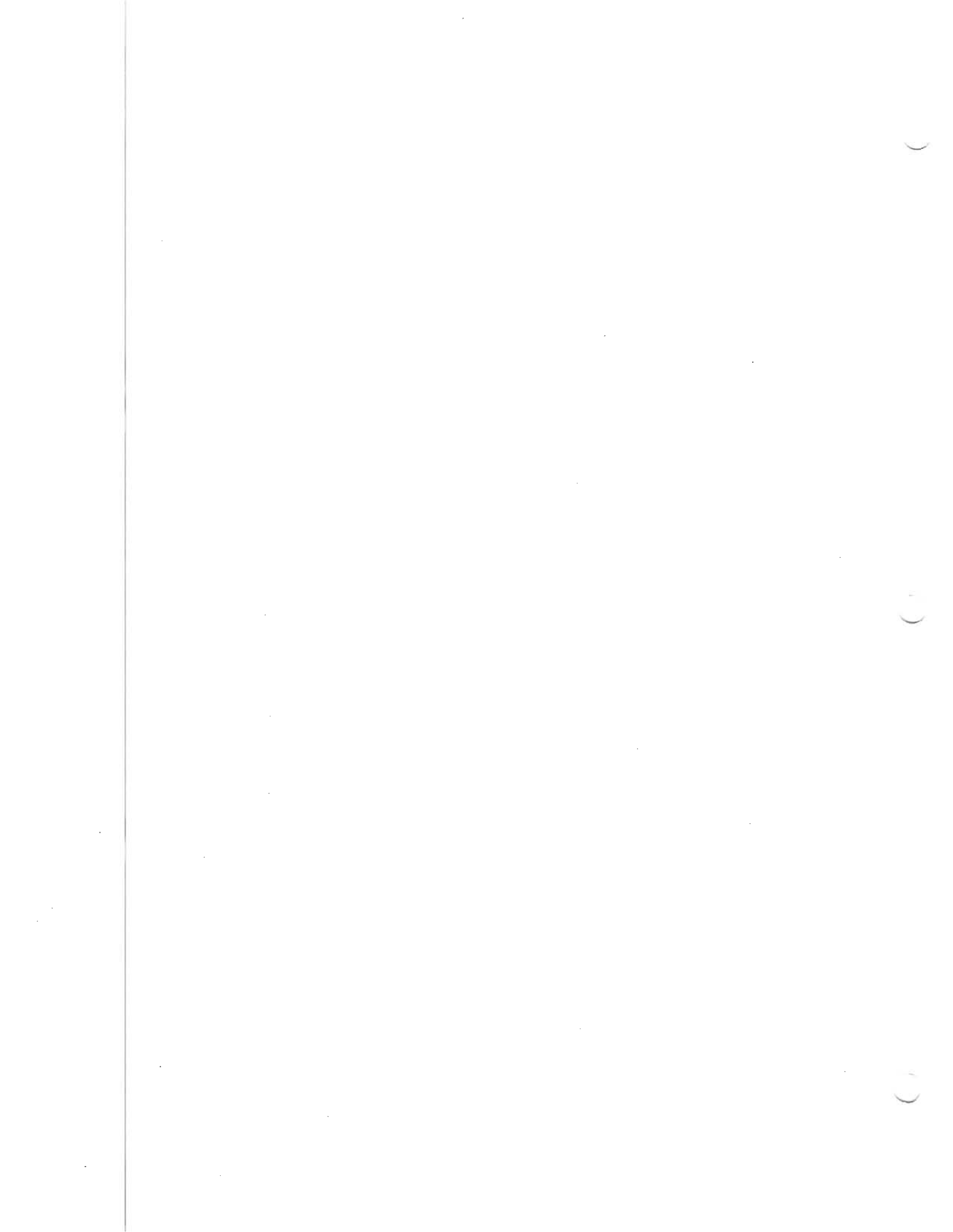
Historian  
Marilyn White  
(213) 756-2804

Public Relations  
Open

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HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642





CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTN: COLETTE DeVERGE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

(Home/Business)

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$10.00     Individual \$20.00     Family \$25.00

Organization & Libraries \$30.00     New     Renewal Year \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

Serve as an Officer

Serve on a Committee, i.e., Fundraising, Black History Month, Hospitality, etc.

Write articles/book reviews for the Newsletter

Research Special Projects

Computer Input of Special Projects

Public Speaking

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers/Program Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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Newsletter by its members.

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QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any  
queries you may for the  
Newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CAAGS members I would like  
to lift my voice in high praise  
for your wonderful work and  
presentation on the Ancestry  
Program-ANCESTORS. All of the  
members should pat themselves  
on the back.

We have planted a seed, now  
let's help it grow. Reactivate  
your research, don't lose it,  
return to the library or talk  
to your family members and  
write or tape record what they  
say. Don't leave your  
ancestors in the past, bring  
them to the present. Just  
don't say I'm going to do it,  
but start now by doing it.

Thanks again to all of you that  
took part in the program for a  
job well done.

Your President

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

It's not a ladder we're  
climbing, it's literature we're  
producing....We cannot possibly  
leave it to history as a  
discipline, nor to sociology,  
nor science, nor economics to  
tell the story of our people.

by Nikki Giovanni

MARCH BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Isaac T. Miller  
George T. Yates

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

April 15, 1997 for May issue

\*\*\*\*\*

NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

Carol L. Thomas

\*\*\*\*\*

THANK YOU

Vernon Robinson for your discussion on the Tuskegee Airmen.

\*\*\*\*\*

FEBRUARY HOSPITALITY

Thank you hospitality committee for hosting our February meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

MARCH HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Martha Clark  
Caroline Conway  
Vera Merritt  
Kwame Welsh  
DorothyLou Sands  
Sharon Williams

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the March meeting.

EVENTS IN THE HOOD

PLAYS - "Passing," written by Nella Larsen's, from a novel by Sheri Baily and directed by Sy Richardson.

A drama of passion and deceit, it set in Harlem 1927. It follows the story of two childhood friends, who could both easily pass for white. One friend has chosen to pass and has spent the last twenty years hiding her true heritage, from her white husband. When she begins to yearn to spend time with her own people, she finds herself on a dangerous path.

The Towne Street Theater is the only non-profit African-American theater company in Los Angeles. The theater is dedicated to depicting stories of Black America, past and present.

The show runs until March 30th, Friday & Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Sunday at 3:00 p.m. General admission \$15, \$10 for students, \$7.50 for seniors and \$12 for 4A Union members. Group rates available. Tower Ticket Network, (213) 658-4004. For information or reservations, (213) 624-4796. 799 S. Towne Avenue, Loft 301, located in the Downtown Los Angeles Fashion District.

"The Talented Tenth," a play starring Robert Guillaume, Colin Powell and Samaria Graham at The Hudson Theater, 6539 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood. For tickets call (213) 660-8587.

"Jezebel," - a gospel opera, presented by First AME Church, featuring noted artist Daryl Coley and Wendy Barns at the Vision Theater, 3341 W. 43rd Place, Los Angeles, (213) 295-9685, \$20, Monday, Thursday, Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

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#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to monitor CAAGS display table during the Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree.

In addition, a subcommittee is needed to setup CAAGS display table. Volunteers should plan to arrive by 7:30 a.m. on June 19, 1997.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month between 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

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#### OTHER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

If you subscribe to other genealogical societies or journals, please write to the attention of Marilyn White, Historian, at the CAAGS address on the front page.

#### CAAGS' BOOK CORNER

"**SLAVE GENEALOGY**": a Research Guide with Case Studies, by David Streets, published by Heritage Books, 1986, \$18.50 + tax; uses case studies to illustrate methods for researching slave ancestry (case studies are from KY, but methods are applicable to other areas).

"**BLACK INDIAN GENEALOGY RESEARCH**": African American Ancestors Among Five Civilized Tribes, by Angela Walton-Raji, published by Heritage Books, 1993, \$20.50 + tax; discusses slavery among the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole; explains available records for research; Appendix I list common surnames of Freedmen of these tribes; Appendix II lists common surnames of the Tri-Racial Families of the Upper South.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### BLACK HEROES OF UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FORGOTTEN BY HISTORY

(continued)

But few today recall Parker's story.

"Almost all of the history of the Underground Railroad has been told by white people, but Parker is really the most important voice of an African American and a slave," Cincinnati attorney Robert B. Newman said. To be continued.

submitted by Marjorie Higgins

CAAGS CALENDAR

March 15, 1997 - Guest speaker, Peter Carr will discuss "Caribbean Research."

April 19, 1997 - The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree in Pasadena, in the Exhibition Building, 2nd floor, Hospitality Room. Charles Meigs will be the guest speaker. The Jamboree will held from the 19th to the 20th.

May 7-10, 1997 - National Genealogical Society Conference in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

May 17, 1997 - Tentative library visit.

June 21, 1997 - Guest Speaker, Herb Laffoon, Jr. will discuss "The Marines." Allensworth State Historic Park. Departure will be at 6:30 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

COMMITTEES

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- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Nomination

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Historian  
Marilyn White  
(213) 756-2804

Public Relations  
Open

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HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Hosts the 28th Annual

**GENEALOGICAL JAMBOREE**

**Donation**

1 day \$10.00  
2 days \$15.00

Info: (818) THE-SCGS

Open to the Public

Parking \$5.00



19 April 1997

Exhibit Hall Hours  
8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

20 April 1997

Exhibit Hall Hours  
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**THE PASADENA CENTER  
300 EAST GREEN STREET  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

CONFERENCE BLDG. RM 106 - SAT. 19 APRIL

9:30 a.m.	<b>JOHN LILLIE</b> Electronic Publishing
11:00 a.m.	<b>FRAN CARTER</b> How to Create a Master Source Checklist
12:30 p.m.	<b>JIM DERHEIM</b> Anecdotes from Around the World
2:00 p.m.	<b>TED GOSTIN</b> Overview of Passenger Arrival Records
3:15 p.m.	<b>LELAND MEITZLER</b> Finding Your Family When All You Know is the State

CONFERENCE BLDG. RM 107 - SAT. 19 APRIL

9:30 a.m.	<b>BILL DOLLARHIDE</b> County Origins of Emigrants From the British Isles to America
11:00 a.m.	<b>GEORGE OTT</b> American Court Records - "There is More Than O.J. in the Court Records."
12:30 p.m.	<b>ALICE SCHIESSMOHL</b> Canadian/US Connections
2:00 p.m.	<b>WADE HONE</b> Observation in Research
3:15 p.m.	<b>HOLLY HANSEN</b> Burned Courthouses

CONFERENCE BLDG. RM 106 - SUN. 20 APRIL

9:30 a.m.	<b>FRAN CARTER</b> How to Create a Master Source Checklist
11:00 a.m.	<b>LELAND MEITZLER</b> Finding Your Family When All You Know is the State
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12:30 p.m.	<b>ARLENE EAKLE</b> Dusting off the Family Skeletons
2:00 p.m.	<b>BILL DOLLARHIDE</b> County Origins of Emigrants From the British Isles to America
3:15 p.m.	<b>WADE HONE</b> Observation in Research

BEGINNER CLASSES - EXHIBITION BUILDING 2ND FLOOR

**BERNICE GUNDERSON**

SATURDAY 19 APRIL 8:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. & SUNDAY 20 APRIL 1:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

The Jamboree is the annual genealogical exhibition sponsored by the Southern California Genealogical Society, Inc. In addition to guest speakers there are beginning and advanced classes and exhibits relating to every aspect of genealogical research. The JAMBOREE has been called the largest annual genealogical event west of the Mississippi River.

The Exhibition Hall (2) houses exhibits of genealogical, historical and hereditary societies, family associations, adoptive organizations, and vendors. Items available for purchase range from genealogical charts and forms; family and county histories and "How to" books to bumper stickers, kilts, maps, crafts and books.

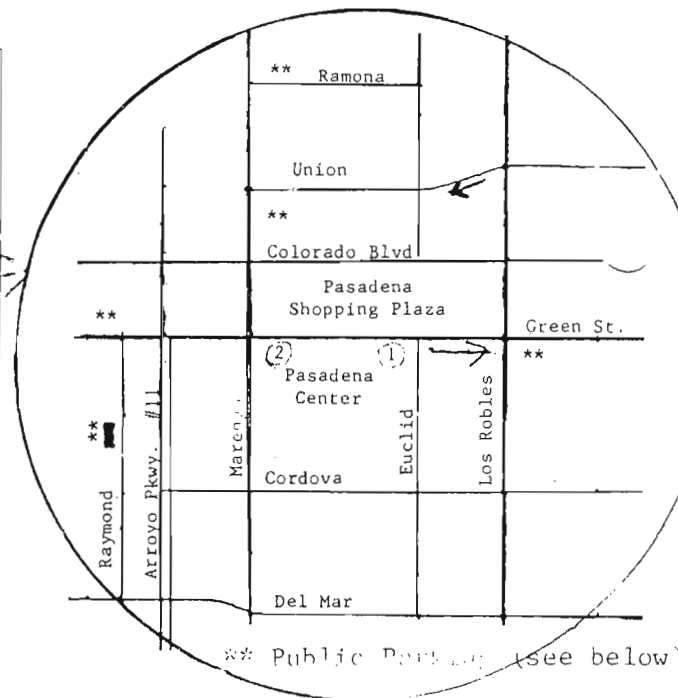
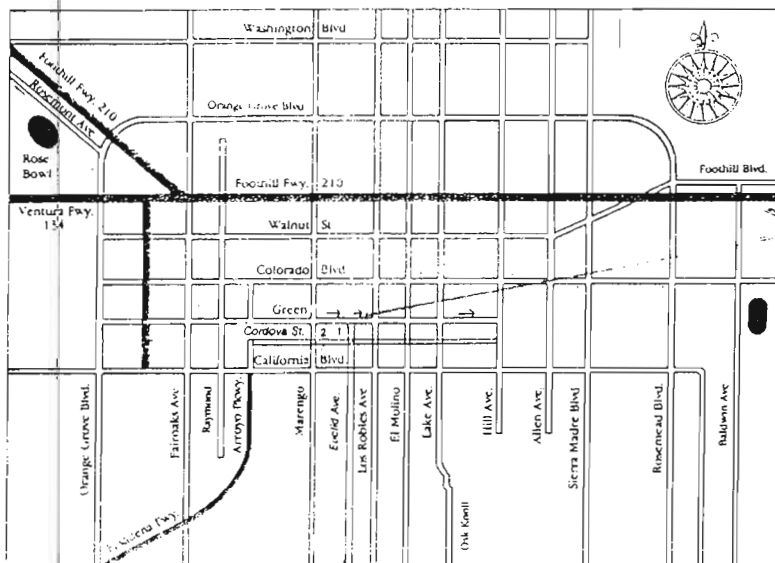
Archival photographic copying will be offered.

SCGS volunteers will staff tables providing research assistance for many of the states and foreign countries. Volunteers also staff special interest tables including American Indian, Amish, Mennonite, Pennsylvania Dutch, Black Genealogy and the Research Team of the Southern California Genealogical Society.

Two large rooms in the Conference Building (1) of the Pasadena Center will be used for the lectures. For information contact:

## JAMBOREE '97

Southern California Genealogical Society, Inc.  
122 S. San Fernando Blvd., P.O. Box 4377  
Burbank, California 91503 - (818) 843-7247



### Directions to Pasadena Center

East or west bound on 210 Foothill Freeway exit on Fair Oaks/Marengo off ramp  
Pasadena Freeway: go to end of Freeway on Arroyo Pkwy & right on Green Street

### PASADENA CENTER PARKING ENTRANCES

Entrances off Marengo & Euclid  
(Between Green & Cordova)

### **\*\*PUBLIC PARKING**

Raymond (between Union & Colorado)      Raymond (Between Green & Cordova)  
Green & Raymond (entrances off Fair Oaks, Green & Raymond)



CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTN: COLETTE DeVERGE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home/Business)

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$10.00     Individual \$20.00     Family \$25.00

Organization & Libraries \$30.00     New     Renewal Year \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Serve as an Officer
- Serve on a Committee, i.e., Fundraising, Black History Month, Hospitality, etc.
- Write articles/book reviews for the Newsletter
- Research Special Projects
- Computer Input of Special Projects
- Public Speaking
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers/Program Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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EDITOR: Gena Weaver ISSN: 1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 04, April 1997

CAAGS MEETING

April 19, 1997

2:00 PM

Southern California  
Genealogical Society  
Jamboree

Exhibition Building,  
2nd Floor,  
Hospitality Room

Guest Speaker: Charles Meigs

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

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April 15, 1997 for May issue

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Each member is encouraged to  
bring five individuals to the  
Jamboree.

Interim President

Charles Meigs

\*\*\*\*\*

A life is not important, except  
in the impact it has on other  
lives.

by Jackie Robinson

\*\*\*\*\*

APRIL BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Dorothy R. Gaither  
James Hunt  
Dorothislou Sands

\*\*\*\*\*

OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American  
Genealogy Research Group meets  
every second Saturday of the  
month between 10:00 a.m. to  
1:00 p.m. at the San Diego  
Family History Center, 4195  
Camino Del Rio South, in San  
Diego.

**NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!**

Veronica L. Braxton  
Jessie Brook  
Carolyn Brown  
Gwendolyn Champion  
George Emerson Cohen  
Dorothy R. Gaither  
Henrietta Hendrix  
Vicki L. Hughley  
Antoinette M. Morehead  
Imani Oshodin  
Jean Perry  
Robert Sharpe  
Patrick and Edith Sumlin  
Ujima (Gloria E. Williams)

Veronica Braxton is researching Braxton.

Jessie Brook is researching Bell, Cook, Cummings and Warmsley.

Carolyn Brown is researching Brown, Fentress, Maupin and Van Buren.

Gwendolyn Champion is researching Carter and Lewis, Grandparents father's Sid in Oklahoma.

George Emerson Cohen is researching Cohn, Herndon, Jones, Rainsford, Singfield and Skippy.

Dorothy R. Gaither is researching Harrison, Jackson and Ransom.

Henrietta Hendrix is researching Hendrix.

Vicki L. Hughley is researching Hughley.

Antoinette M. Morehead is researching Hairston, Martin, Moir and Starling.

Imani Oshodin is researching Cheers, Craig, Daniel, Daven, Davenport, King and Pendleton.

Jean Perry is researching Perry in Charleston or areas in Elloree,

Santee and Columbia, South Carolina.

Patrick and Edith Sumlin are researching Daniels and Sumlin.

Robert Sharpe is researching Pratt, Sharpe and Williams.

Ujima (Gloria E. Williams) is researching Gilbert, Laws and Windfield.

\*\*\*\*\*

**QUERY**

Carolyn Brown, 2103 Tern Bay Lane, Lakewood, CA 90712, (562) 634-3340 is researching George W. Brown from San Antonio and Bexar, TX, Mattie Fentress (location unknown); Leona Maupin from Madison, MO; Martin Van Buren from Fulton, Township and Callaway, MO and Van Buren from Virginia in the 1800s.

Imani Oshodin, Post Office Box 351002, Los Angeles, CA 90035, (310) 967-5978 is researching Cheers in Arkansas and St. Louis, Craig in Georgia, Daniel in Arkansas and St. Louis, MO, Daven and Davenport in Tennessee, King in Arkansas and Louisiana, Pendleton in Louxora, AR and Holly Springs, MS.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MARCH HOSPITALITY**

Thank you Hospitality Committee for hosting our March meeting.

E-Mail ADDRESSES

Alva Griffith - gfs alva@aol.com (or)  
alvagriff @ sprintmail.com

Marjorie Higgins - mhigg71503@aol.com

Patricia Jackson - sam4pat @ junos.com

Jeanette Carroll-Scott - jsherbs @  
aol.com

Vera Merritt - vmerit @ aol.com

Marilyn White - marol @ aol.com

African American Educational Software  
and Videos -  
<http://www.erols.com/tdpedu>

Los Angeles Public Library -  
<http://www.lapl.org/admin/catalog.html>

Minority-Owned Web Page Directory -  
<http://visionaryquest.com/>

New Orleans Public Library -  
<http://www.gnofn.org/~nop1>

Social Security Death Index -  
<http://www.infobases.com.ssdi>

<http://www.black-collegian.com/blackst>

<http://www.afroam.org/history.html>

<http://www.i-channel.com/ellis/index.html>

<http://scripturium.lib.duke.edu/collections/african-ame>

Cyndi Howard -  
<http://www.oz.net/~cyndi> (if anyone knows the rest of this address, please contact the Editor, the address opens the door to hundreds of genealogical sites).

CAAGS' BOOK CORNER

"Liberia Genealogical Research," by Roma Jones Stewart, published by Homeland Publications, 1991, \$8 + tax; small book - big value; lists of available records and U. S. repositories where they can be found; short case studies show methodology. (In addition to Free Black Immigrants to Liberia, ex-slaves were often sent by their former owners after manumission, due to state laws preventing free slaves from remaining in the area.)

"Lay Down Body," by Wright and Hughes, published by Visible Ink, 1996, \$17.95 + tax; contains information on African-oriented burial customs and superstitions; history of African American Burial Societies and Lodges; numerous descriptions of Black cemeteries across the U. S.; information on how to preserve historic cemeteries.

\*\*\*\*\*

EVENTS IN THE HOOD

The Autry Museum of Western Heritage will have a small exhibit of James Monroe Jones.

Several of the guns he made in the early 1800s will be on display.

James Monroe Jones is an ancestor of Renee Cochee, one of our members.

The Jones exhibit will be displayed until April 25th.

submitted by Renee Cochee

CAAGS CALENDAR

April 19, 1997 - The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree in Pasadena, in the Exhibition Building, 2nd floor, Hospitality Room. Charles Meigs is the guest speaker. The Jamboree will be held the 19th & 20th.

May 7-10, 1997 - National Genealogical Society Conference in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

May 17, 1997 - Guest Speaker, Herb Laffoon, Jr. will discuss "The Montford Point Marines: The First Black Marines to Serve from 1942-1949."

June 21, 1997 - Allensworth State Historic Park. Departure will be at 6:30 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

COMMITTEES

If you have any interest in joining one of the following Committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meigs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Nomination

OFFICERS

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Ronald Higgins  
(213) 777-4816

Interim President  
Charles Meigs  
(213) 295-3020

1st Vice President  
Erma J. Hurse  
(909) 736-5461

2nd Vice President/Membership  
Colette DeVerge  
(213) 933-8381

Recording Secretary  
Alva Griffith  
(213) 735-7261

Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
(213) 931-8350

Treasurer  
Vera Merritt  
(310) 215-1626

Newsletter Editor  
Gena Weaver  
(213) 526-2971 (pager)  
(213) 291-7984 (fax)

Parliamentarian/Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
(310) 854-6967

Historian  
Marilyn White  
(213) 756-2804

Public Relations  
Open

\*\*\*\*\*

HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTN: COLETTE DeVERGE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

(Home/Business)

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$10.00     Individual \$20.00     Family \$25.00  
 Organization & Libraries \$30.00     New     Renewal Year \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Serve as an Officer
- Serve on a Committee, i.e., Fundraising, Black History Month, Hospitality, etc.
- Write articles/book reviews for the Newsletter
- Research Special Projects
- Computer Input of Special Projects
- Public Speaking
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers/Program Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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C.A.A.G.S.  
Post Office Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442



CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR: Gena Weaver ISSN: 1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 05, May 1997

CAAGS MEETING

May 17, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.
United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.
Los Angeles, CA

Beginners/Intermediate Class
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule
9:00-10:30 - Class
10:30-11:00 - Business Meeting
11:00-11:15 - Break
11:30-1:00 - Round Table Discussion

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

DISCLAIMER

The Editor nor CAAGS assumes responsibility for articles submitted to the Newsletter by its members.

\*\*\*\*\*

QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any queries you may have for the Newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On the 19th of April 1997 CAAGS held it's regular meeting at the Jamboree in Pasadena. Historian, Marilyn White gave a beginning view of how to start your research. Interim President, Charles Meigs spoke on his Cherokee connection. A special "Thanks" to them, and all our members who worked the booth and friends that attended our meeting, it was well attended. All of you looked so handsomely dressed. I'm so very proud of CAAGS and its members.

"THANKS" "THANKS" "THANKS"

Your President,

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

May 15, 1997 for June issue

MEMORIAL DAY

We wanted something (better) for ourselves and our children, so we took a chance with our lives.

by Unita Blackwell

**MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES!**

Renee H. Coche'e  
Carolyn Conway  
Rozella Hall  
Erma Hurse  
Doris Russell  
Teresa Sims  
Gena Weaver  
Virgilene West

\*\*\*\*\*

**MAY HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

Daniel Brown  
Richard Brown  
Dorothy Gaither  
Teresa Sims

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the May meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!**

Sonya Greenland  
Vanessa Hunter  
Barbara Thomas  
Lowell & Aletha Toliva

Sonya Greenland is researching in Louisiana or Texas for Ada Brandenburg, Revarthor Reese and Clar Meek Vaughn (Indian).

Vanessa Hunter is researching Bishop, Brooks, Foote, Harmon and Love.

Barbara Thomas is researching Brooks, Ferrera, Thomas and Winchester.

Lowell & Aletha Toliva are researching Douglas of the West Indies, Knight, O'Hara, O'Knight and Slaughter.

**E-Mail ADDRESSES**

Alva Griffith - gfs alva@aol.com (or) alvagriff @ sprintmail.com

Marjorie Higgins - mhigg71503@aol.com

Patricia Jackson - sam4pat @ junos.com

Jeanette Carroll-Scott - jsherbs @ aol.com

Vera Merritt - vmerit @ aol.com

Marilyn White - marol @ aol.com

African American Educational Software and Videos -  
<http://www.erols.com/tdpedu>

Los Angeles Public Library -  
<http://www.lapl.org/admin/catalog.html>

Minority-Owned Web Page Directory -  
<http://visionaryquest.com/>

New Orleans Public Library -  
<http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl>

Social Security Death Index -  
<http://www.infobases.com.ssd>

<http://www.black-collegian.com/blackst>

<http://www.afroam.org/history.html>

<http://www.i-channel.com/ellis/index.html>

<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/collections/african-ame>

Cyndi Howard -  
<http://www.oz.net/~cyndi> (if anyone knows the rest of this address, please contact the Editor, the address opens the door to hundreds of genealogical sites).

THANK YOU

Pam McClester for your generous donation of 12 self-addressed, stamped envelopes for mailing the CAAGS Newsletter to you.

\*\*\*\*\*

OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

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CAAGS JULY MEETING DATE

July 19, 1997

A Burbank Library trip will be held instead of our regular meeting at the church.

The Southern California Genealogical Society is located at 122 South San Fernando Blvd. (rear), Burbank, CA (818) 843-7247.

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NOTE

National Archives - Pacific Region, 24000 Avila Road, Laguna Niguel, CA, Suzanne Dewberry, (714) 360-2641.

May 3, 1997 was the final Saturday opening of our Microfilm Research Room until further notice. This policy of Saturday closure will remain in effect at least through September 1997.

ORANGE COUNTY ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Is sponsoring a Family Presentation Conference at California State University, Fullerton, CA.

Saturday, May 24, 1997 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fee: \$10.00 Scholarship Luncheon.

Theme: "Bridging The Generations," An Event to Celebrate, Educate and Stimulate the Entire Family.

\*\*\*\*\*

EVENT THAT CAAGS WILL MAN A BOOTH

CAAGS will host a booth at the Second Annual Taste of Diversity Multicultural Fair: sponsored by The Orange County Diversity Network on Wednesday, May 21, 1997. The first session is from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and the 2nd session is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cost \$7.00 per session.

Place: Brea Technology Center, 3151 E. Imperial Highway, Los Angeles, CA.

Keynote Speaker: Mr. Stephen J. Ghysels, Vice President Corporate Diversity Officer.

**THE LOS ANGELES COMMITTEE  
of the BLACK PATRIOTS  
FOUNDATION, INC.**

In 1986, The United States Congress authorized the establishment of a non-profit 501(c) organization, The Black Patriots Foundation, Inc. ("The Foundation") to raise the necessary revenue to build The Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial ("The Memorial") on the historical National Mall in Washington, D.C. in honor of the African Americans who fought in the Revolutionary War...In fact, the first national memorial to honor African Americans.

And after ten years of ground work, on September 19, 1996, The Commission of Fine Arts gave its unanimous and enthusiastic final approval of The Memorial, which will be the largest bronze sculpture cast in the United States. The Commission noted that, "...it will be one of the most elegant memorial's in Washington, D.C. And indeed, the nation...

Furthermore, in support of The Memorial's national significance, Congress also extended the deadline for The Foundation to raise necessary funds for The Memorial to October 27, 1998. And in keeping with this national support of the raising of funds, a coinage bill was passed authorizing the issuance of a commemorative coin in 1998 on the 275th Birthday on Cripus Attucks, known around the world as the first man to fall in the American Revolution.

This coin represent a potential of \$5,000,000 in revenue that The Foundation in turn will need to match dollar for dollar. In fact, The Foundation must raise the remaining \$9,500,000 of the construction expenses for The Memorial, as well as a \$950,000 endowment for its permanent maintenance by the October 27, 1998 deadline.

However, The Foundation is prohibited from using any public government funds for the construction and maintenance of The Memorial. Therefore, The Foundation is solely dependent on the goodwill of individuals, private businesses, and other non-profit organizations for financial support. In fact, as further protection of this national investment, the monies raised in this endeavor are placed in an interest, federally insured account.

The historical significance of The Memorial is also noted by its location -- the Constitution Gardens on the shore of Lake Constitution, between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, and 300 years east of the Vietnam Memorial. And The Memorial will stand on the last site available in Monument Core, the most hallowed area in the nation for honoring our most courageous and influential individuals and events... indeed, most deserving of being there, is a memorial honoring the first African Americans to fight for freedom...

The Black Patriots Foundation, Inc., invites you to support the establishment of The Black

Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial on the Historical National Mall in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, June 1, 1997, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at The California African American Museum, Exposition Park.

There is a tax deductible admission of \$50. For further information, please call (213) 295-1055 or 295-8671. To charge tickets, please call (800) 888-9811.

submitted by Helen Johnson

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#### CAAGS' BOOK CORNER

**The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom, 1750-1925**, by Herbert Gutman, published by Vintage Books, 1976, \$22 + tax; a research study of the African American family, showing that historically there were strong "family relationships" which existed and were important, even during slavery for many African Americans, and also discusses certain slave naming practices and patterns.

**Slave Trading in the Old South**, by Frederick Bancroft, published by the university of South Carolina Press, reprinted 1996, \$18.95 + tax; a comprehensive study of the domestic slave trade, including the names of well known traders, brokers, auctioneers and agents; also gives information about the locations in this country between which the slaves they handled were transported, and about some of the marketplaces that were used.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE SAINT-GAUDENS MONUMENT ROBERT GOULD SHAW AND THE FIFTY-FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT

May 1997 will mark the centennial of the installation in Boston of the Augustus Saint-Gaudens Memorial to Robert Gould Shaw and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment, the first Union grouping of free Black volunteers in the Civil War. To celebrate the centennial, a public history program will be held in Boston on May 28-31, 1997. The program will include a public ceremony at the site of the monument, an encampment, a parade of African American Civil War re-enactors, and a public symposium entitled "The Monument to Robert Gould Shaw and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment: History and Meaning." For more information, contact Erin Beatty at Boston National Historical Park, Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston, MA 02129; phone (617) 242-5668; fax (617) 241-8650; E-mail erin\_beatty@nps.gov.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE WORLD FAMILY TREE

The World Family Tree is already helping thousands of family history enthusiasts like you. Nearly two years in the making - and still growing - that gigantic pool of actual family trees is being shared by Family Tree Makers Customers and others, in an effort to help people easily find connections to their family trees. Today, with just a few minutes of your time, Broderbound and

Automated Research, Inc. (ARI) invite you to share your knowledge of your ancestors and become a part of the World Family Tree, too.

In order to use a World Family Tree CD, you must have a CD-ROM drive and Version 3.0 or higher of either Family Tree Maker for Windows or the Family Archive Viewer. We also recommend an extra 4 MB of hard disk space.

To order a World Family Tree CD: Call (800) 474-1933, or write to P. O. Box 6125, Novato, CA 94948-6125. Mention Source code 1012. You can also order World Family Tree CDs from any of Broderbund's authorized Family Archives resellers.

The service is available for no charge through Family Tree Maker Online at <http://www.familytreemaker.com>.

submitted by Colette DeVerge

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**BLACK HEROES OF UNDERGROUND  
RAILROAD FORGOTTEN BY HISTORY**

(continued)

Newman and Charles Nuckolls, a Hamilton County Board of Elections representative, are working to get Parker the recognition he deserves.

Last spring while reading a description of Parker, Newman stumbled upon a reference to an autobiography held in the archives of Duke University. Newman wrote to the library and got a copy of a handwritten manuscript that a newspaper reporter constructed from conversations with Parker in 1880.

In it, Parker describes how he was sold when he was 8 years old, and

how, as a teen, he was beaten so badly by his master that he was hospitalized. He ran away repeatedly and was caught each time, until he found a white woman who was willing to let him buy his freedom.

Surprised the text had never been transcribed or printed, Newman set about trying to get it published.

If he's successful, any proceeds will be donated to a project Nuckolls started two years ago to restore and preserve Parker's home in Ripley.

Nuckolls was motivated by a picture he saw of the dilapidated brick house. He and his four brothers tried to buy the home, with the intent of donating it to a historical society.

Shortly before they closed the deal, the house and two adjacent lots were sold to Rick and Kristi Scott of Ripley.

Mrs. Scott said they would be willing to sell the property, which they've cleaned up, to a foundation or government agency for \$115,000.

"That's a firm price," she said.

Meanwhile, Nuckolls and other supporters are trying to find descendants of Parker, acquire pieces of equipment he manufactured and get his papers in order.

Betty Campbell of Ripley, who grew up hearing about Parker's exploits, is committed to the project.

"These stories are just phenomenal," she said. "They need to be told and kept alive, not just for our generation, but for future ones."

submitted by Marjorie Higgins

**CIRCLE OF SISTERS: A  
MONTHLY READING GROUP**

Circle of Sisters is a female only African-American reading club which has been in existence in South Central Los Angeles for the past two years. The Circle is currently seeking new members.

The Club reads a variety of books by Black authors and it meets the last Monday of every month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., except for holiday weekends, then the meeting is pushed up one week.

Eso Won on LaBrea provides a 10% discount on the book of the month for the Club. The next meeting will be on May 19, 1997. The book for the month is "The Souls of Black Folk," by W.E.B. DuBois.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining a strong body of female readers in discussion of books, please contact Gena Weaver, Editor, at (213) 526-2971.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GENEALOGY VIRUS**

by GFA Carol, Editorial Staff Member

Symptoms: Continual complaint as to need for names, dates, and places.

Patient has blank expression, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses.

Has compulsion to write letters. Swears at the mailman when she/he doesn't leave mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote desolate country areas.

Makes secret night calls. Hides phone bills from spouse and mumbles to self. Has a strange faraway look in eyes. NO KNOWN CURE!!!!!!!

submitted by Helen Johnson

\*\*\*\*\*

**SLAVE DATA PROJECT**

CAAGS Recording Secretary, Alva Griffith, has recently been asked to coordinate the Slave Data Project Message Board in the Genealogy Forum for America Online. This area will feature data contributed by any generous genealogist who finds and is willing to share data on slaves. You will be credited as the contributor, and your e-mail (or snail-mail address) can be included, so that others will possible connections can contact you.

When full, this Message Board will be archived in the AOL Library, so that the data will always be available to researchers attempting to climb The Wall of 1870. This is one of the most difficult time periods to go beyond for African American researchers, since we often have problems ascertaining the name of the slaveowner of our ancestors. The Slave Data Project will assist researchers to learn owner's names, match-up slave families, and hopefully, connect with others searching the same slave families.

Data about slaves is needed from ALL types of documents. Basic information needed is: owner's name; plantation name if given; slaves' names (ages, descriptions and family

relationships if given); location (state and county); year; document with citation to book, page or film number.

Ms. Griffith reports that she already received data from numerous descendants of slaveowners by mail and by e-mail. She needs YOUR data to post, as well. Please send photocopies of documents or an extract of the above information to her at Alva Griffith, P. O. Box 78332, Los Angeles, CA 90016

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE SLAVE CHILDREN OF  
THOMAS JEFFERSON**

By Samuel H. Sloan, 320 pp.,  
The Orsden Press, \$14.95.

Thomas Jefferson had 187 slaves. We know that because he kept meticulous hand-written records, which we still have. On January 14, 1774, after he inherited slaves from first his mother and then his father-in-law, Jefferson wrote his inventory of 187 slaves. In his last inventory, taken 50 years later in 1824, Thomas Jefferson also had 187 slaves. Jefferson died on July 4, 1826 at the age of 83.

In October, 1802, while he was President, the story was published in the newspapers that Jefferson, whose wife had died in 1782, was keeping his wife's slave half-sister, Sally Hemings, as a concubine and was producing children from her. Jefferson, who lived for 44 years after the death of his wife and who never remarried, never denied the story, but he

never admitted it either. Sally Hemings was at his bedside when he died. All five children of Sally Hemings were freed by Jefferson either before his death or in his will. Jefferson made provisions for Sally Hemings in his will. These were almost the only slaves which Jefferson ever freed.

What do the retired Chairman of the Board of DuPont Chemical Corporation, the first black assemblyman in the history of the State of California, one of the co-founders of the NAACP, the first black tenured faculty member of any college in America, the first black woman ever to graduate from Vassar College, and a judge appointed by President George Bush, all have in common? They are all direct descendants of the slave children of Jefferson. Many have heard the story that President Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence and one of the founding fathers of the United States of America, produced children from his slaves. Is this story really true, and what happened to the children? Is former Governor Douglas Wilder of Virginia one of those descendants? How about President William Jefferson Clinton? These questions and many others are addressed in "The Slave Children of Thomas Jefferson."

To order, please send e-mail to the Order Books Contact address, Sloan@ishipress.com

submitted by Gerri Johnson



**CAAGS CALENDAR**

May 7-10, 1997 - National Genealogical Society Conference in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.  
May 17, 1997 - Round Table Discussion.  
June 21, 1997 - Allensworth State Historic Park. Departure will be at 6:30 a.m.  
July 19, 1997 - Burbank Library tour.  
August - No meeting will be held.  
September 20, 1997 - Guest Speaker, Beth Wilson. The topic is unknown at this time.  
October 18, 1997 - Show & Tell.  
November 15, 1997 - Round Table Discussion and Election of Officers.  
December 20, 1997 - Christmas Party.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COMMITTEES**

If you have any interest in joining one of the following Committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meigs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree

**OFFICERS**

President  
Ronald Higgins  
(213) 777-4816  
  
Interim President  
Charles Meigs  
(213) 295-3020  
  
1st Vice President  
Erma J. Hurse  
(909) 736-5461  
  
2nd Vice President/Membership  
Colette DeVerge  
(213) 933-8381  
  
Recording Secretary  
Alva Griffith  
(213) 735-7261  
  
Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
(213) 931-8350  
  
Treasurer  
Vera Merritt  
(310) 215-1626  
  
Newsletter Editor  
Gena Weaver  
(213) 526-2971 (pager)  
(213) 291-7984 (fax)  
  
Parliamentarian/Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
(310) 854-6967  
  
Historian  
Marilyn White  
(213) 756-2804  
  
Public Relations  
Open

\*\*\*\*\*

**HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON**

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642



# California African American Genealogical Society

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL RESEARCH TOUR TO THE SALT LAKE CITY FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY. SHARE 7 DAYS AND NIGHTS WITH EXPERIENCED RESEARCHERS FROM CAAGS AS WELL AS PROFESSIONALS WHO LIVE AND WORK IN SALT LAKE CITY.

**November 16 - November 23, 1997**

YOUR "GENEALOGIST'S DREAM VACATION" IN THE WORLD'S LARGEST GENEALOGICAL REPOSITORY INCLUDES:

**Round Trip Transportation Via  
Delta Airlines**

**7 nights Salt Lake Plaza Hotel at Temple Square  
Transfer To And From Hotel • Tips • Baggage Handling (1 Bag)**

**\$510.00 from LAX Per Person Double Occupancy  
(SINGLE OCCUPANCY ADD \$265)**

**DEPOSIT DEADLINE: June 30, 1997**

**PLEASE ENCLOSE A \$150.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT PER PERSON  
BALANCE DUE - October 15, 1997**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL - COLETTE DE VERGE (213) 833-8381

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY "SALT LAKE CITY TOUR" Nov 16 - Nov 23 1997

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Single Occupancy  Double Occupancy

Please include Roomate's - Name, Address, Phone

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPOSIT AMT. \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to CAAGS-Travel and mail to:  
California African American Genealogical Society  
C/O Colette DeVerge  
P.O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, California 90008-0442

Jean Douglass Greene  
Founder/President



Jeanette Braxton Secret  
Founder/Vice President

January 1997

National Organization for The Descendants  
of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors  
and their White Officers in the Civil War  
1861-1865

2121 Vale Rd., Suite 310  
San Pablo, CA. 94806

Dear Union Civil War Descendant:

As one of the seven million descendants of more than 180,000 United States Colored Troops, 30,000 Black Union seamen, and more than 7,000 White officers who served as Union servicemen in the Civil War between 1861-1865, you are applauded for keeping their fight for freedom and dreams alive.

My great-grandfather, Frederick Douglass, had two sons, Lewis H. Douglass and Charles R. Douglass who served in the 54th Regiment, Massachusetts Infantry (Colored). Also, Jeanette's great-grandfather, Iverson Granderson, served in the Union Navy. And, Jeanette had more than 30 Granderson-Grandison's ancestors who served in the United States Colored Troops.

The National Organization for the Descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers in the Civil War 1861-1865 is the first national organization to recognize descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers in the Civil War. In collaboration with the African-American Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation in Washington, D.C., the National Organization for the Descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers will co-host a conference style forum and reception for descendants on October 22, 1997 in Washington, D.C.. The Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation will host three days of activities, ending on October 25, 1997 with a parade and the unveiling of the Civil War Memorial to the U.S.C.T.

You are invited to attend the kickoff program as a member of the National Organization for the Descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers in the Civil War 1861-1865. Your pledge of \$15.00 will entitle you to an annual membership in the National Organization for the Descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers in the Civil War 1861-1865. Your membership will also entitle you to the opportunity to attend the descendant's forum and reception scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 1997 in Washington, D.C.. Each member will also receive special seating at each of the events scheduled throughout the entire weekend.

Some programs and activities scheduled in the future are to be a catalyst to help descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their white officers research their ancestors in the Civil War. We will offer tours to Civil War battlefields to commemorate ancestors and historical sites such as Frederick Douglass Home, Harpers Ferry in Petersburg, etc.

We look forward to your membership in the National Organization for the Descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers in the Civil War 1861-1865. We need your participation in the descendant's forum and reception scheduled for October 22, 1997 in the Nation's Capital.

In the Spirit of our Ancestors,  
*Jean Douglass Greene*  
Jean Douglass Greene  
Founder/President

In the Spirit of our Ancestors,  
*Jeanette Braxton Secret*  
Jeanette Braxton Secret  
Founder/Vice President

-----  
**Pledge for Annual Membership**

National Organization For The Descendants of African American Union Soldiers/Sailors and their White Officers in the Civil War 1861-1865

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **zip code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE \$15.00 PLEDGE TO:  
DESCENDANTS OF UNION SOLDIERS/SAILORS

*JEAN DOUGLASS GREENE*  
Founder/President

And mail pledge to:  
DESCENDANTS OF UNION SOLDIERS/SAILORS  
%JeanetteBraxtonSecret  
2121 Vale Rd., Suite 310  
San Pablo, CA. 94806

*JEANETTE BRAXTON SECRET*  
Founder/Vice President

**THANK YOU.**

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR:Gena Weaver ISSN:1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 06/07, June/July 1997

CAAGS MEETING

June 21, 1997

NO  
MEETING

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

DISCLAIMER

The Editor nor CAAGS assumes responsibility for articles submitted to the Newsletter by its members.

\*\*\*\*\*

QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any queries you may have for the Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

July 15, 1997 for August issue

\*\*\*\*\*

JUNETEENTH

When people made up their minds that they wanted to be free and took action, then there was a change.

by Rosa Parks

CAAGS MEETING

July 19, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
United Methodist Church  
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.  
Los Angeles, CA

Beginners/Intermediate Class  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule  
9:00-10:30 - Class  
10:30-11:00 - Business Meeting  
11:00-11:15 - Break  
11:30-1:00 - Round Table  
Discussion

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

ALLENSWORTH

The Allensworth trip offered by CAAGS has been canceled due to low enrollment. If you still wish to attend, please contact Valerie Holton at (213) 750-9267.

\*\*\*\*\*

4TH OF JULY

In every human breast, God has implanted a principle which we call love of freedom; it is impatient of oppression and pants for deliverance.

by Phillis Wheatley

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Enjoy your vacations and family reunions. Don't forget to bring back lots of research information.

Your President,  
Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

**JUNE BIRTHDAY WISHES!**

Alva Griffith

\*\*\*\*\*

**JULY BIRTHDAY WISHES!**

Charlotte Bocage  
Mattie Curtis  
Jamesetta Hammons  
Milton Hines  
Barbara King  
William Slaton

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!**

Dianne Alexander  
Donald E. Brown  
Florence Davis Scott  
Henrietta Hendrix  
Adele Johnson  
Kinamo Moyowasifza  
Dr. Carolyn A. Rosenberg  
Carol Thomas  
Minnie Lee Wagoner  
Lyndell Y. Wesley  
Leola Williams

Dianne Alexander is researching Alexander and Vamer.

Kinamo Moyowasifza is researching Curry and Locke.

Dr. Carolyn Rosenberg is researching Danner, Holt, Maloney and Walker.

Minnie L. Wagoner is researching Morrow and Wadlington.

Lyndell Y. Wesley is research Coleman, Hunter, Surry and Wyatt.

\*\*\*\*\*

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Vera Merritt - vmerit@aol.com

Dr. Carolyn Rosenberg - carose@juno.com

Lyndell Wesley - surreygenes@mindsspring.com

Marilyn White - marol@aol.com

African American Educational Software and Videos -  
<http://www.erols.com/tdpedu>

Los Angeles Public Library -  
<http://www.lapl.org/admin/catalog.html>

Minority-Owned Web Page Directory -  
<http://visionaryquest.com/>

New Orleans Public Library -  
<http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl>

Social Security Death Index -  
<http://www.infobases.com/ssdi>

<http://www.black-collegian.com/blackst>

<http://www.afroam.org/history.html>

http://www.i-channel.com/ellis/index.html

http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/collections/african-ame

Cyndi Howard -  
http://www.oz.net/~cyndihow/sites.html

\*\*\*\*\*

THANK YOU

Patricia Jackson for providing Cyndi Howard's complete e-mail address.

\*\*\*\*\*

OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

\*\*\*\*\*

CAAGS JULY MEETING DATE

July 19, 1997

The Burbank Library trip has been canceled, because the Southern California Genealogical Society is moving.

\*\*\*\*\*

PICTURES

If anyone took pictures of the May meeting, please notify the Editor, Gena Weaver.

JULY HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Thalia Clarke  
Dorothy Gaither  
Evelyn Ross  
Jeanette Scott

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the July meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATES FREEDOM

Collegian, Wednesday, June 12, 1996

by Nicole Kirby

Juneteenth is celebrated in honor of the last slaves freed by the Emancipation Proclamation. Although President Lincoln issued the proclamation on January 1, 1863, the slaves in Texas were not notified until two years later, on June 19, 1865. There are a number of explanations for the delay that have been suggested.

"One explanation is that a free man started out on a mule from Washington, D.C., and didn't arrive until two years later." Others have suggested the Texas farmers waited until the harvest season was over to notify their slaves of the proclamation. The former slaves began celebrating the anniversary of their emancipation the following year. "When those people spread across the country, they took the Juneteenth celebration with them."

CAAGS CALENDAR

June 21, 1997 - No meeting will be held.

July 19, 1997 - Round Table Discussion.

August - No meeting will be held.

September 20, 1997 - Guest Speaker, Beth Wilson. The topic is unknown at this time.

October 18, 1997 - Show & Tell.

November 15, 1997 - Round Table Discussion and Election of Officers.

December 20, 1997 - Christmas Party.

\*\*\*\*\*

COMMITTEES

If you have any interest in joining one of the following Committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meigs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Surname Directory

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Interim President  
Charles Meigs  
(213) 295-3020

1st Vice President  
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2nd Vice President/Membership  
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Public Relations  
Open

\*\*\*\*\*

HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642



CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
**HERITAGE NEWSLETTER**

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

**EDITOR:Gena Weaver ISSN:1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 08/09, Aug/Sept 1997**

CAAGS MEETING

August 16, 1997

**NO  
MEETING**

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any queries you may have for the Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

September 15, 1997 for October issue

\*\*\*\*\*

**LABOR DAY**

That which we are, we are, and if we are ever to be any better, now is the time to begin.

by Tennyson

CAAGS MEETING

September 20, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
United Methodist Church  
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.  
Los Angeles, CA

Beginners/Intermediate Class  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule  
9:00-10:30 - Class  
10:30-11:00 - Business Meeting  
11:00-11:15 - Break  
11:30-1:00 - Guest Speaker,  
Beth Wilson, will discuss  
"Timelines."

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CAAGS Members:

It is time to look to the future of our society. A nominating committee is needed and members are needed who are willing to serve as President, Second Vice President and Corresponding Secretary.

The current officers have been in office for the past four years and can no longer continue to serve in these positions.

According to the Society's By-laws, Article II, Section 3,



elections are held in November. If you are a current member and is interested in becoming an officer, please contact any Board Member.

Your President,

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Bylaws, Article V, Sections 1, 3 & 5

Section 1 - President

- \* Be the principal executive officer for the affairs of the Society.
- \* Preside at all meetings of the Society and Executive Committee.
- \* Appoint all committees with approval of the Executive Committee.
- \* Call special meetings of the Society and of the Board when necessary.
- \* Be a member ex officio of all committees except the Nomination Committee.

Section 3 - Second Vice President

- \* Serve as Membership Secretary and may suggest a member of the Society to the President to help with this duty.
- \* Receive membership applications and dues.
- \* Notify delinquent members.

- \* Submit monthly reports of membership to the Newsletter Editor to facilitate mailings.

Section 5 - Correspondence Secretary

- \* Send notices of special meetings.
- \* Conduct the correspondence of the Society.
- \* Maintain records of letters received and answered.
- \* To perform such other duties as requested by the President.

\*\*\*\*\*

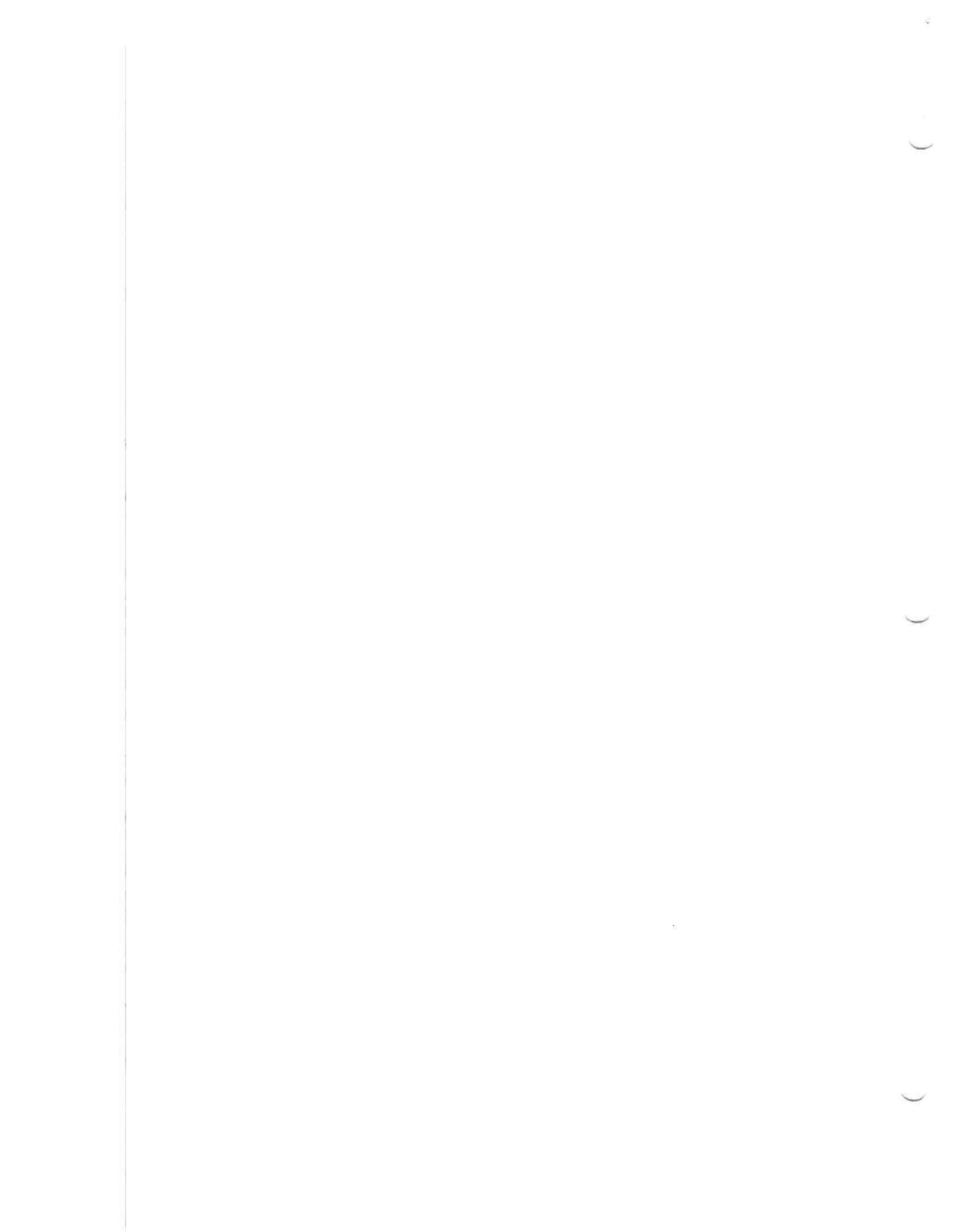
COMMITTEE REPORTS

All committee chairpersons should be prepared to give a report on the progress of their committee during the September meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

23rd PSALMS FOR GENEALOGISTS

Genealogy is my Pastime. I shall not stray. It maketh me to lie down and examine half-buried Tombstones. It leadeth me into still Courthouses. It restoreth my Ancestral Knowledge. It leadeth me into the Paths of Census Records and Ships Passenger Lists for my Surnames' sake, Yea, though I wade through the Shadows of Research Libraries and Microfilm Readers, I shall fear no Discouragement, for a Strong Urge is with me. The curiosity and Motivation, they Comfort me. It demandeth preparation



of Storage Space for the Acquisition of Countless Documents. It annointeth my Head with burning Midnight Oil, My Family Group Sheets runneth over. Surely Birth, Marriage and Death dates shall follow me all the Days of my Life; and I shall dwell in the House of a Family History Seeker Forever. Anonymous.

submitted by Helen Johnson

\*\*\*\*\*

AUGUST BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Nella Becker-Slaton  
Mattie Hunt  
Charlotte Mathews  
Imani Oshodin  
Jean Perry  
Barbara Thomas

\*\*\*\*\*

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Richard Brown, Jr.  
Barbara Butts  
Gwendolyn Champion  
Renee Dolberry  
Walter P. Hollowell  
Johnnie B. Lee  
Rachelle McMurray  
Barbara Phillips  
Edith Sumlin  
Rochelle Williams

\*\*\*\*\*

NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

Allie L. Almore-Randle  
Jeanette Braxton-Secret  
Renee & Timothy Dolberry  
Vivian Saunders

Allie Almore-Randle is researching Almore and Randle.

Jeanette Braxton-Secret is researching Braxton and Secret.

Renee & Timothy Dolberry are researching Blackburn, Brown, Cage, Dolberry, Griffin, Harris and Hayes.

Vivian Saunders is researching Fields, Rawlins, Saunders, Strickland-Tate, Watson and Webb.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE SUMLIN'S FAMILY

Shades of L.A. Exhibition

CAAGS members Patrick and Edith Sumlin would like to announce that a photograph of their son, Yannick, has been selected to be part of the Shades of L.A. Exhibit at the Los Angeles Central Library. His photograph, taken by his mom, is on display in the History/Genealogy Department.

It was because of CAAGS and the Ancestor series that the importance of this project was understood and the photo submitted. The Sumlin's family attended the opening reception for the exhibition.

In all, 10 of their photographs were accepted and copied. All of them will become part of the library's archives and could possibly be used in books, documentaries, CD-ROMs and other projects. In addition, the photographs will be published in the Shades of L.A. book to be released later this year. The exhibit runs from July 9 through September 28, 1997.

SEPTEMBER HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

LaVerne Anderson  
Barbara Phillips  
Eraena Reynaldo

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the September meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

CAAGS BOOK CORNER

**In The Matter Of Color - Race & The American Legal Process: The Colonial Period**, by A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., published by Oxford University Press, 1978, \$15.95 + tax; written by a black U. S. Court of Appeals judge, this is a study of the role of the law as it pertained to African Americans during that historical period, particularly in GA, MA, NY, SC, PA and VA.

**When I can Read My Title Clear - Literacy, Slavery, and Religion in the Antebellum South**, by Janet Duitsman Cornelius, published by the University of South Carolina Press, 1991, \$16.95 + tax; a pioneering study which examines literacy during slavery, and the role it played in the black church, political resistance, and community formation.

\*\*\*\*\*

OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

QUERY

Shelia Powell-Faulkner, 4450 California Place, Box 367, Long Beach, CA 90807. I am researching my ancestors, so far I have found Amelia Mitchell, maybe Baker (my great-grandmother). She may have lived in Baldwin County, Alabama in the city of Tensaw or Bay Minette. She married Ed James, Sr. I don't know when. They had my grandfather (Ed James, Jr.) some time in the 1890's, he died in 1986. Ed James, Jr. married Alberta Andrews, I am not sure of her last name and I don't know when they married. She was born May 15, 1898 and died April 1984 (according to Social Security information).

Alberta also had four sisters Eva, Susanna (she married an Earl or Earle), Ellen and Mannie. I would like to know who their mother was.

My father Reuben Johnson Powell lived in Monroe and Daphne, Alabama. His mothers' name was Lucy Houston and father was Charley Powell (from Monroe, Alabama). Reuben's birth record show he was born April 27, 1909 in Monroe County, City of Beaumont, Alabama and according to his birth record, Lucy Houston was from Clarke County, Alabama.

If you can help me, please send list of names and places to search or where I should go to get the information needed.

## HOW TO TRAIN YOUR NIGGER

A Speech by Willie Lynch in 1712

Gentlemen:

"I greet you here on the bank of the James River in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twelve. First, I shall thank you The Gentlemen of the Colony of Virginia for bringing me here. I am here to help you solve some of your problems with slaves. Your invitation reached me on my modest plantation in the West Indies where I have experimented with some of the newest and still the oldest methods for the control of slaves. Ancient Rome would envy us if my program is implemented. As our boat sailed south on the James river, named for our illustrious King, whose version of the Bible we cherish, I saw enough to know that your problem is not unique. While Rome used cords of wood as crosses for standing human bodies along its old highways in great numbers you are here using the tree and the rope on occasion.

I caught a whiff of a dead slave hanging from a tree a couple of miles back. You are not only losing valuable stock by hangings, you are having uprisings, slaves are running away, your crops are sometimes left in the fields too long for maximum profit, you suffer occasional fires, your animals are killed, gentlemen, you know what your problems are; I do not need to elaborate, I am not here to enumerate your problems, I am here to

introduce you to a method of solving them.

In my bag here, I have a fool proof method for controlling your Black Slaves. I guarantee everyone of you that if installed correctly it will control the slaves for at least 300 years. My method is simply, any number of your family or any Overseer can use it.

I have outlined a number of differences among the slaves and I take these differences and make them bigger. I use fear, distrust, and envy for control purposes. These methods have worked on my modest plantation in the West Indies and it will work throughout the South. Take this simple little list of differences, and think about them. On top of my list is "Age" but it is there only because it starts with an "A"; the second is "Color" or shade, there is intelligence, size, sex, size of plantations, status on plantations, attitude of owners, whether the slaves live in the valley, on a hill, East, West, North South, have fine or coarse hair, or are tall or short. Now that you have a list of differences, I shall give you an outline of action - but before that I shall assure you that distrust is stronger than trust, and envy is stronger than adulation, respect or admiration.

The Black Slave after receiving this indoctrination shall carry on and will become self refueling and self generating for hundreds of years, maybe

thousands.

Don't forget you must pitch the old black vs. the young black male, and the young black male against the old black male. You must use the dark skin slaves vs. the light skin slaves and the light skin slaves vs. the dark skin slaves. You must use the female vs. the male, and the male vs. the female. You must also have your White servants and overseers distrust all Blacks, but it is necessary that your slaves trust and depend on us. They must love, respect, and trust only us.

Gentlemen, these kits are your keys to control, use them. Have your wives and children use them, never miss the opportunity. My plan is guaranteed, and the good thing about this plan is that if used intensely for one year the slaves themselves will remain perpetually distrustful."

There is no record of this speech in any historical documents from the State of Virginia, or any other propaganda published about African-Americans. Its origin is unknown.

There was, however, a William Lynch, a plantation owner from the West Indies, but not during this time period. There is also no shipping manifest that showed he ever came to America.

In addition, there was a William Lynch who actually lived in Virginia, who was known as the lynching judge, in which the word "lynch" was derived. He, too was not from

the 17th Century.

To see more of this type of propaganda, visit the African-American archive section at the University of California, Santa Barbara. There are over 30,000 such statements and pictures about African-Americans with animal tails on file in their library.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### FUTURE ARTICLES

African-American Bone Marrow Donor Registry

The Internet Traveler

The Statue of Liberty

Who are the Buffalo Soldiers?

And much, much more!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

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Helen Johnson - hjoh1 @ aol.com

Jeanette Carroll-Scott - jsherbs @ aol.com

Ray Marshall - rmarshall @ earthlink.net

Vera Merritt - vmerrit @ aol.com

Vernon Robinson - KF6FH @ earthlink.net



Edward Osborne - (e-mail) edwr: osb @ webtv.net (or his web page)  
[http://www.angelfire.com/ca/OSBORNES HOME PAGE](http://www.angelfire.com/ca/OSBORNES_HOME_PAGE)

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Gena Weaver - lear @ SoCA.com

Lyndell Wesley - surreygenes @ mindsspring.com

Marilyn White - marol @ aol. com

African American Educational Software and Videos -  
<http://www.erols.com/tdpedu>

A n c e s t o r ' s -  
<http://www.kloyu.byu.edu/ancestors>

Library of Congress - <http://www.loc.gov> (or) <http://cweb2.loc/ammem/award> (or) <http://www.ameritech.com>

Los Angeles Public Library -  
<http://www.lapl.org/admin/catalog.html>

Minority-Owned Web Page Directory -  
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New Orleans Public Library -  
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Social Security Death Index -  
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<http://www.black-collegian.com/blackst>

<http://www.afroam.org/history.html>

<http://www.i-channel.com/ellis/index.html>

<http://scripturium.lib.duke.edu/collections/african-ame>

Cyndi Howard -  
<http://www.oz.net/~cyndihow/sites.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

### CAAGS CALENDAR

September 3-6, 1997 - Federal Genealogy Society meeting in Dallas, Texas.

September 13-14, 1997, Family History Fair in San Diego, California.

September 18-20, 1997, The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society will celebrate their twentieth year and 19th Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

September 20, 1997 - Guest speaker, Beth Wilson, will discuss "Timelines."

October 18, 1997 - Show & Tell.

November 15, 1997 - Roundtable discussion and election of Officers.

December 20, 1997 - Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.

January 17, 1998 - Mary Grindall, will discuss "Women in the American Revolution."

February 21, 1998 - Black History month celebration.

March 21, 1998 - Electra Kimble Price, her discussion is unknown.

April 18, 1998 - Nancy Carlsberg, will discuss "How to Get Organized."

May 16, 1998 - To be announced.

May 30-31, 1998, Southern California Genealogy Jamboree.

June 20, 1998, Juneteenth Celebration.

July 18, 1998, To be announced.

August 15, 1998, No meeting will be held.

August 19-22, 1998 Federation of Genealogical Society Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

September 19, 1998 - To be announced.

October 17, 1998 - Show & Tell.

November 21, 1998 - Roundtable discussion and election of Officers.

December 19, 1998 - Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.

\*\*\*\*\*

**COMMITTEES**

If you have any interest in joining one of the following Committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meigs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Surname Directory

**OFFICERS**

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(213) 777-4816

Interim President  
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(213) 295-3020

1st Vice President  
Erma J. Hurse  
(909) 736-5461

2nd Vice President/Membership  
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(213) 931-8350

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Parliamentarian/Librarian  
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Marilyn White  
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Public Relations  
Open

\*\*\*\*\*

**HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON**

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR:Gena Weaver ISSN:1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 10, Oct 1997

CAAGS MEETING

October 18, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.
United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.
Los Angeles, CA

Beginners/Intermediate Class
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule
9:00-10:30 - Class
10:30-11:00 - Business Meeting
11:00-11:15 - Break
11:30-1:00 - Show and Tell

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

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QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any
queries you may have for the
Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

October 20, 1997 for November issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CAAGS Members:

Don't forget that November is
Election of Officers month.

Your President,

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

HALLOWEEN

Laughter is the language of the
gods.

Buddhist Saying

\*\*\*\*\*

DEATH NOTICE

Michael Francine Henry Duncans
Addison, a former Vice
President of CAAGS died
suddenly on August 16, 1997,
due to an unknown medical
complication. She was known as
a Poetess of Peace. Services
were held at Forest Lawn
Memorial Park on August 22,
1997.

THANK YOU

Herbert Laffoon for your videotape showing of "The Montford Point Marines: The First Black Marines to Serve from 1942-1949," during our September meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Se Elcy Caldwell  
Mary Chin  
Patricia Jackson  
Patricia Langley  
William Russell  
Robert Sharpe  
Joyce Sumbi  
Patrick Sumlin  
Marilyn White  
Bobbie Wright

\*\*\*\*\*

PEDIGREE CHARTS

All pedigree charts must be submitted to Ronald Batiste by the end of October for the publication of the book.

\*\*\*\*\*

OCTOBER HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Ethel Dillon  
Vanessa Hunter  
Ina Jones  
Vera Merritt  
Aletha Toliva

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the October meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

1998 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Bylaws, Article I, Section 3

Membership fees are due and payable in January of each year. Members whose dues have not been paid to the Treasurer by March 1st, will have their names removed from all the Organization's mailing and membership lists. A member removed for non-payment of dues will be reinstated by paying the delinquent dues.

NEW MEMBERS joining in November or December; dues shall apply to subsequent year.

\*\*\*\*\*

NOVEMBER MEETING

Gerald Yarbrough will speak on "Genealogy and the Internet".

\*\*\*\*\*

CAAGS BOOK CORNER

Africans in Georgia, 1870, by Roma Jones Stewart, published by Homeland Publications, 1993, \$8.00 + tax. While the importation of African slaves was prohibited by law after 1808, many continued to be brought into the country illegally. The US census of 1870 was the first after Emancipation to document the birthplace of newly freed slaves and their parents. The author has carefully transcribed the data concerning all those stating that they or their parents were born in Africa or other countries, using only the 1870 census for Georgia.

Black Majority: Negroes in Colonial South Carolina from 1670 through the Stono Rebellion by Peter H. Wood,

published by Norton & Co., 1974, \$12.95 + tax; a well documented study discussing slavery and slave life in South Carolina, where Blacks were the majority population between 1670 and about 1739; explains how these slaves played a significant part in the evolution of the colony. An excellent resource for SC researchers.

\*\*\*\*\*

OTHER MEETINGS

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

\*\*\*\*\*

QUERY

Cecelia Alleyne, 214 W. 122nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90061-1715, (213) 756-7963. I am seeking information regarding the Alleyne family of Bridgetown, Barbados, British West Indies. FHL baptismal records list Elizabeth Alleyne's children as: Joseph Emanuel, Joseph Wesly, Mary Anna, Rebecca Jane, Charles William, Julia Augusta, Robert Thomas, Robert James, William Thomas Newton and Jonas.

Jonas Alleyne's children are listed as: John Christopher, Mary Catherine, Frederick Agustus, Georgiana Elfrida Bishop, Emily Ann, Daniel, Jonas Wilkinson, Mary Catherine Ann, James Francis, Elvira and Louisa.

Jonas Wilkinson Alleyne married Sarah Margaret Gibbs. I believe they were plantation workers. They had two sons born in Bridgetown: Milton Wilkinson Alleyne, Sr., born April 28, 1893 and Sinclair, born in 1894; both migrated to New York in 1909 or 1910. The 1920 census shows Sinclair, age 26, married to Mabel, living at 1036 Atlantic, Brooklyn, Kings County, NY, and his occupation as a sugar refinery laborer.

Milton, Sr. married Lucy Byrd on July 4, 1915 and I believe they lived in Brooklyn, New York or Washington, DC. I am trying to find out where they lived from 1915 to 1925. From 1925 to 1928, they lived in Denver, Colorado, where they owned and operated a restaurant. They moved to Los Angeles, CA, in 1928 and I have traced his life from that point.

Information regarding the above mentioned person would be greatly appreciated.

\*\*\*\*\*

HISTORY CORNER  
Cradle, Altar, Tomb

by Bonnie J. Bryan

It is with some trepidation that I begin this project with what I hope will offer encouragement to budding researcher-genealogists and perhaps a new thought or idea for the "old timer." It is also my hope you find it interesting, challenging and once in a while, funny. Okay, get ready, get set, GO!

## TAX RECORDS

Did your great-grandfather own a billiard table? How many wheeled carriages and metal stoves did he have? The answers to this questions might be found in the early tax lists. Said lists are not very glamorous, but searching them are fun. They are generally neglected because their genealogical value is not appreciated.

Tax lists are maintained at the federal, state and county levels. With few exceptions, the U.S. Direct Tax of 1798, federal tax lists are almost nonexistent until World War I, and can be eliminated as a genealogical source before that time. Therefore, county and tax lists constitute a most valuable genealogical source. Most tax list were alphabetized to some extent when they were compiled, but many were not and are, therefore, completely unindexed. The best way to locate these records is to search under the state and county in the card catalog of your library for Tax Lists. You might also consider looking under U.S. Taxation for federal and miscellaneous lists.

The U.S. Direct Tax List of 1798 lists records of tax levied on 16 colonial states. Partial lists are known to exist for Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. Some of the tax list contain the name of occupant and owner, location of the property, number of acres, number of buildings, value and the taxes levied. You can look forward to a few chuckles as you look

at the names of some plantations, i.e., "Thacker's Adventure."

Said list also help to fill the 10-year gap between federal censuses. They provide the names of occupants and landowners, dates and places of residence and surname spelling variations. Ownership of land in more than one county, plus dates of arrival and departure from a community may be indicated. Clues to relationships, dates, and place of death are frequently given. If a man's name suddenly stops appearing in the tax lists, but the same property is listed under a woman's name, the researcher could presume that the man had died and his widow is listing the property. This knowledge would then lead to search of the probate and land records to prove the assumption.

Tax lists usually contain the day, month and year the tax entry was made; name and residence of the taxpayer; amount of land and/or lists of personal property and its value; the number of free white persons over 21 years of age; and a list of the number of slaves, livestock, and buildings. Some tax records provide good clues to the location of land by indicating the body of water (creek, river, lake) upon which it is located, distance from the county courthouse, and names of adjoining property owners. Some lists also include a column header "Alterations." This will cover any changes made on the property within the past tax year and shows

additions and/or removal of buildings, plus sales and transfers of property, and deaths which occurred during the year. Happy researching.

submitted by Jeanette Scott

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ALLIED MARROW DONOR REGISTRY

Dear CAAGS Members:

Approximately 10,000 African Americans (two-thirds children), died last year while searching, hoping, for a bone marrow match and transplant.

Minority group members constitute only 17% of the national registry of marrow donors -- while African-Americans, Asians, Latinos, and Native Americans make up almost 35% of the country's total population. What this means is that a minority group patient, regardless of ethnic or racial group, needing a bone marrow transplant, has far less chance of finding a life-saving match.

When a person is stricken with leukemia, aplastic anemia, sickle cell anemia, or any one of 60 other blood-related diseases, often the only hope for survival is a bone marrow transplant. However, the patient and the donor must share six matching genetic traits, and this is far more likely when the donor is from the same racial/ethnic group.

We started Allied Marrow Donor Registry (AMDR) and Latino Marrow Donor Program (LMDP) to add as many minority donors to the marrow donor registries as

possible.

We hope that's where you come in. We need the help of community leaders in churches, professional groups, and businesses to organize and carry out marrow donor drive.

Here's how it works. First, we will collaborate with you to publicize an appeal to your constituents who are between the ages of 18 through 60 and in generally good health. Next we'll arrange a place where donors can take a simple blood test (2 tablespoons) from your arm to determine their marrow type. (Often we are able to collect enough in the first draw to cover the first two stages of testing. We will call you at each step along the way to update you on the status of your donation, and obtain your permission to continue testing.) This information will then be stored in a marrow donor registry, a computer data bank. If lab testing indicates a preliminary match with a person seeking a transplant, the donor will be contacted by a local donor center for further testing. The next step is what it's all about -- the bone marrow transplant.

Typically, donors arrive at six in the morning and stay until about six or seven at night. Travel and hotel accommodations will be provided if you are not from the transplant center area.

The procedure is done mid-morning under general anesthesia and usually takes about an hour. Bone marrow looks just like blood, except

it is on the inside of the bone. We aspirate the marrow from the back of your pelvis using a syringe. You will be asleep during this procedure and will not feel anything. When you wake up, however, you will be a little stiff and sore. Donors in the past have compared it to taking a hard fall on ice. Usually, the soreness diminishes over the next couple of days, and the marrow taken will replace itself in about two and a half weeks.

Every day, children and adults are dying while waiting for their perfect match. You could be the one who could offer the gift of life. For more information, please contact us at the Allied Marrow Donor Registry, 655 John Muir Drive, Suite #423, San Francisco, CA 94132, or call us at (415) 974-6262, (415) 979-0987 or (888) 633-8522. Fax (415) 585-5888. E-Mail: [almdp@mail.telis.org](mailto:almdp@mail.telis.org).

Jesse Alexander  
Managing Director

#### E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Due to space limitation in the Newsletter, a list of E-Mail addresses can be located at the sign-in table of each meeting.

If you are unable to attend the meetings, but still wish to obtain the E-Mail addresses, please request current listings from the Editor by writing to the address on the front page of the Newsletter.

#### FGS CONFERENCE IN DALLAS

Someone other than the delegate (Colette DeVerge) attended this year's meeting in Dallas. Other CAAGS members in attendance were Renee Dolberry and Lyndale Wesley.

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#### CAAGS CALENDAR

October 18, 1997 - Show & Tell.

November 15, 1997 - Guest Speaker, Gerald Yarbrough will discuss "Genealogy and the Internet," and Election of Officers.

December 20, 1997 - Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.

January 17, 1998 - Mary Grindall will discuss "Women in the American Revolution".

February 21, 1998 - Black History Month Celebration.

March 21, 1998 - Electra Kimble Price, her discussion is unknown.

April 18, 1998 - Nancy Carlsberg, will discuss "How to Get Organized".

May 16, 1998 - To be announced.

May 30-31, 1998, Southern California Genealogy Jamboree.

June 20, 1998, Juneteenth Celebration.

July 18, 1998, To be announced.

August 15, 1998, No meeting will be held.



August 19-22, 1998 Federation of Genealogical Society Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

September 19, 1998 - To be announced.

October 17, 1998 - Show & Tell.

November 21, 1998 - Roundtable discussion and Election of Officers.

December 19, 1998 - Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.

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COMMITTEES

If you have any interest in joining one of the following Committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meigs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Surname Directory

OFFICERS

President  
Ronald Higgins  
(213) 777-4816

Interim President  
Charles Meigs  
(213) 295-3020

1st Vice President  
Erma J. Hurse  
(909) 736-5461

2nd Vice President/Membership  
Colette DeVerge  
(213) 933-8381

Recording Secretary  
Alva Griffith  
(213) 735-7261

Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
(213) 931-8350

Treasurer  
Vera Merritt  
(310) 215-1626

Newsletter Editor  
Gena Weaver  
(213) 526-2971 (pager)  
(213) 291-7984 (fax)

Parliamentarian/Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
(310) 854-6967

Historian  
Marilyn White  
(213) 756-2804

Public Relations  
Open

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HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTN: COLETTE DeVERGE

1998 MEMBERSHIP NEW/RENEWAL APPLICATION  
(please circle one)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home/Business)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

- Student \$10.00     Individual \$20.00     Family \$25.00  
 Organization & Libraries \$30.00     New     Renewal Year \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Serve as an Officer  
 Serve on a Committee, i.e., Fundraising, Black History Month, Hospitality, etc.  
 Write articles/book reviews for the Newsletter  
 Research Special Projects  
 Computer Input of Special Projects  
 Public Speaking  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers/Program Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR: Gena Weaver ISSN: 1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 11, Nov 1997

CAAGS MEETING

November 15, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.
United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90043

Beginners/Intermediate Class
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule
9:00 - 10:30 Class
10:30 - 11:00 - Business Meeting
11:00 - 11:15 - Break
11:30 - 1:00 - Guest speaker Gerald Yarbough,
will discuss "Genealogy and the Internet," and
Election of Officers.

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

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DISCLAIMER

The Editor nor CAAGS assumes responsibility for
articles submitted to the Newsletter by its members.

\*\*\*\*\*

QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any queries you may
have for the Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

November 22, 1997 for December issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.
One vote can make a difference. The Officers
selected will take CAAGS into the 21st Century.

Your President,

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

THANKSGIVING

"There is something in every one of you that waits
and listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself.
It is the only true guide you will ever have. And if
you cannot hear it, you will all of your life spend
your days on the ends of strings that somebody else
pulls".

by Howard Thurman



\*\*\*\*\*

NOVEMBER HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

- Marjorie Higgins
Johnnie B. Lee
Vivian Saunders
Kwame Welsh
Sandra Welsh

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the
November meeting.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The following individuals have been nominated:

- President**                    Rozella Hall  
                                      Kenneth Welsh
  
- 2nd Vice President**        Mattie Hunt  
                                      Teresa Sims  
                                      Jeanette Scott  
                                      Aletha Toliva  
                                      Kenneth Welsh
  
- Corresponding Secretary**    Charlottee Bocagee  
                                      Mattie Curtis  
                                      Rozella Hall  
                                      Helen Johnson  
                                      Evelyn Ross  
                                      Dorothylou Sands  
                                      Teresa Sims  
                                      Kenneth Welsh

Additional ballots will be taken before the election.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY WISHES!**

- Ruby Hartman
- Hollis Hoxie
- Sally Lakatta
- Betty Lawson
- Maryellen Salazar

\*\*\*\*\*

**TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES**

For a listing of and to purchase telephone directories from within the United States and around the world, please contact Directory Source, US West Dex, c/o Product Development Corporation, 14603 East Moncrieff Place, Aurora, CO, 80011-1212, (800) 422-8793.

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**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This year's **POTLUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY** will be held at the home of Teresa Sims. Directions and other information will be provided in the December Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

**OTHER MEETINGS**

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

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**1998 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Bylaws, Article I, Section 3

Membership fees are due and payable in January of each year. Members whose dues have not been paid to the Treasurer by March 1st will have their names removed from all the Organization's mailing and membership lists. A member removed for non-payment of dues will be reinstated by paying the delinquent dues.

**NEW MEMBERS** joining in November or December dues shall apply to subsequent year.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CAAGS BOOK CORNER**

NEW FOR JANUARY

**The Freedmen's Bureau in Virginia: Names of Destitute Freedmen Dependent Upon the Government...**, by Elizabeth Kambourian; publishing in progress by Heritage Press, 1997. \$19.00 + tax. At last, more books are coming out containing names extracted from the difficult to use Freedmen's Bureau documents. This book contains lists of former slaves who received food and medical assistance in Virginia Districts 1-10 between March and June 1866. Information for individuals varies, but all show residence both before and after the Civil War, and other personal data such as former owners and family members is given when available. County maps of VA (including present-day W. VA), NC and MD are included to assist in locating the

homes of those individuals who lived outside of VA before the Civil War.

**An Index to the Signatures of Deposits for the Freedmen's Savings and Loan Bank, 1865-1869, for the State of Mississippi**, compiled by Nesbary, Craft, Sabbs and Massey: publishing in progress by Heritage Press, 1997. \$15.50 + tax. Again, this is a much needed work taken from records related to the Freedmen's Bureau, and includes data fro all 3 branch offices in MS: Columbia, Natchez and Vicksburg. Each entry includes the account number, name, residence and a note of whether/where more information is available in the original records. (The original records often give place raised, personal descriptions, relatives' names and whether they are living or dead, and other information.) CAAGS is proud to be able to carry these books.

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**BLACKS REFUGEES, RECONSTRUCTION AND YORKTOWN**

When one thinks of war, starvation, and pestilence as causes of population dislocations, it is generally someone else and somewhere else in the world. We as Americans lack a historical perception of a domestic reference of these massive dislocations. The American Civil War created hundreds of thousands of refugees, victims of a conflict between citizens and the dismantling of the institution of slavery. The desolation of destruction and the misery of the human condition are further complicated by the phenomenon of race culture. In certain instances, it may be tribal, ethnic, or nationality in context: however, in the American prism, the obsession of race is one of the most significant variables. These dislocations were further perplexed by the breakdown of civil authority and reconstructing of a society yet not defined.

During the period 1865-1870 on the peninsula located between the James and York Rivers in the Tidewater of Virginia, the scenario of the post Civil War South and Virginia were being played out as a microcosm. One of the prominent actors in this in the political melodrama was York County, Virginia. It was the site of one of the largest concentration of Black Freedmen who had fled Confederate controlled areas and plantations of their former masters. These refugee camps stretched the breath and length of York County. Their presence caused considerable consternation for the Union Army centered at Fortress Monroe and for the local white community who were threatened by their numbers and their presumptions of equality and freedom.

Not only was York County in the throes of dislocation by the results of the war, but on the verge of a new experiment of the meaning of freedom and equality. This experiment involved the dynamics of Reconstruction. The emergence of new leadership and agendas to foster the political, social and economic equality of Black Freedmen. The definition of freedom entered into a contest for legitimacy with the mythology of white supremacy and dominance it demands.

submitted by Ron Higgins

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**CIVIL WAR TERMS**

- Army - 2 or more corps
- Brigade - 2 or more companies
- Company - About 100 men
- Corps - 2 or more divisions
- Discharge - If the soldier left while on active service
- Division - 2 or more brigades
- Enlist - Date joining a state regiment
- Muster - After training, the date the regiment was accepted into federal service
- Muster Out - Date the regiment was released from active service
- Regiment - About 10 companies

submitted by Ron Higgins

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## REASONS FOR POOR MICROFILM QUALITY

From Roger Scanland (Library Consultant),  
rrs@US.DYNIX.COM

The following are the usual reasons why microfilm from the LDS Family History Library and its branches -- or film from other sources, for that matter -- are sometimes of less than optimum quality.

### **1. MICROFILMS PRODUCED DURING THE EARLIEST DAYS OF MICROFILMING TECHNOLOGY.**

In the late 1930s through the 1950s, with a new technology and an entire world of records to choose from, agencies such as the Family History Library and various national archives began their filming. Naturally, the most used and most valuable records were filmed first -- when the quality was at its worst! However, both the LDS Church and the U.S. National Archives have done some selective refilming. Perhaps some other agencies have, also. Just don't expect any agency to undertake refilming on a massive basis.

**2. FADED INK.** Some census takers, in particular, economized by using ink of poor quality, or by watering it down.

**3. POOR TYPEWRITERS AND RIBBONS.** Some records were typed on poorly-maintained typewriters, using ribbons whose useful days were long gone. Record-keeping agencies are usually underfunded. More about that in a minute.

**4. BRITTLE PAPER.** A good quality of paper is normally used in the printed books designed for recording of official records. However, many of the most valuable genealogical records were not kept in such volumes. Local governments on the U.S. frontier were sometimes fortunate to have any kind of consistent paper supply. Some records were kept on paper that has a high acid content. As the years passed, this paper becomes brittle and unless treated, will eventually fall to pieces.

**5. POOR ARCHIVAL CONDITIONS.** Archives, particularly state and local ones, are chronically underfunded. That means their holdings are often poorly housed in regard to dust, light, moisture, mode, and overly compacted conditions. Due to understaffing, problems that arise must often be ignored. Some of the "archival" conditions that exist in the United States are almost enough to make you cry. The situation in less prosperous countries is often worse.

**6. POOR CONDITION UPON RECEIPT.** The records may have been received in water-stained, faded, fragmentary or worn condition when they arrived at the archives.

**7. POOR MICROFILMING CONDITIONS.** Some of the Family History Library's records were microfilmed under circumstances that should be told in a good movie or book. The same may be true for some microfilmmers working for other organizations. Imagine carting a film camera can of microfilm and other materials and a portable power generator by donkey to a village in the mountains of Italy. Then it's up several flights of stairs to an unlit, unventilated (and it's the power generator and have at it!)

**8. RESTRICTIVE ARCHIVAL REGULATIONS.** Some tightly bound volumes were filmed at archives that would not allow the volumes to be disbound for filming, due to the cost, the extensive labor involved, or the fragile condition of the volumes. The result, of course, is microfilmed pages that are hard to read at the center of the volume.

**9. RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLY BY PURCHASING EXISTING MICROFILMS.** The Family History Library and other organizations often purchase microfilms rather than producing them themselves. This happens for a variety of reasons: The archives may do its own microfilming or have it done by a commercial microfilmer. In these situations, the archives may be unwilling or contractually unable to allow an additional filming to be done as long as it is possible to read the existing films.

**10. HASTY FILMING.** Some microfilmmers are paid by the page or frame. This is done to ensure value for the money, but can tempt some microfilmmers beyond what they can bear. Excessive haste is more likely to be a problem when the original records are loose papers housed in packets tied up with string. The filmer must undo the string, take out the records, arrange them on the microfilming surface in the order in which they were housed in the packet, then do the filming, then stack the records in the same order, re-insert them in the packet and tie it up again.

**11. POOR QUALITY CONTROL WHEN DEVELOPING THE MICROFILM OR REPRODUCING COPIES FROM THE MASTER NEGATIVE.** Organizations such as the National Archives and the Family History Library have quality control standards, but people do sometimes make mistakes.

## SUGGESTIONS

1. Take your time and re-read. When you can't make out an entry, it sometimes helps to leave it for awhile and come back to it.
2. Use a magnifying glass.
3. If the image is out of focus, try a machine with a less powerful lens. The image will be smaller, but it may also be clearer.
4. Some film readers have a stronger and a weaker light setting; try both.
5. Try placing a sheet of colored paper on the projection surface.
6. Try using a reader that is located in the darkest part of the room.
7. Check the glass plates on the film reader. They may be scratched or dirty.
8. Get permission to turn out the lights near you if this is possible.
9. Check with a staff member to see if a better quality copy can be obtained.
10. If none of these work, you may need to hire a researcher who has access to the original volumes (unfortunately, not possible with U.S. census films and some other records).

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### JESSIE M. JONES' GENEALOGY HINTS YOUR ANCESTORS AWAIT YOU

The Sequoia Genealogical Society, Inc. Newsletter,  
Volume 24, Number 8, October 1997

Many Americans are engaged in the pursuit of Family History. In essence, this is an attempt to search for identity. We need to know their names, dates, places to connect us to knowledge of their health, traits, and talents.

Beginning our search may be a bit overwhelming at first, but by beginning with ourselves we can have success; because we know the genealogical facts of our birth, names of parents and siblings. We can look for family photos memorabilia about us around our homes. Once located, record the information on Pedigree and Family Group sheet forms. This done, we need to check with other family members. Interview the older family relatives. Gather family

stories and obtain information about when, how, and where these stalwart ancestors came from. Obtain details about where they lived, their health history, names and addresses of others who may be able to add to your family research.

Choose an ancestor, and then use a form called, WHERE DO I START? (From the LDS Family History Center). Using the 5-Step Research method: (1.) Identify What You Want To Know About Your Family. (2.) Decided What You Want To Know About Your Ancestor. (3.) Select the appropriate records to search. (4.) Obtain and search the record, and (5.) Use the information. It is possible to get a good start in researching your family. Evaluate the information found. Copy this family information onto Pedigree Charts and Family Group Sheets.

Now, organize this new information. File photocopies in an easy organized way, such as by family. Share this information with interested family members.

Your local library is an excellent place to begin research. Check their card catalog for books they have in their collection on Genealogy, family surnames, heraldry, etc. Ask about the library's interlibrary procedures.

Some research opportunities for the pursuit of family history and genealogy include: A Guide, "WHERE TO WRITE FOR VITAL RECORDS," Available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Washington D.C. 20204. This is a wonderful help in obtaining birth, death, and marriage certificates for many ancestors who lived in the late 19th and 20th centuries. Study varies "How-TO BOOKS available in local historical archives, bookstores, and genealogy catalogs. Plan a trip to the largest genealogical library: THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY in Salt Lake City. Films from all over the world may be read there - or can be sent to the Family History Centers around the world. Indexes to genealogical records are now available through the Internet. It is possible to make contact with others doing research and download information on genealogy by means of the Internet. Try a new guide on using the Internet: "TURBO GENEALOGY, An Introduction to Family History Research in the Information Age. Its intent is to bridge the gap between time-honored, proven research methods and the time-saving high-tech approach of the computer age. Another invaluable book is VIRTUAL ROOTS, A GUIDE TO GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB by Thomas Jay Kemp, head of the Special Collections Department of the University of South Florida, Tampa. It is a road map to genealogy and local history sites on the

Internet. It directs users where to go for answers. It eliminates random "Net-Surfing," thus saving researchers both time and cost. Order through Scholarly Resources Inc., 104 Greenhill Ave, Wilmington, DE 19805. E-mail sales@scholarly.com. It contains 279 pages. The paperback price is \$24.95 ISBN 0-8420-2720-3. The cloth cost is \$65 ISBN 0-8420-2718-1. Remember to use Everton's Genealogical Helper, Ancestry, Heritage Quest, Genealogy Bulletin and the Ellen Payne Odom Genealogy FAMILY TREE. Use the Family TreeMaker Discs.

As ancestors seem to enjoy playing a game of "Hide and Seek," using these research tools will make the search easier. Whatever research path you choose to pursue, just remember YOUR ANCESTORS AWAIT YOU. Their discovery will bring satisfaction, understanding and a sense of identity into your life.

\*\*\*\*\*

### EXTRA READING

CSGA Newsletter, Volume 15, No. 10, October 1997

U.S. Colored Troops in the Civil War: A Complete Roster with over 200,000 names in two volumes (over 1000 pages) is available in book or CD format. Contact Broadfoot Publishing Co., 1907 Buena Vista Circle, Wilmington, NC 28405 or order at 1-800-537-5243 or fax 910-686-4379. For general information: 910-686-4816.

\*\*\*\*\*



### NEGATIVE STORAGE SUGGESTIONS

From Krista Hawkins, Creative Memories Consultant

Not only is it important to preserve and display your photos correctly, but your negatives also need to be handled with care. We recommend a very simple system for organizing and storing negatives.

Most negatives are returned with your pictures in a protective sleeve. Ask your developer if the sleeve that's being used is made from one of the safe plastics: polypropylene; polyester; or polyethylene. Do not keep your negatives in a sleeve made from glaucene or triacetate. Place the negative sleeve from one roll of film into a regular #10 envelope. In the upper right hand corner of the envelope write the date that these pictures cover - such as January-February 1987. Then in the middle of the envelope, make a few notes about the pictures - grandpa's birthday, skiing trip to Colorado, the kids in the bathtub. Next, take your envelopes and place them in a media fireproof box (which will prevent the melting of the negatives) in chronological order, with the most recent negatives in front. If you want copies of the pictures from your borher's 21st birthday, you can simply flip through the envelopes, find the date and the event, take the negatives out, have the pictures made, and re-file.

This system is also nice to have in case anything would ever happen to your album. We can only imagine the tragedy of losing our photos in a fire. If you have your negatives stored in a safe place, you can have your pictures reprinted.

If you find that your negative sleeves are unsafe, remove your negatives from the unsafe sleeve and place them directly into an ACID-FREE envelope. (Office supply stores and/or printers often carry acid-free envelopes).

There is some controversey as to how safe a fire-proof box is, so if you really want to protect your negatives you can store them in a safe-deposit box at the bank. It's not quite so handy when you need a reprint, but is is a very good protection.

One last thing to remember about negatives and storage -- they like to live where you live -- in a room temperature of 70 degrees and 40%-50% humidity.

A second style of negative storage is the 8 1/2 x 11 1/2 clear page designed to store seven strips of 35 mm polyethylene plastic. These are considered archival storage for negatives. You can label on the plastic page. These negative pages are available from many local camera supply shops.



**CAAGS CALENDAR**

November 15, 1997 - Guest speaker, Gerald Yarbrough, will discuss "Genealogy and the Internet," and Election of Officers.

December 20, 1997 - Christmas Party and Installation of Officers.

January 17, 1998 - Mary Grindall will discuss "Women in the American Revolution".

February 21, 1998 - Black History Month Celebration.

March 21, 1998 - Electra Kimble Price, her discussion is unknown.

April 18, 1998 - Nancy Carlsberg, will discuss "How to Get Organized".

May 16, 1998 - To be announced.

May 30-31, 1998 - Southern California Genealogy Jamboree.

June 20, 1998 - Juneteenth Celebration.

July 18, 1998 - To be announced.

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August 19-22, 1998 - Federation of Genealogical Society Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

September 19, 1998 - To be announced.

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November 21, 1998 - Roundtable discussion and Election of Officers.

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\*\*\*\*\*

**COMMITTEES**

If you have any interest in joining one of the following Committees, please contact Ron Higgins, President or Charles Meigs, Interim President.

- Allensworth
- Ancestor Series
- Budget
- Calendar (1997-1998)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Surname Directory

**OFFICERS**

President  
Ronald Higgins  
(213) 777-4816

Interim President  
Charles Meigs  
(213) 295-3020

1st Vice President  
Erma J. Hurse  
(909) 736-5461

2nd Vice President/Membership  
Colette DeVerge  
(213) 933-8381

Recording Secretary  
Alva Griffith  
(213) 735-7261

Correspondence Secretary  
Carolyn Conway  
(213) 931-8350

Treasurer  
Vera Merritt  
(310) 215-1626

Newsletter Editor  
Gena Weaver  
(213) 526-2971 (pager)  
(213) 857-0287

Parliamentarian/Librarian  
Joyce Sumbi  
(310) 854-6967

Historian  
Marilyn White  
(213) 756-2804

Public Relations  
Open

\*\*\*\*\*

**HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON**

DorothyLou Sands  
(213) 299-8642

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTN: COLETTE DeVERGE

1998 MEMBERSHIP NEW/RENEWAL APPLICATION  
(please circle one)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home/Business)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

- Student \$10.00     Individual \$20.00     Family \$25.00  
 Organization & Libraries \$30.00     New     Renewal Year \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Serve as an Officer  
 Serve on a Committee, i.e., Fundraising, Black History Month, Hospitality, etc.  
 Write articles/book reviews for the Newsletter  
 Research Special Projects  
 Computer Input of Special Projects  
 Public Speaking  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers/Program Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

**CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

**CAAGS MEETING**

November 15, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
United Methodist Church  
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90043

Beginners/Intermediate Class  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule  
9:00 - 10:30 Class  
10:30 - 11:00 - Business Meeting  
11:00 - 11:15 - Break  
11:30 - 1:00 - Guest speaker Gerald  
Yarborough, will discuss "Genealogy and the  
Internet," and Election of Officers.

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.  
One vote can make a difference. The officers  
selected will take CAAGS into the 20th Century.

Your President,

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOVEMBER HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

Marjorie Higgins  
Johnnie B. Lee  
Vivian Saunders  
Kwame Welsh  
Sandra Welsh

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the  
November meeting.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The following individuals have been nominated:

President Rozella Hall  
Kenneth Welsh

2nd Vice President Mattie Hunt  
Teresa Sims  
Jeanette Scott  
Aletha Toliva  
Kenneth Welsh

Corresponding Secretary Charlottee Bocagee  
Mattie Curtis  
Rozella Hall  
Helen Johnson  
Evelyn Ross  
Dorothy Lou Sands  
Teresa Sims  
Kenneth Welsh

Additional ballots will be taken before the  
election.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

Due to an unexpected residential move that I had to  
make, the November Heritage Newsletter will be  
provided at the meeting. I will be checking off the  
names as you pick-up your Newsletter. For those of  
you who are unable to attend, the Newsletter will be  
mailed to you after the meeting.

I apologize for any connivance this may have caused,  
but the circumstances were out of my control.

California African American Genealogical Society  
Post Office Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442



Ronald Higgins  
P. O. Box 8443  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-  
0443

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 - Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR: Gena Weaver ISSN: 1083-8937 Vol. 9, No. 12, Dec 1997

CAAGS MEETING

December 20, 1997

Martin Luther King, Jr.
United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue & 67th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90043

Beginners/Intermediate Class
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

General Schedule
9:00 - 10:30 Class
10:30 - 11:00 - Business Meeting
11:00 - 11:15 - Break
11:30 - 1:00 - Installation of Officers,
Roundtable Discussion and
Christmas Party Meeting and Holiday Brunch.

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

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DISCLAIMER

The Editor nor CAAGS assumes responsibility for
articles submitted to the Newsletter by its members.

\*\*\*\*\*

QUERIES

The Editor would appreciate any queries you may
have for the Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

December 22, 1997 for January 1998 issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's the holiday season. I would like to wish each
of you the best. The holidays are a time for
family. While sitting with family and friends, for
a genealogist, it is the time to learn some oral
history. Family gathering helps to enhance your
research by collecting old tales. You may start a
journal, collect old photos and take new photos.

Thanks to all CAAGS members who came out to
vote. Thanks to Vera Merritt, Herb Laffoon and
Marjorie Higgins for conducting the election.

Congratulations to the NEW OFFICERS, your
work is cut out for you, to bring CAAGS into the
new Millennium. Best Wishes!

Your President,

Ron Higgins

\*\*\*\*\*

KWANZAA

Kwanzaa is an African American cultural holiday celebrated from 26
December thru 1 January. It is based on the agricultural
celebrations of Africa called "the first-fruits" celebrations which were
times of harvest, in gathering, reverence, commemoration,
recommitment, and celebration. Kwanzaa was created in 1966 by
Dr. Maulana Karenga, professor and chair, Department of Black
Studies, California State University, Long Beach.

The Nugzo Saba (The Seven Principles)

- Umoja (Unity)
• Kujichagulia (Self-Determination)
• Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility)
• Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics)
• Nia (Purpose)
• Kuumba (Creativity)
• Imani (Faith)

The Symbols of Kwanzaa

- Mazao (The Crops)
• Mkeka (The Mat)
• Kinara (The Candle Holder)
• Muhindi (The Corn)
• Mishumaa Saba (The Seven Candles)
• Kikombe cha Umoja (The Unity Cup)
• Zawadi (The Gifts)
• Bendera (Flag)

Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture,
Maulana Karenga, 1998. Los Angeles: University of Sankore
Press.

**DECEMBER HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

Thalia Clarke  
George Cohen  
Don Goodwin  
Betty Lawson  
Johnnie B. Lee

Please don't forget to bring refreshments for the December meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEW OFFICERS 1998-2000**

The following individuals have been nominated:

President                    Kenneth Welsh  
  
2nd Vice                    Jeanette Scott  
President  
  
Corresponding            Dorothylou Sands  
Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAY WISHES!**

Martha Clark  
Michele A. LeClair-Allen  
Sharon Williams

\*\*\*\*\*

**TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES**

For a listing of, and to purchase telephone directories from within the United States and around the world, please contact Directory Source, US West Dex, c/o Product Development Corporation, 14603 East Moncrieff Place, Aurora, CO, 80011-1212, (800) 422-8793.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This year's **POTLUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY** will be held at the church and will consist of a Meeting and Holiday Brunch.

**OTHER MEETINGS**

The San Diego African-American Genealogy Research Group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the San Diego Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, in San Diego.

\*\*\*\*\*

**1998 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Bylaws, Article I, Section 3

Membership fees are due and payable in January of each year. Members whose dues have not been paid to the Treasurer by March 1st will have their names removed from all the Organization's mailing and membership lists. A member removed for non-payment of dues will be reinstated by paying the delinquent dues.

**NEW MEMBERS** joining in November or December dues shall apply to subsequent year.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVERYTHING BLACK**

Tony Rice<BrownRice@earthlink.net>

Are there ONE MILLION Black Internet Users? We have been told by major advertising executives that there are not "that many" Black persons on the Internet. What's even worse is that similar statements are being made by a few people who look like us.

Sadly, there is no evidence to dispute such a ridiculous claim. We are conducting a research experiment to prove that there are at least one million regular users of the internet who classify themselves as African American, African, Pan-African or Black.

The purpose of the research is to justify to the major media, advertisers, content developers, hardware and software manufacturers and others that we are a viable audience that cannot be ignored. You are cordially invited to visit [www.EverythingBlack.com](http://www.EverythingBlack.com) and be part of the "One of a Million" campaign.

EverythingBlack.com is a comprehensive directory of Internet websites of particular

interest to person of African descent. We have over 500 active listings to date. An independent audit of the traffic count will be conducted; the infamous Million Man March counters will not be used. Our supporters include the Black Data Processing Associates and Q.E.D. Inc. The research will be conducted between February 21st and March 23rd, 1998.

Please assist us in this massive research effort. You can help by: 1) forwarding this message to your e-mail buddies; and 2) visit us at <http://www.everythingblack.com>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

Due to space limitation in the Newsletter, a list of e-mail addresses can be located at the sign-in table of each meeting.

If you are unable to attend the meetings, but still wish to obtain the e-mail addresses, please request current listings from the Editor by writing to the address on the front page of the Newsletter.

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**PEDIGREE CHARTS**

December 20, 1997, is the very LAST DAY that any pedigree charts will be accepted by Ronald Batiste. Please mail your charts to the address on the front page.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EXTRA READING**

**The African-American Child's Heritage Cookbook**, by Vanessa Roberts Parham, Sandcastle Publishing, \$19.95 + tax & shipping/handling. To order the book, please write to Roots From Your Kitchen, P. O. Box 4158, Culver City, CA, 90232, (310) 559-6240. For Mastercard or Visa orders, please call (800) 891-4204.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GUIDE TO TRACING YOUR AMERICAN CIVIL WAR ANCESTOR (5/11/97)**

From Valencia King Nelson  
[VKNelson@internetport.net](mailto:VKNelson@internetport.net)

With approximately 200,000 African Americans serving in the U.S. Colored Troops, the Union Army or Navy during the Civil War, it is very likely every African American had at least one ancestor that fought in the Civil War. This helpful guide describes how to use the following Federal and State records; Military records and Pension records; U.S. Colored Troops' Records; Union Navy Seamen's Records; General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1865; Miscellaneous Records Relating to Veteran's Claims; General Correspondence of the Record and Pension Office, 1889-1920; and National and State archives. These records contain a wealth of information such as age; birthplace; residence; names of parents, spouses and children; occupation; and military information such as place of enlistment, rank, unit, vessels on which the individual served, or date of death. Reproduced within this book are two National Archives publications, A Tabular Analysis of the Records of the U.S. Colored Troops and Their Predecessor units in the National Archives of the United States and Military Service Records, a select catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications. There are also samples of the forms required to request veterans' records and microfilm rolls from the National Archives. Rounding out this volume are a bibliography and an index to help you locate the topics mentioned in this book. 1997, 161 pp. append., Bible., Index, paper, \$1.00 #S116 url: [http://www.utribe.net/netcal/\(shown here\)](http://www.utribe.net/netcal/(shown here)). Author: Jeanette Braxton Secret, Submitted 5/11/97.

submitted by Dorothylou Sands

\*\*\*\*\*

**KWANZAA STAMP**

The Postal Service has issued its first Kwanzaa stamp. The stamp, designed by Synthia St. James, is available now. According to postal workers, the stamp is an experiment to see whether there is much interest.

If not, there will be no Kwanzaa stamp next year. Please forward this message to the appropriate people and lists. Buy Kwanzaa stamps for your Christmas, Kwanzaa and Hanukkah cards. Buy the stamp to mail your rent and utility bills. Send an important cultural message to the United States Postal Service and those with whom you correspond.

submitted by Vera Merritt

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- Budget
- Calendar (1998-2000)
- Cemetery/Mortuary
- Century Club
- Fundraising
- Holiday
- Hospitality
- Jamboree
- Newsletter
- Surname Directory

**OFFICERS**

President

Kenneth Kwame Welsh

E-Mail: wrelocserv @ hotmail.com (or)  
pdcla59 @ rocketmail.com  
(213) 766-0677

1st Vice President

Erma J. Hurse

(909) 736-5461

2nd Vice President/Membership

Jeanette Scott

E-Mail: jsherbs @ aol.com  
(213) 299-7641

Recording Secretary/ Parliamentarian

Marjorie Higgins

E-Mail: mhigg71503 @ aol.com  
(213) 777-4816

Correspondence Secretary

DorothyLou Sands

E-Mail: bipsyLou @ aol.com  
(213) 299-8642

Treasurer

Vera Merritt

E-Mail: vmerit @ aol.com (or)  
vmerit @ earthlink.net  
(310) 215-1626

Newsletter Editor

Gena Weaver

E-Mail: lear @ pacbell.net  
(213) 526-2971 (pager)  
(213) 857-0287

Librarian

Evelyn Ross

(213) 299-7740

Historian

Marilyn White

E-Mail: marol @ aol.com  
(213) 756-2804

FGS - Delegate

Colette DeVerge

(213) 933-8381

Public Relations

Open

\*\*\*\*\*

**1998 HOSPITALITY CHAIRPERSON**

Sandra Welsh

(213) 766-0677



CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 8442  
Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTN: JEANETTE SCOTT

1998 MEMBERSHIP NEW/RENEWAL APPLICATION  
(please circle one)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth (MM/DD) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home/Business)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

- Student \$10.00     Individual \$20.00     Family \$25.00  
 Organization & Libraries \$30.00     New     Renewal Year \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Serve as an Officer  
 Serve on a Committee, i.e., Fundraising, Black History Month, Hospitality, etc.  
 Write articles/book reviews for the Newsletter  
 Research Special Projects  
 Computer Input of Special Projects  
 Public Speaking  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Speakers/Program Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_