

# PINTLALA



# HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

C/O PINTLALA PUBLIC LIBRARY

255 FEDERAL ROAD

HOPE HULL, AL 36043

*Founded in 1987*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am continually intrigued with emerging reports of research projects depicting the history of Pintlala and its surrounding area. Early this month I was provided a copy of a news article dated January 7, 2002, summarizing ongoing efforts of Mark Dauber, community resident and business man, to record the historical significance of Federal Road in the development of the region and its relevance to such notables as Davey Crockett and Aaron Burr.

Many of our members have a wealth of such information stored in our own minds and I trust that in this new year we will take time to transcribe it into record for posterity. Let's make it a priority to do just that!

JACK HORNADY

President, PHA

JANUARY MEETING: The Pintlala Historical Association will meet on Sunday, January 20 at 2:30 PM at Pintlala Baptist church.

We sill start a new "work together" series. With the current resurgence of patriotism and support for veterans, (none of which were ever lacking with our membership!) it would be interesting to establish a data base of members from our communities who are/were veterans of wars: American Revolution, Civil War, World Wars I and II, Korean War, Viet Nam War,



Dessert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom. I am looking for residents only - not relatives from other areas.

Please bring names, some proof of veterans' service and place of burial, if known. Life in Pintlala during the Civil War is not well documented. Please help establish a record for this and all other military involvements of area residents. *Alice Carter, Program Chairman.*

2002 PHA DUES: The PHA membership year begins in January. Annual dues of \$10.00 may be paid for the year 2002 at the regular meeting or mailed to the PHA Treasurer, Thomas L. Ray, 2995 Pettus Road, Hope Hull, AL 36043.

HEARTFELT SYMPATHY to our members and friends who have recently lost loved ones, including the families of: Sandra Cauthen Manning, Nobuzo Baba (father of Bonnie Stanfield) Rev. Roger Richeson, Rev. Pruitt Willis, (both former pastors of Mt. Carmel UMC), and Raymond W. Smilie (brother of Laurie Sanders).

WELL WISHES: We hope that Kim Cline, Dana Cline McCarver, J. B. Lassiter, David Latham, Jean Dean, and all our other friends who are having difficult times soon feel MUCH better!

THANKS TO REV. GARY BURTON, PASTOR OF PINTLALA BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THIRTY YEARS SERVICE! Throngs of members, family, and friends congregated at the church January 13, 2002 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Gary Burton's service as pastor of the Pintlala Baptist Church. Gary and his wife, Jerrie, came to Pintlala directly from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in January 1972 and immediately launched a marvelous ministry for the entire community. Jerrie served as pianist, choir accompanist, secretary, nurse, and in whatever capacity she was needed. The Burton's children, Dana and Jason, were born in 1972 and 1974. Dana married Alan Brown, and they have three sons, Luke, Jake, and Max Burton; the whole Burton family was recognized during the anniversary celebration. Dean Johnson, Mart Gray, John Moxley, the first minister ordained by PBC, who now serves as pastor of Yorktown Baptist Church in Yorktown, VA, and Rev. Robert Lowery, PBC's first full-time pastor (who referred to Gary as "the Pope of Pintlala"), participated in the service. Pat Moseley, Mart Gray, and Bev Williams expressed "anniversary sentiments" and Billy Poage and Macon Brock presented appreciation gifts to the Burtons. Music Minister Chris O'Rear led the magnificent music program's congregational singing and Jerrie Burton, Sallie Brock, Bev Williams, and others presented special music. But the most memorable of all the morning's music was Dana and Luke Brown (the Burton's daughter and five-year-old grandson) beautiful rendition of "You'll Never Walk Alone." Gary's twin brother, Larry Burton, gave the benediction. The service was followed by a reception and delicious lunch in the church fellowship hall. The Pintlala Historical Association joins the church, the community, and the Southern Baptist Convention in telling the Burtons, "Thanks for all your great work -- and the work still in progress."

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HERITAGE BOOKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE! The beautiful Heritage Books for Montgomery County have been completed, and are now available at Old Alabama Town! Congratulations and MANY THANKS to the Montgomery County Heritage



Book Committee and to all of you who contributed so much to make this monumental project a tremendous success!

LASSITER FAMILY REUNION: Descendants of Frank Grant Lassiter and Annie Merle Brady Lassiter gathered at the Pintlala Volunteer Fire Department on June 30, 2001. Forty-six guests attended, including Everlie Bolton, daughter of Dwight and Patsy Davis, and her new son, Ethan, from St. Louis, MO, but we all missed her husband, Scott. Others came from Niceville, FL, Decatur and Jonesboro, GA, North Augusta, SC, and Pike Road, Hope Hull, and Montgomery, AL. It was nice having the new daughter, Kendra, the granddaughter of Jo and Glenn Lassiter, the parents of Jeff and Cathy Hendrick. We had a great time visiting with my three brothers, J. B., Felix and Glenn, but we missed our brother Clarence, his daughter, Linda, and his two granddaughters from Jackson, TN and Gulf Shores. We were glad to have Jessica Vickery, Russ Lassiter's friend, with us. Everyone enjoyed plenty of good food and fellowship, visiting, taking pictures, and looking at pictures from past reunions. Felecia Moore, daughter of Felix and Mary Lassiter, had decorated the tables with beautiful sun flowers and zinnias from her garden. After the reunion, she carried the arrangements to shut-ins in the community. We are looking forward to our reunion in 2002, and hope others can come be with us! *Submitted by Miriam Williams.*

CONGRATULATIONS TO JACK C. BONHAM, MEMBER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: Jack Cochran Bonham, 863 Fairview Drive, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 32547-1969, became a member of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Florida Society, August 28, 2001 by descent from ABSALOM BONHAM. He states that anyone who married into the JOHN BONHAM FAMILY can now belong to the DAR and the SAR.

GEORGE MOSLEY: George Mosley, who died December 6, 2001, was a charter member of Pintlala Historical Association. He was born May 22, 1915 at Pintlala in the house that belonged to his grandparents. Eighty-five years later, he recounted the event to Gary Burton who was taping an interview with Mr. Mosley to gather information about Mosley's Store: On Thanksgiving Day, 1919, the men were hunting when it was discovered that the roof of their house was on fire. There was very little water to use on the fire, yet all the furnishings were successfully removed. Almost 10 years later, young George witnessed the tragic fire that destroyed his Uncle Carol's store. His father, Addie Mosley, served as the Montgomery County sheriff for many years, and George worked with him for eight years as Chief Deputy. His long career with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company was interrupted by his World War II Service. Mr. Mosley cherished his family and valued his Pintlala legacy. Gary Burton said that three different times during the taped interview he summarized his years by saying, "I have had a good life."

PINTLALA STOCK DOG TRIALS will be held March 15 - 17 adjacent to Mosley's Store. For further information, call Wayne Butler, at 284-4058. Plan to attend this engaging event!

AREA STORES: *Alice Carter did a great job of coordinating contributions of those who recalled - and hopefully recorded - memories of our rural emporiums. Lurline Hall enlisted help*



*from Charles and Richard Hall and made one of those delightful presentations. Thank you, Lurline!*

## THE STORES OF MOUNT CARMEL

**GIDDENS STORE:** I'll have to start with stories I know little about. The memory of the first store is only hearsay and it is the Giddens store which was owned by Mr. Ansley Giddens who lived where Dr. Brown's house stands now, next door to the Edgar's place. Mr. Giddens employed Mr. Ed Moore as clerk and he later married Mr. Giddens daughter. The store stood in front of Giddens mill, behind where the Will Guy house stands now. It had two stories and the upper story was used as a meeting place for the Masons. A young man, Wilson Hall, had his arm cut off in Giddens saw mill and Dr. Baxter Pool took care of him there in the store.

**MOORE'S STORE:** The second store was on the opposite side of the road from the Giddens store, in Ed Moore's yard, very close to the road. The clerk was Mr. Moore's son, Eugene. The Sessions live in the Moore house now. A lady, who had a child who had an extended sickness and died, told of Eugene Moore being kindhearted and generous. He gave the family credit until they were able to pay.

**GUY'S #1:** The third store I remember vaguely. It was known as Guy's #1, owned by Mr. William A. "Bill" Guy and located on the north east corner of the intersection of Pettus Road and Hickory Grove Road. It was built of wood with two stories, with a wide porch across the front and a smaller porch with a well on the east side. There was some lest called for merchandise on the second floor and there also the coffins were kept. There was a pot-bellied stove for heat in winter when men with time on their hands sat around and discussed the problems pertaining to home and abroad. In summer these same men sat on front porch and continued sharing opinions.

The store was large and contained a good variety of stock. Mr. Bill Guy and his two sons, Will and Sam, were the proprietor and clerks. Mr. Guy sold groceries, dry goods, farm supplies and kerosene. Crackers were kept in a large, airtight can and sold by the pound. Cheese was cut from a hoop to your order. Horse collars, hames, bridles and other horse paraphernalia hung overhead. Lanterns and kerosene lamps were in stock, also washtubs and chamber pots. There was dress material for the ladies and flannel for nightgowns and baby clothes. There were Star Brand shoes, straw hats, blue chambray shirts and bib overalls for men.

There was a good supply of medicine: Three sixes (666), castor oil, dry mustard for plasters, turpentine and those confounded cathartic pills. There were nails, screws and small tools.

This store was a popular place for children from Mount Carmel school to congregate in the afternoon after school. they could spend their pennies and nickels on candy and drinks. Since there was no electricity, there was no refrigeration, so the drinks were in a box with ice poured over them.

The Pintlala school bus, driven by Mr. Neal, stopped at Guy's store and picked up the children who lived in the vicinity of Talley Town and took them home. Since it was permissible to pick these children up at the store, one wonders why they could not be picked up at the school close by and not be exposed to the weather on their way from the school to the store.



At Christmas time, the Guys made eggnog for the customers in a chamber pot (a new one, of course) with a dipper to help yourself.

Mr. Guy had built Guy's #2 at Sellers, Alabama, and about 10 years after his death in 1932, Guy's #1 was closed and torn down.

**JEFF HALL'S STORE:** Of the seven stores originally in Mount Carmel, this is the only one extant. The buildings on the Hall property are: the dwelling, the store, the pigeon cote, the barn, a privy and the chicken house. These buildings remain almost exactly as Mr. Hall left them when he died. They are all painted green trimmed with white and have not been painted since the original paint job. The dwelling was covered with white asbestos shingles before Mr. Hall died and this is the only change. When you approached the store, if Mr. Hall was out back feeding a cow or doing other farm work, Mrs. Ida Hall, his wife, would come out of the house with numerous small dogs barking around her feet. "They won't bite," she would say, while one clung to your ankle with his sharp teeth and the rest barked and threatened you, awaiting their turn.

Mr. Hall had no refrigeration but somehow kept a stick of bologna in a glass case to cut off a piece if you requested it. He kept a hoop of cheese on the counter covered with cloth on which the cats walked as they pleased.

Mr. Hall would buy chickens and eggs and pay cash. Then he took them to town once a week and sold them. If you accepted groceries or other products in lieu of cash you would get a better deal. He sold chicken feed in cotton print sacks which made up into nice dresses when trimmed with rick-rack braid or lace. He sold cloth such as flannel for baby clothes and small notions such as needles, pins and thread. His store was small but he kept many necessary items including canned goods and medicine. His drinks were in a box filled with cracked ice which was delivered by a man who picked up the milk in cans beside the road and took it to town, returning with ice for customers.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall both dipped snuff and kept a spittoon handy in the store. When you called out each item you needed, Mr. Hall would pick it off the shelf, put it on the counter and then ask "And what next?" We would leave the store laughing and asking each other, "And what next?" A joke went around the neighborhood about a fellow who came in asked for a jar of myonaise and a jar of goober butter. Mr. Hall calmly picked up a jar of mayonnaise and a jar of peanut butter and placed them on the counter but it was good for a laugh for a long time to say "myonaise and goober butter."

If Mr. Jeff and Mrs. Ida could come back they would find little change in their old place except the little yapping dogs are no more.

**THE MATTHEWS-GANN STORE:** A small store on the Will Guy property about where the Bob and Margie Guy house is now belonged to Mr. Hugh Mathews and the clerks were Helen Mathews and Will Gann. It was painted green and was about the size of a railroad caboos. It was opened circa 1920 and later run by Francis "Frank" Huffman from about 1940 until it was closed and removed circa 1950. Frank sold canned goods, cold drinks, tobacco products and bread.



THE J. T. HUFFMAN'S STORE: J.T.'s store was situated at the intersection of Buttermilk Road and Hickory Grove Road on a small triangle of land next to the Cliff Talley home which is extant but the store is gone. J. T. had a rolling store also and while he traveled around Lowndes, Crenshaw and Montgomery Counties, his wife, Lurline, ran the small store which was close to their home. Their stock was small, mostly canned goods and other products that did not require refrigeration, including light bread. Lurline always had a supply of light bread. When J.T. was not away on the rolling store, he would come in and take Lurline's place in the store.

THE R. J. EDGE STORE: R. J. Edge and his wife, Ruth, had a small store in front of their house on Hickory Grove Road. She kept canned goods, cold drinks, cheese, bologna, crackers and light bread. This store did have electricity. Since it was so close to the house, Ruth could be called to the store whenever customers showed up. She only sat in the store in the afternoon. It was short lived and closed when she died in 1953. Wayne and Mary Cawthon live there now but the store is nonexistent.

OCTOBER PROGRAM. Dr. Alan Brown, professor of languages and Literature at the University of West Alabama, presented a thought-provoking program, "Graveyards, Ghosts and Sittin' With the Dead," on October 21st. Sponsored in conjunction with the Alabama Humanities Foundation in Birmingham, Dr. Brown's presentation included enlightening accounts of our area's customs in mourning and memorializing our loved ones.

L. T. HATAWAY (BEDSOLE) FARM RECOGNIZED AS CENTURY/HERITAGE FARM: In 1976, population in rural Alabama was (and still is) rapidly changing as farmers moved to the city and city dwellers moved to the country. That year, the Alabama Historical Commission and the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries established the Century/Heritage Farm Program to recognize farms that had played a significant part in Alabama History. It was decided that farms that had been continuously owned and operated by the same family for at least 100 years should be recognized. The first certificates of recognition were presented at an Alabama Farm Bureau meeting in Birmingham in December 1977.

The Hataway/Bedsole Farm received that award November 5, 2001 at the Farm/City Celebration held at the Quality Co-Op on Teague Road. The current horse pasture, the oldest part of that farm that has been continuously owned and operated by the family, was originally granted to Henry Bedsole, L. T.'s great-grandfather, in 1832. The families worked diligently to operate the farm and provide for their families. Last year, the family was able to purchase a portion of some land they had been farming some forty years. It had originally been granted to L. T.'s great-great-grandfather, Thomas Butler, in 1830, but later sold outside the family.

Other Montgomery County Farms that have received this recognition are:

1. "Poverty Ridge," Ramer, AL, owned by Richard H. Arrington; certified in 1978.
2. "Oliver Home Place," Montgomery, AL, owned by Thomas O. McLemore; certified in 1978.
3. "Willow Glen," Grady, AL, owned by Malmer R. and Jule B. Browder; certified in 1981.
4. "Tankersley Place," Hope Hull, AL, owned by Mrs. Ethel Tankersley Todd; certified in 1987.
5. "Matthews Plantation," Matthews, AL, owned by Robert L. and Georgia M. Armstrong; certified in 1990.



*LIVING HISTORY: Thanks to daughter Annette Boyd for the tribute to Suzie Mae Julian Boyd, Old Sellers Road, from her children and grandchildren. Following is an excerpt from the presentation at her 90th birthday celebration one year ago.*

SUZIE MAE JULIAN BOYD

January 20, 2001

She was born January 20, 1911 in Letohatchee, Alabama to Jacob Cottrell and Sally Kate Armstrong Julian. She had one sister and two brothers, and she is the only one left. Her mother died when Susie Mae was six. Her father later married Ida Gaston who had one daughter and one son.

She gives credit for her rearing to her father and sister. She had to walk to school and graduated from the 11th grade, which was the highest grade at that time. She won dance contests, and also won prizes for her costumes at "tacky" parties.

At the age of 21, she married Walter James (Bud) Boyd, on December 7, 1931. To this marriage were born one daughter, Annette, and six boys, Pete, Buddy, Sonny, Joe, Bill, and Eugene. These boys have given her fourteen grandchildren, Jim Danny, Jennie, Johnny, Jeff, Lee, Bruce, Tracie, Gwen, Susie, Ashley, Scarlett, Gerald, and Jamie, and three step-grandchildren, Bill, Becky, and Emily. These grandchildren have given her sixteen great-grandchildren, Katie, Virginia, Carolyn, Martha, Justin, Whitney, Jacob, Joshua, Amanda Clair, Jamie, Elizabeth, William, Christopher, Michelle, Abby, Taylor, and six step-grandchildren, Gary, Ashley, Jacob, Nicholas, Brittany, and Catlyn.

She and Daddy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 7, 1981 with reception given by their children and grandchildren. They would have celebrated their 60th anniversary in December, 1991 but we lost Daddy on July 19, 1991.

She has sixteen nephews and nieces and their children and grandchildren. She has one living first cousin on her mother's side and one on her father's side.

She still rises early in the morning, makes coffee, cooks breakfast, dinner, and supper, and washes those dishes and clothes. She enjoys it, and her life is doing for others. She took care of her father, sister, and our Daddy. And she reared Jeff.

She has taught us so much by showing, as well as telling us. She taught us the power of prayer. "Always take it God in prayer," she said. She taught us to do unto others as we would have others do unto us; never say anything about anyone unless it is something good; it is better to give than to receive; love one another; and share. If she sees you doing something, she offers to help, and she will. She taught us that any job worth doing is worth doing right the first time and to always tell the truth.

She "adopts" everybody and has touched many lives. Most people, young and old, call her "Granny." If you come to her house, you gotta eat! She is a beautiful and wonderful mother and friend. We cherish all the wonderful memories of her tender love and care, and her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren thank God for giving us to her!