

# PINTLALA



# HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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HOPE HULL, AL 36043 *Founded in 1987*

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JANUARY 2003

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**JANUARY PROGRAM:** On January 26, 2003, the Pintlala Historical Association is fortunate to have as our guest speaker, **Mary Ann Neeley**. Mary Ann has been with us several times in the past and is always interesting, entertaining and a favorite for those of us who attend. She is truly a treasure to Montgomery and Montgomery County, as her wealth of historical knowledge of our area is amazing. On top of all her professional attributes, she is simply one of the nicest ladies around!

Mary Ann is retiring as director of Old Alabama Town. She plans to use her time to author a few more books. She has recently completed a *Guidebook to Old Alabama Town* and will be happy to sign books that you may have and will have books available for purchase.

The Pintlala area has provided two structures for Old Alabama Town: Pintlala Grange Hall and Dr. Thomas Duncan's medical office. This makes Old Alabama Town a personal experience for many of us.

You are encouraged to attend and to bring guests. Grade school students (fourth grade and above) might even find this an interesting presentation. Please come and enjoy our wonderful friend, Mary Ann Neeley!

**PINTLALA BAPTIST CHURCH - FELLOWSHIP HALL, JANUARY 26, 2003, 2:30 PM**

*(Many thanks to Alice Carter, who once again arranged an OUTSTANDING program for PHA!)*

HEARTFELT SYMPATHY: PHA members extend heartfelt sympathy to the families of our members and friends who have recently lost loved ones, including Mr. and Mrs. John M. and Mary Britt Carter, (parents of the late Bill Carter, and grandparents of Alice Carter Bonnell and Will Carter), Mrs. Nannie Gaye Pettus Pirtle, Mr. William (Warren) Carr, Mrs. Woodrow Morse (Mrs. Nell Hamil's daughter), Mr. Clurion Reed, who was the first president of the Tabernacle Historical Association, Mr. Boyd Brady, who grew up in Bethlehem, and Mrs. Hettie Franks.

WELL WISHES: We hope that Leslie Williams, Kim Cline, Ruth Davis, and all our other friends who have not been well are feeling MUCH better!

OCTOBER PROGRAM: Mr. Ned Jenkins, Programs Coordinator and Archaeologist at Fort Toulouse, presented an outstanding program about the Native American "Hope Hull culture". Also, he identified many artifacts that PHA members had brought. Those who were unable to attend missed a rare treat!

THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. MARY ANN NEELEY for presenting an autographed copy of her new book, *Guidebook to Old Alabama Town*, which she donated to PHA in memory of Mrs. Ethel May Todd. Also, she and her family were featured in a delightful documentary by Robert Bradley Litchfield in the November 25, 2002 Montgomery Advertiser. In his three-page article, Litchfield traces Mary Ann's earlier life and interests, and emphasizes her long and brilliant career with the Landmarks's Foundation. While PHA congratulates her on her planned retirement, we recognize that she will never be permitted to *fully retire* - all of us need her too much!

CONGRATULATIONS TO PHIL SNOW ON HIS RETIREMENT! PHA members appreciate his many years of excellent television and radio coverage and hope that he and Carolyn will have many relaxing bird-watching opportunities at their home on the Butler Mill Road.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CATTLEMEN HOST TRAIL RIDE ALONG HISTORIC ROUTE: In November, Raymond Boykin, President of the Montgomery County Cattlemen's Association, invited horseback riders to their first annual trail ride, which was organized by Mike Henry. The Rameys, who hosted the event, and other property owners, the Barrs, Dorrills, Henrys and Clines, graciously shared their picturesque pastures along the Hance Mill and Old Hayneville Roads. Riders relished the clear, crisp fall day, and the panoramic views of rolling hills with herds of curious cows while a gathering of suspicious goats surveyed the "posse" from the safety of a distant hill. For me, the highlight of the ride was discovering the ancient cemetery on a beautiful grassy knoll on the Cline's Hance Mill Road property. I wanted to more closely examine the old grave markers. Later, Jim Cline told me that this was the resting place of many Federal Road travelers who died along their journeys; most markers stated that the those buried there were from Oglethorpe, Georgia. The land was previously owned by the Dillard family, and the graveyard contained only very young residents, including babies. Markers indicated that the oldest person buried there was only in his early twenties! While we enjoyed the serene, sunlit surroundings, some of us paused a moment to consider the grueling hardships those early travelers endured along the Federal Road. (jch)

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO MRS. BEATRICE WOODARD!



Mrs. Woodard became 100 years old on Christmas Day, 2002! Throngs of family members and friends celebrated with her at the Pintlala Baptist Church on Sunday, December 22 and on her actual birthday, she was featured in the Christmas issue of Montgomery Advertiser with pictures and a laudatory article by Alvin Benn. But perhaps one of the best documentary of her longevity and multitude of achievements is the commentary below by her nephew, Thomas Ray. He is pictured presenting Mrs. Woodard with the PHA certificate. *(Thank you, Thomas!)*

BEATRICE STOCKARD DUNCAN WOODARD

Beatrice Stockard Duncan Woodard, a resident of Sprague, reached the age of 100 on December 25, 2002! She was honored at a reception on December 22, 2002, at Pintlala Baptist Church which was attended by a host of relatives and friends. Mrs. Woodard was presented with a certificate of honorary membership in the Pintlala Historical Association at this reception.

Beatrice, daughter and last surviving child of Joseph B. and Belle Tarver Stockard, was born at Mt. Carmel, Alabama, in a home located on West Hickory Grove Road at the intersection of this road with the Pettus Road. She attended Union Academy School at Fleta. Her teachers there included Bessie Greene Hawthorne, mother of the late Frank H. Hawthorne, Sr., who was one of the founders of the Pintlala Historical Association.

Beatrice Stockard was married to William Edgar Duncan in April 1932. One daughter, Anne, now Mrs. David E. Latham, Sr., was born to this marriage. Anne and David have four children, Andrea Chipser and Tamitha, Tom and David E. Latham, Jr., and seven grandchildren.

William Edgar Duncan died on October 10, 1952. Beatrice married Robert Woodard in December 1963 and he died in 1985.

Mrs. Woodard was a long-time member of the Strata Church of Christ and regularly drove her automobile to church services until she reached the age of 95. She has crocheted many beautiful afghans and other pieces and enjoyed gardening and working with flowers. In the days before home freezers were available, she canned and preserved thousands of jars of vegetables and fruits.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! And don't forget to renew your 2003 membership for \$10.00 - you may pay the Treasurer or mail your check to: Thomas Ray, 2995 Pettus Road, Hope Hull, AL 36043. Also, please invite any prospective new members. There is a one-time fee of \$15.00 for initial membership, and \$10.00 per year thereafter.

SPECIAL THANKS to those who answered our plea for help - Lee Barnes, Thomas Ray and Mamie Sellers all contributed excellent articles for this newsletter! And special thanks to all those who continue to work so diligently to keep PHA going strong! That includes our officers board members, and especially to those who work so diligently behind the scenes, such as Mary Ann Venable, who keeps PHA section of the Pintlala Branch Library up to date and to Mamie Sellers, who addresses all our newsletters. Please provide your articles (or just your ideas, pictures, and information (we'll do the typing) to Sandra Lassiter, Federal Road, Hope Hull, Alabama, Ph. 284-5322, or Julianne Hataway, 2589 W. Hickory Grove Road, Lapine, AL, Ph. 281-4338. AGAIN, MANY THANKS!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND RETURNING OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS!  
We look forward to working with you in 2003.

THANKS TO THE PARKER GRAY MOUNT FAMILY for hosting the 2002 Montgomery County Natural Resources and Conservation Service Tour at their farm on Highway 231 in October! Rainy weather may have hampered some of the forestry activities, but everyone seemed to enjoy the exhibitors' products and demonstrations, the informational workshops, and **ESPECIALLY** the tours of the Mounts' vintage cabin, old country store, and post office. Syndicated journalist Rheta Grimsley Johnson's parents live nearby on the Troy Highway. In 1998, she had written an intriguing article about the Mount's 130 year old cabin, which she referred to as "sort of a homespun Smithsonian" that was published in the Mobile Register. In the article she listed some of the cabin's tools: a collection of hand operated egg beaters, a cobbler's bench, and an all-wood plow. Many of the guests last fall expressed appreciation for no longer having to use some of the tools exhibited there from the "good old days"!

## **Memories of an Old House** by Lee Barnes

Included in my earliest and best memories are weekends and holidays spent with my grandparents, Justus Rawdon Barnes, Sr. and Mary Crenshaw Barnes, at their home about ten miles south of Montgomery. I can remember Christmas and Thanksgiving meals with family that included parents, Rawdon, Jr. and Eloise, sisters, Rebecca and Ellen, uncle Billy, great aunts and uncles Etheleen Bell, Halleen Touart, Frank ("Sister Frank") Campbell, and Bill and Sadie Crenshaw. The adults sat at the dining room table and the children sat at the breakfast table. With so much good food, we children did not mind being second class citizens. We could eat, fuss, laugh and talk as we pleased without adult interference and not be bored by adult conversation. The food included ham, turkey, "real" turkey gravy, dressing, sweet potato and green bean casseroles, potato, ambrosia and cranberry salads. Desserts included sweet potato pie, Grandmother's world class pecan pie, coconut macaroons and charlotte russe.

In addition to the Barnes and Crenshaw clan gatherings, I can also remember grandmother and friends either getting together for lunch or just visiting on the porch. Some of these ladies included Iva Henry, Willie Stowers, Bess Hawthorne, Laura McLean, Kittye McIntire, and Zerah McLaney. Another memory of the old house is that granddaddy always read the Bible to us before bed. I can still remember the sound of grandmother's rocker on the hardwood floor and the sound of the clock ticking on the mantel as granddaddy read the Bible. I remember that once during the Bible reading someone made a face and we all got tickled. Granddaddy scolded us and sent us to bed early that night. I also remember going to bed on a cold winter night with a coal fire burning in the hearth with what seemed to me at that time to be about twenty-five pounds of blankets pulled up to my nose. I remember the harshness of dressing in the morning in a room so cold that you could see your breath. I remember the sound of that old clock chiming every hour. I never did understand why anyone wants a clock that wakes you every hour.

However, there is more to the story of this old house than just my childhood memories. In 1836 my great grandfather, Justus McDuffie Barnes, was born in south Montgomery County. He was the son of Montgomery County pioneers Elkanah and Mary Lumpkin Barnes. In 1856, young "Mack" Barnes, home from Bethany College in Virginia, started a school at what is now known as Strata. Later in the 1880's, together with his brothers-in-law Samuel Jordan and Milton Kirkpatrick, the school was moved to Rocky Mount, now Highland Home. After the move the school was first known as Highland Home Institute and later as Highland Home College. In 1898, Barnes left Highland Home and moved to Montgomery. There, together with his eldest son, Elly Ruff Barnes, Montgomery's Barnes School for Boys was started. Great granddaddy constructed his home in Montgomery on ten acres of land in the vicinity of what is now the intersection of Fairview Avenue and Norman Bridge Road. He died in 1913. In 1917 or 1918, the house was moved by my grandfather to its present location. the new location was atop a hill on an unpaved two-land road known as the Old Rocky Mount Road (now, U. S. Highway 331) five miles south of Snowdown in the Legrand community. In order to move the house, it was disassembled with the timbers numbered and hauled by mule-drawn wagons to its present

location. Carpenters and farm labor reassembled the house. Some remodeling was done. Instead of the original two front parlors separated by the entryway, the house was rebuilt with one large living room that extends all the way across the front of the house. The upstairs fireplace mantels date to the original construction in 1898. New mantels were installed downstairs when reassembled. The house was rebuilt with only one bathroom and it was located upstairs. Water was pumped from a well to a tank on a tower higher than the bathroom so gravity would force water to the toilet, sink and tub. The water pump was driven by a belt attached to a one cylinder Fairbanks Morse kerosene engine. Sometime in the 1950's, an electric motor and pump replaced the kerosene engine and old pump. In the 1970's the electric motor and pump gave way to the Snowdown public water system.

Even though the house was rebuilt prior to "rural electrification," it was wired for electricity with a Delco battery system as the source of power. The house was heated by coal burning fireplaces in every room. The kitchen had a wood burning stove until the early 1950's when natural gas became available. At that time, for reasons of convenience and concern over the condition of the aging chimneys, the heating was converted to natural gas space heaters. Granddaddy lived in the house until his death in 1964. Grandmother continued to live in the house until 1974. She died in 1976.

The house remains in the Barnes family. In 1991, the house was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. In the summer of 2000 some remodeling and a partial restoration were done.

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**Mary Pouncey Jones (Mrs. William H. Jones)**  
**D 1818**  
**First known burial in Oakwood Cemetery**  
**Montgomery, Alabama**

According to Blue's History of Montgomery published in 1878 Mrs. William H. Jones was the first person interred in Oakwood Cemetery, daughter of Rev. Stephen Pouncey. In Early Settlers of Alabama by J. E. Saunders (1899) there is a statement that "the Rev. Stephen Pouncey's daughter was Mrs. William H. Jones who died early in 1818 and was the first white person interred in the 'Old Graveyard'". The estate papers for Samuel and Sarah Pouncey provide fairly conclusive documentation that she was their daughter. After her death William H. Jones married her sister Nancy.

Samuel and Sarah Pouncey first bought land in Section 26, Township 16, Range 17 and were shown as residents of Montgomery Co. Alabama Territory at that time - perhaps on the land they were purchasing at the Cahaba land office. This property was near the present day intersection of I 65 and W. South Boulevard. The family later moved to south Montgomery County and owned land in the Pettus Road area south and west of Fleta. They were early and active members of Bethel Primitive Baptist Church at Pintlala. After Samuel's death several

members of the family became charter members of Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church and several are buried in that cemetery. Samuel's burial place is unknown. If he was buried at Bethel Cemetery there is no marker.

It appears from both Samuel's and Sarah's estate papers in the Alabama Archives that William and Mary P. Jones had two daughters: Sarah Ann Jones married William Pickers Bussey. They had two children, Harriet R and Celia A., born about 1849 and 1850 respectively. Apparently, Sarah Ann, who was 33 in 1850, died shortly thereafter. The other daughter, Charity, married Joel Taylor and their children were William, Jesse and Polly. Sarah's estate record mentions Gilbert Jones but at this time I have no further information about him. I hope to do some additional research later this spring.

That original marble head stone that marked the burial place for Mary Pouncey Jones has eroded to a very small bit of marble near the NE corner of the Banks Mausoleum left of the entrance to Oakwood and very near Columbus Street. With the advice and consent of Mrs. Mary Ann Neeley of Landmarks and Mr. Phillip Taunton, caretaker of Oakwood Cemetery and the help of Bill Pouncey and Temple Pouncey, I have ordered a new marker for the gravesite of my husband's ggg aunt. It should be installed sometime this month.

If anyone knows of direct descendants of Mary Pouncey Jones I would be pleased to correspond with them. I am indebted to Bill Pouncey for information about Mary's children mentioned above and for his interest in this project and his extensive research into the history of this early Alabama family.

Mamie M. Sellers, 3343 Drexel Rd., Montgomery, AL 36106 (334) 279-9313; email: mmsres@bellsouth.net.

*(Special thanks to Mamie M. Sellers for this article. She also provided copies of the City of Montgomery's Record of Interments and pictures of Mary Pouncey Jones' grave site. Unfortunately, I was unable to satisfactorily reproduce those copies. We especially thank Mamie for her diligence in documenting this information, and her concern and generosity in replacing the deteriorating marker.)*

*(Thanks to Rene Barnett for submitting this anonymous writing, **This is a Cemetery.**)*

Lives are commemorated...deaths are recorder...families are reunited...memories are made tangible... and love is undisguised. This is a cemetery.

Communities accord respect, families bestow reverence, historians seek information and our heritage is thereby enriched.

Testimonies of devotion, pride and remembrance are carved in stone to pay warm tribute to accomplishments and to the life - not death - of a loved one.

The cemetery is homeland for family memorials that are a sustaining source of comfort to the living.

A cemetery is a history of people - a perpetual record of yesterday and a sanctuary of peace and quiet today.

A cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering - always.

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

**\$5.00 registration fee (one time)  
Annual dues: \$10.00 in January**

**Mr., Mr. & Mrs., Mrs., Ms.** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**(home)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(office)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Interest** \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are interested in genealogy, please indicate family surnames** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return address:**

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



**Pintlala Historical Assoc.  
255 Federal Rd.  
Hope Hull, AL 36043**