



PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



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HOPE HULL, AL 36043

VOLUME 5, Number 3

JULY 1991

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Vice-President.....	Kerry Brown	281-1413
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	2. J. P. Henry	288-4347
	3. Mary Ann Venable	288-3234

JULY MEETING: July 21, 1991, 2:30 P.M. Place: Pintlala Baptist Church

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT JIM EDWARDS:

The next meeting is to be on July 21 at Pintlala Baptist Church at 2:30PM. Please make your plans to attend. This meeting will be a combination of business and a speaker--carrying on our theme of the Southern War for Independence (The Civil War).

I know all regret the passing of Bill Hawthorne, a charter member. Bill will be missed. His input at Board meetings was of great help and value.

I've heard various comments about not having an organized meeting in April.

I regret that I will not be able to be with you at the July meeting but due to business commitments which I cannot delay I'll have to miss. But the meeting will be in the very capable hands of Ethel Todd.

I'll look forward to seeing you in October.

JIM EDWARDS, President

Our speaker for the coming meeting will be Robert B. "Bob" Bradley, Chief Curator of Collections, Alabama Department of Archives and History. The subject: "Confederate Flags".

BETHEL CEMETERY: On May 18th, the Pintlala Baptist Church had a cemetery clean-up day. The main objective other than clearing the cemetery was to clean the tombstones so each would be readable.

The Bethel cemetery is an ongoing project of PBC with hopes of making the cemetery a well kept place of history for the Pintlala community. Much work is still needed and the church has established a cemetery fund if anyone would like to contribute.

Those helping with the cemetery clean-up this past time: C.D. and Jonnie Clark, Trey Cross, Billy Hargrove, Terry Blackledge, Gary Burton, Andy Dixon and Ed Alford.

#

The members of the Pintlala Historical Association share with Clydetta and Constance Fulmer their tremendous loss of the beautiful and historic building that housed Clydetta's studio - not to mention tools and beautiful statuary. A life-time of love and work gone! It can never be the same, but we are sure that a new studio will be 'rising phoenixlike from the ashes'.

Several years ago MSGT Harold Stancil, U.S. Marine Corps, Montgomery, Al. gave to me a booklet containing excerpts from four diaries kept by Federal Troops with General Wilson's raid through Alabama in 1865. In this Newsletter we are including the first of these diaries. Words and even pages are missing, but they are an interesting commentary on that particular episode of The War. ETT

INTRODUCTION

This diary was kept by Charles F. Hinrichs, Captain, 10th Missouri Cavalry, U. S. Army. Captain Hinrichs came to America from Germany and settled in Cape Girardeau, Missouri as a Store Keeper prior to his enlistment.

His diary begins on 1 July 1863 at Corinth, Mississippi and ends at Atlanta, Georgia, with the last entry on 8 May 1865. Captain Hinrichs diary carries you through actions at Brownsville, Mississippi and Memphis, Tennessee. With expeditions from Vicksburg, Mississippi to St Louis, Missouri and his participation in General Wilson's Raid of North Alabama. He provides an excellent account of his expedition through North Alabama; starting at Gravelly Springs, to Selma and Columbus, Georgia.

This manuscript appears exactly as written with no effort to edit the pages or reconstruct the story from missing pages. The original manuscript from which this was copied belongs to the son of Captain Hinrichs, Mr. A. Lincoln Hinrich of Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

Except for excerpts used in other books, this diary has never before appeared in print.

Special Thanks to Mr. Lincoln Hinrichs and Mary Hinrichs, who very generously permitted me to make a transcript. Also, thanks to Ms Eleanor Smartt and the Marines of the Recruiting Station, Birmingham, Alabama for their assistance in the preparation of this transcript.

TRANSCRIBED BY:

HAROLD STANCIL
GUNNERY SERGEANT, U. S. MARINE CORPS
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
29 JUN 1986

FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS, VOL XLIX, PART I (WILSON'S RAID)

EXCERPTS - SELMA TO COLUMBUS GA

Left Selma 10 Apr - 32 miles
11 Apr - 26 miles
12 Apr - Entered Montgomery

Rpt of Surgeon F. Salter (Medical Div) U.S. Vols.

Apr 10 - 15 miles to Benton and Camped
Apr 11 - Marched 1 mile to Swamp (1 mile long), 13 miles to Lowndesboro from Benton, Camped 18 miles from Montgomery after a march of 18 miles.
Apr 14 - Left Mont., marched 20 miles and camped (42 miles from Mont. to Tuskegee)
Apr 15 - Camped 48 miles from Mont. and 36 miles from Columbus Ga

Rpt of Col Minty, 4th Mich Cavalry

Apr 8 - Marched 7 miles from Selma and Camped
Apr 10 - Camped 2 miles East of Benton
Apr 11 - Marched 12 miles to Big Swamp Creek
Apr 12 - Marched 28 miles and camped within 4 miles of Mont.
Apr 13 - Marched 11 miles passing Mont and camped
Apr 14 - Camped 2 miles east of Capeahatchee Creek having marched 14 miles.
Apr 15 - Marched 22 miles and camped 2 miles east of Tuskegee
Apr 16 - Marched 39 miles - camped 10 miles west of Columbus GA

Rpt of Capt Robinson, 111 Light Artillery

Apr 12 - Camped at Catoma Creek
Apr 13 - Camped 7 miles east of Montgomery.

Rpt of Gen Upton

Apr 10 - Camped at Church Hill, 24 miles from Selma.
Apr 11 - Crossed Big Swamp Creek and camped at Colonel's Harrison's 4 miles E. of Lowndesboro a distance of 12 miles.
Apr 12 - Camped 4 miles east of Montgomery on Columbus Road, a distance of 27 miles.

.....city over 200 rebels found a watery grave in their river and some of our men reported that in a swamp 5 miles from here any number of them were mired down in the mud, he said eleven of them were in one place and laying under their horses feet - a little after dark we again had the bridge completed. The surrounding buildings were fired to give us light. I crossed safely with my company about 10 o'clock p.m. The picture I beheld, beggars, all description, is was one of the damndest imaginable, in front of us was the dark river, with all the bridge crowded, to our right were the burning buildings, to the left were the woods and to the rear were the ruins of the arsenal and other public buildings, part of the walls and the high chimneys stood yet, here were a crowd of negroes of both sexes, of all colors and of all ages, there a crowd of confederate prisoners with their guards and besides the approaching column of mounted men, all of which and everything illuminated by the burning buildings, I cannot describe it, but it was beautiful. We crossed and bade Salem and its 15 miles of breastworks farewell and encamped about 3 miles on the other shore.

Apr 10

Started out about 8 a.m. Major Cooks Division in advance, we passed a very pretty level but treacherous ground, it is very ? in which the ground seems to look perfectly solid, until you tramp on it, when it gives way under your horses feet and you mire down for good. We passed through a little town called Benton, our men had a fight with some 700 rebels, our boys went into them pretty lively with their sabers, and done good work, as the rebels with their broken skulls which layed on the road can testify. One reb was yet alive when we passed but his head was split wide open, and his brains were laying out. We are encamped tonight on a plantation 30 miles west of Montgomery, tomorrow we shall have another fight, 2 horses were abandoned.

NEXT PAGE NOT READABLE

.....just like it wasn't his own at all, and he didn't know anything about it. That gentleman was of the round who opposed our advance, and our boys were after them with their sabers, this accounts for his splitting his own home and family by not calling to see them.

Apr 11

Marched at daybreak but advanced were slowly after marching about 3 miles we came to such a swamp as I have never seen before. A large creek called Big Swamp Creek, runs this side of it. The enemy had taken off the planks. The advance had carried planks from the next plantation and had fixed the bridge, the first brigade had crossed the swamp, but by that time said swamp had become impassable, then Regt. after Regt. were brought up and dismounted. Men had to shoulder a rail from the nearest farm and in this way we

constructed a road clear across the swamp for the train to pass over, the first brigade working from the other side of the swamp. It is a mile and 1/2 and it takes many a rail, and we had to lay them 3 or 4 on top of each other to keep them above the mud. We crossed safely about sunset but were not allowed to cross on the road, as it was filled with the train, but had to take the swamp for it, each one picking his own road, it is the wildest and most dreary looking piece of country I ever beheld, the ground is covered with Palmettos, some of them 8 and 10 feet high. We halted on the other side until the Regt. got over. While we were halted at this place, an old negro came with others from the next plantation to look at the Yankees, when the boys asked him, Lowbo, where is your master, Lowbo said, lord man the last this shield seen of old master, was last Monday, old master was headed down the big swamp, crying all done gone, Selma gone, Richmond gone to; this was the first information we received about the fall of Richmond, we however did not pledge much confidence in this news until we saw it in a Montgomery paper of a late date. We marched until 1 o'clock that night and had to lay down in a swampy place without supper, as our pack train did not come up before 4 o'clock a.m. Lost 3 shelter tents in swamp.

Apr 12

At day break, reveille sounded and we had again to start out without breakfast, I however managed to get a cup of coffee. The country is very picturesque and if it was not for the long rows of negroes strung along the road side it would remind me of my native country in Europe, it is a garden - now and then we saw the weak attempts the enemy had made to oppose and delay our advance, by their hastily constructed fortifications, blockading of the road or burning of bridges and felling of trees across them, but all these obstacles were soon removed and on pressed our victorious army. We heard from negroes that 4 miles from Montgomery on Big Lovel creek the rebels would make a stand and if we whipped them there, they would fall behind their breast works, but when we arrived at said creek, we found the bridge burned and the river obstructed, breastworks erected on the opposite side, but the enemy were not there. After we crossed we heard from another negro that the heart of the enemy had failed them that they had not even stopped behind their breastworks, but had skedaddled for Columbia Georgia, and thereby surrendering, the Capitol of Ala, the first capitol of the Confederacy to our army - I think they better quit if they are not capable to hold a city of 25,000 inhabitants against a small Cavalry squad. We soon came in sight of the city, our division had made detour to the right, to attack on the flank, and therefore we approached the city from the S. West. We put on all the style possible and marched according to regulations - in the fort which we passed I noticed 2 brass pieces, dismounted. The wheels were turned and

a lot of fired ammunition lay destroyed and scattered about. I noticed many forts, all round, but the works are not pertaining to the Selma works - and had they been there they would not have delayed us over an hour, for we would have charged in between 2 forts at 3 or 4 different places and captured or drowned the whole outfit. As it was the town was formally surrendered by the Mayor of the city and the whole force passed through quietly, thousands of citizens particular ladies and old men and negroes of all ages and shades lined the street. To judge by the counts - many of the former, I think they were not very sorry to see their chivalry driven off and their town filled with the scandals from the north, the ladies seemed much pleased and appeared in their Sunday attire, their bright eyes sparkling. Quarter passed 5 o'clock I passed with my command by the Statehouse, a beautiful structure, built in the shape of a cross with a cupola like the the St. Louis Courthouse and a large town clock. It lays on a elevated spot and overlooks the city, the latter is by far the most beautiful I have seen yet. We were brought in camp on the east side of the city about 3 miles from town. When we got in, I was ordered with my Company to go out and forage meat for the Regt., I went out about 2 miles and found plenty of hams hid under a kitchen floor, a negro told the tale, not however until I threaten to hang him.

Apr 13

I received permission to visit the city and report back at 4 p.m. I started at 11 a.m. went to the printing office procured a copy of the latest paper, made the acquaintance of a discharged confed. Capt. Drunk a toast with him - to the Union Forever, went to a barbershop and got a genuine conf. shave, cost \$15.00, boot blacking \$2.00, 2 drinks \$10.00. Went to the boarding house, the first hotel, in which old Jeff. boarded, built and took dinner with Confed. Ladies cost \$10.00, took a cigar \$1.00, took a stroll over the city, admired a beautiful garden, lady asked me whether I would receive a bouquet, told her I would gladly receive a beautiful bouquet of rose flowers and a ripe orange out of her hothouse. The people were very much astonished about the behavior of our men and about the treatment they received from their enemy. They had been led to believe that we were a uncivilized set of barbarians. I saw several Union flags displayed, heard that the Mayor of the city was himself a Union man and that thousands of them were there, but could not risk to display union sentiments until they were assured that our forces would permanently occupy the city, they dreaded old Forrest and said that he would without caring hang every one of them that would show any sympathy towards us. I returned to camp and reported back at 4 p.m., more than ever satisfied that at an early day the confederate bubble would burst.

Apr 14

Started at daybreak skirmishing commenced shortly after

we were fairly on the road, on every crook and corner of the road the enemy would fortify and barricade with rails - give us a volley and fall back, at every plantation we were sure to receive their welcome, our boys however cared but little for their business, but as soon as the enemy fired charged right on them and found their guns strewn all along the road and I learned later that Gen. McCook picked up enough that day to arm a camp of negroes. We passed through a little village called Mount Meigs, and crossed Line creek. We had to ford it, as the enemy had destroyed the bridge. Then crossed the Culyhatchy swamps, it is 2 or 3 miles wide and very mirey, on the other side is Lion creek, a bridge leads over it of 175 steps long, the rebs had no time to burn it, as our boys were on their heels, the negroes said they went by not running, but flying and bareheaded, throwing away their guns as they went, we heard further from a white lady that some of them cried when their Captain tried to rally them for another stand. We had a few of our men killed and wounded, but do not know the loss of the enemy, except some 60 prisoners were taken. Towards night we passed through another little village called Cross Kees, the boys had pretty well gutted the place when we got in, after we had passed through some extensive and most beautiful plantation we again struck a swamp. I don't know the name of it, and don't care for it. We had to cross that swamp on a kind of levy and bridges very dangerous, it was dark as pitch, we had to cross by file, for 2 miles on the other side we came in camp about 1 o'clock at night, we slept in a fresh ploughed field. I went to bed directly as I crossed. It about 2 and 1/2 o'clock a.m. on April 15.

Apr 15

Old Uncle John woke me up and said supper ready. I took it half asleep and rolled over, 4 o'clock a.m. and I was again in the saddle without breakfast. We came to another - I may say the most beautiful town I ever saw, it is far prettier than Selma, it has beautiful gardens, and girls and abundants of them too - The Mayor surrendered the town and we passed quietly through, it is of the size of Cape Girardeau and called Tuskegee. We passed another swamp, found another bridge burned and several more on fire which we extinguished, the Johnnies had't time to do it well old Maj Cook was hard on their tracks. We got a thorough soaking as we had to fare a real southern thunder storm, and I had lost my Pouchoe, we saw here white ladies standing in the rain waving their handkerchiefs and hurrayng for Lincoln. This is the first time that this happened to us, the boys cheered them as we passed. We have made since yesterday morning 60 miles and built many bridge and fixed several miles of road, removed barricades and obstructions of all kinds and whipped the rebels as we went along. We are now encamped within 25 miles of our next objective point - which is Columbus Georgia and the rumor is that within

POST OFFICES - LEGRAND

The application to establish a new post office to be called LeGrand was filed on March 17, 1883 by Charles E. Robertson, proposed postmaster, and certified by C.W. Buckley, the Montgomery Postmaster.

Situated in the SE qtr of Section 28, Township 14, Range 18, Montgomery County, Alabama; near route, two miles west from Montgomery to Troy and Dothan on which mail is now carried three times per week.

The contractors name: H. Wilkins.

Other information supplied by the application form:

Mail will leave present route, intersect route at Ramer.

- * Oakley Post Office will be left out by this change. (Oakley-2 miles in eastern direction)

Nearest Post Office - Ada, its distance four miles in southern direction from proposed office. Snowdown Post Office will be six miles in northern direction.

Proposed office will be $\frac{1}{2}$ miles on west side of Ramer Creek.

The Montgomery Southern RR is about 60 feet away.

Located about sixteen miles from Montgomery, the population to be served will be 350 or 400.

Signed: Charles E. Robertson
March 17, 1883

* Note by compiler:

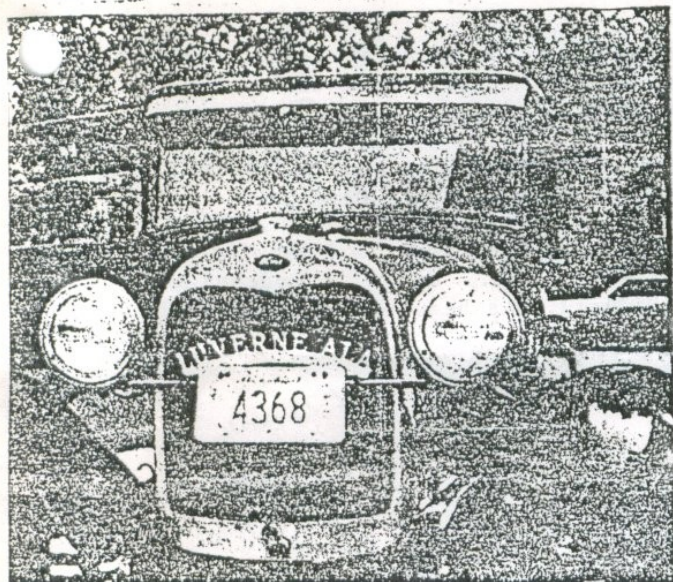
LeGrand P.O. discontinued April 29, 1916

Postmaster:	Date
Charles E. Robertson	April 2, 1883
William J. Robertson	Jan. 24, 1888
William Underwood	Sept. 4, 1890
N/B	Sept. 16, 1895
N/B	Mar. 29, 1900
N/B	Aug. 10, 1904
N/B	Mar. 25, 1908
William L. Fry	Apr. 20, 1912
Discontinued	Apr. 29, 1916
Mail to Snowdown	

LeGrand - Settlement in south-central Montgomery County, 6 miles southeast of Snowdown. Established on the railroad, it was named in honor of Dr. Milton Paul LeGrand (1832-1893), the president of the Montgomery & Florida Railroad.

** Does anyone know where this postoffice was located ?ETT

Where is or was Oakley ?



1928 Ford Tudor Sedan still in mint condition

1928 'A' Ford purchased locally still running in State of Illinois

Ray Goodman, of Lincoln, Illinois, shares a bit of trivia with our readers, and in so doing no doubt kindles a bit of nostalgia about simpler times.

The photo shown is of the 1928 Ford Tudor Sedan which Goodman has kept in mint condition and which he drives around with his children and grandchildren in and around Lincoln. And it is a running advertisement for Luverne, Ala., which the Ford dealer, Ivey Auto Company, attached to the headlight bar across the radiator and which further proclaims "A Good Town in a Good Co."

The car was purchased from the Luverne dealer by Ray's father, Forrest Goodman, for a grand total of \$608.50, broken down on the invoice as follows: One Ford Tudor Sedan No. A-345611; Freight and Delivery Charges, \$79.00; Bumpers \$15.00; Tire and Tube, \$15.00 (probably the spare); and Gas and Oil, \$4.50. The invoice was dated August 31, 1928. A reference to the left of the invoice politely states: "NOTE—Unless a special arrangement to the contrary exists, our terms are CASH on Delivery. Every exception to this rule is a personal courtesy, in return for which prompt settlement of account will be expected."

Ray stated in an accompanying letter that prior to 1934, his family lived in the area just north of Luverne. Ray was born in Rainer and the family later lived in Sprague. His father was a telegraph operator for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad.

The "A" has been in Ray's possession since his father's death in 1974, and he says the car still runs and is in mint condition. He says his children and grandchildren delight in driving "Grandpa's car."

His family moved to northwest Missouri in the fall of 1934 from Jakin, Ga., due to layoffs on the ACL.

Ray says he remembers the Knox McLaney family in Sprague who operated the post office there and the hardware which was not far from the depot on the ACL. "If any of your readers have other memories of our family," concluded Ray, "I would be delighted to hear from them." His address is: Ray Goodman, 503 North Ottawa Street, Lincoln, Illinois 62656.

GARRETT FAMILY: Frank Barnes and Elizabeth Garrett have given for our files information on the Garrett family who were early settlers in this area.

EKWURZEL CEMETERY: Vera Kraus has given us the names of those buried in the Ekwurzel Cemetery near Sprague. The listing was done by Laurie Sanders.

INDEXES: Julianne Hataway has agreed to index our newsletters making past items easier to locate. Thanks, Julianne.

MILL STONE: A search for the mill stone, which was once a marker for Mr. Butler's grave on Butler's Mill Road, is in progress. If you have any information as to the present location of this stone, please notify Ethel T. Todd.

EDGE REUNION: The descendents of Jessie & Annie Smith Edge, great grandparents of Charles Hall, held their annual reunion at the Snowdown Club House on June 29.

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: On May 15, a number of the PHA members gathered at the home of Mamie & Ronald Sellers for a genealogy workshop. In addition to good fellowship, we learned a great deal for, as usual, Mamie is an excellent instructor. Thanks, Mamie, for an informative morning.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: The reason people blame things on previous generations is that there's only one other choice. Doug Larson

CHANGING TIMES: A real oldtimer is one who still thinks that buying on time means getting to the store before it closes. Copied.

IN MEMORIAM:

ANNE CAMMACK McCABE - The members of the Pintlala Historical Association extend their sympathy to the family of Anne Cammack McCabe. Anne was a charter member of PHA and had a deep love for the history of Alabama.

MARY WILKERSON GUY - Our sympathy is extended to Meade Guy and family in the loss of his mother, Mary W. Guy, a former long time resident of Devenport.

BUENA MAE DUNCAN SELLERS - Our sympathy goes out to the family and many friends of Buena Mae Duncan Sellers, a charter member of PHA. Her life touched and influenced many. Her nephew, Andrew Briggs Dillard, has begun a biography to be placed in our files.

Mrs. Carolyn Dunn
Rt. 1, Box 350A
Hope Hull, AL 36043

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Pintlala Historical Association
c/o Pintlala Public Library
175 Federal Road
Hope Hull, AL 36043

\$5.00 registration fee + \$8.00 annual dues.
Note: All members of a household are included.

Mr., Mr. and Mrs., Mrs., Ms. _____

Other household members: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (home) _____

(office) _____

Interest Areas: _____

If you are interested in genealogy please indicate family surnames _____