



# PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



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175 FEDERAL RD.  
HOPE HULL, AL 36043

VOLUME 7, Number 3

JULY 1993

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JULY MEETING: July 18, 1993

2:30 P.M.

PINTLALA BAPTIST CHURCH

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The statement was made tongue-in-cheek. Someone has suggested that annual family reunions are necessary if for no other reason than to remind us why it is best we live apart most of the year. Some may see it that way. However, I feel that family reunions serve a vital purpose in transforming history into a living, dynamic force. The preservation and reporting of history, even the founding of this part of the county, can be painfully boring, cold and factual. But when families come together our heritage breathes with new life. Think of our predecessors who brought to this area tremendous pathos, joys and sorrow, grief and gratitude. We may chronicle the past with facts and dates, but families are the best repository for the spirit of our forebears. There is an emotional side to history which should never be ignored. Stories and anecdotes reveal the unique personalities of those trailblazers who settled down in Pintlala and surrounding communities. Periodic family reunions help to keep alive the spirit of their age.

Gary Burton

## PROGRAM FOR JULY MEETING ANNOUNCED

Alice T. Carter, program chairman, says that our guest speaker will be Mimi Jones, who is spearheading an effort to organize a Montgomery County Historical Society. Laurie Sanders is making an inventory of materials in the PHA files to give to this group. Since our association covers only southwest Montgomery County, we need to consider supporting an organization that will encompass the entire city and county on a much larger scale.

### LASSITER FAMILY REUNION

The family of the late Frank Grant and Annie Merle Lassiter of Hope Hull, Alabama, met at the beautiful and spacious home of the youngest brother, Glenn Allen, and sister-in-law, Eddie Jo, on Woodley Road on June 26, 1993. There were 45 present. Of the original nine children, John Brady, Felix, and Miriam of Hope Hull and Glenn of Montgomery attended. Accompanying these local family members were their spouses, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

The Lassiter family was honored to have three special guests: John Sellers, the brother-in-law of Mary Lassiter of Hope Hull, and two new babies, the granddaughter of Glenn and Jo Lassiter of Montgomery and the new grandson of Clarence and Helen Lassiter of Tuscaloosa.

Two sons, Joe Frank and Jack, and one daughter, Myrtle Dubberley, passed away several years ago, leaving behind them fond memories of the past family reunions when all were present with late parents, Frank and Merle.

The family missed their sister Virginia Davis and her family. Regretably, Rose, Clarence, Helen, Linda, and part of the Frank Allen Dubberley family were not able to attend due to illness. Kerry Wayne Brown, Susan, and children were away on a business trip.

Much time was spent reminiscing over old times, taking pictures, and looking at pictures from years gone by and seeing how the children have grown and how we older people have changed. The family had a good time eating the sumptuous meal prepared by all. Afterwards, some enjoyed fishing and playing games while others visited.

As an added treat, family members--including those from out of state in Georgia and Florida--met on July 2, 1993, at the Green Lantern for a surprise 80th birthday party for our oldest brother, John Brady. The surprise party was given by J. B.'s wife Nell and their five children. Twenty-four were present at this joyous occasion.

Actually, it was like having two family reunions close together. It was nice seeing everyone who attended the traditional Lassiter Family Reunion and the Surprise Birthday Party. Reunions are a lot of fun and much pleasure is shared when getting together at such happy times.

Goodbyes were expressed by all with the hopes of returning in June 1994 for yet another "Lassiter Reunion."

Submitted by Miriam and Leslie Williams



### Boyd Family Reunion

Patricia Boyd Killough has given us a write-up on the Boyd Reunion:

The third annual Boyd Reunion (descendants of Walter Boyd, born in 1796, who came to Alabama from Edgefield County, South Carolina) was held on Sunday, June 13, 1993, at the Capitol Heights Community Center in Montgomery. Approximately 100 descendants and members of their families from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Tennessee attended the Reunion. In attendance was Sadie Mae Boyd Lander, who was the oldest descendant and also travelled the farthest. Food, fun, and nostalgia were enjoyed by all. All descendants are invited to come each year. Time: the second Sunday in June, from 11:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M., bring a covered dish; Place: Capitol Heights Community Center. If there is a location change, you will be notified.

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### SHACKELFORD - MOS(E)LEY ASSOCIATION MEETS

The Shackelford-Moseley Family Association met June 26, 1993 at the Pintlala Baptist Church. Betty and Clanton Moseley from Newellenton, S.C. were in charge and did a great job. About 60 members attended. Lucille and Floyd Grooms of Phoenix, Arizona came the longest distance. Fred Shackelford, Reverend Franklin Moseley and George Adkin (Addie) Mosley, Sr. were highlighted at Memory Time. Officers for the coming year will be Clanton Moseley, President; Mary Mansour, Vice-president; Alice Chance, Secretary; and Jean Ivy, Treasurer.

A second volume of A Moseley Genealogy will be published soon by Thomas B. Moseley. If interested, contact him at Rt. 2, Box 47A, Clifton, Texas 76634.

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### EDGE REUNION

The descendants of Annie Smith and Jessie Edge held their annual reunion at Snowdoun Community Center on Saturday, June 26, 1993 from 11:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. A picnic lunch was enjoyed along with visiting and reminiscing. The theme of the Edges is "Each person is a special member of this family."

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### FAMILY REUNIONS

Is there any connection between genealogy and history in our locality? Yes! Consult your own family chart and more than likely you will find the same names, the same families as other families in our covered communities. If you make connections in this area, you will likely find you are a cousin. Although we tend to remember the events and forget the people, it is people who make history. So write about your families and tell how they came to this area. Accounts of family reunions are important - they help make history. This newsletter is made more interesting by what each of you contribute.

June 8, 1993  
Ethel Tankersley Todd

Mary Ann Tankersley Bussey Moseley

Time Line

Que Tankersley - 5th child of John Roy Tankersley and Mary Ann (Polly) Tankersley ( his first cousin and first wife) b. Tenn. 1/21/1811 - md. Ala. Susan McCatherine ( when? Where?)

Q (or Que or Cuirin) d. 9/27/1837, Susan d. 9/26/1837, and daughter Louisa Jane d. 10/1/1837. Poisoned by a slave - legend says around Castleberry. Daughter Mary Ann ( ca 1824) did not drink coffee so survived.

Mary Ann was brought to Pintlala to grandfather, John Roy Tankersley and his second wife Susan Brooks to be raised.

John Roy Tankersley d. 6/8/1839 but Sarah must have stayed on at home until she married John Stringer ( 2/6/1851) and moved to Panola (?) To further complicate this story, John Roy and Polly had a dau. Mary Ann who married Wilkes Ramsey.

Mary Ann md Benjamin Bussey ( when or where unknown) . They had a son Benjamin Jr. ( ca 1860)When Ben Sr. died unknown.

Benjamin Bussey Jr. md Martha Turner Moseley 1/1886. That story is best told by Franklin Shackelford Moseley in his book Family Tree .

" Martha Turner Moseley daughter of Adkin( and Mary Jane Canady) Moseley was all that a man could desire in a wife. She was beautiful, intelligent, talented, high minded and energetic. She knew very little however about choosing a husband as girls in her day didn't have the freedom of the present day girl. So when Ben Bussey ( Jr.) came along acourting she felt flattered. Who wouldn't have felt flattered when the handsomest and most daring man in the community came to see them? Martha's parents objected but Ben's cold black hair and eyes appealed to Martha and love won. The parents never did give their consent to the match but told Martha that if she must marry Ben they would let her marry at home so Martha became Mrs. Bussey in January 1886. However fate took a hand and Martha died in October 1886 a few days before her 25th birthday. Her death prevented the birth of her unborn child. Ben who was a salesman



Mary Ann Tankersley Bussey Moseley

con't P 2

got more reckless than ever. An editor at Abbeville named Laborup wrote an editorial telling about how salesmen were robbing folks and Ben resented the article and replied showing the editor up wrong. Laborup the editor who evidently was also the postmaster shot Ben down in cold blood from behind the post office clerk's window one day when Ben came in the door. Ben was unarmed and did not suspect such four play. The editor fled and was never heard of again. His family eventually quietly left town and joined him in his secret abode." FSM

Mary Ann Tankersley Bussey md William Wade ( Waid ) Moseley ( his 3rd wife ) 1/31/1869. Her death date is unknown. It is assumed that she is buried in an unmarked grave in MTLs - probably near Mary Worsham, 1st wife of Wm W M , who died 6/12/1854.

WWM's 2nd wife was Martha Pierce. Who was she ? Where is she buried ? According to Confederate records WWM was living ca 1900. Is there more information?

Did Mary Ann and Ben Bussey, Sr. have children other than Ben, Jr. ? Her life with its tragedies intrigues me. ETT

. Mattie, daughter of A.M. and M.J. Mosley wife of B.F. Bussey  
Oct. 20, 1861 Oct. 1, 1886 ✓ (Martha Turner Moseley)



### The Run-A-Wagon

We copy historical stories from others. Allyson Venable is responsible for the delightful story of two intrepid ladies from our area. This appeared in the January, 1993 Tabernacle Times.

It was a time before the automobile became popular, when people still traveled in a horse and buggy. The spring day was warm and sunny. A school teacher was preparing to go to work at Alliance Hall, a one room school house in Pintlala, Alabama. Her husband hitched two pretty red horses to the wagon. With her two nieces sitting beside her on the wagon bench, she took hold of the reins and released the wheel brake. Suddenly, one of the horses shied and began to bolt, dragging the other horse along with him.

The horses galloped out of control down the gravel road, known today as the Mobile Highway or Highway 31. They ran what seemed like forever, the two girls holding on to the bench with all their might and their aunt trying desperately to stop the horses before they began crossing a series of bridges across Vickers Creek.

They made it across the first short bridge. But as they neared the second and much longer bridge, the wagon began to slide toward the edge where they would surely hit the wooden bannister on the side of the bridge. The aunt told the two nieces to jump out and she followed. All three suffered only minor cuts and scratches. After jumping, the horses broke out of their harnesses, and the wagon did strike the bannister of the bridge. Its passengers could have easily been thrown over the bannister and into the creek bottom below.

I suppose you are wondering who are the characters in this story. The woman in this story is someone who is special in the hearts of many. She was the woman who loved fishing, gardening, and sewing. It is known that she would sit up till 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning sewing for her children and grandchildren. She was also a good shot, better than her husband. One day a flock of geese flew over their home, and she shot in the air and got one. Her father taught her how to shoot and all about the birds and trees and other outdoor wildlife.

Fishing was a favorite hobby of hers, as well as that of her sisters. One day the three of them went fishing in a pasture which contained a pond. However, the pasture also contained a bull who didn't cotton to their presence. And so a chase to the fence ensued. With the bull hot on their trail, who do you think was the first to reach the fence? If you said \_\_\_\_\_, you were right. This was unusual because she was not as good a runner as her two sisters. If a bull was running at my heels, I guess I would reach a speed of unknown proportions too!



The Run-A-Wagon cont.

She has been described as being very calm, self-sacrificing, and full of fun. As crazy as she was about her children, she didn't put up with any foolishness. When she was young, she attended Alliance Hall, where she was taught by her Uncle Dave Murrell. She would walk to school from (her) father's house. She went to high school at Highland Home and attended college at Livingston.

The woman of the hour in this story is Betty Sanderson Cook. Her parents were Henry Clay and Alice Pauline Murrell Sanderson. The two nieces in the run-a-wagon were Annie Lee Supple and Clara Owen Venable. The two sisters who went fishing with her were Patty and Ruby.

After Betty Sanderson married Noah Cook, they lived below what is now Slade's Store on Hwy. 31. They had three children: John, Edwyn (Spear), and Noah, Jr. Betty, Noah, and Noah, Jr. are buried at Tabernacle. John and Edwyn are current members of the Tabernacle Historical Association.

This story was compiled at the suggestion of Betty Sanderson Cook's granddaughter, Connie Cook Allen. Clara Owen Venable, Edwyn Spear, and Connie Allen provided the information for this story.

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IN MEMORIAM

Our sympathy goes to the family of Vivian Williams Davis who died June 14, 1993. She was a beautiful woman who was devoted to and served well her family, church, and community.

The sympathy of PHA is extended to the family of W.E. (Mac) McGuire, a resident of the Pintlala Community for the past 21 years. "Mac" and his automobile business were a familiar sight on Highway 31. He will be missed.

MT. CARMEL CEMETERY

Research continues on the Mt. Carmel Cemetery listing. If you have relatives or friends buried there and can give us any pertinent information about them, please do so in writing. Thomas Ray and Beatrice Duncan Woodard have given us much information about the Duncans. Vera Sellers Kraus has given us a listing of the Sellers buried there and Mamie & Ronald Sellers have added to our store of information from their files. The Morrisons have helped with their family listing. This information is being placed on the 3X5 catalog cards at the library for use by interested parties. Any information, no matter how minute, will be welcomed and recorded.

*"We must honor our  
ancestors through  
memory, to keep them  
alive."*

*Dylan Pritchett*

## DOCTORS ONGOING PROJECT

Vera Sellers Kraus continues to seek information on doctors who practiced or grew up in this vicinity. We have the following list of possible names. There may be others.

If you have information or anecdotes about any of these people please get it to Vera or to me.(ETT)

Anderson, B.Frank  
Callaway,  
Duncan, Thomas  
Garrett, Richard M.  
Guy, Joe

McLean, James  
Mosley, Hugh  
Powell, Claude  
Reddoch, Joe  
Sankey, John F.  
Sellers, Benton  
Shackelford, Clarence  
Shackelford, Frank  
Suggs, Sam

Tankersley: Felix M.T. I  
Felix, M.T. Sr.  
Felix M.T.Jr.  
George Stuart  
James  
William  
Ernest

Young, Ed

Dr. Sloan  
Dr. Cilley  
Dr. McWhorter  
Dr. Coleman  
Dr. George Powell  
Dr. Baxley Poole  
Dr. George Rives  
Dr. James H.Taylor  
Dr. C.Bellinger  
Dr. William R.Harris Next 3 names On  
Dr.J.P.Turner Lavinia Anderson estate  
Dr.E.E.Briggs (11/4/1814-11/15/1850  
sale

Dr. Daniel Styles Hopping  
Dr. A.H.Sellers  
Dr. Thomas W.Oliver  
Dr. Leroy W.Davis  
Dr. Cowles ( Ramer)  
Dr. Mason

Note: There is an infant buried in Mt. Carmel Cemetery who was the daughter of Dr. W. H. Howell. Does anyone know anything about Dr. Howell? The date on marker is August 1, 1883.

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## PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION AND INCLUSIONS:

Recently it was brought to our attention that it may be unclear to some as to what territory our organization includes. From the By-laws of 1987: "Section I. Any person interested in the history of Southwest Montgomery County including: Hope Hull, McGehee's Switch, Pintlala, Fleta, LeGrand, Snowdoun, Sankey, Mt. Carmel, Devenport, Sellers Station, Sprague Junction, Bethlehem or Tabernacle who applies for membership and pays necessary dues shall become a member."

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## PINTLALA SCHOOL MARKER

Let's not forget to contribute toward the marker for Pintlala school. The school is now on the list of historic places in Alabama and application has been made to place it on the national listing. See Jamie Henry or Hattie Smith or mail your contribution to one of them.



MT. CARMEL CEMETERY DEED

J. Chambers  
to Received in office for Record this  
James G. Turner ) 23d day of November 1855  
Nathaniel Bonham ) H. W. Watson, J.P.  
William Bonham )  
Arthur Watson ) Trustees

The State of Alabama)  
Montgomery County ) Know all men by these presents  
that we, James Chambers and  
Charity M. Chambers, his wife, have this day bargained  
and sold and given unto James G. Turner, Nathaniel Bonham,  
William Bonham and Arthur Watson, trustees for the Protestant  
Methodist church known as Mount Carmel church and to their  
successors in office, one acre of land commencing 26  
chains from the North East corner of Section 32, running  
due South 70 yards, thence due West 70 yards, thence due  
North 70 yards, thence due East 70 yards, the same being the  
N.E. quarter of the N.E. quarter of Section 32 in Township 13  
of Range 17 in the County and State aforesaid, to have and  
to hold afore granted premises unto Jas. G. Turner, Nathaniel  
Bonham, William Bonham and Arthur Watson and their successors  
in office, for and in consideration of one Dollar by us in hand  
paid, the receipt whereof we hereby acknowledge.

WITNESS whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals  
this the 6th day of August 1855.

Test. William F. Bonham /s/ James Chambers  
/s/ Charity M. Chambers

The State of Alabama)  
Montgomery County ) Before me, William S. Boyd, an  
acting Justice of the Peace from  
said County, personally came William F.  
Bonham, after being sworn, Says on Oath that he was a  
Subscribing witness to the within instrument and saw the within  
named  
James Chambers and his wife, Charity M. Chambers, Sign, Seal,  
and deliver the same. Given under my hand and Seal this the  
21 day of Sept 1855.

/s/ William S. Boyd, J.P. ) W. F. Bonham  
)

NOTE:  
This deed bargains, sells and gives to Mt. Carmel church, by  
Charity Matilda Bonham Chambers and James Chambers, husband  
and wife, one acre of land to be used for a cemetery to be named  
Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Charity (nicknamed Tildie) was the daughter  
of Nathaniel Bonham whose name appears on this deed as one of  
the trustees of Mt. Carmel church.

Copied from the original deed located in Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church.

### Superstitions Right and Left

The following story on superstitions was written for the Montgomery Advertiser-Alabama Journal in 1962 by Mrs. Adele K. Weil. Mrs. Weil has been dead for a number of years but we hope she forgives our recopying her delightful information without permission.

The question arises as to whether superstition is declining in modern civilization. There is no doubt many are scoffed at today, but even the most cultured, erudite men and women still cling to their own favorite superstitions.

The story is told of Sir Winston Churchill when he was returned to Parliament for the second time, and he started his speech saying, "I never felt so alert, so vigorous, and healthy!" --When a woman by the name of Lizzie Wilkinson shouted from the gallery, "touch wood, Sir Winston!" and he replied, "I agree with you," and rapped three times on his wooden dispatch box saying, "I am never far from wood."

Superstition began with primitive man, noting the daily appearance of the Sun, nightly glow of the moon, the beneficent earth, giving them both food and clothing, and the rain bringing forth fruit and flowers. All these they called Gods, and deified and worshiped them. Many taboos arose from these causes.

For instance, the breaking of a mirror. Ancient man believed when he saw his reflections or image in a mirror or shining piece of metal, it was his soul or spirit that was portrayed and if it were broken or shattered, part of his soul or spirit was taken away from him, hence the belief -- 7 years bad luck followed one who breaks a mirror. The mysterious omniscent "They say" to throw the pieces in running water takes the curse off.

The Greeks were the most cultured and literate of all ancient nations. Yet they formerly believed in signs and omens. Also the Romans who copied Greek customs. Witness "The Oracles of Delphi" --the Rain God though 5785 years have passed since history was first recorded, the Hopi Indians in the West still have an annual Dance witnessed by thousands to the Rain God.

Another superstition believed by many "Never transplant a parsley root; plant only from seed." I shall never forget when we visited a farm and my father admired the unusually large parsley plants. I took them home to transplant in our garden, in spite of protests, "That's a sign of death in the family." My father was dead within the week.

Also if you dream of a wedding, it's a sign of a funeral, whereas if you dream of the dead, there'll be a wedding and rejoicing in your family.

Another superstition is, toads cause warts. Many tie knotted strings around the warts, then throw the strings in a clump of bushes, and the warts will disappear. No science has ever proved toads cause warts or their disappearance by any "hocus-pocus."

Another superstition is when you put on garments wrong



Superstitions Right and Left cont.

side out, you must leave them on until the stroke of noon, then make a wish and change, and it will come true. Another superstition, never look at the New Moon over your left shoulder, only the right shoulder and make a wish and it will come true.

Speaking of the right hand, children are taught to shake hands with the right hand because, according to the ancient belief, that was the luck hand; left hand unlucky. If the right hand tingled, you would come into some unexpected money, if the left hand, you would pay for a debt you did not incur.

Why do you suppose so many brides choose June to marry? From the old Roman superstition over 2,000 years ago, Juno, wife of Jupiter, was the guardian of marriages and she would favor the bride who chose her name month.

Here's a clever little rhyme pertaining to costumes worn on the Wedding Day.

"Marry in brown, you'd like out of town;  
Marry in black, you'd wish you were back;  
Marry in blue, your love will be true;  
Marry in red, you'd wish you were dead;  
Marry in white, your love will be right."

Carrying the bride over the threshold is supposed to bring happiness to the household. To break a glass at a wedding or a feast is considered a sign of happiness.

A Russian superstition says, "Never shake hands on the threshold of a house. You'll have a falling out with that person."

The old superstition of walking under a ladder came from the habit of the English hanging prisoners on ladders placed against a wall, henceforth people avoided walking under them forever afterwards.

The superstition about salt --is if you spill some, throw a portion of the spilt part over your right shoulder, or you will have a spat with your best friend.

Never take a salt cellar from anyone's hand, lest you have a quarrel with them. Folklore books say that this superstition dates from the "Last Supper" when Christ was betrayed by one of his disciples and an over-turned salt cellar was at the place of his betrayer.

Friday was once known as a day of rejoicing, but since the year 1 A.D., it has been an unlucky day for any trip; any adventure; any marriage; because Christ died on Friday. The Italians will never even enter a new house on Friday.

The superstition about 13 being unlucky and if 13 are seated around a table, one of them must die before the year is out also dates from the "Last Supper" where there were 13 seated.

To drop a comb is unlucky. It's considered a sign of very bad luck and a great disappointment to put your hat or shoes on a bed. If you don't believe it, let me give you two incidents. One happened to me, the other to a friend. Mrs. Charles Bricken Sr. and I went up to Birmingham to hear an address by the Woman Suffragist Carrie Chapman. We decided

Superstitions Right and Left cont.

to stop by a hotel first to repair our make-up. I had a brand new hat in a band box I was carrying to wear to the luncheon. The hotel maid took it out of my hand and put it on the bed before I could protest. Mrs. Bricken called the President of the Club to find the place of the luncheon and was told it had been held the previous Saturday.

In the funeral procession after Franklin Roosevelt died, a riderless white horse was led at the foot of the caisson bearing his body. The stirrups were inserted with a sword thrust through. This indicated a Great Warrior had gone to his last resting place. This dated from the time of Ghengis Khan and Tamerlane, whose horses followed the funeral procession, and in their time were buried with them so that when they went to the world beyond, they could serve their Masters. Today they only march in the procession. Many Indian Chiefs had their horses buried with them.

The black cat superstition that it is unlucky if one crosses your path comes from the belief the cat was the witches creature, and the witch could change herself, or you, into a black cat at her whim.

A horseshoe is a sign of good luck, but the emblem must be nailed with points upward or the luck will run out.

In Ireland the Shamrock, a tiny leaved species of clover, is considered an emblem of good luck, but in this country, we believe the luck lies in a 4 leaved clover.

Gamblers are notoriously superstitious. If they lose, they turn their chairs; walk around it; refuse to let anyone put his feet on the rungs of the chair; carry an amulet or "lucky piece."

Culberson, the master mind on card playing, once wrote an article titled, "Be Superstitious! And Win."

History records, when Thomas Jefferson was a baby, his mother insisted he be carried upstairs before being taken downstairs, so he might live in high places all his life.

If you have a pet superstition, cherish it and believe in it. Great minds in the past as well as the present have always had pet superstitions.

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APRIL MEETING & THE DULCIMER PLAYERS

Well, siree, Ah'm here to tell y'all, them dulcimer players were better'n a dose of sassperilly\*. As Alice Carter promised, we were tapping our toes and singing along as Royce & Darlene Slate played, sang and related humorous anecdotes. Good friends, good food and good fellowship made for an enjoyable evening at our annual covered dish supper.

\* Sassperilly - a tea or "medicine" made from the root of the sarsaparilla plant and used to treat rheumatism and other ailments. From "Southern Stuff: by Mildred J. Brooks.

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## A HOUSE FROM THE BRADY ROAD, MT. CARMEL

The Brady Road is named for the pioneering Brady Family who settled on the southern end of the road nearest Mt. Carmel but older residents have been heard to remark that the Mathews family, who settled at the northern end, near Ada-Union Academy Road, were probably in residence as soon or perhaps sooner than anyone else. The Mathews home was a very large house situated about where Nathaniel Hugh (NaHugh) Huffman's barn stands now. Mrs. John Lee Huffman (Timmie Mathews) was a daughter of Albert Timothy Mathews, owner of the house and several hundred acres of land. After the older Mathews died and the children had married, moved away or died, the house was sold. It was dismantled and moved to Sellers Station where it was reassembled and became the home of Dr. B. F. Anderson. It stands there today, an example of good material and good workmanship. LH

Reunions magazine Spring 1993

### **CHECKING THE AVERAGES**

Tips for researching the pioneering period — before 1850:

- ◆ Figure on three generations per 100 years.
- ◆ Men's first marriages were at about age 24; women at 20, usually to someone nearly the same age.
- ◆ Neighbors married neighbors.
- ◆ Families and neighborhoods stayed together.
- ◆ Children were born about a year after marriage.
- ◆ Subsequent births occurred every two years, until age 45.
- ◆ Women tended to outlive men.
- ◆ Women rarely moved to another location alone.
- ◆ Men sometimes returned to a prior residence to find a spouse.
- ◆ Older widowers liked to marry women much younger than themselves.
- ◆ Civil War service records help locate male ancestors born before 1840.
- ◆ Pioneers moving west generally stayed on the same latitude as their home county.
- ◆ Consider researching a New England heritage for an ancestor with a "virtue" name like Patience or Silence.
- ◆ Children often carried on the grandparents' names.
- ◆ Follow a middle or first name as a link to the mother's or grandmother's maiden name.

*from a number of sources!*

I started out calmly tracing my tree,  
to find if I could, the making of me,  
and all that I had was a great grandfather's name,  
not knowing his wife or from whence he came.  
I chased him across a long line of states  
and came up with pages and pages of dates.  
When all put together, it made me forlorn,  
I'd proved that poor grandpa had never been born.  
One day I was sure the truth I had found.  
Determined to turn this whole thing upside down.  
I looked up the record of one uncle John,  
but then found the old man was younger than his son.  
Then when my hopes were fast growing dim,  
I came across records that must have been him.  
The facts I collected made me quite sad.  
Dear old great grandfather was never a dad.  
I think maybe someone is pulling my leg.  
I'm not at all sure I wasn't hatched from an egg.  
After hundreds of dollars I've spent on my tree,  
I can't help but wonder if I'm really me.

---Anonymous---

From:  
"FAMILY TREE" August 1992

Contributed by  
Laurie Sanders

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Pintala Historical Association  
c/o Pintala 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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