

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

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

EDITOR R. McMurray, ISSN 1083-8937, Vol. 13, No. 1, January 2001

Disclaimer: The Editor nor CAAGS assume any responsibility for articles submitted to the Newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It would be easy to look back upon the Year 2000 with a sense of pride, accomplishment and complacency. Our membership approached 125, which makes us one of the largest African-American genealogy groups in the nation. Our members presented papers and gave talks at local and national conferences; our programs showcased some of the most knowledgeable speakers available and our researchers made progress in their efforts.

I thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President during this time. It's an honor and simultaneously, a challenge. CAAGS will only be as relevant and effective as all of us want it to be. I and the other officers, can only accomplish what you want.

This new year already presents new challenges. In March, we will be joining with at least six regional societies to present the first West Coast African-American Genealogical Summit. The principal speaker will be Dee Parmer-Woodtor, author of the excellent reference, "Finding A Place Called Home." This is an outstanding chance to hear and learn from one of the country's top researchers and writers. A registration form is included and you are encouraged to participate in this activity.

Our regular meeting program already has all the indications of being something special. Although we are scheduling speakers for the second half of the year, if there is any one or any topic you'd like covered, please tell our Secretary, Dorothy Lou Sands.

Special research trips, including one this fall to Washington, D.C., and the national AAHGS conference are being considered.

Gena Weaver, who served as newsletter editor for more than two years, because of the demands of other obligations. This is an excellent opportunity to be of service and to become a part of the CAAGS Board.

CAAGS WILL MEET AT

Los Angeles Public Library
Washington Irving Branch
Washington Blvd and Crenshaw Avenue

CAAGS MEETING

January 20, 2001

General Schedule

10:00 - 11:30

Beginner & Intermediate

11:30AM - 12:00PM

Business Meeting

12:00PM - 12:15PM

Break

12:15PM - 2:00PM

Our guest speaker will be Peter Carr, who will be discussing "Caribbean Researching".

(Schedule is subject to change without notice.)

BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Darnell Bell

Ada Dunlap

Ronald Higgins

George Jenkins

Clifton Lee

DeVaughn Lee

Cecelia Alleyne

Monica Maurasse

Charles Meigs, Jr.

Tamar Silva

Lydia Thomas

Edna Wilkerson

Lucille Williams

2001 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 after paying the delinquent dues.

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

QUERIES

Having trouble finding that one missing ancestor or family? Another CAAGS member may have his brother or cousin lurking in his files, or may have been looking at a Census for a different county and noticed that unusual name.

Queries are a way of letting all of us help each other. If you want to post one, please send an e-mail to Ron Batiste at Ronbatiste@aol.com or give Ron a note at the meeting. Include your email address or a way to reach you.

Please let us know if you receive any responses.

Adam W. Quander Sr. born in Alexandria, Va. possibly around 1860. Mother's name was Sarah Quander. I found a Sarah Quander and Hyson Blackwell in the marriage records in Alexandria Feb. 4, 1864. Are there any Quander's that have Sarah and Adam in their family tree? Contact Dorothylou SANDS at BIPSYLOU@aol.com if you have more information

Seeking info on RUCKER and LAWRENCE, of TN, MO, OK, TX, and Mexico. Adam RUCKER was b free during slavery in TN. Migrated west, stopping in MO to farm near the MS River, which flooded out his crops. He mrd Martha ___ and had 12 childr: known are Ann (b in OK; mrd a SMITH in TX), Elliott, Walter and Hattie RUCKER. Hattie's dau, Etta RUCKER mrd ___ CASILLAS, reportedly a "Mexican bandit", abt 1921, and moved to Tampico Mexico. Adam RUCKER also moved there, where he raised/sold chickens, and cared for Etta's 3 children who were b Tampico 1925-33. Etta d abt 1935, so Adam brought these childr to fam in TX illegally, changing their names to Betty Lee LAWRENCE, Jack LAWRENCE and Matilda LAWRENCE, and falsifying Betty Lee's age to start school in 1st grade as she did not speak English. Any help or suggestion is appreciated. If you have information, contact Alva Griffith at GdOlMsG@aol.com

Bring Your Data Formats Up To Date

Personal computers have been around a very short time -- only about 20 years or so. Yet the media used to store data has changed several times during those two decades, and it promises to change again in the next few years.

For the most part, changes in storage media occur gradually, allowing most of us to easily adapt to the new standards. But most of us take our time moving all of our records from an "old" storage format to a newer one.

You may not have any of your genealogy files on 8-inch floppies, but you might still be archiving some of your family data on 5-inch floppy discs. Or on 3-inch floppies. Or on digital tape. None of these storage media have gone completely out of style, but they may already be on the way to the proverbial "dustbin of history".

Before it's too late, take the time to transfer your records from an aging media type to a more contemporary format. That may mean CD-ROM, DVD, a hard drive, or another medium.

Any (or all) of these storage formats may be superceded in the future, but converting your data to one of them now will give your valuable information a few more years of life, and will make it easier for you to keep current in the future.

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EMAIL CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

Ellis Jones ejones3858@earthlink.net
Monica Maurasse maurasses@msn.com

State Libraries— An Overlooked Resource

As genealogists, we love a good library. My children are sure that their mother is just a little warped because of the amount of time I willingly spend in the library. A very close friend of mine was astounded when I actually used the Guide to Periodical Source Literature without having a term paper that required the use of it. To genealogists the library is a mecca of sorts, full of books, microfilms and other resources patiently waiting to aid us in our research.

USEFUL SITES

Alabama African American Genealogy
AlGenWeb-UsGenWeb (Rootsweb)
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~alaag>

Alabama Slave Project
The Village
<http://www.usroots.com/~villager/>

Alabama African American Genealogy
<http://www.dnaco.net/~dival/>
LEST WE FORGET
<http://www.coax.net/people/lwf/>

POCSOUTH (People of Color, South)
<http://www.tngenweb.org/tncolor/pocsouth.htm>

Afro-Americans in Missouri
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~moafram/>

Ohio African American Genealogy
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ohafram/>

Christine's Genealogy Web sites
<http://ccharity.com/>

People of Color Michigan
African American Genealogy
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miafamer/>

Louisiana Archives Index
Of African American Genealogy
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~7Eusgenweb/1a/afamer.htm>

What would you say though, if I pointed out a library that you have probably overlooked, and yet may hold records that you cannot find anywhere else? It's true, such a library exists. State libraries, often directly connected with the state archives, are major assets that we tend to not give much thought to. They are often overlooked as not being a "real" library to many genealogists.

In most states, the State Archive and State Library are the official repositories for the records of that state. They will generally include many of the following records:

- Vital records
- Newspapers
- Land records
- Military records
- Manuscripts
- Family histories
- Indexes to useful collections
- Directories
- Bible records

These are just a few of the resources you are likely to find.

Rhonda R. McClure,
rhondam@sodamail.com
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CAAGS CALENDAR

February 17, 2001 - Show and Tell.

March 17, 2001 - To be announced.

BOARD MEETINGS

MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO THE BOARD MEETINGS, THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM, EXCEPT ON HOLIDAY WEEKENDS, THE MEETING MOVES TO THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

The February Board Meeting will be held at the home of (to be determined). Please contact Ronald Batiste at (626) 797-2839 for the meeting location.

18,000 AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL WAR SAILORS IDENTIFIED

Approximately 18,000 African American sailors who served in the Civil War have been identified and were commemorated in a ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial, 701 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., Friday, Nov. 17, 2000.

Vice Adm. Edward Moore Jr., the Navy's senior African American flag officer, currently serving as commander, Naval Surface Force Pacific, and National Park Service (NPS) Director Robert Stanton, joined Dr. William Dudley, director of the Naval Historical Center, to mark the formal announcement.

This is nearly twice the number of African American sailors researchers expected to find when their search began. Authorities originally assumed that about 10,000 had participated in the Civil War, but the Naval Historical Center, in conjunction with a Howard University study

and the National Park Service, documented an additional 8,000 African American participants.

Over the course of the Civil War, 18,000 African American men, and more than a dozen African American women, served in the U.S. Navy, about 15 percent of the total enlisted force. These sailors served on almost every one of the nearly 700 Navy vessels. Eight African American sailors earned the Medal of Honor for their heroism in battle.

A team of researchers from Howard University's Department of History, headed by Joseph P. Reidy, professor of history and associate dean of the Graduate School, examined hundreds of thousands of pages of naval records housed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., for evidence about African American sailors. Advised by a committee of experts in Civil War naval history from the Naval Historical Center, the NPS, the National Archives and the Smithsonian Institution, the researchers systematically pieced together the history of the African American sailors in the Civil War Navy.

The database was compiled from surviving personnel records, rendezvous reports and ship's muster rolls, and then compared with the Navy's Index to Service Histories prepared by the Navy Department during the World War II era. The research continues today as the partners examine pension files in order to supplement this list of names with a more complete record of information about the experience of the naval enlistees and their families throughout the Civil War era. The sailors' names and military history will be incorporated into the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System Database (CWSS). Personal information, naval service and muster records included in the database are accessible through the Internet at <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>.

For more information contact Navy Lt. Steven T. Gibson, public affairs officer, Naval Historical Center at (202) 433-0412.

For more information on CWSS, visit <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss>.

For more information on Naval History, visit <http://www.history.navy.mil>.

PERPETUAL CALENDARS

Try the Perpetual Calendar at these sites:

<http://calendarhome.com/tyc/>
<http://www.wiskit.com/calendar.html>
<http://www.gcocities.com/Athcns/3115/discal.htm>

HOW TO FIGURE A BIRTHDATE

REMEMBER THIS NUMBER: 8870

This is not an error: It is the number to remember when you want to find the birthdate of someone when you only have the date of death and age.

How do you figure the birthdate?
 Suppose the person died May 6, 1889, at the age of 71 years, 7 months, 9 days.

1. Write the year, month, day as: → 18890506
2. Subtract the age at death: → 710709
3. This gives the figure: → 18179797
4. Now subtract 8870: → 8870
5. The result is: → 18170927

Year 1817, 9th month (Sept), 27th day or 27 Sept, 1817

Source: Platte CO, MO Historical/Genealogical Society

LOUISIANA RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR SEARCH

Founding Member Frederick Dumas has the following books available for member research. These works represent some of the most complete resources available on Pre- and Colonial Louisiana and are invaluable to those who have traced their ancestors back through 1870 and need assistance to go further.

Call Frederick at (323) 294-1452 to arrange a meeting to research these works.

Southwest Louisiana Records, Vol. 33-- the Rev. D.J. Hebert
 Saint Jean-Baptiste des Allemandes--Conrad
 Archdiocese of New Orleans Sacramental Records, Vols. 1-15 (1418-1823)
 1850 Census, Jefferson Parish
 An Atlas of Louisiana Surnames--West
 The Historic Indian Tribes of Louisiana--Stokes
 Nachitocheses Colonials--Mills
 Old Mobile--Higginbotham
 Creoles of Color in the Bayou Country--Oubre
 The Free People of Color of New Orleans--Gehman
 Creoles of Color--Dormon
 Acadian to Cajun--Brasseaux
 Black Ivory--Valoin
 The Acadian Coast in 1778--DeVile
 The Parish of St. James in the Province of Louisiana--DeVile
 Attakapas Post: the Census of 1771--DeVile
 The Road to Louisiana (Saint Domingue Refugees) 1792-1809
 The Opelousas Post, 1764-1789 (Guide to St. Landry Archives)
 Landholders of Southwest Louisiana--Tax List for St. Landry Parish-1817-1818
 Genealogical Materials in the New Orleans Public Library
 Calendar of St. Landry Civil Records, Vol I--1803-1819
 Cabildo Records of New Orleans, 1769-1785
 Catholic Missions in Canada--1721
 Canadian Passports, 1681-1752--Massicotte
 #Mississippi Valley Melange (3 vols.)
 #Point Coupe Documents, 1762-1803
 #The 1795 Chimney Tax of New Orleans

#Louisiana Soldiers in the American Revolution
 #Southwest Louisiana Families in 1785
 #Southwest Louisiana Families in 1777
 #St. Domingue, 1688-1720
 #The Natchez Ledgers, 1790-1791
 #Opelousas
 #Yo Solo (Battle Journal of De Galvez)
 #The Saint Catherine Colonists, 1719-1720
 #Southwest Louisiana in 1807 (Land and Slave Tax)
 #Slaves and Masters of Point Coupee, 1762-1823
 #The Territory of New Orleans, 1803-1812
 #Mobile Funerals, 1726-1764
 (# written by DeVile)
 Le Raconteur (11 years of publications), official journal of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society
 Louisiana Portrait Gallery, Vol I to 1870--the Louisiana State Museum
 Records of Attakapas District (St. Martin Parish), 1806-1860

BOOKS WE OWN

This is a new feature of the newsletter based upon a idea "borrowed" from an Eastern AAHGS chapter.

Many of us have directories, Census CD-roms, indexes and other listings which might be useful other members. The members below have resources in which they will perform a look-up of a name of names for other members. Please make your requests for information as specific as possible (no "Tell me what you have for Jones"). The members below will get back to you with the reference (or lack of one).

The more of us that share these resources and our time to make this work, the more effective it will be for all of us. Please be considerate in your requests and generous in listing your resources.

AVAILABLE FOR LOOK-UPS:

Directory of Graduates of Howard University, 1867-to 1953.
 Contact: Ron Batiste @aol.com

Calendar

2001

February 2-3, Mesquite (Dallas), Texas:

The Ninth Annual conference for technology in genealogy will be presented by GENTECH 2001 will feature more than two dozen speakers whose topics will blend technology and traditional research methods. The theme is Union and Reunion. Web site at <<http://www.gentech.org>>. If you have registration questions call the registrar at (9888) 522-7313.

February 24, Whittier, CA:

Richard Wilson will present an all-day event on Making Connections: Technology and Genealogy. Topics will be a comparison of genealogical software programs, use of word processors and databases, favorite Internet sites, and tools such as scanners, digital cameras, etc. Whittier Area Genealogical Society is the sponsor. Contact Miriam Benell, 12002 Beverly Drive, Whittier, CA 90601-2738; call (562) 695-5431; <http://www.compuology.com/wags>.

March 24-25, Pasadena, California

Jamboree 2001 presented by the Southern California Genealogical Society and Family Research Library will feature ten speakers, including Nancy Carlberg, Janice Cloud, Arlene Eakle, Leland Meitzler, and Christine Rose. Information from (818) 843-7247 or e-mail <scgs@annex.com>. See Web site at <<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com>>.

Disclosure of Slave Insurance Policies

Signed into law, taking effect on New Year's Day, 2001:

Slavery - Insurance companies must submit to the state Insurance Commission any information about slaveholder policies they provided. The Commissioner must publicly disclose the information, and hold hearings to determine whether there is a legal basis to compensate descendants of slaves (SB2199 by former Sen. Tom Hayden, D-Los Angeles).

Submitted by Evelyn Ross

March 31, San Francisco-Oakland, California

Dee Parmer-Woodtor, author of "Finding a Place Called Home", is the featured speaker for The first **West Coast African American Genealogical SUMMIT**. Details are listed elsewhere in the newsletter.

April 12-14, Salt Lake City, Utah:

The UGA 2001 Conference details are available from (888) INFO-UGA; e-mail <info@infouga.org>; or the Web site <<http://www.info@infouga.org>>.

May 16-19, Portland, Oregon:

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will host the **National Genealogical Society** when it presents Explore New Frontiers. Features are hundreds of classes, computer and lab sessions, a large vendor area, tours to genealogical, historical, and scenic sites, and social events. Write to 2001 NGS Conference, 4527 Seventeenth Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2363; or call (703) 525-0050; or e-mail <conference@ngsgenealogy.org>; or visit Web site at: <<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>>.

September 12-15, Davenport, Iowa:

FGS/Quad Cities Conference, Great River Bend Genealogy...A Heartland Gathering, will be a traditional FGS event, with multiple tracks of presentations and demonstrations, vendors, and special events and activities. Brochures available from FGS Business Office, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940; or e-mail <fgs-office@fgs.org>; or call 1-888-FGS-1500. Visit the FGS Web site at <<http://www.fgs.org>>.

October 27-29, Washington, D.C.

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) annual meeting. Theme, topics and speakers will be announced shortly.

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Publications Editor
NGS Delegate
Webmaster-Electronic Publications
All Vacant

Please let an officer know if you are interested in filling one of the vacant positions or in serving on one of CAAGS standing committees.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Continued from Page 1

Surah Carletha LeNoir-Mfume has agreed to head our Louisiana Special Interest Group. If you are researching that area, please let her know. The Writers Group, led by Marilyn White, meets after each meeting. By pooling our resources, we all benefit.

Last year, we attempted to set up our own "Chat room" with eGroups. After talking with the San Diego chapter and enlisting their aid, this is now a possibility. We need a volunteer to head the "meeting" and schedule our on-line activity.

We are also seeking a volunteer to direct our Web Page development. If you have these skills or knowledge, please let me know.

If you have a skill, talent or experience I haven't mentioned, please bring it to my attention. We always need those willing to take on new or different tasks. Let's all work to make 2001 even better than last year.

FOOTNOTES AND ENDNOTES:

Genealogical activities of CAAGS members

Gloria Winston AL-SARAG had her transcriptions of selected excerpts from Frederick Douglass' newspaper, the Douglass Monthly, published in the Fall issue of the Journal of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS).

Dolores VAN RENSALIER presented a paper on her multi-racial heritage and researching an Underground Railroad (UGRR) ancestor at the October AAHGS national convention.

Alva GRIFFITH has completed work on her transcriptions and research on Virginia Free People of Color (FPOC). The work has been submitted and will be offered for sale in March. Full details will appear in next month's newsletter.

Bernadine HIGH COLEMAN, author of Mama Rose, has finished her second novel. Details of this historical novel will be published in next month's issue.

101 GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY PROJECT IDEAS

1. Input all written or typed pedigrees into a genealogy computer program.(PAF 4.0 or other)
2. Write your own life history.
3. Gather information on family life histories through research and interviews.
4. Write these life histories and share them with family.
5. Label your pictures.
6. Create a scrapbook, photo album or book of remembrance.
7. Learn to create a media scrapbook on the computer.
8. Input life histories into the computer by collecting those already written by family members.
9. Check for previously published work completed on all generations and all family lines.
10. Research discrepancies in your pedigree.
11. Contact family members to find out where your family stands in the work. Offer to research a family line or do a part of the work that interests you.
12. Organize your family by creating a family organization.
13. Publish a book on your family and donate it to all appropriate repositories, including the FHL.
14. Make contact with a distant cousin and compare pedigrees.
15. Have a family reunion inviting newly discovered family relations.
16. Sort through, label, frame and make copies of very old family pictures.
17. Discover the "skeleton in your closet".
18. Gather time period maps of all the places your family comes from.
19. Discover, research and write a history of your ancestral home.
22. Keep a journal about your children. Give it to them as they move away from home.
23. Volunteer to serve in your local genealogy society or at the Family History Library.
24. Research and solve the big "mystery" in your family.
25. Visit family cemeteries and make tombstone rubbings or take pictures.
26. Make it a family project to replace old headstones of ancestors.
- >27. Take a trip to your ancestral country to do research or just look around and take pictures.
28. Spend an evening with your children and/or parents and share family and ancestral stories. Have someone act as scribe to record stories not yet recorded. Video or audio tape the entire evening.
29. Discover for yourself the origin of your family surnames.
30. Look up a web site about your surname and compare notes, add new info to your files, and see if there is a connection between families.
31. Take a trip to the FHL and JSMB (4th floor) to research your surname or town where your family comes from.
32. Organize your immediate family original documents and important papers.
33. Collect original documents for as many ancestors as you can.
34. As you write your life history, give it away as a Christmas present.
35. Write down your memories of your parents and grandparents for your children.
36. Create a pedigree chart of your direct line, laminate it and give it to the Family History Library.
37. Create a web page of your family lines.
38. Make a decorative family tree to display on the wall and/or give as gifts.
39. After verifying your information on your pedigrees, submit everything to Ancestral File, pedigree Resource File or another repository.
40. Organize a file of all of your family surnames.
41. Organize, and be familiar with, what information you do have of your family.
42. Once all family names are in your computer, run a Possible Problems Report. Work through your list.
43. Collect (by asking relatives) family stories and share them with your children. Bind them in a book. Use them in lessons, anecdotes, teaching moments.

Reprinted from the LDSFHC Consultants mailing list.

NB: The second part will appear next month

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

EDITOR-at-Fault: R. BATISTE ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13, No. 2, February, 2001

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The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

When we celebrate Black History Month, we should also celebrate African American Genealogists Month.

The history of our people is also the history of our families, which we are all working to record and preserve. Their struggles and triumphs can be found in every event in the county's history, from the early 1600s settlements to space program. African Americans discovered, explored, invented, migrated, defended, manufactured, farmed and governed. Many of these stories have been unearthed and given the broad currency they deserve because a family historian or genealogist painstakingly researched and documented the truth.

So when we have our annual Show and Tell, it's really "Share, Show and Tell." Each family has a story of importance and the work that all of you are doing to record and preserve that story is vital. Perhaps you made a significant breakthrough this year...or only found a new source of records and information. Come prepared to let us know what you've done this past year.

Additionally, next month, we have an opportunity to share some of our research at the Southern California Genealogical Society's JAMBOREE. This is the genealogy meeting in the area this year and CAAGS will have a booth. Please plan to attend, and if possible, work the book for an hour or two. This will also be an occasion to see the latest books, CD-ROMs and research tools and to hear some of the leading area researchers hold classes in their specialties.

At month end, CAAGS will participate in a significant announcement of a new research tool. The details will be announced shortly.

We still have several opportunities for service, ways in which you can help the Society grow and provide more. If you would like to be a part of this growth or have a new idea, please let me know.

CAAGS Meetings

Washington Irving Public Library
4117 West Washington Boulevard
(1 blk east of Crenshaw Boulevard)
Los Angeles, California
(323) 734-6303

17 February 2001

General Schedule

10:00-11:30

**Beginning and Intermediate Instructor
Charlotte BOCAGE**

11:30 - 12:00

Business Meeting

12:00 - 12:15

Break

12:15 - 2:00

SHOW and TELL

FUTURE MEETINGS

March 17

Bill DOTY

National Archives and Records
Administration- Laguna Niguel
NARA Resources and Military Records

April 21

To Be announced

May 19

Shirley Taylor HAIZLIP

Author of Sweeter the Juice will discuss
the research and problems encountered
writing her award-winning book.

MEMBER WPD47ES

BIRTHDAY WISHES

January Corrections

Michelle Ledoux Margaret Pettigrew

February

Cubia Bolden	Don Goodwin
E. Brown-Lawson	Jimmie Lee Hatten
Kim Clark	Dorothy Jackson
George Cohen	Electra Kimble Price
Ella Daniels	Ozleal Smith
Eihel Dillon	Francis Stubblefield
Frederick Dumas	Ruth Stubblefield

NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

A. C. ARTERBERY is researching Arterbery from Texas; Houston from Texas; Martin from Mississippi; and Nichols from Louisiana.

MELROSE BELL is researching Carson, Dansby, Foster, and Thomas.

WILLIAM BRENT is researching Brent and Whitaker from Texas.

ANNISUE BRIGGS is researching Atwood from (Western) Kentucky; Moore and Parker from (West) Tennessee; Story and Ward from (Central and Eastern) Kentucky and (Southern) Ohio.

CARTELLIA BRYANT is researching Bryant, Cummings, Holleman, and Hunter.

MARION GARDNER is researching Bramlett, Braxton, Godbolt, Jones, and Middleton.

EDWARD GAUTHIER is researching Barnabe, Gauthier, and Green.

JIMMIE HATTEN is researching Branch, Denton, and Johnson.

STEPHEN JORDON is researching Blair, Hyde, Jordan, and Parkerson.

MICHELLE LEDOUX is researching Childress (Childers) and Moore from Mexico and Texas; and Ledoux, Leufroy, Marcellin, and Pierre from Louisiana.

LEON MARTIN is researching Mack, Martin, Nickelberry, Sheppard, Warren, and Young from Cass County, Texas.

MARION MADDOX is researching Clark from Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee; Cutter from Kentucky and Tennessee; Deckard from Illinois, Missouri, and Ohio; Ferguson from Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio and Tennessee; Neal from Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania; Lambert from Michigan; and Maddox from Alabama, Georgia, and Pennsylvania.

MARGARET PETTIGREW is researching Bunton from Texas; and Oklahoma from Riley, Texas.

DAISY SAFFOLD is researching Jenkins from Alabama; Johnson from Alabama; McRae from Alabama; and Saffold from California and Mississippi.

SHAREN HUEY WEINRAUB is researching Dow from Alabama; Franklin from Mississippi and Texas; Griffith from Kentucky and Texas; Harris from Arkansas; Hill from Arkansas and Virginia; Huey from Louisiana, South Carolina, and Texas; and Webster from Louisiana.

FREDDIE & GERTRUDE WILLIAMS are researching Batiste, Coleman, and Lavallais from Louisiana.

EMAIL CORRECTIONS AND

ADDITIONS

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AN UNDERUSED SOURCE-- CENSUS FARM SCHEDULES

by **Rhonda R. McClure**

A look at the farm schedule numbers and what they mean.

Q: Could someone explain what the numbers on the farm schedules mean in the 1900 census? This column contains numbers like 21, 84, 85, 92. Also, how do you find these schedules?

A: The farm schedule is just one of the non-population schedules that have been taken throughout the years. The non-population schedules are so named as they concentrate not on the inhabitants of a community but on other things. For instance, the manufactures' schedules concentrate on the types of products and companies.

While the farm schedule lists the head of the household, there is no further information about a family's make up found in this schedule. Instead the columns ask questions about the number of bushels of corn or the number of horses, sheep, or cows.

The enumerator recorded this information at the same time he recorded the information for the population census. I think many of us tend to think that the enumerator had just the one form, however, he had forms for the different non-population schedules, as well as the mortality schedule, and perhaps even an Indian schedule. As he asked certain questions, the answers may have prompted him to use one of these other forms as well.

In the population schedules, you find a column for the farm schedule. The number listed in this column is the visitation number or dwelling number for that particular entry. Just as there are visitation numbers in the population schedule that begin with 1 and increase numerically as the enumerator visits each additional home, so too does the farm schedule.

When you find such a number in the census, such as the 1900 census, then you can take this

information and locate a given entry in the farm schedule. The 1930 census, which will be released in 2002, included a column for entries to the Unemployment schedule. The 1930 census also includes the column for listing the entries on the farm schedule as well.

Reprinted from **Family Tree Finders**

BOOKS WE OWN

Many of us have directories, Census CD-roms, indexes and other listings which might be useful other members. The members below have resources in which they will perform a look-up of a name of names for other members. Please make your requests for information as specific as possible (no "Tell me what you have for Jones"). The members below will get back to you with the reference (or lack of one).

The more of us that share these resources and our time to make this work, the more effective it will be for all of us. Please be considerate in your requests and generous in listing your resources.

AVAILABLE FOR LOOK-UPS:

1870 Conroe County, Texas, Census.
Contact: Ray Marshall @ rmarshall@earthlink.net

Directory of Graduates of Howard University, 1867-to 1953.
Contact: Ron Batiste @aol.com

United States Census Index, Southern States Only, 1840-1849.
Contact Charlotte Bocage.
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

PERSI Source Index CD-rom
Contact Charlotte Bocage,
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

Cemetery and Burial Records, Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Lafayette, LA. 1860-1995.
Contact Ronbatiste@aol.com

New Burroughs Book Guides Search Effort

Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Tracing The African American Family Tree

By Tony Burroughs

A Fireside Book Published by Simon & Schuster
464 pp. \$16.00

**Reviewed by Evelyn ROSS,
CAAGS Librarian**

Mr. Burroughs has written a comprehensive easy-to-use guide for those who have little or no experience in researching their family history. It highlights some of the special problems, solutions, and sources unique to African Americans.

Black Roots also includes real case histories that illustrate the unique challenges posed to African

Americans and how they were solved, more than 100 illustrations and photographs of actual documents and records you're likely to encounter when tracing your family tree, in addition, samples of all the worksheets and forms you'll need to keep your research in order.

The reader is guided through a list of the traps even experienced researchers often fall into that hamper their research. The chapters on organizing, managing your research and preserving photos and documents are explained in great detail. The author states the family group sheets and pedigree charts were developed to help the genealogist sort out relationships and to keep research focused.

The chapter on "Going to the Library" is excellent, guiding the beginner through eighty-one pages of useful information. The importance of this major resource is emphasized, developing a research strategy is strongly recommended before each visit. U.S. Census and Social Security Records are described adequately, as is the chapter on Electronic Genealogy: Computers and the Internet.

Mr. Burroughs urges the genealogist to write a readable and interesting family history, providing a number of useful methods and examples. In the final chapter, "Putting It All Together", he sums it all up encouraging the reader to review the chapter on "What is Genealogy?", and offers words of advice and encouragement.

The book contains the following: glossary, acronyms, bibliography, directory of sources, a biography of the author's great uncle, and an index.

As the author says in the Introduction, **Black Roots** is not a complete reference guide to researching African American family history, it is simple but detailed, designed for beginners or those who have had little or no experience researching their families, and in this regard, Mr. Burroughs has done an excellent job!

I highly recommend it for beginners.

"There are no deadends, only other roads to take."

CSGA Newsletter

New Arkansas Source

Black Slaves & Early Freedmen of Hempstead County, Arkansas: 1819-1850

Compiled by Linda McDowell

Abstracted & transcribed from the county deeds of one of the oldest counties in Arkansas...

Contains

Over 1300 Slave Names

Names & Biographies of Free People of Color

Index of Emancipations

Slave Name Index

Numerous Transactions Recorded:

Bills of Sales

Deeds of Gifts

Sheriff's Sales

Hiring Contracts

Manumissions/Emancipations

Certificates of Character

To Order

Make checks payable to

Linda McDowell

14617 Sara Drive

Little Rock, Arkansas 72206

E-mail: <virandvir@aol.com>

Cost - \$20.00

Shipping & Handling - \$3.50

(Arkansas Residents add 7% sales tax)

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

Griffith Completes Pittsylvania Free Negro Register

CAAGS member Alva Griffith has also completed her transcriptions and extractions of records from Pittsylvania county Virginia, and has submitted her manuscript to a publisher. The heart of the book consists of verbatim transcriptions of that county's Free Negro Register, which was discovered in 1994. The transcriptions were made from a photocopy of the original handwritten Register, and permission for publication was granted by the current Clerk.

There were 637 Free Negroes who were registered (and sometimes re-registered) by the Clerk from 1807-1864. Each person is named, described, and given a number, and the circumstances of his/her freedom is explained. Since the majority of the Free Negroes in Pittsylvania county were born free, Griffith also located and transcribed several Wills and Deeds by which others were emancipated.

Another section of the book contains her extractions of the 1820-1840 Federal Censuses for the county, showing data on the Free Negro households and all white families with whom other Free Negroes resided during that time period.

Griffith hopes this work will assist African American researchers of Pittsylvania county, Virginia in finding their ancestors, and that it will also be of interest to white researchers in that area, whose ancestors interacted with the Free Negroes.

Alva recently served as First Vice President and is currently Book Committee Chairman, responsible for selection of the books CAAGS sells.

QUERIES

Having trouble finding that one missing ancestor or family? Another CAAGS member may have his brother or cousin lurking in his files, or may have been looking at a Census for a different county and noticed that unusual name.

Queries are a way of letting all of us help each other. If you want to post one, please send an e-mail to Ron Batiste at Ronbatiste@aol.com or give Ron a note at the meeting. Include your email address or a way to reach you.

Please let us know if you receive any responses.

Seeking information on my GG Grandfather John Hunter **PHILLIPS**, b in slavery abt 1840 in Bardstown, Nelson, KY. He married Louisa **CHURCHILL** and had two children, both b in Bardstown--Mary A. and Samuel Wendell, b 1861. Have checked the 1850, -60 slave schedules and the 1870, -80 Nelson Co Census schedules with no success. Any help or suggestions will be appreciated. Contact Evelyn ROSS at evross358@aol.com,

ON-LINE RESOURCES

California Births and Deaths

A key source for many whose relatives migrated to California will be the State's Vital Records. The birth and death certificates can be accessed via:

California BIRTH Records:

<http://userdb.rootsweb.com/ca/birth/search.cgi>

California DEATH Records:

<http://userdb.rootsweb.com/ca/death/search.cgi>

Seeking the parents of Octave Javier **BOCAGE**, b April 1835, possibly in LA. He married Germana **GAYOT** and they had numerous children. Octave owned a boat-building business in Algiers, LA. Contact Charlotte BOCAGE at rbymoon4@pacbell.net.

Looking for anyone who may be related to Thomas Burton **SANDS**. He was born abt 1880 in Pittsburg, PA, the son of Thomas Henry **SANDS**. He was frequently known as Burt or Burton and may have lived the last part of his life in Roxbury/Boston, MA. I located him and his wife in the 1920 Census. Anyone having more information, please contact Dorothylou SANDS at bipsylou@aol.com.

Calendar

2001

February 24, Whittier

Richard Wilson will present an all-day event on **Making Connections: Technology and Genealogy**. Topics will be a comparison of genealogical software programs, use of word processors and databases, favorite Internet sites, and tools such as scanners, digital cameras, etc. Whittier Area Genealogical Society is the sponsor. Contact Miriam Benell, 12002 Beverly Drive, Whittier, CA 90601-2738; or call (562) 695-5431; or visit <<http://www.compuology.com/wags>>.

February 24, Los Angeles

Seeking El Dorado: African Americans in California. Three special lectures on women, urban unrest and coalitions will be held in

Dreams Becomes Reality

CAAGS member Bernadene High Coleman has completed her second historical novel and expects to submit it for publication late this spring. Her first work was **Mama Rose**.

I Leave You My Dreams is a moving and powerful story about one family's effort to better their living conditions. The story begins at a traumatic period in their life when overpowering circumstances dictate that the time has come for them to leave the south. Like other Negro families in the south, the Hightowers were victims of repression, abject poverty and racism of the worst kind. They had long wanted to flee the south and go north or west, where they believed there were greater opportunities for Negroes.

America was in the midst of World War II, which had begun right on the heels of the terrible 'Depression of the Thirties.' It was precisely the War that gave them the opportunity they had long sought. They were told about the available jobs in defense plants in certain states. Negroes from the south began migrating in large numbers, hoping to fill those jobs. Those living east of the Mississippi River generally ventured north. Those living west of the Mississippi generally migrated to the West Coast.

The Hightower Family's journey to California and their adjustments to a new life style, is totally absorbing. It is storytelling at its best!

conjunction with the publication of a new book at the **Autry Museum of Western Heritage**. There are also three other related events scheduled. For information and to register, contact (323) 667-2000, ext 271.

March 10

Paths Once Travelled is the title of the Family History Seminar scheduled by the **Simi Valley Stake of the LDS Church**. Seven classes are offered in each of five blocks for this daylong event. The seminar will be held at 5028 Cochran Street in Simi Valley. For more information, contact Donna Cuillard at (805) 522-3828. There is a nominal fee for participation.

March 24-25, Pasadena

Jamboree 2001 presented by the Southern California Genealogical Society and Family Research Library will feature ten speakers, including Nancy Carlberg, Janice Cloud, Arlene Eakle, Leland Meitzler, and Christine Rose. Information from (818) 843-7247 or e-mail <scgs@annex.com>. See Web site at <<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com>>.

March 31, San Francisco-Oakland

Dee Parmer-Woodtor, author of "Finding a Place Called Home", is the featured speaker for the **First African-American West Coast Genealogical SUMMIT**. We The People Conference Center, Oakland; 200 Harrison Street. Contact Ranie Smith, President of AAGSNC, at rgsmith@prodigy.net for more information.

May 16-19, Portland, Oregon:

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will host the **National Genealogical Society** when it presents **Explore New Frontiers**. Features are hundreds of classes, computer and lab sessions, a large vendor area, tours to genealogical, historical, and scenic sites, and social events. Write to 2001 NGS Conference, 4527 Seventeenth Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2363; or call (703) 525-0050; or e-mail <conference@ngsgenealogy.org>; or visit Web site at: <<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>>.

Genealogy, without documentation, is mythology.

Author Unknown

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Federation of Genealogical Societies

California: A Goldmine of Diversity
Ontario, California
7-10 August 2002
Deadline: May 1, 2001

The FGS and the California State Genealogical Alliance are accepting proposals for presentations at the 2002 conference. All talks will be one-hour long. Topics that will be considered include Problem solving; Methodology; Migration patterns to/from the West; Ethic research; Cultural-religious and land research, particularly in the West; Historical events; Writing/publishing; Genetics and family health history and the 1930 Census. Those interested should submit two copies of their proposal, along with biographical data, to Sheila Benedict, CGRS; PO Box 1859; Santa Ynez, CA 93460. FGS provides compensation and expense reimbursement for those selected.

The Second Wilberforce International Conference on Slave Narratives,

Consolidating Our Gains; Strategizing for the 21st Century
Wilberforce, Ohio.
October 11-13 2001
Deadline: May 15, 2001

Papers on any aspect of the slave narrative authors, works, genres, the slave family, theories, themes, history, pedagogy, slavery in contemporary Africa and the diaspora; slavery in the 21st century, etc) will be considered.

FOR INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION, send two (2) copies of a 250-word abstract, and two copies of presenter's bio-data to:

Olabisi Gwamna, convener
Wilberforce International Conference on Slave Narratives
Wilberforce University
P.O.Box 1001
Wilberforce, OH 45384
(937) 708-5615; fax (937) 879-1009
(ogwamna@wilberforce.edu)

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(323) 756-2804

Public Relations Chairman:
Ellis Jones
E-mail: Ejones3858@earthlink.net
(323) 290-9796

Fundraising Chairman:
Vera Merrit
Vmerit@aol.com

Publications Editor
NGS Delegate
Webmaster-Electronic Publications
All Vacant

Please let an officer know if you are interested in filling one of the vacant positions or in serving on one of CAAGS standing committees.

101 GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY PROJECT IDEAS

(Continued from the January issue)

- 44. Create a wall of family and ancestor pictures in your home.
- 45. Collect books that have been published about your ancestors.
- 46. Seek to have spiritual experiences in doing your research. Record and share them.
- 47. Start a family newsletter.
- 48. Get to know your ancestors just by reading their pedigrees and histories. Imagine what it was like to live in their day.
- 49. From a website (Rootsweb for example), write your own query asking for specific information about your ancestor.
- 50. Collect prayers and toasts from of all your family. File them together and give as Christmas gifts. Compare life missions of you and your ancestors.
- 51. Discover your DNA genealogy.
- 52. Build a time capsule at your family reunion.
- 53. Create a family heritage recipe book.
- 54. Establish a family chain letter-a letter that round-robins around members of the family with new news added each time its received. Use snail-mail, e-mail, or set up a website.
- 55. Research your family traditions and discover how and why they began.
- 56. Spend an evening learning about the food, culture, customs, music of your ancestors.
- 57. Find out and record the conversion story of the first religious convert in your various family lines.
- 58. Create a time line combining your family dates and events from history.
- 59. Collect family history questions in a jar for grandparents to answer about their life history.
- 60. Collect personal experiences of family members shared with a grandparent, place them in a jar and give as a gift to that grandparent to recall those personal memories shared. Make sure family members get a master list for their own records.
- 61. Fill out a 12 generation chart--check for holes, problems, etc. You will see the big picture of your family.
- 62. Write a journal that focuses on spiritual experiences, lessons you have learned, and acts of service that you have performed.

- 63. Keep your Family Bible records up to date.
- 64. Check your pedigrees. If only the direct line has been done (the one person in that family who is related to you), research the other children of each family of your direct line and check that the work has been done for them. Then do the work.
- 65. Create a family website to communicate, share pictures or post family events and happenings. Try www.gatherround.com or www.myfamily.com.
- 66. Log on to www.familysearch.org and www.cyndislist.com just to see what all the fuss is about.
- 67. If you're just beginning, call a more experienced CAAGS member or an FHC consultants and ask for help on how to get started.
- 68. Visit the local FHC-Bring some family names to look up and have some questions ready to ask the knowledgeable people who volunteer there.
- 69. Visit a County Courthouse, National Archive, or Parish to search through original documents stored there.
- 70. Photocopy original documents (certificates, wills, journals, etc.), label, file and store them in a safe place.
- 71. Hold a "Family Evening " with all your extended family members. Have dinner, hold a family meeting, and then share research, pictures and stories about the family.
- 72. For a family reunion, make arrangements to tour the hometown of a grandparent. Visit the home they grew up in. Drive by the school and church they attended. If there are any neighbors that still remember your grandparent, visit with them and have them say a few words to your group.
- 73. Take a genealogy class. Many are offered in church, at the Family History Center, in the Community, or at local colleges.
- 74. Set aside a certain amount of time each week to work on genealogy.
- 75. Make a "This is your Life" quilt, making blocks that depict that person's life. Use pictures of family, hobbies, experiences and "firsts".

(Part Three will appear in the March Newsletter)

Reprinted from the LDSFHC Consultants mailing list.

California African-American Genealogical Society
HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 Los Angeles, California 90008-0442

Editor-at Fault: R BATISTE ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13 No. 3 March, 2001
DISCLAIMER: The Editor nor CAAGS assumes any responsibility for articles submitted to the newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

President's Letter

Congratulations to everyone who participated in our Show and Tell. The projects on which you are working and the research presented is first-rate. I apologize to those who were not able to present their findings, but we are planning a second Show and Tell for this fall.

I would also like to welcome Francis STUBBLEFIELD and Jeri THOMPSON as the new editors of your Newsletter. Please give them the help, assistance and co-operation they need to keep your newsletter helpful.

JAMBOREE 2000, the largest regional genealogical event, will be held 24-25 March at the Pasadena Convention Center. CAAGS will have an exhibit there and your help in manning the booth is essential to make our involvement rewarding and successful. It's also a chance to see new books, software, and other materials and supplies that you won't be able to live without. You can see more about JAMBOREE elsewhere in this issue.

The First West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy will be held in Oakland 31 March. This is also an excellent opportunity to meet and network with other researchers who face the same problems you do and may even be researching the same surnames. There is more information elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Several research trips are being planned and details will be announced later. I am always seeking suggestions for speakers. Many of you have already expressed interest in computers and software and in desktop publishing-editing. Any recommendations will be appreciated.

Please be prepared to continue ratification of our By-laws. Your committee devoted a great deal of time and we need to be equally responsive.

CAAGS MEETINGS

Washington Irving Library
4117 West Washington Boulevard
(1 block east of Crenshaw Boulevard)
Los Angeles, California
(323) 734-6303

17 March 2000

General Schedule

10:00-11:30

Beginning and Intermediate Class

11:30-12:00

Business Meeting

12:00-12:15

Break

12:15-2:00

Bill Doty

National Archives and Records Administration--
Laguna Niguel

NARA Resources and Military Records

FUTURE MEETINGS

21 April

Dr. John Reilly

Department of English,

Loyola Marymount University

Why We Research and Sources

19 May

Shirley Taylor Haizlip

Author of *Sweeter the Juice* will discuss research and the problems encountered writing her award-winning book.

16 June

No Regularly Scheduled Meeting

CAAGS 15th Birthday Founded 23 March 1986

MEMBER UPDATES

BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Marianna Cushnie	Daisy Saffold
Daniel Davis	Bermadine Sonnier
Rene'e Johnson	Alonzo Spikes
Ethel LaVerne Jones	Darell White
Isaac Miller	Renee Worland
Evelyn Ross	

NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

CAROLYN CONNOR is researching Brigham, Connor, Gipson, and Stewart.

LOIS D ICONTI is researching Brignett, Burnett, Connor, Griffin, Henly, Johnson, MacDonald, Rhoades, Scott, Stewart, Williams, and Woodrora from Canada, Indiana, Michigan, North Carolina, and Virginia.

JACKIE HUBBARD is researching Burns, Booth, Joe G. D'Antignac, and James H. Hubbard.

RICHARD PROCELLO is researching May from Alabama and Oklahoma; and Jordan from Alabama and Georgia.

ALONZO B. SPIKES, III is researching Spikes.

DIANE WAYNE is researching Allen from Kentucky; Booker from Kentucky; Starks from Virginia; and Wayne from Pennsylvania and Virginia.

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Martha Thomas-Johnson	
	mthoma04@yahoo.com
Diane Wayne	nutricar@aol.com

Freddie Williams gwms@aol.com

2001 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 after paying the delinquent dues.

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

BOOKS WE OWN

Many of us have directories, Census CD-roms, indexes and other listings which might be useful other members. The members below have resources in which they will perform a look-up of a name of names for other members. Please make your requests for information as specific as possible (no "Tell me what you have for Jones"). The members below will get back to you with the reference (or lack of one).

The more of us that share these resources and our time to make this work, the more effective it will be for all of us. Please be considerate in your requests and generous in listing your resources.

AVAILABLE FOR LOOK-UPS:

1870 Conroe County, Texas, Census.
Contact: Ray Marshall @ rmarshall@earthlink.net

Directory of Graduates of Howard University, 1867-to 1953.
Contact: Ron Batiste @aol.com

United States Census Index, Southern States Only, 1840-1849.
Contact Charlotte Bocage.
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

PERSI Source Index CD-rom
Contact Charlotte Bocage,
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

Whole-Family Research: An Old-New Look at Data

by Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG

I've learned some disconcerting things during the past couple of years. First, I learned that other researchers have been wrong. "So?" you ask, "What's new about that?" Well, I've learned that they've been wrong far more often than I ever imagined. Furthermore, they've been wrong even when they seemed to have passed "the test." There was documentation; the sources were cited. The documents matched the conclusions. Sometimes the researcher was someone whose work I respected. But the conclusions were still wrong. On bad days, I had begun to feel that all I did was knock down other people's research--not an act I took joy in. It was depressing.

Then I learned something even more disconcerting (and even more depressing). I learned that I am also wrong astoundingly often.

Recently, I have become involved in several whole-family projects. These projects are typically "descendants-of" family history, in which we begin with a progenitor and cover all descendants for a number of generations. In any case, whole-family genealogy isn't new to me. When I hit a brick wall, I often go into whole-family mode, tracking down as many records as possible on the family. I analyze, I sort, and I arrange family groups. Once I'm comfortable with my solution to the problem, I quit.

When you are publishing information on a whole family, however, you can't quit. You have to include everyone. Second cousin Hiram isn't any less important than your ancestor. OK, so your ancestor is going to get three pages and the second cousin will only rate a paragraph, but the point is, you can't leave him out. Nor can you apply any lesser standards to analyzing his information. If he seems to have married three women in the space of a month, you must investigate. And be forewarned--what you find may force you to rearrange other family groups.

Whole-family research causes you to cast your net more broadly for information. When you search for information on second cousin Hiram, you may open up entirely new avenues. An entry about Hiram on the Internet, on a CD, or in a book may lead to a new locality, to a set of

private family records, or to a different family arrangement than the one your records indicate.

The computer age has greatly changed how much information we can access, how easy it is to access, and how rapidly data can be collected. Checking up on Hiram isn't difficult. Databases on CD-ROMs with census images, or on previously printed material save us hours of library time. Even compiled family trees online can reveal information about other branches of the family, such as where the family members went when they disappeared from the records (perhaps taking both grandpa and the family records with them).

Printed books haven't gone out of style, either. In fact, computers have made it much easier to abstract and index source material. I have had to rearrange several family groups based on a series of recently published abstracts, even though I had already read the deeds for my ancestors. Valuable lineage information was hidden in deeds in which neither the grantor nor the grantee was closely related to my ancestors.

Whether digital or in print, I'm finding today material that just five years ago I never would have found--material that earlier writers had even less ability to access.

Like other genealogists, my research has been lineage-oriented. The goal was to find the correct parents. I try to follow good research standards at all times, and I hope I haven't been wearing blinders, but single-lineage research has narrowed my focus. Sometimes that has led me unwittingly to the wrong conclusion. Often everything fit--right up until I had to deal with second cousin Hiram's three wives. Only when Hiram received the same level of attention that I gave others did I discover the error of my ways.

Fortunately, the speed and accessibility of data today can--and should--encourage us to look beyond our own lineages. If you are finding yourself stuck on a puzzle or a bit uncomfortable about a family, consider making a commitment to write a whole-family, "descendants-of" genealogy. It seems to be the best way to assure the reliability of genealogical conclusions.

Hiram and his three wives are theoretical. The potential results to be gained by whole-family genealogy aren't theoretical. They're real.

Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG is a professional genealogist and is the author of "Producing a Quality Family History". Reprinted from *Ancestry Daily News*.

Genealogy's Third "W": Finding and Recording Where

by Rhonda R. McClure

One of the most frustrating aspects to genealogical research is often the pinning down of a given locality. So often, when we are reading a message from a fellow researcher, or going through a published family history, the only indication of where a particular event took place is the town or city. While there are some towns and cities that are well known, more often than not, we do not know exactly where that town or city is.

I encourage you when sharing information, whether online through a mail message or bulletin board message, or through some method of publishing your family history that you include the county. It will save your fellow researchers some work.

As an example, I was working with a Bush line and discovered that one of the Bush ancestors was born in Brick Church, New Jersey. However, without knowing where Brick Church was, a search of census indexes for the time period were proving frustrating as I was not sure which of the individuals was the most likely candidate. While I could have written down each one of the census index entries and gone from county to county, this would have taken much time.

Instead I relied on one of the online geographic names services to find out which county Brick Church was in. I discovered that it was in Essex County. This allowed me to concentrate on those index entries for Essex County and shaved time off my research of this line.

It is important to remember that you should record the county as it was at the time of the event in question. There are some counties that have been created out of other counties. For example, in 1921 Charlotte County, Florida was created out of DeSoto County. This means that

any event that took place prior to 1921 should be listed as having taken place in DeSoto County.

The reason that we do this is because the records do not travel with the newly created county. They remain in the county where the event took place. As you research, even if your ancestor never moved, it is possible that the records were in more than one county.

There are some useful sites to aid you in determining at least the present day county of a given locality.

-- USGS Mapping Information: GNIS Data Base Query Form
(<http://mapping.usgs.gov/www/gnis/gnisform.html>)

-- The National Imagery and Mapping Agency's database of foreign geographic features
(<http://164.214.2.59/gns/html/index.html>)

These are just two databases to get you started. Help other researchers by sharing complete place names. Save others the frustration of trying to determine just where a place is located. Also, educate some of the newcomers to the hobby by example.

Reprinted from Family Tree Finders.

BYU SCHEDULES CONFERENCE

Brigham Young University's 2001 Genealogy and Family History Conference will take place July 31-August 3 in the Conference Center on BYU's campus. Lectures will be given by BYU faculty, representatives from the LDS Church's Family History Department in Salt Lake City, and others from around the country. Curt B. Witcher, president of the National Genealogical Society, will be one of the presenters.

Early registration is encouraged. For more information about this conference, check the Web site at <http://coned.byu.edu/cw/cwgeneal/>; e-mail mail to: valiant_evans@byu.edu; write to BYU Conferences and Workshops, 136 Harman Continuing Education Building, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602; or call (801) 378-4853.

Timelines Help Answer Questions on Ancestors

By Frank Beacon

One of the most common ways to think about family lines is via a pedigree chart. Those handy forms help us trace our ancestry back through the generations, maintaining a certain perspective of similar generations -- parents and children. As our fingers follow the lines on the chart we visualize the progress from one generation to another, counting the steps between ourselves and our great-great-grandparents.

You could also draw a "family line" on a map. In pencil or pen you could literally trace your family's geographic history in a line across the paper, from California to Indiana to Kentucky to South Carolina to Pennsylvania to Scotland. As your finger follows the line your mind may see the fields of the gold rush, the Ohio River Valley, Kentucky hills, and Scottish lowlands.

Our family lines have another dimension as well. The one called by some the fourth dimension:

Time.

Just as your geographic family line winds through prairies, mountains and oceans on a map, your family timeline weaves in and out of the large and small daily events of history. Wars, economic turmoil, political restructuring and climate changes affected your family history as much as the migratory paths they followed.

Keeping track of the historical events during your ancestors' lives is as important as knowing the geographic area in which they lived. It is impossible to understand anyone without understanding the culture in which they lived.

The first timeline you should use is a truly historical one. A timeline that includes major events in the areas of politics, literature, religion, science, and transportation.

You should become familiar with both the broad outlines of history and the specifics that would have affected your own forebears. Consider not just the separate developments, but how they affected each other (and your family).

As you compare your family's timeline against a broader historical timeline remember that some developments may be more clear to us than they

were to those who lived at the time, and vice versa. For example, computers and modems seem almost inseparable to us today, but until the advent of the commercial Internet their marriage was by no means a certainty.

The second type of timeline you can use is what might be termed a "standard life events" timeline. You might think of this like a six-inch ruler: a small tool with markings on one side that you can use to measure small surfaces.

The "standard life events" would begin with birth. About 12 to 15 years later might be such pre-adult events as church confirmation, apprenticeship, or secondary schooling. Birth plus 20 or 25 years might show military service, adult employment, and marriage. Child-bearing years run around 20 to 40 years after birth. Also later in life: second marriage (and a new family), retirement, new career, and of course, death.

You can compare the events on this small timeline against the timeline of family events shown on a pedigree chart or family group record to see how your representation of the family holds up. You can compare it to a historical timeline to see which events were more likely to affect the life of an individual ancestor. For example, if an ancestor was about 20 at the time of a local war you should look for information in military records -- or for a quick exit to another country to avoid military service.

No one is going to fit any timeline perfectly, because events affect each of us just a little differently. But comparing what you already know about one of your ancestors to the personal and cultural events of his or her day will help you more fully understand what his or her life was like, and why it turned out the way it did.

Resources:

American Memory Timeline
<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/timeline/>

Timeline of British History
<http://www.britannia.com/history/time1.html>

Reprinted from Family History Newline

"The two most important things we can give our children are roots and wings."

Chinese proverb

WPA Indexes Contain Clues to Record Sites

By Rhonda R. McClure

The WPA was the Works Project Administration. It was a part of the New Deal under Franklin Delano Roosevelt in an effort to stimulate the economy during the Great Depression. The Works Project Administration supplied work for the various teachers, writers, reporters and investigators who were now out of work due to the Depression. And it is through the efforts of the WPA that we have many of the indexes and records that we possess, including the soundexes to the census records that are currently available.

In addition to the census soundexes that they were compiling, another major work to come out of the WPA was the Historical Records Survey. This project spanned the years 1936 through 1942. It was only discontinued because World War II made it no longer practical. The work force could be better used in other areas. However, in that time period, hundreds of volumes of inventories and surveys would be published. And while the records surveyed were not done so with genealogy in mind, genealogists find that a vast majority of the records are of use in genealogical research.

The inventories and surveys that were published include a number of different record types as the surveyors went from repository to repository. The different repositories surveyed included the following:

- + Churches and religious organizations
- + Church records and archives
- + County records and archives
- + Federal records and archives
- + Manuscript records
- + Microfilmed records
- + Miscellaneous records
- + Public archives
- + State records and archives
- + Town records and archives
- + Vital statistic records

The microfilmed records of the WPA for Indiana, for example, are wide ranging. The records that have been transcribed and microfilmed cover many different record types, including:

- + Births
- + Commissioners' Records
- + Court Records
- + Deeds
- + Estray Books
- + Land Entry Books
- + Marriages
- + Probate Records
- + Wills

The dates covered by these records vary widely from county to county. Most of the available counties begin in the early 1800s and continue on past the mid-1800s.

Like the inventories many of these records are also available in manuscript and microfilm formats at the Family History Library. This means you can borrow them through your local Family History Center.

Reprinted from *Family Tree Finders*

Slave Insurance Hearings Set

Hearings will be held this month on the slave-holder insurance policies bill (SB2199) to receive comments on regulations developed by the state's Insurance Commissioner.

The bill, effective 1 January, 2001, mandated that the commissioner require all insurers doing business in California to turn over any archival records and documents on insurance policies held on slaves in the United States and issue a report on the findings.

So far, the Department of Insurance has sent letters with draft copies of the regulations to inform life and property casualty insurers. Eighteen insurers or their predecessors were found to have been in existence and writing policies in 1865 when slavery was abolished. The 18 were sent follow-up requests to comb their archival records for policies held on slaves and received notices to appear at the hearings to comment on the draft regulations.

Hearings are scheduled for Tuesday, March 13th in Los Angeles and Friday, March 16th in San Francisco. Public testimony will be heard. Carriers will then have until June to report to the results of their archival searches.

Calendar

2001

March 10

Paths Once Travelled is the title of the Family History Seminar scheduled by the **Simi Valley Stake of the LDS Church**. Seven classes are offered in each of five blocks for this daylong event. The seminar will be held at 5028 Cochran Street in Simi Valley. For more information, contact Donna Cuillard at (805) 522-3828. There is a nominal fee for participation,

March 24-25, Pasadena

Jamboree 2001 presented by the Southern California Genealogical Society and Family Research Library will feature ten speakers, including Nancy Carlberg, Janice Cloud, Arlene Eakle, Leland Meitzler, and Christine Rose. Information from (818) 843-7247 or e-mail <scgs@annex.com>. See Web site at <<http://www.scsgenealogy.com>>.

March 31, San Francisco-Oakland

Dee Parmer-Woodtor, author of "Finding a Place Called Home", is the featured speaker for the **First African-American West Coast Genealogical SUMMIT**. Contact Ranie Smith, President of AAGSNC, at rgsmith@prodigy.net for more information.

May 16-19, Portland, Oregon:

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will host the **National Genealogical Society** when it presents **Explore New Frontiers**. Features are hundreds of classes, computer and lab sessions, a large vendor area, tours to genealogical, historical, and scenic sites, and social events. E-mail <conference@ngsgenealogy.org>; or visit Web site at: <<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>>.

September 12-15, Davenport, Iowa:

FGS/Quad Cities Conference, Great River Bend Genealogy...**A Heartland Gathering**, will be a traditional FGS event, with multiple tracks of presentations and demonstrations, vendors, and special events and activities. E-mail <fgs-office@fgs.org>; or call 1-888-FGS-1500. Visit the FGS Web site at <<http://www.fgs.org>>.

October 27-29, Washington, D.C.

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society annual meeting. Theme, topics and speakers will be announced shortly. (See the Call for Papers in last month's issue).

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101 GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY PROJECT IDEAS

(Continued from February's newsletter)

- 77. Frame keepsakes and momentos in a shadowbox.
- 78. Gather saved letters, written by grandparents, family or friends. Make copies and give as gifts to the one who wrote the letters originally or to family members who might appreciate the memories within those letters.
- 79. Clean out your attic and see what memories and treasures might be tucked away there.
- 80. Go through your books and redo them in acid free materials.
- 81. If you are lucky enough to have a handmade item made by your grandmother, frame it, make it into a pillow, add it to a quilt, showcase it in some way. Once its on the wall, place a picture of her next to it.
- 82. Offer to do "look-ups" for other people. There are people all over the world looking for the very information that might be in your records or in the FHL that is so close to us. Offer your time and share your information.
- 83. Make a quilt using out-of-grown clothes once worn by your children or mother; ties once worn by your father or husband.
- 84. Offer to do extraction work for your ancestor's country. Many Internet sites are looking for people to help type census' and records on the computer so they can be made available on the Internet.
- 85. Other genealogy sites need people to keep the site updated. Volunteer to spend a little of your time monitoring for them.
- 86. Figure out the genealogies in the Bible or conduct a study of family relationships in the scriptures: Adam and Eve, Joseph and his brothers, even Herod, Salome, and Pilate.
- 87. Research and write up a history for the town your family originates from or helped settle.
- 88. Write letters or E-mails and keep them. You can't record phone conversations.
- 89. Record family testimonies.
- 90. Keep a Random Acts of Service Journal and dedicate it to your children and grandchildren.

- 91. If you have pioneer ancestors, walk their migration route to experience their sense of adventure and faith.
- 92. Follow your own family's migration on a family trip or on a map.
- 93. We have been asked to do at least 4 generations on our pedigree chart Please feel free to do more than that, don't be afraid to dig in to research.
- 94. Ask a sibling or cousin to help you work on some lines. Split the work with the family. Meet occasionally to share notes and experiences.
- 95. Look up, on the Internet, www.switchboard.com, or any other telephone guide, to search for surnames throughout the United States, or even the world. Be brave and contact these people to see if they are related to you and if they have any genealogy they could share with you. Offer to share what you have.
- 96. Subscribe to mailing lists discussing your family surnames at www.rootsweb.com/~maillist.
- 97. Study the benefitss you have received as the result of a decision an ancestor made as long as 100 years ago.
- 98. Work diligently.
- 99. Don't be afraid to share your findings with living family members. As you make contact with distant cousins, through this work, tell them who you are and why this work is important.
- 100. Teach your children the importance of this work, show them what has been done, show them what still needs to be done; involve them in the work.
- 101. Create the ties that bind, among the living and the dead.

Reprinted from the LDSFHC Consultants mailing list.

QUERIES

Seeking information (parents,siblings) on my G Grandfather/G Grandmother. Henry Nichols b 1843 in Madagascar, married Eveline----? b 1855 in Martinique. Listed in Fed. Census; 1870, 1880, 1900 Lafayette Parish, LA. Eight children from this union 1871--1887, all born in Lafayette. Contact Gus Arterbery at augustus@ix.netcom.com

California African-American Genealogical Society
HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 Los Angeles, California 90008-0442

Editors: F. Stubblefield and J. Thompson ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13 No. 4 April, 2001
DISCLAIMER: The Editor nor CAAGS assumes any responsibility for articles submitted to the newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

President's Letter

CAAGS is returning to Martin Luther King United Methodist Church! This move will give us more access to our research materials and will give us an even greater chance to discuss and share our progress and problems.

March was a very busy month for the Society. Special thanks to those who participated in the SCGS Jamboree and who helped make our both the success it was. Because of your efforts, CAAGS has several new members and we were able to let many others know of our mission.

Congratulations to both the AAGSNC (Oakland) and AAHGS-Tucson. The First West Coast African American Genealogical Summit was attended by more than 220 researchers, including a large contingent from CAAGS. The event was well-organized and presented. Planning has already begun for the 2002 Summit. AAHGS-Tucson held it's ninth Annual Meeting, presenting a program on African and African-American art.

Meeting with other groups and chapters is a excellent way to learn more about your research and to increase your knowledge.

Ellis JONES, who is curenly our Public Relations chairman, will head our Web Page project. He will be presenting his ideas later this summer. If you have any ideas or experience in web page development, please let him know.

Both the Writers Group and the Louisiana SIG (Special Interest Group) will meet after our speaker. Carletha M'FUME heads the Louisiana researchers and Marilyn WHITE the Writers Group.

Several research trips are being planned and details will be announced later. Future events included Show-and-Tell II and a research trip

with the Oakland chapter to the Los Angeles Public Library.

CAAGS MEETINGS

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue
(East of Crenshaw Boulevard,
between Florence and Manchester)
Los Angeles, California

17 April 2000

General Schedule

10:00-11:30

Beginning and Intermediate Class

11:30-12:00

Business Meeting

12:00-12:15

Break

12:15-2:00

Dr. John Reilly

Department of English,

Loyola Marymount University

Los Angeles

Why We Research and Sources

FUTURE MEETINGS

19 May

Shirley Taylor Haizlip

Author of *Sweeter the Juice* will discuss research and the problems encountered writing her award-winning book.

16 June

No Regularly Scheduled Meeting

21 July

Business Meeting and Genealogy Roundtable
Ratification of the proposed By-laws and open
Question and Answer.

Members

BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Aldra Allison
James Hunt
Sandra Kent
Rosalind Ricks
DorothyLou Sands
Phyllis Stones
Velma Thompson

NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

ALICE COUSAR is researching Rawls, Ryall, Millen, and Pinkston from Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina.

ALFREDA DEMERY is researching Allen, Lankford, Majors, and Wilkerson.

HAROLD A. JACKSON, JR. is researching Gray from Florida; Jackson from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia; and Manns from Florida.

KENNETH MABRY is researching Mabry.

SARAH L. SHIPP is researching Blacksher and Blackston(e).

EMAIL CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

Gloria Al-Sarag Jazzyg4202@aol.com
Alice Cousar cousar3@att.net
Harold Jackson, Jr. halamjac@juno.com
Debra White-Hayes hayzzee@aol.com

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Ruth Palmer is the organizer for April. She can be reached at (323) 294-4174.]

BOARD MEETINGS

MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO THE BOARD MEETINGS, THE FIRST

FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM., EXCEPT ON HOLIDAY WEEKENDS, THE MEETING MOVES TO THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

The May Board Meeting will be held at Martin Luther King United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, 4 May.

BOOKS WE OWN

Many of us have directories, Census CD-roms, indexes and other listings which might be useful other members. The members below have resources in which they will perform a look-up of a name of names for other members. Please make your requests for information as specific as possible (no "Tell me what you have for Jones"). The members below will get back to you with the reference (or lack of one).

Please be considerate in your requests and generous in listing your resources.

AVAILABLE FOR LOOK-UPS:

1870 Conroe County, Texas, Census.
Contact: Ray Marshall @ rmarshall@earthlink.net

Directory of Graduates of Howard University, 1867-to 1953.
Contact: Ron Batiste @aol.com

United States Census Index, Southern States Only, 1840-1849.
Contact Charlotte Bocage.
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

PERSI Source Index CD-rom
Contact Charlotte Bocage,
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

Cemetery and Burial Records, Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Lafayette, LA. 1860-1995.
Contact Ronbatiste@aol.com

Directory of Graduates of Tuskegee Institute, 1881-1986.
Contact Ellis Jones , Ejones3858@earthlink.net

RAILROAD RETIREMENT

Railroading was a major force in the United States. In fact, at its peak, about 1920, it is estimated that some 2 million people worked for the railroad. Up until 1964 those who worked for the railroads were given special Social Security numbers.

Social Security numbers actually have a method to the number scheme to some degree. Each group of digits represents something. The important numbers, for genealogists, are the first three. These first three digits are the area numbers. It is the area numbers that tell you what state the social security number was issued in. It can also tell you if the person was a railroad employee. As mentioned earlier, up until 1964, those who worked for the railroads were assigned a social security number that had an area number of 700-729.

Railroad employees did have their own pensions, and generally do not appear in the Social Security Death Index because of this unique situation. Researching a railway employee require you to turn your attention to the unique records of the railroad itself and to the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board.

The U.S. Railroad Retirement Board is concerned with the pension and other benefits of railroad workers after 1936. It is important to note that the employee had to work a minimum of 10 years in order to qualify for benefits from the Board. The records of the Retirement Board are organized under the employee's social security number or a

Board assigned number that is prefaced by a letter.

Fortunately for genealogists, the Railroad Retirement Board will supply information on deceased individuals. However, when corresponding with them, you will need to supply a copy of the individual's death certificate. You will also need to include the employee's name, position, railroad, and when and where they worked. You can contact the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board by writing to them at

Office of Public Affairs
Railroad Retirement Board
844 N. Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2092.

When requesting records on an ancestor, you will need to include the social security number. The files are organized by social security number. The cost for a request is now \$21.00. You can learn more by visiting the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board Web site (<http://www.rrb.gov/>).

There are some excellent articles that you will want to locate and read to help you further with this research. One "Railroad Records for Genealogical Research" was written by Wendy Elliot and can be found in the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, in volumes 75 (Dec, 1987, p. 271-77) and 79 (June, 1991, p. 140 - an addendum).

Rhonda R. McClure
Reprinted from Family Tree Finders

DON'T JUMP

Don't jump! Be sure you are checking all the records in an area before you move on.

For years I have been receiving messages from genealogists requesting help with their research. As I read the messages, I find they often the problem they are experiencing can be traced to the fact that they have jumped from one year to another or one place to another. This happens most often when the researcher has found information in the census records. They jump from census year to census year. We have all done it, and it isn't bad in and of itself. What is bad is when we jump and then don't go back and do the work we need to do for each of the localities where we find the family in question.

The census is just one of many records used by genealogists. They are often fraught with errors too, something that many forget to keep in mind. The census enumerator did not have to talk to an individual in the household. As the enumerator canvassed his assigned area, if a family wasn't home, he could talk to a neighbor and see if they could answer the questions. Therefore, there are problems when relying on just the census for information.

Often when you cannot find a family where you think they should be, you need to go back and examine the records

you have used. Usually you will find that you have jumped because of information found in the census. The 1880 census for Ohio said the individual was born in Pennsylvania. The census must be right. So why can't you find them now?

If you haven't searched all the available records in the Ohio county for this ancestor, it is probable that you don't have the complete picture. Land records may indicate that the ancestor didn't come from Pennsylvania after all. The death records for the children, those other children of the family – the siblings, may tell a different story than the story you got from the death record of your ancestor.

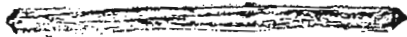
The temptation to jump is so prevalent, especially if the census records and indexes are easily available to you, more available than some of the other records. While you shouldn't ignore the census records and the indexes, you will find that your family tree is held together by a thread when your research is so heavily relying on census work.

Prior to 1880, the individuals listed in the household were not listed with their relationship to the head of the household. We all assume that the children listed in the household are the offspring of the head and the woman who appears to be his wife. In some cases we are incorrect. We won't know that though if we jump from census to census without taking the time to look into the other records that are available.

So, the next time you find yourself beating against a brick wall, look back and see if you jumped from place to place without exhausting all the records

in each of the localities. If you go back and look at the records you missed, you may find the clue you overlooked before that answers the question of why you can't find them.

Rhonda R. McClure
Reprinted from Family History Newslines



I depart as air
Failing to fetch me at first keep
encouraged
Missing me one place, search another
I stop somewhere waiting for you.

Reprinted from
Walt Whitman

METHODOLOGY

Everyone thinks that the general premise of genealogy is to look for ancestors in the records. While this is certainly something that we do, at some point the records change and instead of finding a birth certificate that shows the name of our ancestor and the names of his or her parents, we are having to build cases without such direct evidence. We are having to show that it couldn't be these individuals, so it must be this couple that are the parents. Such research requires a slightly different mindset, and the methodology of genealogical research comes to the forefront. Genealogy is much more than concentrating on your specific ancestor. There are times when it becomes necessary to spread out your research, cast a larger net, so to speak. This cannot be done if your complete focus is on just your ancestor alone.

As you are working in the records, be cognizant of the names of the individuals

who are interacting with your ancestor. Do certain individuals routinely witness his land deeds? Do the same surnames appear as you move from census year to census year, even though your ancestor has moved from one community to another? These are clues that you need to follow up. Don't assume that it is just a coincidence.

Just as it is important to be aware of the others that your ancestor interacts with, likewise it is important to research the entire family. I cannot tell you how many times I have suggested to a researcher that they look for records on a sibling only to have that researcher say they aren't interested in the siblings, just their ancestor. This is a mistake. Time and time again, I have found the needed clues by looking for the records generated by the siblings.

These are just a couple of examples of how you need to expand your research. These are proven methods. While no method is 100% guaranteed, these methods do supply you with more information than if you had continued to limit your research to the single individual from whom you descended. The next time you have a difficult research problem, keep these methods in mind.

Rhonda R. McClure
Family History Newslines

"The true test of a civilization is, not the census, nor the size of the cities, nor the crops--no, but the kind of man the country turns out."

Reprinted from
Ralph Waldo Emerson-1830-82
Society and Solitude



Military Records

In the course of history, there have been wars and more wars. And many of our ancestors have been involved in them. They have bravely fought for their homeland, or for an as yet unknown land to be created. And for genealogists, these wars have generated records.

While none of us can remember a period in time when our government was not dutifully recording our every waking breath, in the United States some of the earlier records are not as useful as we have come to expect in government records. In fact, this can be seen as you look at the changes that have taken place in the passenger lists and census records over the years. Now if only the records will continue to record all the valuable information, we will continue to find them of use.

In the United States, throughout the years, there have been records generated to track the involvement of soldiers in the military, as well as pensions paid after service. Each of the different types of records offers us, as researchers, a different view into the individual. The records used most often by genealogists are:

+ Service Records

- + Pension Records
- + Bounty Land Records

Each of these records will have different information. Some of it will be more useful than some of the other information. Another factor that will alter the information you might find is the time period. There are three historical periods of military activity in the United States that are significant to genealogists. These are: the Colonial period, pre-1775; early US, 1775-1900; and modern US, 1900 to the present. And in each of these times there were likely to be some different records. However, we will look at the major groups that researchers use.

Service records consist of those records generated during the time of service of a soldier. Some of the types of papers found in the service records include:

- + Enlistment papers
- + Discharge papers
- + Muster rolls
- + Attendance reports
- + Activity reports

For genealogists, the pension records usually turn out to be the most valuable. It is these records that will often have copies of bible records or interviews with witnesses that detail the dates and places of marriage and birth of children or of the soldier.

Pensions could be sought by the soldier himself, his widow or his heirs. They applied for the pension to request assistance due to age, injury, sickness, incapacitation or death. These records often provide the veteran's date and

place of birth and death; marriage information and the maiden name of his wife; and information about his children, parents and other relatives. Sometimes these records provide detailed biographical, medical and historical information.

As payment for their services, some of the soldiers, especially in the American Revolution, were entitled to Bounty Land. The files for the bounty land include many of the same types of records and information you find in pension records.

Rhonda R. McClure
Reprinted from Family History Newline

Texas On Line

This impressive site contains more than 23,000 authoritative articles on many points of Texas history. According to their Web site, "The Handbook of Texas Online is a joint project of The General Libraries at the University of Texas at Austin and the Texas State Historical Association. The online Handbook offers a full-text searchable version of the complete text of the six-volume print edition, all corrections incorporated in the second printing, and approximately 400 articles not included in the print edition due to space limitations. Subsequent developments will include additional corrections and updates, new articles, illustrations, and audio-video media. The Handbook of Texas Online was officially released on February 15th, 1999." As they say, everything is bigger and better in Texas.

<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/>

Reprinted from Family History Newline

BLACK SLAVE OWNERS

The most amazing thing I encountered was a study (which appeared to be very well-researched) asserting that slaves were owned not just by whites but also by free blacks.

That was mind-boggling (a good phrase to me also). The two best studies are by John Hope Franklin on North Carolina and by Larry Koger on South Carolina. The later is out in paperback and is excellent..thoroughly researched and documented. There are also several works on other free black families who owned slaves. No Chariot Let Down and Black Masters deal with the Ellison family of South Carolina, and The Forgotten People deals with the Metoyer family of Louisiana's Cane River area. It has been estimated that more than 13,000 free blacks may have owned as many as 50,000 slaves.

As a sidebar, I have a collateral family in which the mother and her youngest child were emancipated (freed). The owner (who was her "lover" and the father of all seven children), sold them to her, accepted cash down, and took a note due in one year at EIGHT percent!!!!!!!

Think about the weird relationships

Reprinted from Family History Newline

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Calendar

2001

May 16-19, Portland, Oregon:

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will host the **National Genealogical Society** when it presents **Explore New Frontiers**. Features are hundreds of classes, computer and lab sessions, a large vendor area, tours to genealogical, historical, and scenic sites, and social events. E-mail <conference@ngsgenealogy.org> ; or visit Web site at: <<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>>.

September 12-15, Davenport, Iowa:

FGS/Quad Cities Conference, Great River Bend Genealogy...**A Heartland Gathering**, will be a traditional FGS event, with multiple tracks of presentations and demonstrations, vendors, and special events and activities. E-mail <fgs-office@fgs.org> ; or call 1-888-FGS-1500. Visit the FGS Web site at <<http://www.fgs.org>>.

October 27-29, Washington, D.C.

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society annual meeting. Theme, topics and speakers will be announced shortly.

African-American Military Museum Planned

A foundation has been established to fund the operation of the National Museum of African American Military History. The institution will be housed in the former home of Colonel Charles Young in Wilberforce, Ohio. Our objective is to document African American military service from the colonial period to the present, and to develop exhibitions on a wide range of topics, including those that have been neglected such as the Montford Point Marines and the Red Ball Express. These exhibitions will be developed to travel to institutions across the country.

Please contact Floyd Thomas, curator, at the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, Wilberforce, Ohio, at 1-800-752-2603 or at fthomas@ohiohistory.org.

California African-American Genealogical Society
HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 Los Angeles, California 90008-0442

Editors: F. Stubblefield and J. Thompson ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13 No. 5 May-June, 2001
DISCLAIMER: The Editor nor CAAGS assumes any responsibility for articles submitted to the newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

President's Letter

As we approach mid-year, your society has completed its annual membership enrollment drive. CAAGS has 143 members, our largest total ever. Marjorie Sholes-Higgins, vice president and membership chairman, should be congratulated for the excellent job she's done.

Based upon this membership, our budget for the new fiscal year will be slightly less than \$3,000. A very high percentage of that is committed to fixed expenses for our speakers, our rent, and producing and mailing the newsletters. This means we have to select our projects carefully. Three such proposals will be discussed at this month's meeting and presented to you for a decision.

We are also looking for someone interested in working with the new committee on the creation of our webpage. If you are interested or have the skills and knowledge, please see Ellis JONES, who will be spearheading our effort. We also need someone who is interested in directing our press/public relations effort. If you have any background in writing and placing articles or contacting the media, please let any Board member know.

At our July meeting, we will complete the ratification of the proposed by-laws. These are necessary for us to move forward and grow.

Two research trips are being planned and will be announced soon. The first, in August, is to Salt Lake City, and the second, in October, will be to Washington, D.C., and will coincide with the National AAHGS conference. Both are society fund-raising programs and deserve your support.

This is the season for many family reunions and research trips. I hope all of you have safe and successful trips and find all the information you're seeking. And don't forget to bring an *extra copy of the reunion book for our library.*

CAAGS MEETINGS

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue
(East of Crenshaw Boulevard,
between Gage and Florence)
Los Angeles, California

19 May 2001

General Schedule

10:00-11:30

Beginning and Intermediate Class

Taught by Dorothylou Sands

11:30-12:00

Business Meeting

12:00-12:15

Break

12:15-2:00

Shirley Taylor Haizlip

Author of "The Sweeter the Juice"

FUTURE MEETINGS

16 June

No Regularly Scheduled Meeting

21 July

Business Meeting and Genealogy Roundtable
Ratification of the proposed By-laws and open
Question and Answer.

18 August

No Regularly Scheduled Meeting

15 September

Show-and-Tell 2

Show off those recently discovered family treasures and share your finds and discoveries with us.

34

MEMBERS

BIRTHDAY WISHES!

MAY

Gloria Ballard
Gerald Brown
Renee Coche'e
Carolyn Conway
Marlene Davis
Edward Fletcher
Mark Greenfield
Barbara Irving
Jan Madkins
Phyllis Paxton
Theresa Sims
James Thornton
James Walker
Carole Watts
Gena Weaver
Virgilene West

JUNE

June Boyd
Annisue Briggs
Donald Brown
Bernadene Coleman
Sarah Cooper
Edward Gauthier
Alva Griffith
LaDonna Hightower
Kenneth Mabry
Raymond Marshall
Leon Martin
Vera Merritt
Ruth Palmer
Jan Perry
Vanessa Schatz
Patricia Wiley

NEW MEMBERS!

JACQUELINE QUALLS ALEX researching Elliott, Epps and Qualls/Quarles.

SONYA REESE-GREENLAND DAVIS is researching Brandenburg, Brooks, Maxwell-McCall, Meeks, Reese, Sercy, and Vaughn.

MARK STEVEN GREENFIELD is researching Greenfield from Arizona and California; Griffin from South Carolina; Harris, Ingram and Spears from North Carolina.

JAMES C. THORNTON is researching Anderson from Los Angeles, California; Jackson from Alabama; Simms from Louisiana; and Thompson from Texas.

ANDRE' C. VAUGHN is researching Carroll, Brooks, Meeks, Rivers, and Vaughn from Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, California.

DORA WALKER is researching Carroll, Green and Walker.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Gloria Ballard is the chairperson for May. She can be contacted at (310) 412-4905.

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If a man casts aspersions upon other peoples descent--for instance, if he alleges that certain families or individuals are of blemished descent and refers to them as being (illegitimate)--suspicion is justified that he himself may be a (illegitimate).

Maimonides,
Mishneh Torah

CHEROKEE ANCESTRY

Working on the research of a family tradition of Indian ancestry should begin the same way that you begin your research in general. It is important to work from the known to the unknown, using the various records that you would use for any ancestry. If the family tradition is correct, you will begin to find clues that allude to the Indian heritage, including race in vital records and census records. Cherokee Indians do not have the high cheekbones associated with the more commonly recognized Plains Indians. In fact, they are oval-headed with olive-toned skin. The Europeans admired this tall, athletic people in colonial days. When trying to locate a Cherokee or other Indian connection, you will want to try to locate them in the census records, primarily for 1900. The 1900 federal census included a second page for the listing of information on those individuals who were of Indian descent.

This second page included columns for:
 +Other Name (was usually their Indian name).
 Tribe of the listed Indian
 +of the father of the listed Indian
 +Tribe of the mother of the listed Indian
 +Any white blood in the listed Indian
 +Whether or not the Indian is living in polygamy
 +Whether or not the Indian is taxed
 +Year of acquiring citizenship
 +Whether or not citizenship was acquired by allotment
 +Whether living in a fixed or movable dwelling

If you have proved from the census that the family was indeed Cherokee or Choctaw, then you may be able to turn to the Enrollment Cards of the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914 as arranged under the direction of Henry Dawes, a U.S. Senator Massachusetts. These records can be found on 93 rolls of microfilm and are available at the National Archives and at the Family History Library.

In Searching the index, you will be provided with the roll number for the person you are interested in. This index applies only to those who were enrolled. No indexes have been found for the D (Doubtful) and R (Rejected cards).

The rolls will then lead you to the census cards. The census card number is also the number for the application for enrollment in the Cherokee by Blood series. The application file is likely to include many important documents, including: +Marriage License +Birth records +Death records

For those hoping to gain tribal membership in the Western Cherokee Nation, in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, it is essential that you locate your ancestor in Dawes Commission rolls. You must then prove a direct descent from that individual. If you do not find your ancestor on the Dawes Roll, you won't be allowed to enroll.

A good book to aid in your research is Myra Vanderpool Gormley's "Cherokee Connections" printed by Genealogical Publishing Company.

Reprinted from
 Family History Newsline

SURNAMES

What does your surname mean?
Surnames - Are We All Related?

While there are some individuals who do believe, and quite strongly I might add, that all those with the same surname are related (you need only get back far enough), this is in fact a major myth. It rates right up there with the myth about how the surname is spelled. The reality is that surnames were not in use from the beginning of time. They actually came into being about 1300. Prior to that time they just didn't seem to be needed. A person had a given name and then some descriptive name based on occupation or locality. For instance, Daniel the cooper would eventually become Daniel Cooper. And of course a cooper was someone who made barrels. It can be very interesting to delve into the origination of some surnames. For instance, FALLOWELL or FALLWELL meant, "fall in the well." I pity the poor ancestor who fell in the well to create this surname. Some names were for location. For instance, DUNNABY stands for "the man who lived down in the village." While these are English surnames, many European surnames carry similar histories. For instance YEAGER, a German surname, means "game hunter." The Norwegian surname MADSEN means "son of the strong man." The Hungarian surname SZABO means "tailor." So you can see that other cultures also go their surnames from

occupations. Chinese surnames also have meanings behind them. The surname CHIEU means "to return to the original owner." The surname FOONG means "horse running." And CHIN means "to arrange or to exhibit." It is important to remember that the spelling of these surnames will vary tremendously. For instance, the surname LAMBERT, which takes its name from "lamb herd" or "land bright" can have the following variations: LAMBARD, LAMBART, LAMBARTH, LAMBIRTH, LAMBURD, LAMPARD, LAMPART, LAMPERD, LAMPERT, LAMMERT and LIMBERT. That's a lot of variants. Some Sites of Surnames: Sometimes researching the meaning behind our surname can be as much fun as researching our family history. If you are interested in finding out a little more about your surname, you might try one of the following web sites: Family Chronicle Surname Origin List - <http://www.familychronicle.com/surname.htm>

Ron Young's Chinese Surnames - <http://www.geocities.com/Tokyo/3919/>
For those with English surnames, there is an excellent book available that you might want to look at. "A Dictionary of English Surnames, The Standard Guide to English Surnames" by P.H. Reaney and R.M. Wilson, published by Oxford University Press. Whether you're a WAITE (a watchman) a YATES (a gate-keeper) or an OSLER (a birth catcher) continue to enjoy the search for your ancestors. And while you're at it, check out where you got that surname. And if you think you have a whopper of a surname, not to worry - we all have some interesting ones. And I confess, I don't know the meaning of some of mine:

STANDERFER, SICKAFUS, AYER
(from the royal burgh of Ayr), BAILEY
(a sheriff). THORNTON (from one of
the many places named Thornton.

Family Tree Finders
Rhonda R. Mc Clure

NEW MILITARY DATABASES

- American Battle Monuments
Commission Online Database The
American Battle Monuments
Commission maintains a listing of those
interred at the American military
cemeteries overseas and those Missing
in Action from World War I, World War
II, Korea and Vietnam. The World War
II and Korean War databases have been
available for some time but the World
War I database is a recent addition.
These databases can be valuable when
searching for information about ancestors
or other family members. Quoting from
the Commission's web site.....Of the
136,516 Americans that lost their lives
during World War I, there were 4,452
Missing in Action. Of the remainder, the
next of kin of 30,921 elected to have
their loved ones buried at our
cemeteries. The new listing of the World
War I database, now on the web contains
the 33,714 names of those buried at our
cemeteries, those Missing in Action and
those buried or lost at sea. It does not
contain the names of the 101,143
Americans returned to the United States
for burial:
<http://www.americanwardead.com/searchw.htm> Of the 405,399 Americans
that lost their lives during World War II,
there were 78,976 Missing in Action. Of
the remainder the next of kin of 93,242
elected to have their loved ones buried at
our cemeteries. The new listing of the
World War II database, now on the web
contains the 172,218 names of those

buried at our cemeteries, those Missing
in Action and those buried or lost at
sea. It does not contain the names of the
233,181 Americans returned to the
United States for burial:

<http://www.americanwardead.com/searchw.htm>---The Department of Defense
reports that 54,246 Americans service
men and women lost their lives during
the Korean War. This includes all
losses world wide. Since the Korean War
Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC
honors all U.S. Military who lost their
lives during the War, it has tried to
obtain the names of those who died in
other areas besides Korea during the
period June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1954,
one year after the Korean Armistice. At
the memorial is a Honor Roll database
where all 54,246 should be listed.
Unfortunately, a fire at the National
Personnel Records Center in St. Louis,
Missouri destroyed many of the records
of service personnel and a complete
listing is not available. To date, the
database includes the names of 37,333
service men and women who died during
that period. The Korean Honor Roll
database, including photographs, is now
on the web:
<http://www.americanwardead.com/search.htm>

Reprinted from
Family History Newslite

MIGRATION ROUTES

Migration patterns may answer the question of where your ancestor went,

Migration Patterns: Some Things to Keep in Mind....Migration routes are those routes that our ancestors took to move from where they were currently living to where they would end up. For some of our ancestors, this was little more than a hard-to-follow trail, while others who would come later would have the benefit of much better roads. While these would be far from what we demand of our roads today, to those who were traveling by stagecoach, these roads would be considered a marvel. Many of the trails that our ancestors would travel had their creation in history. Very often the earliest of roads were created for communication reasons. Others would be the result of military endeavors. The Army Corps of the Engineers are now responsible for getting the army from point A to point B. It was very much the same down through history. Before you can begin to determine the possible migration routes, you will want to get out some maps and locate the counties in which your ancestors lived. You have supplied two of the counties, the starting county and the ending county. If you know that they stayed in Illinois for a little while, then that county may alter the migration route used. If you can, printing out county maps through AniMap or photocopying county maps can be useful. You can then use the copies to draw the possible migration routes. Once you have compiled a timeline of the known

counties, and the length of stay, and gathered together the maps you can draw on, you can then take the next step, learning about the various migration routes.

For as long as there have been settlers in the United States, and prior to that the American colonies, there have been migration routes. One of the first major routes would bring together various post roads in all the colonies together, making the King's Highway. Interestingly enough, had this highway not come together, it is questionable whether or not the colonies would have won the American Revolution. For a look at some of the earlier migration routes, you will want to investigate William Dollarhide's "Map Guide to American Migration Routes," published by AGLL Genealogical Services in 1997. The National Road was the first highway in the United States. Today it can be traced by following U.S. Highway 40 and Interstate 70. It was begun in 1818 and went from Baltimore, Maryland to Wheeling, Virginia (what would become West Virginia). Many researchers will recognize this portion of the National Road as being the Cumberland Road. Remember to keep in mind the time frame of a migration. In some instances, the railroads may have played a part in that migration. Many of these were built along the same routes originally used for the roads that were traveled by earlier ancestors. Therefore knowing the migration routes is still useful. For instance, in the ninth edition of *The Handy Book for Genealogists*, they include a map showing various railroads by 1860.

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Rhonda R. McClure

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CALENDAR

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September 13-16, Houston

The **Hispanic Genealogical Society (HGS)** hosts its annual convention at the Westin Hotel in the Galleria Shopping Area. For additional information, contact HGS, PO Box 810561, Houston, Texas 77281-0561, or visit their website at <<http://www.hispanicgs.com>>.

October 27-29, Washington, D.C.

The **Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS)** presents its annual conference. **The Circle Grows Wider—Embrace Another Link**. For additional information, contact AAHGS, PO Box 73086, Washington, D.C. 20056, or visit the website <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdaahgs>>. At least two CAAGS members are on the program.

June 14-16, 2002 Sacramento

The **Second West Coast African American Genealogical Summit** will feature Reginald Washington, African American Subject Area Specialist with NARA in Washington, DC. Reginald will speak on the Southern Claims Commission, The Freedman's Bureau Records, and other sources available from NARA. Meeting location will be announced shortly.

"Remembering the past is a way in which we can affirm our identity and the value of our own life story as we grow older. Claiming our stories--with the celebrations and crises--can bring a sense of integrity to our later years. The wisdom of older persons needs to be shared in a mentoring role with the next generations. We need to tell our own stories to younger generations so this valued wisdom will not be lost"

Richard L. Morgan,
"Fire in the Soul"

CAAGS AUTHOR

Heritage Books has announced the following work. It was compiled by Alva H. Griffith, one of the founding members of CAAGS and a host on AOL's Saturday evening genealogical chat Pittsylvania County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes and Related Documentation Price: \$ 20.80 (This is the Pre-publication price, usually good for about 2 months, and began April 1st - it reserves a copy as soon which will be sent as soon as it comes from the printer - the regular price will be \$ 26.00. Item Number: #G 1780. Transcribed, Extracted and Compiled by Alva H. Griffith. The Register of Free Negroes - Pittsylvania Co., Virginia was discovered in 1994 carelessly deposited out of view in a high window ledge of the County Courthouse in Chatham, VA. The register, completely unknown until its accidental discovery, consists of a hand-written ledger which names, numbers and describes free African-Americans (and possibly other non-whites) who registered or re-registered as free persons between 16 March 1807 and 16 January 1864. It contains the names of 637 Free negroes, the majority of which were born free in Pittsylvania Co., as well as white individuals and other non-white individuals. The earlier registrations of persons who moved to Pittsylvania Co. were also copied into the ledger. This book comprises verbatim transcripts of the Register of Free Negroes - Pittsylvania Co., Virginia, faithful to the original spelling, abbreviation and punctuation. No text has been omitted

and the original page numbers are indicated in brackets. Names of Free Negroes have been capitalized and made bold at their first appearance in the transcripts. The ledger transcripts are followed by a section of related wills and deeds, a section of census extractions (1820-1840), and five appendices, including sample court orders and renewed registrations. An extensive introduction provides historical context for the data, an explanation of commonly used terms, and a bibliography. The text has been indexed to include all full names which appear in the documents, as well as cities, counties, countries and continents under the general heading of "localities". 2001, 298 pp., append., biblio., full name + location index, paper. Address for ordering by mail is.....
Heritage Books Inc., 1540 Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie MD 20716 or by phone at 1-800-398-7709, or it can be ordered online at:
www.heritagebooks.com. People who are interested in ordering need to include postage of \$ 4.00, and anyone living in MD. should also add 5% sales tax.

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

Editors: F. Stubblefield and J. Thompson ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13 No. 7/8 July/August, 2001
DISCLAIMER: The Editor nor CAAGS assumes any responsibility for articles submitted to the newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

President's Letter

April Fool's Day, 2002, will be one of the most significant days of this decade for genealogists.

The 1930 Census will be released.

A lot of work will be necessary to use it and we had better be prepared. Only 12 states, most of those Southern, have been indexed. It is expected that private companies may have indexes for sale by 2004, but that is still conjecture. Between now and then, we will have several meetings and presentations outlining what you will have to do to use this resource.

Make sure the research "joke" is not on you.

Don't forget the two research trips that have been planned. The first, in August, is to Salt Lake City, and the second, in October, will be to Washington, D.C., and will coincide with the National AAHGS conference. This is an opportunity to meet researchers from across over the nation. The chance to work at in Washington with some of the original source materials should not be overlooked. Colette DeVerge will have all the details.

The Web Page Committee should have a preliminary design to show you at our September Show-and-Tell meeting. Ellis Jones and his Committee have done a thorough job planning for CAAGS venture onto the Internet.

If you have borrowed any materials from our Library, please return them to Evelyn Ross as soon as possible. She is completing an inventory of our holdings.

This is the season for many family reunions and research trips. I hope all of you have safe and successful trips and find all the information you're seeking. And don't forget to bring an extra copy of the reunion book for our library.

CAAGS MEETINGS

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6625 4th Avenue
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Open Question and Answer.

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18 August

No Regularly Scheduled Meeting

15 September

Show-and-Tell 2

Show off those recently discovered family treasures and share your finds and discoveries with us.

20 October

Military Records

Jay W. Johnson,

LDS Director of Public Affairs and frequent speaker at NGS, GenTech and FGS conferences

Genealogy and Gardening: Fertilizer, Weeds, Worms

by Michael John Neill

Like it or not, it is time to get out the old lawnmower. Based upon the look of my yard, it's actually past time to get it out. Genealogy will have to wait while I mow the yard. However, there's nothing to stop me from thinking about genealogy while I am doing so. In fact, it seems like several lawn mowing considerations have their own family history counterparts.

Mowing the yard after a recent rain or before the dew has dried in the morning will easily leave grass clumps across your yard. Better to let it dry before you mow. Sometimes it is best to let our new genealogy information sit and give it a chance to "dry" too. Not because our information is really wet (although tombstone inscriptions made in a downpour are an exception), but because frequently a little time waiting allows information to "gel" in a person's mind. This reduces the chance we overlook the obvious and increases the chance we get the most out of the document or information we have found.

Are you trying to take on too much research at one time? If it has been awhile since I've mowed the yard, the mower either constantly dies or I have to mow at a snail's pace. Simply setting the mower higher allows me to take on less at a time and move at a reasonable pace. And I can set the mower lower the next time. If your genealogy seems to overwhelm you, consider focusing on just one family or line for a while. Too much grass can clog the mower; too much research may clog your brain.

Some seed and some time will take care of those bare spots in your yard. While I personally believe the less grass to mow the better, bare spots are unsightly. Bare spots in your research may be those sources or families you have ignored or avoided searching. If you spend a little time working on those bare spots you might be surprised at what grows there.

One approach to deal with grass that does not grow is to fertilize it. From where I sit, the less it grows, the less often it has to be mowed. Others nurture their yards to enhance its growth. Perhaps it's time to fertilize your research as well. There are several things you can do to get your research growing again. Attending a conference, reading a how-to-book, working on a long-neglected line are all excellent ways to get your genealogical lawn growing again.

I occasionally mow over sticks instead of picking them up. Sticks are just details that slow down the process of mowing the yard. These minor details can however, fly up and hit me in the leg or injure someone walking by my home. I need to stop and take the time to pick up the sticks. Are there details in your own research that you are simply mowing over and ignoring? Perhaps it's time to pick them up and take a look.

In my opinion, a yard should be entirely grass, no flowers, lawn ornaments, etc (trees provide shade and will be tolerated). Precious time is wasted mowing around things. However, those that do plant flowers must consider carefully the location of the plant. Where the plant is planted partially determines how well it will flourish. Have you planted your ancestors in the wrong location based upon an assumption? Looking in the same place over and over again in the exact same way rarely brings success. Consider other areas where the family might have lived and where they might have traveled. You might be looking in the wrong place.

Every yard needs a few worms to work up the soil and keep it fertile. While your friends and genealogical acquaintances are not necessarily worms, it may be helpful to have one of them "work up" one of your family history problems. A fresh set of eyes frequently brings about a new perspective.

There are days where my half acre yard needs a riding lawn mower instead of my pusher. The pushing mower worked much better at our old house where saying our lawn was a quarter acre was an overestimate. The pusher stays though as using it is better exercise. That notwithstanding, do you have the right tool for

the genealogical job you are doing? The type of records that might have worked well in one time and in one location might not work well in a new location or in a different time period. If you are looking for state birth records in Indiana in 1850, it's time to get a new tool to solve that genealogical problem. There simply are not vital records in Indiana that early.

Wars have been fought over dandelions. One person's weed is another person's flower and I'm not going to get in the middle of that debate. Classifying everything as a weed does make for fewer items to mow around however. Nonetheless, weeds mar the image of the yard. Are there a few weeds in your own genealogical information? Some weeds may have been actually planted early on in your genealogical yard, when you really weren't quite certain what was a weed and what was not. You may wish to replant the weeds though in another part of your genealogical garden or you may wish to root them out entirely. Genealogy "weeds" occasionally are needed to solve other genealogical gardening problems and one should be wary of throwing out each and every weed. Genealogists may be better served by keeping some of their "weeds" in a compost pile should they need to refer to them later.

Michael John Neill, is the Course I Coordinator at the Genealogical Institute of Mid America (GIMA) held annually in Springfield, Illinois, and is also on the faculty of Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, Illinois. Michael is the Web columnist for the FGS FORUM and is on the editorial board of the Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly. He conducts seminars and lectures on a wide variety of genealogical and computer topics and contributes to several genealogical publications, including Ancestry and Genealogical Computing.
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Using Enumeration Districts To Locate 'Lost' Information

Editor's Note: Below is some additional information on the Census Enumeration District Descriptions from **The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy**, edited by Loretto D. Szucs and Sandra H. Luebking.

Because of errors in transcribed names, and because of variant spellings of names, a researcher may not be able to locate an entry in the Soundex system for a given head of family or individual living in a specific area. Though a name does not appear in the Soundex, there is a possibility that the sought-after individual was indeed enumerated, but was somehow missed or incorrectly coded in the indexing process. Those wishing to bypass the 1900, 1910, or 1920 Soundexes to consult the actual schedules for a given town, civil division, geographic area, or ward of a large city need to know the enumeration district number assigned to the particular place to be able to search for the person. In other words, if you know the exact address of your ancestors, you may be able to reduce your search to pages rather than the entire county.

Arranged alphabetically by state and then by county, the Census Enumeration District Descriptions identify the specific enumeration districts assigned within states, counties, and cities. Note that the district boundaries are described in the microfilm series as they were when the censuses were taken and may have changed significantly since then.

Microfilm copies of the Census Enumeration District Descriptions can be found in almost all libraries and archives where the corresponding census microfilm is kept.

Reprinted from Ancestry News Daily.

FAMILY REUNION PLANNED

The MEANS-WOODS-EMERY family reunion is planned for Riverside, California 19 July through 22 July at the Holiday Inn Select (1-877-291-7519).

Anyone seeking more information can contact Barbara Butts,

Six Professional Tips To Flesh Out Research

The Pace-L mailing list recently received the below message from a professional researcher. I thought it might contain some tips that some of you could use.

Betty A. Pace
(bapace2@juno.com)

One very important point not mentioned in the current discussion, is the difference in those seeking genealogical information. Many people looking for family history are satisfied and happy with any printed info they find. I have no quarrel with that. Many others want to prove or document their lineage and that is a far different type of research.

It is when the type I researcher gets into trouble by finding conflicting/confusing information. Then they turn to the type II researcher for help and advice. This happens in all family history research regardless of surname.

After locating an ancestor, I have found a successful plan involves the following steps

1. Read at least two histories of the area (city, township, county, parish, state or canton) They will have different points of emphasis and points of view .
2. As you read develop a time line of social, religious, economic, political events and natural disasters that happened while you ancestor lived there.
3. Study the geography of the area closely using road maps, atlas, gazetteers and topographical maps. Make sure to plug in the gazetteer info into your time line. (You may need to use historical maps to find and locate your ancestors' home town – Upper Tulley , Northern Ireland is not on any current map)
4. Now start your research, some sort of census first, land records, tax records, school records, probate records (never ask for a will -- ask

for the probate packet), military records, naturalization, immigration records, education, passport info etc. Your timeline will tell you the records which were created and you look for all which survived.

5 Plug the events of your ancestor's life into your timeline. You will understand him and know him far better.

5. Analyze these records in the "light" of why they were created and the laws of the time and area. In Colonial Virginia that would include all volumes of Hennings Statutes at Large, the series by Kingsbury on the Virginia Company of London and McIlwaine two series on the early court records and house of Burgess of Virginia.

6. Remember in the early 1600 not many Virginia plantations had horses or ponies. They traveled the James to go to church, to court and to go courting.

(Any of these clues can be used anywhere with slight research and source variations)

This originally appeared on the Johnston County, North Carolina GenWeb mailing list.

BOOKS WE OWN

Many of us have directories, Census CD-roms, indexes and other listings which might be useful other members. The members below have resources in which they will perform a look-up of a name of names for other members. Please make your requests for information as specific as possible. Please be considerate in your requests and generous in listing your resources.

AVAILABLE FOR LOOK-UPS:

1870 Conroe County, Texas, Census.
Contact: Ray Marshall @ rmarshall@earthlink.net

Directory of Graduates of Howard University, 1867-to 1953.
Contact: Ron Batiste @aol.com

PERSI Source Index CD-rom
Contact Charlotte Bocage,
rbymoon4@postoffice.pacbell.net

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CALENDAR

May 16-19 Portland, Oregon

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon will host the **National Genealogical Society** when it presents **Explore New Frontiers**. Features are hundred of classes, computer and lab sessions, a large vendor area, tours to genealogical, historical and scenic sites, and social events. E-mail <conference@ngsgenealogy.org> or visit the website at <<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>>.

10-11 August, Conroe, TX

The **Montgomery County Genealogical and Historical Society** is hosting a two-day seminar featuring Dr. George K. Schweitzer, author of 19 guides to research and genealogy. Dr. Schweitzer will conduct four classes at a cost of \$40. The MCGHS will also conduct four free classes on the 10th. The seminars and lectures will be held at the Lone Star Convention Center in Conroe. For more information, contact MCGHS: www.rootsweb.com/~txmchgs/index.htm

September 12-15, Davenport, Iowa

FGS/Quad Cities Conference, Great River Bend Genealogy. **A Heartland Gathering** will be a traditional **Federation of Genealogical Societies** event with multiple tracks of presentations and demonstrations, vendors, and special events and activities. E-mail <fgs-office@fgs.org> or call 1-888-FGS-1500. Visit the FGS website at <<http://www.fgs.org>>.

September 13-16, Houston

The **Hispanic Genealogical Society (HGS)** hosts its annual convention at the Westin Hotel in the Galleria Shopping Area. For additional information, contact HGS, PO Box 810561, Houston, Texas 77281-0561, or visit their website at <<http://www.hispanicgs.com>>.

October 27-29, Washington, D.C.

The **Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS)** presents its annual conference, **The Circle Grows Wider—Embrace Another Link**. For additional information, contact AAHGS, PO Box 73086, Washington, D.C. 20056, or visit the website <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdaahgs>>. At least two CAAGS members are on the program.

June 14-16, 2002 Sacramento, California

The **Second West Coast African American Genealogical Summit** will feature Reginald Washington, African American Subject Area Specialist with NARA in Washington, DC. Reginald will speak on the Southern Claims Commission, The Freedman's Bureau Records, and other sources available from NARA. Meeting location will be announced shortly.

TIME MANAGEMENT, DISCIPLINE NEEDED FOR BEST RESULTS

By **Juliana Smith**

The meal was meatloaf. I chose it because I had the sides already made and it's one of those things where you can just put it in the oven and forget about it. Needless to say, that is exactly what I proceeded to do as I sat at my desk hitting refresh, trying in vain to access the Ellis Island database. Despite my explanation that "the crunchy crust adds texture to the meal," my daughter remains unconvinced.

This hobby (read: obsession) that we share can require a little discipline when it comes to time management. It is just too easy for me to get caught up in the past and lose track of time. I burn dinner, stay up too late, and those dust bunnies around here can get a bit too prolific!

But on the other hand, I have a ton of genealogical reorganization chores ahead of me that desperately need attention. Once I get my filing done, and my research a little more organized, it will take me less time to locate what I need, and I'll become a much more effective researcher. It's Catch-22—I need to spend more time working on my genealogy to spend less time working on my genealogy. What's a family historian to do? Here are a few of the solutions I have come up with:

REMINDERS

To avoid recurrences of the "meatloaf incident" I have started setting myself reminders in Outlook. That way when I get too caught up in what I am doing on the computer, I get a little message that pops up and says, "Hey you! That smoke you smell is your dinner burning!" or "What are you a vampire? Go to bed!" This has become my favorite feature in Outlook and a few weeks ago, as I was going over the features in the genealogical software, Legacy, I noted that it has an Alarm Center similar to the one in Outlook. The default setting says, "It's late . . . Go to bed." I love it!

There are most likely other programs with similar features, but you don't even need to go high-tech. An old-fashioned alarm clock on your desk will do the trick too. (Just make sure it has a volume control. You don't want to wake up the rest of the house just when it's time for you to go to bed!)

GET A GAME PLAN

Planning ahead can help you make better use of the time you do have for family history. This is

particularly true of research trips. When you go to a facility that has the records of your ancestors, who wants to spend an hour at the computer catalog looking to see what's available? With many library catalogs online now, that can be done prior to your visit, freeing up valuable time for more research.

By the same token, if you have a game plan before a night surfing the Net, it probably won't take as long to get results, and the added focus can help you get more positive results.

Some genealogical software programs now also come with tools like "To Do Lists" or "Research Logs." These tools can also be used to plan your next steps as you go along. Then when a research opportunity comes along, you're ready for it!

WORD FOR THE DAY: PRIORITIZATION

Making time can be a real challenge for me. With my family, my work, housework, yard work, pets, family history, and about a zillion other things vying for my attention, it's critical that I prioritize my schedule. I've been getting in the habit of looking at my day first thing in the morning. I make sure that the important things like family, work, and chores that need to be done get scheduled first. Then I look at allotting time for other projects. I try to schedule at least a half hour to work on organizing my family history. Sometimes it's tough, but usually by the end of the night, I can get at least that half hour in. That half hour a night can really add up. If I could do it every night, in a month's time, it would mean I have spent 15 hours working on my family history.

Sure, there are days when it doesn't happen for one reason or another, but the dream of a well-organized family history is keeping me focused and on those days when I do manage to find that time, more often than not, I'm working longer than the planned half hour. (I just need to remember to set that reminder so I'm not a wreck the next day!)

Reviewing the day ahead every morning has really helped. I'm not kidding myself in thinking that I have to stick to a schedule exactly, every day. My super powers just don't go that far. However, by realizing where my time is going, I can see where I need to make adjustments. Less important things that are eating too much time get put off for another day. Yes, the governor has just called in a reprieve for the dust bunnies behind the sofa! If you listen closely, you can probably hear them cheering.

From **Ancestry Daily News**

California African-American Genealogical Society

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 Los Angeles, California 90008-0442

Editors: F. Stubblefield and J. Thompson ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13 No. 9 September, 2001

DISCLAIMER: The Editor nor CAAGS assumes any responsibility for articles submitted to the newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

President's Letter

It was a very busy summer .

CAAGS participated in the Orange County Fair as part of a multi-group event to bring family history and research information to the more than 100,000 persons who attended. We also exhibited at the Watts Festival and took part in the annual Allensworth Celebration.

Ron Higgins, who co-ordinated our efforts in these events, should be congratulated for the excellent job.

In October, the Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for four of our offices. This year, the President, Second Vice President (Membership), Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian will be elected. If you are interested in any of these offices or would like to be more involved with CAAGS operations, please let any of the officers know. We will all be happy to discuss the requirements and duties of these and other positions.

We need a Public Relations Chairman and will be looking for someone to serve as Editorial Co-ordinator for the CAAGS Journal.

The 2002 Speakers Program is being planned and if you have suggestions for topics or speakers, please let me know. Several special talks are planned. Our program is one of the more ambitious but we need your thoughts and ideas to keep it relevant to your needs . We also hope to augment our regional research and education programs.

Special Thanks should also go to our By-laws Committee. At our last regular meeting, we approved the new By-Laws. As a result of their efforts, we will be able to go forward and provide the Society with the tools to be more responsive to everyone's needs.

I hope you had a great Summer and Welcome Back.

CAAGS MEETINGS

SPECIAL LOCATION!!!!!!

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church
304 Spruce Avenue, Inglewood
(East of La Brea Avenue,
near Manchester and Kelso)

15 September 2001

General Schedule

10:00-11:30

Beginning and Intermediate Class

Taught by Alva Griffith

11:30-12:00

Business Meeting

12:00-12:15

Break

12:15-2:00

Show and Tell

Future Meetings

20 October

Military Records

Jay C. Wood,

LDS Director of Public Affairs and frequent speaker at NGS, GenTech and FGS conferences, will show us how to locate and use the military records of our ancestors and the Civil War records of the suspected slaveowner.

17 November

Melrose Bell and Eve Savage, both CAAGS members and researchers at the Family History Center in Los Angeles, will discuss pitfalls and pratfalls of using Census Records.

15 December

Installation of Officers and Christmas luncheon

Virginia Slave Roster

Roster of slaves bought by Matthew Anderson ,
of Louisa County

This information is from the Louisa Historical Magazine, Fall of 1992. Volume , 23, No 2.
Contributed by Eugenia Bumpass
This Listing of slaves purchased by Matthew Anderson was found in a book entitled History of the Rise and Progress of the Baptist in Virginia, By Robert B.Semple, minister of the Gospel in King and Queen County, Virginia, published about 1810 by friends of the author. This book is now in the possession of Mary Hope Poole.

Owner: Matthew Anderson, Book May 19th, 1814.

Roster of Coulloured

Maltilda born 1794

Rachel born October 8th 1802

Ned born July 3rd 1809

Robert born August 26th 1810

Frances born 1816

Martha born 1824, dauh of Maltilda

Joanna born Feb. 22, 1826-child of Rachel

Dolly Ann born June 21 1828-child of Rachel

Richard born 1827-son of Maltilda

David born 1833-son of Maltilda

On inside page- Names and address of a family of Negroes brought by me at Louisa Courthouse at public auction on Monday the 8th of October 1838.

Mahaley , woman born 1816

Frances, daughter of the above born May 1831

James, son of the above, born Sept 1833

Eliner, daughter of the above, born June 1835

Mahilia died March 23rd of March 1840 ,

David, son of Frances and Bob, born

October, 18th, 1841 ,

Lelia, daughter of Rachel born, January 1841.

Grace, daughter of Fanny, born May 11th, 1842.

Names and register of a parcel of

Negroes purchased 1842 :

Benjamin a man. born 1812.

Susy, a woman born 1825

.Sikey born September 1842.

Ruben Archie, son of Sarah, born August 21, 1846.

Robert born July 5th 1851

On the Back Leaves

Names and ages of a family of Negroes purchased by Aaron:

Kane born March 29th, 1842

alpha born 1814

Andrew born 1831-child of Alpha

Julia born 1835-child of Alpha

Richard born February 16th 1844, son of Bob and Fanny

Nathan, son of Bob and Fanny, born November 1845

Jane, daughter of Bob and Fanny, born May 28th 1847

Julia's son born July 1852

Reprinted from the Hanover County, VA, Rootsweb list and submitted by Marjorie Higgins

Member News

BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Ron Batiste
Melrose Bell
Lodis Bryant Louis
Barbara Butts
Colette DeVerge'
Durham Caldwell
Marjorie Higgins
Hollis Hoxie
Ellis Jones
Rachelle McMurray
Barbara Phillips
Vernon Robinson
Ophelia Sanders
Sarah Shipp
Dora Walker
Diane Wayne
Debra White-Hayes

NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

MARVA J. HARRIS is researching Griffin, Harris, andRoberts from Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

LONNIE & MARIA ELENA JOSIE is researching Fountain,Frazier, Henderson and Josie.

EMAIL CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

Marva Harris marvajeanharris@aol.com
Lonnie & Maria Josie Loma7@earthlink.net

Soundex Invaluable Tool In Searching Large Cities

by **Rhonda R. McClure**

A Reader's Question:

Q: I am puzzled as to how to search the census in large cities. What steps must I make first in order to locate the correct census? I was told that I need to know the ward or whatever and have to look at other microfilm to narrow the search down. Can you explain how to go about this? -- Judy

A: Many researchers will search a census page by page if they do not know the exact page for a given family in the census. This is a possibility in the earliest of the censuses when there were less people enumerated. As the population grew and the census began to record everyone living in a given household, the number of pages necessary to scan grew as well.

There are still some localities when this page by page system is possible. This applies to rural areas. Those farming communities as opposed to the urban developments that were beginning to grow exponentially. In some cases these larger cities, such as New York City or Philadelphia, can easily take four to fifteen rolls of microfilm just for the one city. Rural areas sometimes have two counties on a single roll of film.

As a result you must turn first to the soundex if it is available. Soundex is an index built on phonics rather than alphabetical order. For a good overview of the Soundex system, including the table and rules, you will want to visit "Overview of Soundex

(<http://www.bradandkathy.com/genealogy/overviewofsoundex.html>).

A Soundex code is made up of four digits. The first is the first letter of the surname. The additional three digits are numbers based on the soundexing system.

Once you have determined the Soundex code, you would then need to get the appropriate microfilm. Soundex microfilms are arranged by state and then by Soundex code. Once you get to the Soundex code for the surname in question, the cards are arranged alphabetically first by given name and then for common names by place of birth.

The Soundex card will give you identifying information about the head of the household, and list others living in the household. You will also be given the enumeration district, the page and line number of where the individual can be found in the actual census. It is this information that is so important when it comes to large cities.

Soundex exists for all states for the 1900 and 1920 census. The 1880 census includes households in which there were children aged ten or younger. However, the Family History Library has recently released a 55-CD set that is an every-name index to the 1880 census, a valuable alternative when the family in question does not fit the criteria to be soundexed in the 1880 census. The 1910 census has been soundexed for 21 states. The list of states can be found in the 1910 Census catalog available from the National Archives

(<http://www.nara.gov/publications/microfilm/census/1910/1910.html>).

The Soundex microfilms are available through your local Family History Center, where you can order the appropriate films from the Family History Library. If your public library has a large genealogy department, it is possible that they may also have the Soundex films.

Reprinted from Family Tree Finders

A people's memory is history, and as a man without a memory, so a people without a history cannot grow wiser, better.

I.L. Peretz

State Vital Records Creation

Dates when laws were passed requiring Birth & Death registrations.
(Please remember that earlier church, county/parish and territory/state records may exist and still have to be examined.)

State	Death	Birth
Alabama	1908	1908
Alaska	1913	1913
Arizona	1909	1909
Arkansas	1914	1914
California	1905	1905
Colorado	1907	1907
Connecticut	1897	1897
Delaware	1881	1881
D.C.	1855	1871
Florida	1915	1915
Georgia	1919	1919
Hawaii	1896	1896
Idaho	1911	1911
Illinois	1916	1916
Indiana	1882	1882
Iowa	1880	1880
Kansas	1911	1911
Kentucky	1911	1911
Louisiana	1914	1914
Maine	1892	1892
Maryland	1898	1898
Massachusetts	1841	1841
Michigan	1867	1867
Minnesota	1900	1900
Mississippi	1912	1912
Missouri	1910	1910
Montana	1907	1907
Nebraska	1905	1905
Nevada	1911	1911
New Hampshire	1905	1905
New Jersey	1848	1848
New Mexico	1919	1919
New York	1880	1880
North Carolina	1913	1913
North Dakota	1908	1908
Ohio	1909	1909
Oklahoma	1908	1908
Oregon	1903	1903
Pennsylvania	1906	1906
Puerto Rico	1931	1931
Rhode Island	1852	1852
South Carolina	1915	1915
South Dakota	1905	1905
Tennessee	1914	1914
Texas	1903	1903
Utah	1905	1905
Vermont	1857	1857
Virginia	1912	1912
Washington	1907	1907
West Virginia	1917	1917
Wisconsin	1907	1907
Wyoming	1909	1909

Reprinted from Griots @yahoo.com

Chicago Conference

The 19th Annual Family History Conference, sponsored by the Afro-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Chicago, will be held Saturday, October, 13, 2001, at Olive-Hardy College, 1001 South Woodlawn Avenue. The theme of the conference will be Family History: "My Roots and Yours".

Edward Ball, noted author and lecturer, will be the keynote speaker. His topic will be "**Coming to Terms with White and Black Roots**". Mr. Ball is the author of **Slaves in the Family** and **The Sweet Hell Inside**.

Dr. Robert Starks will speak on "The History and Future of Reparations". Dr. Starks is a professor at Northeastern University and noted journalist.

Mr. Darius Gray of Salt Lake City, Utah, will address the attendees on The Freedman Bank Project.

For those beginning Family research, there will be a session on how to get started. There will be a session on researching in Washington, D. C. Additional sessions to be announced later.

Charge for the conference is \$35 for Society members and \$40 for non-members.

Interested persons may call (773) 548-8401 or e-mail: aaghschgo@aol.com.

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CALENDAR

27 October, San Francisco

The NGS Regional Conference will be a one-day symposium featuring a series of four lectures each by NGS President Curt WITCHER and Cyndi HOWELLS, webmaster and author of "Cyndi's List." The event will be held at the Crowne Plaze Mid Peninsula Hotel in Foster City. Contact the NGS at (800) 473-0060 or at conference@ngsgenealogy.org.

October 27-29, Washington, D.C.

The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) presents its annual conference, The Circle Grows Wider--Embrace Another Link. For additional information, contact AAHGS, PO Box 73086, Washington, D.C. 20056, or visit the website <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdaahgs>>. At least two CAAGS members are on the program.

January 26, 2002 Tucson, Arizona

The Tucson Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) will hold its **11th Annual Meeting**. Featured speakers will be Dr. Harry Lawson, author of the two-volume history of Blacks in Tucson, and Janet Reilly, who will discuss the links between race and architecture. For more information, contact Gloria Smith at Trailstone@aol.com

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August 7-10, 2002 Ontario, California

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the California State Genealogical Alliance (CSGA) will present "...California: a Goldmine of Diversity." Full program details will be announced shortly.

Memory is the treasury and guardian of all things.
Cicero, 80 B.C.

SSDI, RRB HOLD CLUES TO ANCESTORS' HISTORY, JOBS

[Many researchers fail to fully appreciate the information available from either Social Security or Railroad Retirement Board applications. George G. Morgan, writer, lecturer and columnist for Ancestry Daily News, discusses their use in this three-part series.]

Some of the most informative U.S. resources can be records from federally-administered retirement programs' files. These include the Social Security and Railroad Retirement programs, which are similar yet unique unto themselves. Unfortunately, though, many researchers either don't understand them or don't avail themselves of them. Let's explore these two programs a bit and discuss how you can access information from each program's administrators.

The Background of U.S. Retirement Programs

The Great Depression in the United States was devastating to millions of people. The poverty, homelessness, disability, and suffering of persons who were either unable to find work or physically infirm and could not work was dreadful. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration saw the human suffering among the elderly as particularly terrible, and resolved to improve the conditions of this group of persons for the future. Before this time, only veterans were awarded federal old age pensions. However, in a departure from the typical American practice of individuals providing their own financial support, the FDR administration introduced the idea of old age pension benefits. The Social Security Act of 1935 established an old age insurance system into which working individuals contributed a part of their salary as an investment toward their retirement years. Employers also contribute to an individual's Social Security fund, and the government contributes and administers the funds.

While the Social Security system was in the planning and formative stages, the nation's railroad workers and their unions sought a separate retirement and unemployment security

system for themselves. While Social Security would not begin for several years and would not give credit for any service prior to 1937, the railroad employees wanted both credit for prior service and unemployment compensation programs. Legislation was enacted in 1934, 1935, and 1937 to establish a railroad retirement system separate from the Social Security Act of 1935. Under Railroad Retirement provisions, service was credited back to 1936 and rail workers received a somewhat higher benefit than they would have under Social Security. Additional legislation passed in 1974 restructured railroad retirement benefits into two tiers to coordinate them more fully with social security benefits. The first tier is based on combined railroad retirement and social security credits, using social security benefit formulas. The second tier is based on railroad service only and is comparable to the pensions paid over and above social security benefits in other heavy industries. A person who worked in both the railroad industry and in another sector during his or her working career would collect retirement benefits from both Social Security and Railroad Retirement. This is an important fact to keep in mind as we explore the numbering system.

In order to participate in Social Security or Railroad Retirement, people completed an application form known as an SS-5. It is this application form that contains informational gems for which you may have been searching. In later years, persons who were of retirement age who never worked or paid into Social Security applied for Medicare or Medicaid benefits also completed an SS-5 form. A Social Security number was then assigned to the individual and labeled as a Medicare or Medicaid card.

Part 2 will appear in the October newsletter.

California African-American Genealogical Society

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 8442 Los Angeles, California 90008-0442

Editors: F. Stubblefield and J. Thompson ISSN 1083-8937 Vol 13 No. 10 October, 2001

DISCLAIMER: The Editor nor CAAGS assumes any responsibility for articles submitted to the newsletter by its members.
The deadline for all Newsletter articles is the 22nd of each month.

President's Letter

October is Family History Month!!! Thanks principally to the efforts of Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, Pres. Bush has signed legislation which celebrates the efforts of genealogists and researchers across the country. Join in by sharing your research with your family and with others. You might even find some new cousins and expand that family tree.

Show your support for this special "month" by wearing your CAAGS T-shirt or sweatshirt to the meeting later this month. For those that haven't purchased their's yet, they will be available.

This month, the Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for four of our offices. This year, the President, Second Vice President (Membership), Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian will be elected. Please let any of the officers know if you would be interested in one of these positions or would like to nominate someone. This is our organization and it will only be as successful as we all work to make it.

Additionally, don't forget to order your holiday cards and calendars for next year. This is one of our key fundraisers and the proceeds will be used to acquire new equipment.

The first speakers for 2002 are listed on the schedule. Janice Cloud has spoken at Jamboree and is developing a new talk for CAAGS to start the year. Dr. Judith Carney, a professor at UCLA in geography, has just published a seminal work on Rice and its impact in the Americas, particularly South Carolina and Louisiana. Before cotton and Eli Whitney, rice was the major export crop in the colonies. Since more than 60 percent of all African Americans have some connection to South Carolina, the sources and records used will be of interest to many. Other details will be announced shortly.

CAAGS MEETINGS

Martin Luther King United Methodist Church
6625 4th Avenue
(East of Crenshaw Boulevard,
between Gage and Florence Avenues)
Los Angeles, California

20 October 2001

General Schedule

10:00-11:30

Beginning and Intermediate Class
Taught by Marjorie Sholes-Higgins

11:30-12:00

Business Meeting

12:00-12:15

Break

12:30 -1:45

Military Records

Jay C. Wood,

LDS Director of Public Affairs and frequent speaker at NGS, GenTech and FGS conferences, will show us how to locate and use the military records of our ancestors and the Civil War records of the suspected slaveowner.

FUTURE METINGS

17 November

Melrose Bell and Eve Savage, both CAAGS members and researchers at the Family History Center in Los Angeles, will discuss pitfalls and pratfalls of using Census Records.

15 December

Installation of Officers and Christmas luncheon

2002

January Janice Cloud

February Dr. Judith Carney

MEMBER NEWS

BIRTHDAY WISHES!

Gwendolyn Harris
T. Race Headen
Lisa Lee
Joyce Sumbi
Dolores Van Rensalier
Marilyn White
Bobbie Wright

NEW MEMBERS

MARIA SALOME ALEQUIN-SOSA is researching Alequin, Journet, Rodriquez, Torres, and Velez etc. in Puerto Rico.

SHIRLEY DAIGLE-JOHNSON is researching Daigle-Doucet and Daigle-Garrigue from Louisiana.

MYRA-JOY PUGH is researching Pugh.

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Marilyn White marolelaine@utla.net

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Gloria Bryant is the chairperson for October. She can be contacted at (323) 751-8805.

SALT LAKE CITY TRIP

A trip is scheduled for March 21-24, 2002. If you are interested in researching your family in Salt Lake City, Utah, contact Colette DeVerge at 323-933-8381.

CERTIFICATES INCREASE!

The cost of birth, marriage and death certificates in California will increase by one dollar (\$1), beginning 1 November. This statewide hike was required by AB 430, enacted in August.

'What's In A Name...

That elusive ancestress you're seeking may be right under your nose. Sometimes, a record will use a nickname rather than the given name. Listed below are some common variants.

Allie is usually Alice, Aline, or Aletha
Bell is usually Arabella, Annabelle, Isabel, Rosabel, etc.
Cindy is usually Lucinda or Cynthia
Daisy is usually Margaret
Delia is usually Cordelia or Adelia
Dora is usually Theodora, Eudora, or Dorothy
Effie is usually Euphemia (but sometimes Sarah)
Elsie is usually Elizabeth
Fanny is usually Frances
Greta is usually Margaret
Hallie is usually Harriet or Henrietta
Hettie is usually Hester, but sometimes Esther or Henrietta
Jenny is usually Jane, Virginia, Janet, or Jennifer
Lena or Lina is usually a name ending in those letters (Eme-, Se-, He-, Magda-, Pau-, Ange-, etc.)
Lettie is usually Letitia
Libby is usually Elizabeth
Madge, Midge, Meg, Maggie, or Maisie is usually Margaret
Mattie is usually Martha, but sometimes Matilda
May or Maisie is usually Mary
Millie is usually Mildred, but sometimes Amelia or Millicent or even Mary
Minnie is usually Mary
Molly is usually Mary
Nancy is usually Agnes or Ann(e)
Nannie is usually Nancy
Nell is usually Ellen, Helen, or Eleanor
Nora is usually Eleanor, Honora, or Lenore
Patsy is usually Martha or Patricia, but sometimes Matilda or Patience
Peggy is usually Margaret
Polly is usually Mary
Sally or Sadie is usually Sarah
Sukie is usually Susan
Tillie is usually Matilda
Xr is Christopher
Zeke may be Ezekiel, or Hezekiah

Reprinted from GA-Roots at Rootsweb

Book Review

Genealogical Research Leads To New Louisiana Novel

CANE RIVER

By Lalita Tademy

Warner Books, c2001. 416 pp. \$24.95

This is a work of fiction deeply rooted in historical fact. The author was always fascinated with the stories she had been told as a child, of her great grandmother Emily Fredieu, and Emily's mother, Philomene, born slaves on a plantation in Louisiana. As Ms Tademy began her genealogy research, she was able to accumulate an enormous amount of historic lore, legal documents, census records, and family pictures, including finding her great-great-great grandmother Elisabeth, and her daughter Suzette that came before Philomene and Emily. Because some facts often contradicted each other and dates didn't match, she decided to write the story of her ancestors - four generations of strong black women as a novel, creating dialogue to fit real events and fleshing out characters according to what she knew about their real counterparts.

She writes of life on a modest plantation in the Louisiana community called Cane River, where white Creoles, black slaves, and free people of color mixed in an unorthodox version of the extended family. A white man often had two sets of children, one with his wife and another with a slave. This was reflected in the evolving skin color of Tademy's ancestors. "From coffee, to cocoa, to cream, to milk, to lily," she writes, they represented "a conscious and not-so-conscious bleaching of the line."

Tademy does well by her family with her quiet empathy and straightforward prose. Cane River is more a tribute to these strong women who lived for each other and did what they had to in order to keep their families together. Her great great grandfather Narcisse Fredieu, a white French Planter and Emily's father, is described as a "master, consort, father, tormentor and protector. He was often abusive, not with whips and chains, but on an emotional, psychological level. He and Philomene had eight children together. He loved these children and

acknowledged them publicly. However, neither state law nor local custom allowed them to inherit wealth or property, a fact that gives the book much of its narrative drive. What is most powerful in the story is the strength of these women, how they overcame adversity and pain and kept fighting for each new generation to live a better life, despite their own sadness. It explores each of their lives, the men in their lives and their families, from slavery to freedom.

The author has done a fantastic job in recreating her family's history and weaving it into an incredible story. Included in the book are family photos, legal documents, letters, maps of the area and a seven generation family tree.

This is definitely worth reading.

Reviewed by Evelyn Ross
CAAGS Librarian

Note; Ms. Tademy lives in Northern California and is currently working on her next novel. Cane River was selected as the Book-of-the-Month by Oprah Winfrey.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Former President **Ron Higgins** has received the Foubnders Award from the California State Genealogical Alliance (CSGA) for his efforts in helping to organize ~~CAAGS~~ *African American Societies in California*. **Gloria Winston Al-Sarag** was named Board Secretary of the Russell County (ALA) Heritage Committee.

Aiva Griffith's work on Free Blacks of Spottsylvania County, VA, is in its second printing.

Bernadine High Coleman will be featured at the AAHGS "Meet the Authors" luncheon at their conference in Washington.

Celebrate Family History Month

Write an article for your local, regional or national genealogical publication sharing the results of your research or discussing how you solved a problem.

Answers to Mystery May Be Found Next Door

Move beyond the island of your family to the sea of people they interacted with in your research.

By Rhonda R. McClure

When you first begin to research your family, you get that tunnel vision. You concentrate on the names of only those who are on your direct line. You may write down the names of the spouses for the siblings, but you tend to not pay much attention to those names. By doing this, you are actually making your research harder.

One of the best pieces of advice I have ever been given is to look at the names of the others who are living near my ancestors. When working in the census records, pay attention to those who are living in the ten dwellings before and after the house where you locate your family. It is likely that some of these individuals will somehow become connected to your family, possibly through marriage.

But even researchers who may at least glance at those living nearby don't spend much time researching the other surnames that connect to your direct line. Researchers are so intent on taking back their direct line that they overlook

Software and Utilities Sites

Software and utilities are an important aspect of any research project. These URLs will let you preview, sample and download tools to aid in your research. The Legacy program is full featured and the Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) hosts a Legacy Users Group (LUG) meeting each month where you can learn more about this program.

BirthWrite

<http://www.interlog.com/~rmcd/BirthWrite/>

SmartDraw Free!

<http://www.smartdraw.com/specials/charts.asp?id=1103>

Brother's Keeper is a Windows genealogy shareware

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Brothers_Keeper/

Legacy 3.0 is Now Free

<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/>

Reprinted from the Alabama African-American list at Rootsweb

some valuable clues through the spouses and the families of those spouses.

Generally this behavior is one that is learned when first beginning to research your family history. You get so caught up in the researching of your specific family names, that you don't stop to look around. In essence, you don't stop to smell the roses, or in this case to really look at the given record or resource to see what else is included.

In researching my STANDERFER line, which has been one of the more difficult ones, I have been forced to research the spouses' families and the families of those who had any type of dealings with my STANDERFERs, including land transactions. And it was through this extensive research that when I discovered that Benjamin STANDERFER had married a Patsy FULTON, I was able to show where they sold land later on and make the connection to the FULTON family living in Moultrie County, Illinois. The research I had done helped to support my theory that this was indeed my Benjamin with a second marriage.

I am not saying that you need to do this with every line you are working on. However, when you find yourself hitting that brick wall, there are times that extending your research laterally, or sideways, will in the end help you to continue that vertical push back into past generations.

Sometimes just being aware of the other family names is enough. Remember, seldom did a given family just pick up and move on their own. In most cases they went with a group of other people, and the names you saw in Shelby County may be the same names you are now finding in Jefferson County. This can give you an idea of who traveled together and also may give you insight into why they left.

Our ancestors interacted with other families. It may have been through marriage or it may have been through the buying or selling of land. They may have all migrated together to another county or state. By having familiarity with the other surnames, it is sometimes possible to pick up the trail of your ancestor, even when he doesn't always show up in the records.

Reprinted from Family Tree Finders

WHY WE DO GENEALOGY

We are frequently asked why we do our research. The article below was printed in the AAGSNC's newsletter, the Baobob Tree and is an excellent answer.

THE STORY TELLERS.....

We are the chosen. My feelings are in each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve. To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before.

We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called as it were by our genes. Those who have gone before cry out to us: Tell our story. So, we do. In finding them, we somehow find ourselves.

How many graves have I stood before now and cried? I have lost count. How many times have I told the ancestors you have a wonderful family you would be proud of us?

How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say.

It goes beyond just documenting facts. It goes to who am I and why do I do the things I do? It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference and saying I can't let this happen.

The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it. It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish. How they contributed to what we are today. It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family.

It goes to deep pride that they fought to make and keep us a Nation. It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us.

That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them. So we do. With love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are them and they are us. So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take their place in the long line of family storytellers.

That, is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and put flesh on the bones.

(Unknown Author)

Cemeteries May Hold Key To Ancestral Records

by **Rhonda R. McClure**

Cemetery stones offer more than just names and dates.

I suspect that after you have finished reading this issue that you will realize how truly obsessed I am when it comes to any aspect of genealogical research.

Recently as I was traveling, a friend and I went to a cemetery in search of a tombstone for a family tree that I had compiled. As we walked through one section of the cemetery, in search of the particular location of the tombstone, our eyes were drawn to some of the intricate engravings on many of the older tombstones of this particular cemetery. While we did accomplish the initial goal of the trip, we also spent about three hours searching for interesting tombstones, especially those with fraternal organization symbols.

Having written about many of the fraternal organizations for both online and print publications, I have had an interest in this subject for some time. So, it was fulfilling to recognize some of the symbols. Of course, there were some that got me wondering.

As we returned to the place we were staying, it was not surprising that we went online and immediately began searching for sites that would help us with these symbols, to help us answer our questions about what some of the images represented.

We were surprised to find that most of the sites that we could find dealt with acronyms or other abbreviations for the various fraternal sites. One site, though, did go into details about some of

the unique items we discovered, Symbolism: Social and Fraternal Organizations (www.oldercem.bc.ca/grave_art/s_socfrat.html).

While this site originates in British Columbia, many of the symbols mentioned are found on gravestones in the United States also.

Some of the more common symbols we found, and recognized, included-- Three intertwined links -- A sign of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Sometimes the three links include the letters F, L, T inside, which stands for friendship, love, and truth.

-- Square and compass -- This is probably the most recognized sign of the Masons. Often the emblem includes the letter G that represents God and geometry. It is the most sacred of Masonic symbols.

-- A tree stump -- Sometimes includes an axe, this is the symbol for a member of the Woodsmen of the World. Once in awhile you may see a tombstone carved in the form of the sawed-off tree stump, though these are not as common as the emblem carved into a regular tombstone.

There are many other emblems and symbols that you may find carved onto the tombstones of your ancestors. Those symbols may hold the clue to another avenue in your research.

As our day progressed, we simply enjoyed the opportunity to see so many of these different symbols, along with the other emblems found on tombstones that represent things like charity, industriousness, and more. Before we knew it, our afternoon was gone. Both of us agreed that it had been a productive day simply in the experiences of the various symbols we found as we walked that cemetery.

Reprinted from Family Tree Finders

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CALENDAR

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The Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) will present a full day seminar, conducted by Sharon Bartello Carmack, author of several books, including "Guide to Discovering Your Female Ancestors." Prices and location will be announced.

April 13-14 Pasadena, California

The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) will host **Jamboree 2002**, one of the nation's largest genealogical and family history meetings, at the Pasadena Convention Center. CAAGS will be among the exhibitors. For more information, contact SCGS at (818) 843-7262 or at scgs@earthlink.net.

June 14-16, 2002 Sacramento, California

The **Second West Coast African American Genealogical Summit** will feature Reginald Washington, African American Subject Area Specialist with NARA in Washington, DC. Reginald will speak on the Southern Claims Commission, The Freedman's Bureau Records, and other sources available from NARA.

The Radisson Hotel has been selected as the location.

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The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the California State Genealogical Alliance (CSGA) will present "...California: a Goldmine of Diversity." Full program details will be announced shortly.

We cannot rid ourselves of the past without destroying our present and ruining our future.

Henry Wolfson,
American writer

SSDI, RRB HOLD CLUES TO ANCESTORS' HISTORY, JOBS

[Many researchers fail to fully appreciate the information available from either Social Security or Railroad Retirement Board applications. George G. Morgan, writer, lecturer and columnist for Ancestry Daily News, discusses their use in this second of three parts.]

What the Numbers Mean

You may have looked at your Social Security or Railroad Retirement number and wondered what it means. Here's a look at what the three sets of number represent:

First Three Digits: The first three digits of your number indicate where, why, or how it was issued. They may represent the U.S. state in which the applicant applied for and was awarded his or her number. In North Carolina, the numbers range between 237 and 246; in Oregon, they range between 540 and 544. Additional numbers were assigned for other areas. These include those beginning with 574SE and 586SE, which were assigned to Asian refugees applying for Social Security numbers between April 1975 and November 1979. The number 586 is used for American Samoa, Guam, and the Philippine Islands. The range of 900-999 is not valid but has been used for some special state purposes in the past.

The number range 700-728 was reserved for use by the Railroad Retirement Board, and these were used through 1963 for the assignment of new numbers, and then discontinued. This is an important designation. If you know your ancestor had a number beginning with any number between 700 and 728, he or she did work for the railroad at some extended point in time. If he or she drew Social Security retirement benefits, and the number was in this range, he or she also would have drawn Railroad Retirement benefits as well, assuming he or she applied for benefits. You can find a complete list of Social Security number ranges in the book, *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*.

Second Two Digits: The second cluster of numbers, two digits in length, are a code to

help identify fraudulent numbers. These are much like check-sums or check-digits used on many items today. An arithmetic formula is applied to add, subtract, multiply, and/or divide the first group of numbers and one of the digits from the resulting answer is used to verify that the number was keyed correctly or was accurate. (Incorrect check digits in some of these on grocery store products are the most common cause for cash register errors and cashiers to have to do price checks, for example.)

Last Four Digits: The last group of numbers is four digits in length. These numbers are assigned randomly. Contrary to some myths, there is no connection between one's birth date or other data and the last four digits of one's Social Security Number. Social Security Numbers are unique. They are not reused. They apply to the name and history of one individual and his or her employment earnings and benefit amounts.

What Do I Find the Number For My Ancestor?

Because each number is unique, it is an important link to one exact individual's information. If you have the card that belonged to your parent or ancestor with the number printed on it, that's great. However, these do sometimes get lost. There are other places you might locate a card. These include military records, on some voter registration cards, death certificates, divorce papers, income tax returns, credit reports, insurance papers, medical and/or hospitalization records, school records, and others. Use your imagination and consider all the possible alternative places where a Social Security number may have been listed or required.

Note: Part Three, *Obtaining Records*, copies and other sources will appear in the November issue.

Celebrate Family History Month

Recruit a new member for your local genealogical society.

Help a beginner learn how to use the Soundex.

Teach a class on an aspect of your research.

Contribute a book to your library or society.

CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 8442

Los Angeles, CA 90008-0442

ATTENTION: 2ND VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries \$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization \$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Donation \$ _____

Life Membership	
<small>(INDIVIDUALS ONLY - Must Show Proof of Age)</small>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Age 30-40 @ \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> Age 51-64 @ \$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Age 41-50 @ \$400	<input type="checkbox"/> Age 65 (and over) @ \$200

NAME: _____ Birth (MM/DD) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____

HOME: _____ BUSINESS: _____ FAX: _____
(Home/Business)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

WEB SITE: _____

SURNAMES AND LOCATIONS YOU ARE RESEARCHING: _____

SPECIAL SKILLS: _____ OCCUPATION: _____

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as an Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Special Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on a Committee, i.e.,
Fundraising, Black History
Month, Hospitality, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Input of Special
Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write articles/book reviews
for the Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Speakers/Program Suggestions: _____

Fundraising Suggestions: _____

3

BALLOTS
2001

PRESIDENT

- Preside at all meetings of the Society and Executive Committee.**
- Be a member/ex officio of all committee except the Nominating Committee.**
- Be the principal executive officer of the affairs of the Society and shall serve as program chairperson.**
- Call special meeting of the Society and of the Executive Committee.**

NOMINEE _____

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

- Serve as membership chairperson.**
- Receive Membership applications and dues.**
- Send out welcome letters to new members, issue membership cards in the name of the members.**
- Submit monthly reports of membership to the newsletter Editor to facilitate mailings.**
- Maintain membership file.**

NOMINEE _____

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY

- Conduct the correspondence of the Society, Letters of contract, letters of thanks and acknowledgement, condolences, etc.**
- Maintain records of letters received and answered.**

NOMINEE _____

PARLIAMENTARIAN

- Make rulings on procedures in all instances covered or not covered by the Constitution or the Bylaws in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly revised.**

NOMINEE _____