



PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



C/O PINTLALA PUBLIC LIBRARY
175 FEDERAL RD.
HOPE HULL, AL 36043

VOLUME 8 Number 3

JULY 1994

President	Gary Burton	288-7414
Vice-president	Jack Hornady	265-5752
Secretary	Alan M. Davis	288-4007
Treasurer	Hattie Smith	281-1275
Parliamentarian	J. P. Henry	288-4347
Program Chairperson	Alice T. Carter	281-3708
Members at Large	George Mosley	264-7614
	Sarah Chestnutt	537-9353
	Moses Sellers	288-4626
	Lurline Hall	281-3399

JULY MEETING: July 23, 1994 6:30 P.M. PINTLALA BAPTIST CHURCH

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It was 1960 when John Barth said, "More history is made by secret handshakes than by battles, bills, and proclamations." Written or unwritten history merits preservation in some form. Why don't people see the value in not only learning history but also learning from history?

Allan Bloom contends that our nation has lost its intellectual bearings. His observations are astute:

"The really great original thinkers from Socrates on were steeped in knowledge of other ways, other times and other thinkers. We have lost that scholarly role in this decay because during that time there was the hidden premise that somehow there was nothing to be learned from the past--that the simple instincts or sentiments of the young would do. Universities were surprisingly ready to give in to that. They lost the habit of asking--or being able to discuss--the fundamental questions, such as: 'What is the good life?' Schools virtually stopped conveying tradition. There used to be an intellectual class in America. In the political realm, for example, you had Dean Acheson and George Kennan; in journalism there was Walter Lippmann. These people kept the world of ideas alive.

But today the distinction between intellectuals and nonintellectuals doesn't make any difference; celebrity is the only standard. If you had a direct descendant of George Washington in a class together with Mick Jagger's son, the students would probably be much more interested in Mick Jagger's son. The level of public taste--and taste is a good beginning point for serious thinking--really has declined. The cultivated person no longer has any public model."

-- Gary P. Burton

JULY PHA PROGRAM PLANNED

The July meeting of the Pintlala Historical Association will be July 23rd at 6:30 P.M. at the Pintlala Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. This is our annual covered dish meeting - so start planning some of those delicious dishes that you have brought in in the past. Beverages will be provided.

Our speaker will be Mr. John A. Garrett from Snowdown. There will be a short business meeting and much lighthearted fun. Please join us and bring guests.

PHA TOUR VIDEO UPDATE

The Video of the second PHA tour has been edited. If you are interested in obtaining a copy please bring a blank T-120 video tape to the July 23rd meeting. We will have a copy made for you.

REVIEW OF PHA TOUR NUMBER TWO

The April PHA program was tour # 2 for our group. We began at the Watts - Whigham home where Mitch Henry told us the history of his grandmother's home. It was the country home of Thomas H. Watts who served as governor of Alabama in 1863 - 1864. The Whighams graciously let us tour their home. We moved on down the road to the Murrell family cemetery where David Wescott Murrell, Jr. gave us a brief history of the cemetery, which was originally part of a land grant to Josiah Parmer. Next stop was the historic Tabernacle Church where Mary Ann and Allison Venable led us on a tour of the church and cemetery. The final stop was the Mosley-Tankersley- Luckie-Supple cemetery. George Mosley gave a brief history of this early burial ground.

Allen Brady videotaped the tour and members may secure copies. (See previous article).

Tour # 3 will take place in October.

PHA UNVEILS HISTORICAL MARKER

Several months of planning and work culminated in the unveiling of the beautiful and meaningful historical marker which designates Pintlala School as a significant landmark. On Sunday afternoon, April 24, 1994, an estimated crowd of approximately 300 people were present to hear talks by a number of alumni and other dignitaries and to watch as the marker was expertly unveiled, then to stroll the halls and classrooms of the school and reminisce. It was gratifying to hear a letter from former president, George Bush, read. (A copy of the letter is included in this Newsletter.) PHA was justly proud of the realization of a dream, our first marking of an historical place. We hope for more in the future.



George Bush

April 24, 1994

Mrs. Todd,

Just a quick note to congratulate you and all involved in the designation of the Pintlala Elementary School as an historical site.

Having visited the school on two trips to Pintlala as President -- in addition to several other fishing trips to your wonderful town -- I know the pride you must feel. Such work ensures that future generations also will be able to appreciate the school's enduring contributions to your community, and I join in wishing you well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Bush".

Mrs. Ethel Tankersley Todd
Route One, Box 258
Hope Hull, Alabama 36043

TARVER DESCENDENCY CHART RECEIVED

Etrulia Broome of Atlanta has sent a Tarver Descendancy Chart for our files. She also sent copies of abstracts of deeds of Northampton County, N.C. gotten from the Ladson Genealogical Library at Vidalia, Ga. This includes information on property owned by Tarvers going back to the 1700s.

MOSLEY (MOSELEY) - SHACKELFORD REUNION HELD

Over fifty descendants of Robert Moseley of South Carolina and George and Annette Jeter Shackelford gathered on June 25th at Pintlala Baptist Church. Some came from Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida. W. Clanton Mosley of New Elenton, S.C. presided. It was reported that with help from Harold M. Newell dead trees have been removed from Bonham Cemetery and a marker erected for CSA Captain Bethel Jarrell Bonham. George Mosley and Jim Shackelford were thanked for their work in keeping old cemeteries clean. Donations for a fence across the front of MTIS cemetery will be requested. Memory Time featured Dr. Edward Madison Shackelford, Estelle Mosley Armstrong, and Cater Franklin Mosley. The present officers agreed to serve another term. Clanton gave to the PHA files genealogical charts on the descendants of Edward and Martha Butler Moseley and George and Annette Jeter Shackelford.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Ming, Sr.	Mount Carmel
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Ray	Fleta
Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell	Hope Hull

TABERNACLE HOMECOMING SET

Homecoming at Tabernacle will be August 7th. There will be a guest speaker and "Dinner on the Ground". After lunch there will be a meeting of the Tabernacle Historical Association.

"Young people are probably bored,
when we pour out the memories we've stored,
But we're glad for their sake,
they never did take
Long trips in a Model "T" Ford!"

T.G. Culwell, Phoenix, Arizona
in Reminisce magazine

MARKER DEDICATED

Of interest to PHA is the recent dedication of a bronze DAR marker placed on the grave of Florence Sellers Post, by the members of the Captain William Bibb Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, at Mount Carmel cemetery in the Mount Carmel community, southwest Montgomery County. The dedication service was of both a patriotic and a religious nature. The invocation and benediction were given by W.J. (Jim) Edwards, a cousin of Mrs. Post. Mr. Edwards also brought a glowing personal tribute. Mrs. Kenneth (Rena) Underwood gave a biographical sketch of the life of Florence and then led the group in singing "Blest Be The Tie". Following the ceremony the group gathered in the home of Vera and Philip Kraus for a luncheon, also hosted by Frances Hinson. Vera and Frances, both members of PHA, are Florence's sisters and they are responsible for the marker being placed. Frances Norman and Hattie Smith were among the group who attended the luncheon that followed the ceremony. Florence was a faithful member of PHA.

JETERS INCLUDED IN CRENSHAW COUNTY QUARTERLY BULLETIN

In the Quarterly Bulletin of the Crenshaw County Historical Society, on page 13, the Ancestor Chart of Florence Mable Watson Davis lists several Jeters. This may be of help to anyone researching the Jeter family.

SUGGESTION FOR PHOTOGRAPHING HEADSTONES

Thomas B. Moseley of Clifton, Texas sends a suggestion for an outstanding way to photograph headstones. He says to spray foamy shaving cream all over the inscription and wipe it off with a squeegee. This leaves the cream in the indentations and clears the rest of the stone. He says it washes away completely immediately or after a rain with no damage to the stone surface. Thanks for the hint, Tom.

INFORMATION ON ABNER McGEHEE, PIONEER RESIDENT

The following information is retrieved from a small pamphlet entitled "History of the Alabama Bible Society". Abner McGehee, born in Prince Edward County, Virginia, 1779, was one of the pioneer settlers of the State. He must have come to Alabama around 1825, for he was well established here in the early 30's. He bought a large plantation not very far from Montgomery, where Hope Hull is now, though in the early days it was called McGehee's Switch. He was a Whig and a Methodist Protestant and possessed a sound education. He devoted his time to farming and general business and amassed a fortune. Mr. McGehee was one of the most generous hearted men who ever lived. More than eighty years ago with his own funds he purchased for the sum of \$15,000, and gave to the Alabama Bible Society, its quarters on Dexter Avenue. The descendants of Abner McGehee live in all parts of Alabama. They take a useful part in religious and civic affairs of their several communities. Written by Judge Walter B. Jones and contributed by Rene Barnett.

EDGE FAMILY REUNION:

The descendants of Annie and Jessie Edge held their annual family reunion on June 25, 1994, at Snowdown Club House. Good food and good fellowship were enjoyed. At a brief business meeting it was decided to hold next year's reunion at the Blue Ridge home of Joann and Billy Rowe who will be the coordinators. Annie and Jessie Edge were residents of Strata and are both buried at Bethlehem Cemetery, Montgomery County.

LASSITER FAMILY REUNION OF 1994

The family of the late Frank Grant and Annie Merle Lassiter met at the home of the youngest son, Glenn Allen and his wife Eddie Jo Newell Lassiter on Woodley Road on June 25, 1994 with 61 attending. Of the original family four sons, John Brady, and wife Nell, William Clarence and Helen, Felix Gunter and Mary and Glenn Allen and Jo and daughter Annie Miriam and William Leslie Williams attended. John Sellers, brother in law of Mary Lassiter enjoyed being with us. There were 27 grandchildren and 21 Great Grandchildren and 2 Great Great Grandchildren. A new Great grandchild Samuel Gunter Moore who was born in April was greatly welcome. He is the grandchild of Felix and Mary as well as Christopher Hendrick foster son of Jeff & Cathy Hendrick and foster grandson of Jo and Glenn was also greatly welcomed.

Two sons, Joe Frank and Jackson Hobbie and a daughter Myrtle Dubberly passed away several years ago and Frank Dubberly son of Myrtle passed away last year. We missed our sister Mary Virginia Davis and her family.

We all had a good time and enjoyed good food and fellowship and looking at pictures of the other family reunions and how we have all changed and the families have grown from year to year.

The children enjoyed fishing, wading and seeing who could pick up the most minnows in the shallow pond.

Guest came from Quinton, Tuscaloosa, Pike Road, Hope Hull, and Montgomery, AL, and Niceville FL. and Decatur, Ga.

We all had a good time and looking forward to another reunion in 1995.
Miriam Lassiter Williams

MOUNT CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HOMECOMING

The annual homecoming was held May 1, 1994. Rev. Marquis Wingard was the guest minister. He is Malinda Sellers' brother. He is now serving his first year at Gonzalez United Methodist Church near Pensacola, Florida. He had a great homecoming message and enjoyed seeing a lot of old friends and relatives. We had more visitors than usual due to the dedication of the BELL in memory of Lamar Memorial United Methodist Church that was located in Letohatchee, Alabama. The BELL was installed in the Letohatchee church in 1897. The lettering on the BELL is as follows:

M. E. Church, South
Letohatchee, Ala., May 24, 1897
Committee:
Geo. L. Jenkins, Chrm, S.O. Holmes
J. H. Payne, W.A. Williams
Rev. J.S. Williams, Pastor

This is a beautiful BRASS BELL and is now housed in a Gazebo type structure on the grounds of Mount Carmel United Methodist Church. We invite all to come and see it. It will be worth your trip. The Lamar Memorial United Methodist Church was on the Mount Carmel Charge when it closed May 27, 1990. Homecoming was a great day as it always has been through the years with plenty of good food and wonderful fellowship. Our present minister is Rev. Charles R. Wimberly.
Malinda & Moses Sellers

WHEN THE TRAVELING MEDICINE SHOW CAME TO SELLERS STATION

Back in the days when I was a child living in Talleytown, a traveling medicine show would come to Sellers Station each year in the fall after the cotton crop had been sold and the farmers had cash in their pockets. The Thespians usually consisted of a family: a father, mother and teenage daughter. The father was a magician and did several magic tricks such as pulling a red handkerchief through his hand and it would be blue when it came out the opposite side. They sold medicine which would cure anything from ingrowing toenails to appendicitis. The man related that he had just come from Highland Home where there was a lady who had been sick unto death. After taking one bottle of his famous elixir she was now picking a bale of cotton a day. If you bought a bottle of his medicine he would put your name in a hat and at the end of the show draw for prizes such as towels and bedspreads or blankets. Each night he would sell out of the medicine and it would be necessary to come back the next night when he would have in a new shipment.

The man would call his teenage daughter out on the stage and they would put on a show. He would ask her where she had been the night before. She would hang her head and say she had been out with a man. Then he would make her lie across a chair while he beat her with a paddle consisting of two boards which would clack together and make a tremendous noise. He would pause and ask the name of the man and she would reply she did not know. He would ask several times and get the same answer and then he would ask if the man was in the audience and she would reply in the affirmative. He would ask her to point him out and she would say it was the man wearing overalls. When the father would turn to the audience to look for the guilty party, she would jump up and run behind the curtain. Of course, just about every man in the audience was wearing overalls. Then, in feigned frustration, the father would declare that the next night he would make her tell the name of the man. If memory serves me right, my mother would not let me nor my father attend the following night - I assumed she thought it might be a close relative who would be named.

Almost all of the entertainers played musical instruments and sang as part of the show. These traveling shows were looked forward to each year by the residents of the communities around Sellers Station.

Charles Hall

BLONDIE ■ Dean Young & Stan Drake



THEY DON'T WRITE OBITUARIES LIKE THEY USED TO

On last Saturday night, at the hour when another Sabbath was bursting into being, the sweet spirit of Mrs. Susan Bliss winged its way to that happy realm where an unending Sabbath reigns. She was a native of the beautiful Emerald Isle, but had lived here more than 50 years. Her death occurred from pneumonia, and she was 77 years old. A firm, consistent Christian, with a heart full of charity and love to all, she died, as she lived, a devoted member of the Episcopal church, and could proudly point, like the fond mother of the Gracchi, to her three sons as her jewels. Contributed by Rene Barnett

IN THIS ISSUE: Tarver descendency chart; Ltr, Pres. Geo. Bush; Edge, Lassiter, Mos(e)ley-Shackelford reunions; Mt. Carmel U. Meth. Church homecoming; Pintlala school marker unveiling.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

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

Other household members: _____

Address _____

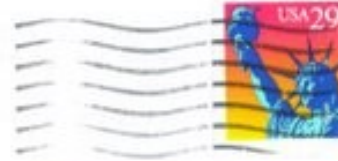
City, State, Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (office) _____

Interest Areas: _____

If you are interested in genealogy, please indicate family surnames _____

PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
c/o Pintlala Public Library
175 Federal Road
Hope Hull, AL 36043



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

8

