



# PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



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October 1990

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OCTOBER MEETING: October 21, 1990

Pintlala Baptist Church

## NOTES FROM PRESIDENT JIM EDWARDS:

Our October meeting will be a very important one; election of Officers for the coming year, so let's all make our plans to be at this meeting. Kerry Brown will give an update on our Winter meeting which will be a dinner meeting, something special and different from our usual Sunday afternoon meeting.

I wish to thank Mrs. Jane Weeks, Executive Director Alabama Indian Commission for the very informative program at our July meeting.

Reflecting back at events that have taken place since we last met: The situation in the Gulf is on all our minds. I know some of you have friends or relatives who are now standing in harm's way. These events that shake the world and make everlasting marks on our history is the reason organizations like the Pintlala Historical Association must exist. It is up to us to preserve these events and actions associated with them so future generations will know the truth. Remember our gallant heroes in your prayers--if war does break out it will not be like Pearl Harbor or Korea. It will be Hi-tech, a war controlled by computers so let's all pray for peace.

If you have something of interest get it to the Newsletter so everyone can enjoy it.

Look forward to seeing all of you.

JIM EDWARDS, President

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## GUEST SPEAKER:

Pintlala Historical Association welcomes JAMES T. (TOMMY) BLACK, Associate Travel Editor with Southern Living Magazine, as our featured speaker in October. Tommy has deep roots here as he grew up in LeGrande, the son of Joyce and Jim Black, and graduated from South Montgomery County Academy. That school points with pride to Tommy and his accomplishments. His articles are featured in Southern Living regularly, the latest being "Dawn to Dusk on the Blue Ridge Parkway" in the Travel South section of the October issue. In September he wrote about "Kentucky's Horse Kingdom", a horse lover's heaven near Lexington. In the August issue, "The Battle Returns to Mobile", describes the re-enactment of the Civil War Battle of Mobile Bay at Ft. Morgan. Then in a nostalgic mood he writes his "Memories of the Miracle

GUEST SPEAKER: - (Con't)

Strip". Tommy reminds those who, in their younger days, made the annual trek to Panama City and other Gulf Coast points, and us, who were reluctant chaperones, of the similarities and differences of then and now. A picture of Tommy and other members of the staff can be found above the "Life at Southern Living" section in the August issue and his subject for our October meeting will be "Life at Southern Living Magazine". We welcome James T. (Tommy) Black as he returns to familiar territory proving you can go home again.

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ALABAMA INDIANS

At our July meeting Mrs. Jame Weeks, Executive Director of the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission, was a most dynamic speaker. Among the interesting facts that she shared were these:

1. There are more than 165,000 persons in Alabama who acknowledge that they have Indian heritate (1980) census). This is more than the entire Indian population of the Southeast prior to its removal to Indian Territory in the nineteenth century.

2. Alabama is the only state in the southeast in which all five of the major tribes (Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, Cherokees, and Seminoles) lived before Indian removal.

3. Alabama presently provides special instructional and cultural programs for more than 10,000 Indian children enrolled in twelve school districts throughout the state. These programs bring more than \$1,000,000 in Federal funds to the twelve districts that operate Indian education programs.

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A WISH BOOK

Have you seen the Sears, Roebuck & Company catalogue which was given PHA by Mr. J.D. Ryals? It can be found in the Library, a poignant reminder of the "good ole days" and oh, those prices! Unbelievable.

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OLD-TIME RECIPE FOR WASHING CLOTHES -

1. Build a fire in the back yard to heat a kettle of rain water.
2. Set tub so smoke won't blow in eyes if the wind is pert.
3. Shave one hole cake of soap in the bilin' water.
4. Sort things. Make three piles. One pile, white; one pile, cullard; one pile, britches and rags.
5. Stir flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down the bilin' water.
6. Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, then bile. Rub cullard but don't bile, just rench and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broomstick, then rench, blew, and starch.
8. Spread tee towels on grass.
9. Hang old rags on fence.
10. Pore rench water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. Turn tub upside down.
13. Go put on cleen dress, smooth hair with side comb, brew cup of tee, set and rest and rock a spell and count blessings.

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Copied.



#### BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH

Mrs. David A. Boyd has given to Pintlala Historical Association two beautiful and fragile Books of Minutes of Bethesda Baptist Church. The first dates from 1852-1881; the second, 1881-1914. Catherine Sellers has done a masterful job of writing a history of Bethesda based on these minutes. Lurline Hall is typing Catherine's history so that it will be available in the files for study by those interested. A copy will be sent to Archives. We will print this history in our Newsletter as space permits.

Three interesting items from the Minutes: (Dec. 2nd, 1865) "Called for matter of Discipline, under this head Sister Niblet was presented to the church for dancing and saying that she would not live in the church and wanted it to turn her out. Brethren Murrah and Noble were appointed as a committee to wait on her". (Nov. 15th, 1868) A charge of injustice and unchristian conduct towards a brother being brought against Bro. C. Murrah and the charge sustained he was excluded". ????? Could this be the same Bro. Murrah who waited on Sister Niblet???? (Sept. 14, 1878) "----- it was made known to the church that Bro. Simeon May had been guilty of using profane Language." ????? What would these good people do about today's writings and television????

#### BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH

by Catherine Sellers

No accurate record was kept of a church, a member of the Alabama Baptist Association, established by \_\_\_\_\_ Howard and Matthew Bishop on the 4th day of September, 1851 at Ada, Alabama until May 22, 1852, when J. R. McLendon was elected to serve as the first clerk. He held this position until August, 1854 when he resigned because of health problems.

Several interested persons were able to list the names of Charles Murrah, Rebecca Murrah, Wm G. Waller, Emily M. Waller, Mary Niblet, Elizabeth Ringstaff and Rachel Hill, the nine Charter members, including Mr. Howard and Mr. Bishop.

The first Conference of Bethesda Church met on Saturday, May 22, 1852 and agreed to convene monthly. It was recorded there was no suitable house wherein to worship God, so the Moderator, J. S. Holmes, a Missionary of the Alabama Association, was appointed to draw the dimensions of a house of worship. He was given the power to get up suitable subscriptions to be given to proper individuals for the purpose of asking pecuniary aid. The purpose of the June meeting would be to provide for better accommodations for the congregation.

The conferences met for two or three days. At the monthly conference meetings there was always preaching and the door of the church was opened for reception of members. Names of those uniting with the church were recorded in the minutes of the business transactions. Those uniting by experience received the ordinance of baptism and others were placed under the watchcare of the church until letters were received. At the conference delegates to the Alabama Association were appointed. They were called messengers. They took with them a letter from the church conference with a small offering, usually \$1.00 or \$1.50 for the minutes and a small donation for Domestic Missions. While convened in conference suitable resolutions or an obituary was drawn up by the minister in testimony of love for a departed member to be included in the book of minutes and a copy to the family. This was not always recorded, but a number of deaths are included in the minutes. After the services the door of the church was opened for the benefit of the blacks and their names are listed separately on the roll with names of their owners. The first black name recorded in August 1852 was Largetto who joined at the same time her owner, Mrs. M. Cone, became a member. Other very early colored members were: Benjamin, property of Mrs. Emily Waller; Ned, who had been a member of a Baptist Church in South Carolina, property of John Bell; Tida, property of the Niblets; and Nelson,



property of E. Barnes. In the years 1856-1857 William P. van Duveer owned nine of the slaves who were members. He owned 83 acres of land in Sprague, now the property of the McLaney family.

References were called for at each conference. This is when charges were brought against members. A committee would be appointed to wait on the accused and they would report at the next conference. Often the accused member would be present to confess to or deny the charges. Most common charges were absenteeism for three consecutive conferences, indulgence in excess spiritmans liquors, gambling, profanity, dancing, adultery or simply walking disorderly. If the accused person or the committee could make satisfactory acknowledgements he or she could continue a member. If the charge was sustained, and it was quite often, the church withdrew her fellowship from that member. The Clerk wrote, "This small and young vine, Although planted in the Wilderness, continued to grow gradually under the Pastoral care of Rev. J. S. Holmes." Some of the early additions to the roll include Noble, Robertson, Cone, Butler, Naftel, Foster, Carr, Sharp, Mosely, Jones and Matthews.

Joseph Foster was an early settler from Georgia who settled in the neighborhood known as Sankeyville. He was a good business man who operated a plow and wagon factory in connection with his farm. He won respect with his fellow men and was an influential leader in the Baptist Church. He married a Miss Daniel, sister of Mrs. W. D. Sankey. He died in 1863 and is buried in the Sharp Cemetery. They were the parents of nine children; three sons and six daughters.

At the March Conference in 1854, J.S. Foster and C.R. Waller were appointed to obtain a deed for the land needed to secure a permanent location for this church which had been established by the Alabama Baptist Association. It was constituted as Bethesda Baptist Church in May 1854. It was at this time that the following constitution was adopted:

- (1) We will be styled and known as the Bethesda Baptist Church.
- (2) We agree to keep ourselves with a regular ministration of the word by a Minister of our Faith and Order, who shall be in good standing.
- (3) We will observe the ordinances of God's word as contained in the Gospel of Christ, viz: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- (4) We agree to watch over each other for good and thus bear each other's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- (5) Every member shall be at liberty to contribute or not to the support of the various Benevolent institutions now in operation in our denomination. Any member may or may not attach him or herself to any or all of said institutions and in either case there shall be no loss of fellowship.
- (6) None of the following institutions, viz: Bible Tract, Temperance Societies, State Conventions, non-Sabbath School, shall become a church duty to support, except by the free will offering of each individual member.
- (7) This constitution may be amended or altered at any time by two-thirds of the membership voting for amendment or alteration.

There was strict adherence to the fourteen Rules of Decorum that had been approved at the January meeting in 1854. In February the church voted to adopt The Declaration of Faith which was adopted by the Alabama Association in 1850.

The minutes do not record when the church was built. The building committee, Joseph Foster, C.R. Waller and Volney Noble, was appointed in September, 1852 and on May 26, 1855, Volney Noble was appointed to take the old subscription list and endeavor to collect the money due so that the house may be paid for.

Mr. Noble parades across the pages of history of Bethesda Church nobly. He and his family moved into the community from Pike Road in a house he had built by a contractor. This lovely home, one of the finest in its day, was just south of the LeGrande Intersection, Hwy 331, on property now owned by Gloria Williams.



He joined Bethesda Church by transfer of letter May 22, 1852. He represented the church at numerous meetings of the Alabama Association and often he was appointed to wait on the accused members, indicating the good character of this man, the great-grandfather of Margaret R. Chambless, Hilda R. Smilie, Jesse R. Fowler and Ernest Reynolds. He, his wife, Emily, and other members of his family are buried in Bethesda Cemetery at Ada, south of Underwood's store. Margaret, in a dedicated effort to fulfill a wish of her mother, Elizabeth Sealy Reynolds, has had the Noble burial plot fenced in and it is in excellent condition.

She is responsible for having the attractive Bethesda Cemetery sign erected marking the only sentinel that remains where once her ancestors and others worshipped God when hardships existed that we of this generation never experienced. The need for other interest in the care and upkeep of this cemetery is great.

On a Sabbath Day, May 18, 1854, Bethesda Church communed for the first time, never having been prepared for it before. Apparently furnishings were not complete for this divine observance at that time because money was collected at the February Conference in 1860 for the Sunday School and a Sacrament table.

The Vine in the Wilderness referred to by Mr. Foster seems to have experienced additional growth. At the May Conference in 1858, the church saw the need to enlarge the building so there was a twenty foot addition to the end of the present structure and the church debt for this construction project was liquidated by March 25th.

In June 1855, the Conference members present voted to alter the 6th Article of Decorum so not only the Pastor but the members had the privilege of extending the right hand of fellowship to those who may join the church by letter or voucher.

Another note of interest in February 1855 is recorded when Joseph Foster expressed concern because some members had purchased tickets to So. Military Academy. He regarded this as none other than gambling and should not be tolerated by the church. The church ascertained his views but no action was taken by the church.

Elder John W. Orme served as pastor for seven years - 1878-85. It is interesting, as Laurie Sanders states in her excellent report on Montgomery County Post Offices, to see so many surnames of early Christian leaders in the postal records also. In 1881 he signed a request for the establishment of a post office which was known as Pugh #1 and served 200 people. John W. Orme was postmaster from March 7, 1881 until September 4, 1884. On July 29, 1887, The Montgomery Advertiser carried the news of his death. "News reached here yesterday of the death of the Hon. J.W. Orme at his home in the lower part of this county Wednesday night after a long illness. He was a good man and good citizen, a successful farmer and Baptist preacher. He represented Montgomery county in the 1882-83 session of the General Assembly and made a useful member. He will be buried near his home with Masonic honors."

Protracted meetings were conducted frequently and at that time many were converted and added to the fellowship of the church.

Osborn R. Bell came to Alabama about 1851 traveling over land by the popular mode of transportation, wagons, bringing with him his wife, Anne, three sons and a daughter, together with his farm implements and his slaves settling on what became known as the Bell Plantation at Ada. Soon afterwards he placed his membership by voucher in Bethesda church and his wife, Anne, joined by experience June 24, 1860. He was very active in supporting the church and was ordained as a Deacon in 1862 and served as clerk for a number of years. Anne, mother of N.J. Bell, died in 1867 and is buried at Ada. Osborn was still active in the church in 1882. He later moved to Clanton, Alabama, where he remarried. He is buried in Clanton.

Other influential members worshipping within the simple walls of Bethesda Church in the late 50's and 60's include : Walters; McLendon; Leonard; Johns; Bradley; W.S. Barton, Pastor 1866-67; J.L. Sampey, Pastor 1867; and Moseley.  
(to be continued)



## BUCK'S POCKET

In our last Newsletter we mentioned Buck's Pocket, the haven for defeated politicians. Mr. Ira Holt, Campground Manager, Wind Creek State Park, has sent the following interesting information on the name and political significance of Buck's Pocket:

Origin of the Name - As there are several legends as to how Buck's Pocket got its name, one of the most interesting has to do with the Cherokee Indians. Prior to any written history a family of Cherokee Indians lived in the cliffs of what is now called Buck's Pocket. They were a happy family living and hunting in the secluded canyons of Sand Mountain. One day a young brave was tracking a large buck deer on the canyon rim. The buck was immense in size and would have been prized by any hunter of today. The buck was very elusive and it was days before the young brave could track him into sight. As the canyons of Buck's Pocket form a rock overlook separating two canyons with cliffs of over 100' on each side, the young brave felt confident in his anticipated forthcoming prize. He managed to herd this big buck out to the point of the overlook. As each faced the pending situation the young brave withdrew his knife and eased forward. The big buck lowered his antlered head and lunged at the brave just as he ducked to escape the antlers. The brave buried his knife deep within the deer as he passed. The deer lost his footing and fell the 100' to his impending death. From this time on the pocket area located on Sand Mountain has been referred to as Buck's Pocket.

Another Legend - During the closing years of the 1800's a man by the name of Buck Henry used to own cattle and open graze them in the pocket area. As many a visitor would come by his house during his absence it became general knowledge that Buck was in his pocket with his cattle.

Politics of Buck's Pocket - The "Pocket" as it is sometimes referred gained political significance during the early "Big Jim" Folsom political years. The "Pocket" became known as the "Haven For Defeated Politicians" when after an election defeat "Big Jim" invited all other defeated candidates to join him at Buck's Pocket to mourn their defeat and plan their political strategy for the next four years.

Another View - An article entitled "Alabama's Pocket of a Park", in the October 1990 issue of Southern Living Magazine gives some other items of interest about the "pocket". "Creek and Cherokee tribesmen stalked game through the canyon. Moonshiners sought its seclusion to ply their trade hidden from federal revenue agents," states Southern Living. And "Another (legend) says a man nicknamed 'Buck' hid there to avoid the draft during the Civil War" is offered for the origin of the name, which like the park itself is hidden in the shadows.

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## TAX RECORDS

Mamie Sellers has been transcribing early tax records for this area from microfilm at Archives & History. A map is included in the first section of these records which we are reproducing. It is interesting to note that parts of T. 13 & 14, R. 17 & 18 was called Rives Beat. It seems that this was at one time called Killough. Many of these early names are not familiar. If anyone knows about what happened to these people, it would be an interesting addition to this information. We will include 1859 records and Butler's Mill Beat in our next Newsletter. This information will be on file in the Library.

1852 AND 1859 ALABAMA TAX ASSESSMENTS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

RIVES BEAT  
Real Estate

The tax assessment records for 1852 Montgomery County, Alabama are on microfilm (M448, Reel 1) at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Copies made from the microfilm are in the Pintlala Historical Association files at the Pintlala Library. These records show the owner of the real estate, the description of the property, total number of acres, value and the amount of Alabama real estate tax owed. The tax was \$.20 per \$100 property value. There is a companion tax record showing personal property tax assessments which included such items as number of slaves, horses, buggies, clocks, jewelry etc.

Rives' Beat included owners of property in Range 17, Township 14, and the Western sections of R. 18, T. 14. Since the Rives family is not listed as an owner of property in this record the location of the Rives plantation for which the beat is named is not shown. In 1842, George M. Rives wrote the following will which is recorded in Montgomery County Will Book 2, p 287.

"Tuesday, Sept. 13, 1842. I leave this day for the Talledega springs. Should I not return I give my Pintlala plantation to my mother, Amy Rives."

Signed: Geo. M. Rives; Witnessed: Wm. H. Rives, Christopher Rives, John McClaskin. The will was admitted to probate March 25, 1844. Montgomery County marriage records show that Christopher Rives married Penelope Shackelford Aug 11, 1844 and Theodosia W. Shaw, April 23, 1848.

The following data was transcribed from the microfilm copies by Mamie M. Sellers, August 1990. The names are in the same order as they appear in the record and spellings are as recorded. Only the section numbers of the land have been included but the record contains the legal description as well so those who are interested in a more exact location of the property may refer to the microfilm or to the copies at the library.

? - Refers to an entry which was difficult to read.

\* - An asterisk preceding a name refers to notes following the data.

The last three columns are total acreage, total value and tax owed.

| 1852 Ala. Real Estate Tax Assessment, Rive's Beat, Montgomery County |                              |                  |       |                |
|--|------------------------------|------------------|-------|----------------|
| Anderson, Elijah   | r17, t13, s8                 |                  | 200a  | \$ 600 \$ 1.20 |
| Anderson, Elisha   | r17, t14, s27,28,32          |                  | 160a  | \$ 320 \$ .64  |
| Bonham, John   | r17, t14, s20,21,22          |                  | 560a  | \$1800 \$ 3.60 |
| Barnes, Green  | r18, t14, s29                |                  | 40a   | \$ 100 \$ .20  |
| Burnley, John H.   | r18, t14, s20,21             |                  | 200a  | \$1000 \$ 2.00 |
| Bussy, Elizabeth   | r17, t14, s26                |                  | 40a   | \$ 240 \$ .48  |
| Burnley, Josiah  | r18, t14, s8                 |                  | 160a  | \$1120 \$ 2.24 |
| Bowen, Averis  | r18, t14, s16,17,20,21       |                  | 440a  | \$2200 \$ 4.40 |
| Brewer, Eli  | r17, t14, s4                 | r17, t15, s(na)  | 81a   | \$ 810 \$ 1.62 |
| Bigler, Martin   | r17, t14, s20,28,29          |                  | 480a  | \$1200 \$ 2.40 |
| Bullard, David A.  | r18, t15, s9,16              |                  | 240a  | \$ 960 \$ 1.92 |
| *Bozeman, Jesse  | r17, t14, s4                 | r17, t15, s27,28 | 938a  | \$7505 \$15.01 |
| Burnley, Samuel E.   | r18, t14, s9,17              |                  | 540a  | \$3240 \$ 6.48 |
| Brantley, Elizabeth  | r17, t14, s15,21             |                  | 200a  | \$ 600 \$ 1.20 |
| Beach, Mary S.   | r17, t14, s33                | r17, t13, s (na) | 220a  | \$1320 \$ 2.64 |
| Carr, Mary   | r18, t15, s19,27,28,29,30,31 |                  | 1120a | \$6000 \$12.00 |
| Cook, James W.   | r17, t14, s19,30             |                  | 200a  | \$ 700 \$ 1.40 |
| Capps, Adam  | r17, t14, s8                 |                  | 240a  | \$1200 \$ 2.40 |
| Carver, Robert   | no description               |                  | 40a   | \$ 125 \$ .25  |
| Carter, Thomas   | r17, t14, s3,4               | R17, t15, s34    | 526a  | \$5260 \$10.52 |
| Callaway, John B.  | r17, t14, s1,6               | r18, t14, s6     | 440a  | \$4400 \$ 8.80 |



|                             |                           |                        |         |         |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|
| Callaway, David (Estate)    | r17. t14. s2,3,4,10,11    | 748a                   | \$7840  | \$15.68 |
| Daniel, William A.          | r17. t14. s13,24          | 240a                   | \$1920  | \$ 3.84 |
| Daniel, James               | r18. t14. s7,16,18        | 480a                   | \$3000  | \$ 6.00 |
| Falkner, James              | r17. t14. s31             | 160a                   | \$ 480  | \$ .96  |
| Gregg, Elisha               | r17. t15. s28,33          | 129a                   | \$ 645  | \$ 1.2  |
| Holmes, Henry               | r17. t14. s10,11,14,26,27 | r17. t13. s14 1764a    | \$14112 | \$28.22 |
| Horne, John                 | r17. t14. s22             | 160a                   | \$ 800  | \$ 1.60 |
| Hammack, Mary               | r18. t14. s8              | 80a                    | \$ 400  | \$ .80  |
| Hays, William C.            | r18. t14. s5,6,7,8        | 217a                   | \$1736  | \$ 3.47 |
| Jeter, Augustus             | r14. t14. s22             | 200a                   | \$ 800  | \$ 1.60 |
| Jernigan, William           | r17. t14. s25,36          | 280a                   | \$1120  | \$ 2.24 |
| Jackson, Sidney W.          | r17. t14. s13,19,30       | 125a                   | \$ 500  | \$ 1.00 |
| Jones, Alfred               | no description            | 320a                   | \$1600  | \$ 3.20 |
| Jeter, Jesse (for D.Haines) | r17. t14. s33,34          | 320a                   | \$ 800  | \$ 1.60 |
| Linthacum, Chas. S.         | r18. t14. s8              | 80a                    | \$ 500  | \$ 1.00 |
| Lee, Mrs. Jane              | r17. t15. s22             | 80a                    | \$ 240  | \$ .48  |
| Munay, H.M.                 | r18. t14. s5              | r18. t15. s32 400a     | \$3200  | \$ 6.40 |
| Matthews, Charles I         | r17. t14. s35,36          | 240a                   | \$1000  | \$ 2.00 |
| Mason, William J.           | r17. t14. s9,10           | 360a                   | \$2160  | \$ 4.32 |
| McQueen, Daniel             | r17. t13. s6              | 80a                    | \$(na)  | \$(na)  |
| *Mosely, A.W.               | r17. t14. s29,30          | 440a                   | \$1320  | \$ 2.64 |
| *Moon, William A.           | r17. t14. s32             | 40a                    | \$ 120  | \$ .24  |
| *Oliver, Saml. P. Estate    | r17. t14. s1,12           | r18. t13. s1,2 1450a   | \$7250  | \$14.50 |
| Owens, Mary Ann             | r18. t14. s8              | 80a                    | \$ 480  | \$ .96  |
| Oliver, Thomas W.           | r17. t15. s25,26,36       | 520a                   | \$3640  | \$ 7.28 |
| Oliver, Mildred S.          | r18. t15. s31             | 440a                   | \$3960  | \$ 7.92 |
| Porter, Vincent R.          | r17. t14. s23,26          | 500a                   | \$2100  | \$ 4.20 |
| *Parmer Josiah              | r17. t14. s19,20,29,30    | 913a                   | \$2200  | \$ 4.40 |
| Pettis, George W.           | r17. t14. s34             | 120a                   | \$ 360  | \$ .72  |
| Parmer, P.B.                | r17. t14. s5              | 200a                   | \$ 600  | \$ 1.20 |
| Parmer, William             | r17. t14. s4,5,17,20,28   | 824a                   | \$2472  | \$ 4.94 |
| Pettis, John                | r17. t14. s24             | 80a                    | \$ 240  | \$ .48  |
| Robertson, John H.          | r17. t14. s24             | R18, T14, S19 240a     | \$1440  | \$ 2.88 |
| Robbins, Hardy H.           | r18. t14. s8,17           | 220a                   | \$1540  | \$ 3.08 |
| Sankey, William D.          | r18. t14. s17,18,19,20    | r17. t14. s22,36 840a  | \$5280  | \$10.56 |
| Sankey, Dr. John T.         | r17. t14. s1,36           | 120a                   | \$ 300  | \$ .60  |
| Sankey, James C.            | r18. t14. s19             | 40a                    | \$ 240  | \$ .48  |
| *Sanderson, Almand?         | r17. t13. s3              | r17. t14. s13,30. 527a | \$1581  | \$ 3.16 |
| Shackleford, Annette        | r17. t14. s8,9,16,17,21   | 1760a                  | \$14080 | \$28.16 |
| Thompson, John              | r17. t14. s4              | r17. t15. s (na) 81a   | \$ 810  | \$ 1.62 |
| Todd, Harriet E.            | no description            | 40a                    | \$ 240  | \$ .48  |
| *Wigginton, H.B.            | Adm. Est. of Jebel Stokes | No assessment          |         |         |
| Wilson Delilah              | r18. t14. s20             | 200a                   | \$1000  | \$ 2.00 |
| Willis, Rachel              | r17. t14. s31,32          | r17. t13. s 5,6 233a   | \$ 700  | \$ 1.40 |

- \* Bozeman, Jesse also owned land in r17. t15. s32,33,34
- \* Mosely, A.W. also owned 3 town lots in Montgomery valued at \$300. \$.60 tax.
- \* Moon, William A. tax paid by A.W. Mosely
- \* Oliver, Saml. P (estate) also owned land in r18. t13. s6,18,34: r 19, t 13, s6,7: 6 town lots in Montgomery valued at \$5900. \$11.80 tax.
- \* Parmer, Josiah also owned 3 town lots in Montgomery valued at \$2000. \$4.00 tax
- \* Sanderson, Almand also owned land in r17. t14 s31 and r17. t19, s31



The 1859 Alabama real estate tax assessment for Rive's Beat 1859 is found on microfilm (M448, reel 2). The list appears to be complete alphabetically but we do not know why it is so short. The total acreage shown includes about half of the total acreage which would have been considered if the entire r17, t14 township were included. The possibility exists that some of the landowners had been assigned to another beat. Further research will be needed to determine if this was the case.

We did notice that there had been some consolidation of landholdings into some larger plantations and that the appraisal of the land was generally higher than in 1852.

1859 Ala. Real Estate Tax Assessment, Rive's Beat, Montgomery County

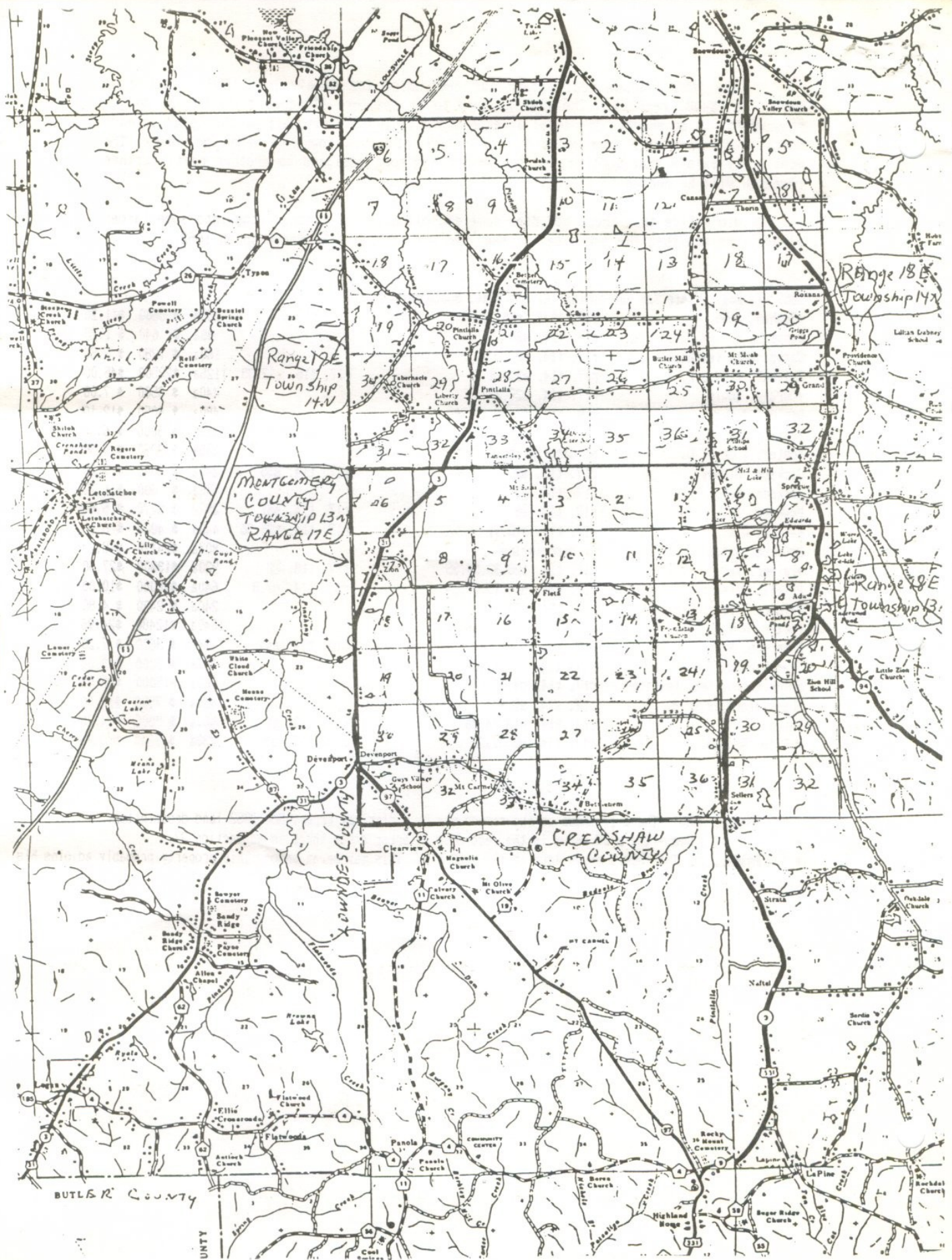
|                            |                        |                  |       |         |         |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------|---------|---------|
| *Bonham, John              | r17, t17?, s20,21,22   |                  | 560a  | \$ 5600 | \$11.20 |
| Capps, L.W.                | r17, t14, s28          |                  | 80a   | \$ 640  | \$ 1.28 |
| Capps, Adam (estate)       | r17, t14, s8           |                  | 160a  | \$ 1280 | \$ 2.56 |
| Caiten?, Thomas R.         | r17, t14, s3,4,8       | r17, t15, s22,33 | 1125a | \$22500 | \$45.00 |
| *Durden, Edwin             | r17, t14, s27,37?      |                  | 440a  | \$ 3500 | \$ 7.00 |
| Daniel, James              | r18, t14, s7,16,17,18  |                  | 480a  | \$ 6050 | \$12.10 |
| Poster, Jas. F.            | r17, t14, s31,36       |                  | 320a  | \$ 3000 | \$ 6.00 |
| Foster, I or J. O.         | no description         |                  | 255a  | \$ 2250 | \$ 4.50 |
| Jackson, Sidney            | r17, t13, s2           | r17, t14, s35    | 240a  | \$ 3600 | \$ 7.20 |
| Jackson, B.F.              | r17, t14, s30          |                  | 76a   | \$ 600  | \$ 1.20 |
| McQueen, T.G.              | r17, t13, s6           | r17, t14, s31    | 297a  | \$ 2770 | \$ 5.54 |
| Mathis, C.I.               | r17, t13, s10,11       | r17, t14, s35,36 | 440a  | \$ 4000 | \$ 8.00 |
| McGehee, James             | no description         |                  | 804a  | \$24120 | \$48.24 |
| *Palmer, Wm.               | r17, t14, s28,33,34,35 | rt7, t13, s2     | 920a  | \$13800 | \$27.60 |
| Powell, Peter              | r17, t14, s12,13,33,34 | r18, t14, s7,8   | 640a  | \$10000 | \$10.00 |
| Palmer, P.B.               | r17, t14, s33,34       |                  | 240a  | \$ 2400 | \$ 4.80 |
| Porter, V.R.               | r17, t14, s23,25,26    |                  | 1040a | \$12480 | \$24.96 |
| Roberson, M.N.             | r17, t14, s24          | r18, t14, s19    | 240a  | \$ 3600 | \$ 7.20 |
| Shackleford, G.W.          | r17, t14, s16,17,21    |                  | 385a  | \$ 5000 | \$10.00 |
| Shackleford, Geo. (estate) | r17, t14, s9,16,17.    |                  | 960a  | \$15000 | \$30.00 |
| Shackleford, F. or H.      | r17, t14, s8,9         |                  | 480a  | \$ 7500 | \$15.00 |
| Sankey, J.T.               | r17, t14, s13,24,36    | r17, t13, s1     | 480a  | \$ 7000 | \$14.00 |
| Willis, Rachael            | r17, t14, s5,31,32     | r17, t13, s6     | 230a  | \$ 1840 | \$ 3.68 |

\* Bonham, John - The t 17 shown in the record may be a clerical error. See 1852 land description.

\* Durden, Edwin - The s 37 shown in the record is an error since there is no section 37.

\* Palmer, Wm. The record shows land in r17, t23 s 3. This may be an error. This property probably adjoins his land in r17, t13, s2.







## FIRSTS IN ALABAMA

First surveyor of public lands in Alabama was John Coffee, Andrew Jackson's "right arm," in the War of 1812.

First common school system established in the Cotton States was in Alabama.

First diploma issued to a woman by any chartered educational institution authorized to confer degrees was in Alabama.

First submarine in the world - the *Hundley* - was built in Mobile.

First European expedition on Alabama soil was led by DeSoto, 1540.

First volume of reports of a Supreme Court in the U.S. (for Connecticut) was compiled and published by Alabama's Ephriam Kirby.

First apparatus used in the U.S. for demonstration of the X-ray was constructed at Auburn by Prof. A.F. McKissick.

First department of Archives and History in the U.S. established in 1901 in Alabama.

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## POST OFFICES (con't from Laurie Sanders research)

MOUNT CARMEL - Settlement in southwestern Montgomery County, 2 miles east of Devenport. It was first listed on the state map in 1879 and was named for Mt Carmel Methodist Church, which was erected here in 1830, although the local Methodists had held camp meetings on the site as early as 1820. The church was named for the Biblical mountain range in present-day Israel, the term meaning "Vineyard" or "garden".

The earliest record (of the post office) located was dated April 8, 1872, where William C. Giddens was listed as Postmaster.

In addition to the Postmaster listing another record has since been located. A copy of a report to the Topographer, U.S. Post Office, is on file in the U.S. Post Office Archives, Washington, D.C. This report establishes the location of the Post Office at Mt. Carmel: Situated in the S.W. qtr. of Sec. 33, T. 13; R. 17; Montgomery County, Alabama - 25 miles from the Alabama River; 2 3/4 miles from Pintlala Creek - on mail route #24577 - Devenport is 3 miles in West direction; Sellers 3 1/2 miles East. The report was signed by James T.(?) Giddens. Dated May 8, 1899.

| Postmaster         | Date          |
|--------------------|---------------|
| William C. Giddens | April 8, 1872 |
| James T. Giddens   | Dec. 28, 1876 |
| N/B                | Feb. 19, 1895 |
| N/B                | Mar. 29, 1900 |
| N/B                | Aug. 10, 1904 |
| Discontinued       | Feb. 15, 1907 |
| Mail to Sellers    |               |

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LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD - .....FRANK HAWTHORNE was named Mr. Pi Kappa Phi for 1990 when the national council of the fraternity honored him at a reception.... (From the Montgomery Advertiser, Thursday, September 20, 1990.). The occasion happened on his birthday although his age was omitted from the article.

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## NEWSLETTERS FROM LOWNDES & BUTLER COUNTIES

The July Newsletter from the Lowndes County Historical Society continues the listing from the Alabama - Lowndes County Tract Book, T. 11, R. 17 and a listing of those buried in Sandy Ridge Cemetery.

The July issue of the Butler County Historical Society Newsletter gives an interesting history of the Damascus Baptist Church located east of Greenville on Highway 10. The church was started in 1837 on property owned by Jesse M. Armstrong.

Both of these publications will be on file in the Pintlala Library.

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Gregory, 851 Portland Avenue, Montgomery, 36111  
Col. & Mrs. Howard J. Morris, Route 1, Hope Hull, 36043

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## INFORMATION SWAP SHOP

Lewis Jones (P.O. Box 119, Phenix City, Al. 36868) has given to Pintlala Historical Association a booklet he assembled on the Cottingham, Brown, Leggett, Anderson, Dixon, Cox Family. It will be on display at our meeting and then available in the files at the Library. He also sent information on Arthur Moseleys I and II going back to William Moseley b. 1608 -09. He is going to send genealogical data on this and they will be included at a future date. The information was obtained from a book, The Ligon Family and Connections, 1947, found in the W.C. Bradley Memorial Library. Lewis is seeking information on Jane Anderson who married Willis Williamson about 1845-1850 and who lived in the Pintlala vicinity. Jane was the daughter of Elijah Cumbie Anderson and his first wife. He also wants information on Jane E. (Narcissa) Anderson who married Thomas J. Pettus who apparently lived a little north of the Fleta intersection. They took care of Elizabeth Sansom Anderson, second wife of Elijah Cumbie Anderson, and helped rear her children. Finally, he would like to correspond with someone descended from Lavinia Anderson who married William Bartlett Taylor. Lavinia was the daughter of Elisha Anderson, b. 1780, Onslow Co., N.C. and died in 1834, probably in Lowndes Co., Ala. He would also like to know if a Felix Anderson was principal of a school around Pintlala.

\*

Query: Billy Sellers is interested in knowing if anyone has heard the story that a ridge of land running along Liberty Church road was once called "The Devil's Backbone" - supposedly because it seldom rained in that area.

\*

Has anyone heard the expression "Bootlegger Logs"? Answer in next Newsletter. ETT

\*

Mrs. Jack Kinley has asked us to add the name of her great grandfather, Felix Anderson, to those known to be buried in the Durden, Dean, Suggs Cemetery. He was born 12-6-1857 and was buried next to his wife, Arrie R. Suggs Anderson on 3-24-1937.

## PHA NEWSLETTER STAFF:

We, the Newsletter staff, echo President Jim's request: If you have something of interest, get it to us so we can share with everyone.

Mamie Sellers  
The Kerry Brown family  
Lurline Hall  
Ethel T. Todd

MONTGOMERY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM CALENDAR 1990 - 1991

The following is a listing of the programs planned for the Montgomery Genealogical Society and information concerning the Society. Visitors are welcomed. Ethel T. Todd has information on PRESERVING FAMILY PAPERS AND PHOTOGRAPHS from the September 9 meeting and we plan to share this in future newsletters.



PROGRAM CALENDAR 1990-1991

|             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| SEPTEMBER 9 | LINDA OVERMAN, Conservation Officer<br>Alabama Department of Archives and History           | "PRESERVING FAMILY PAPERS AND<br>PHOTOGRAPHS"  |
| OCTOBER 14  | BILL JOSEPH, Chairman, Montgomery County<br>Commissioner                                    | "EARLY MONTGOMERY COUNTY DAYS"   |
| NOVEMBER 11 | ELIZABETH WELLS, Head of Special Collections<br>Samford University Library                  | "GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH AT THE<br>SAMFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY"                             |
| DECEMBER 9  | * Meet at 2 p.m. at the Lucas Tavern, 310 N.<br>Hull Street, for a tour of Old Alabama Town | "A NINETEENTH CENTURY CHRISTMAS"   |
| JANUARY 13  | ANNIE CRENSHAW, Genealogical Instructor,<br>AND PANEL                                       | "ANSWERING YOUR GENEALOGICAL<br>QUESTIONS"   |
| FEBRUARY 10 | BILL RAMBO, Park Director, Confederate<br>Memorial Park, Alabama Historical Commission      | "COLONEL WILLIAM C. OATES,<br>15th ALABAMA INFANTRY"                                     |
| MARCH 10    | GAYLE PETERS, Director, National Archives--<br>Southeast Region                             | "GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES AND<br>PROCEDURES IN THE NATIONAL<br>ARCHIVES--SOUTHEAST REGION" |
| APRIL 14    | ROBERT DAVIS, Genealogical Researcher and<br>Author   | "GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN<br>GEORGIA"  |
| MAY 5       | ** KIERAN QUINLAN, University of Alabama at<br>Birmingham                                   | "THE IRISH IN THE SOUTH"   |
| JUNE 9      | CEYA MINDER, Editor, <u>Southeast Alabama</u><br><u>Genealogical Society Quarterly</u>      | "GENEALOGICAL BITS AND PIECES"   |

\* On December 9, 1990, we will tour Old Alabama Town, see the Ordeman-Shaw House decorated in 19th century style for Christmas, and enjoy music, entertainment and refreshments.

\*\* This speaker is provided courtesy of the Alabama Humanities Foundation's Speakers Bureau.

Meetings are held at 2 p.m. in the Milo Howard Auditorium, Alabama Department of Archives and History, on the second Sunday September through June. In May the meeting is held on the first Sunday.

Membership dues of \$5.00 per year are due on September 9, 1990, at the first meeting.

For membership information call 279-8488 after 5 p.m.