# PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

# **Next Meeting:**

*October 21st—2:30 p.m.* Pintlala Baptist Church



c/o Pintlala Public Library 255 Federal Road Hope Hull, Alabama 36043

Volume XXVI, Number 3

www.pintlalahistoricalassociation.com

October 2012

#### **Peter Alexander Brannon**

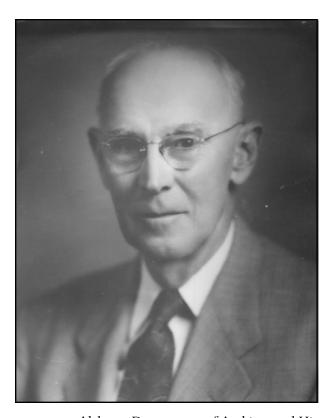


Photo courtesy Alabama Department of Archives and History

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# President's Message

Why the Pintlala Historical Association is Necessary

Such a thought seems a bit self-serving, but without the study and chronicling of local history our approach to responsible citizenship and community involvement will be quite superficial. The ground in and around Pintlala oozes with historical significance. Our history inspires a strong sense of place. The disciplined study of Pintlala and southwest Montgomery County creates a conviction of moral debt to those who have contributed to the unique wonder of our area. Why not consider supporting the PHA with your presence at our upcoming meeting? Make it a priority. You can make a difference.

#### Consider these matters:

- Under pressure to make budget cuts, the Georgia Secretary of State proposed the elimination of the Georgia State Archives. At this writing a strong public protest has politicians back-pedaling and trying to find a solution. Hopefully, something will be worked out. Yet I am disturbed by leaders who fail to make the connection of our knowledge of history and a civilized society.
- With the strong support of our officers we are pursuing approval from the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c)(3) status thus making the PHA a tax-exempt organization. Our goals and objectives are quite daunting and we need the ability to attract larger gifts than the small amount provided by our dues. The process has gone on for months and has been exasperating at times. In Slade has provided assistance with submitting our financials and Alice Carter with her persistent focus has proven to be indispensible. We will share a progress report at our meeting this month.
- I will be appointing a nominating committee to recommend persons to fill the annually generated vacancies. The committee's report will also be given at our meeting.
- As you will read elsewhere in this edition, November 4 is vitally important as we continue the
  celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Pintlala Elementary School. The event itself will become a part of history.

My challenge to each of us is renew our resolve to learn more about our local history. The recovery of our history and heritage resonates with the words of Terry Tempest Williams: Our kinship with Earth must be maintained; otherwise we will find ourselves trapped in the center of our own paved-over souls with no way out.

Gary Burton, President garyburton1@charter.net

# October 2012 PHA Program

The PHA will meet on Sunday, October 21, 2012 at 2:30 in the Fellowship Hall of Pintlala Baptist Church. Our program will be presented by Col. and Mrs. Larry Cornwell in the roles of General and Mrs. Richard Montgomery of Revolutionary War fame and the general for whom the city of Montgomery is named. Col. Cornwell has presented programs to many, many organizations and is a very active member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Please join us for this engaging program.



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#### PETER ALEXANDER BRANNON

The feature article in this quarterly PHA newsletter is a transcription of an article, "Near the Forks of Pinchona," which appeared in the newspaper, *The Montgomery Advertiser*, in 1937. The author of the article was Peter A. Brannon who at the time was Director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Over the years, the PHA newsletter editors have relied heavily on Brannon's writings as resource material and quoted him in many articles. Readers might appreciate having a first-hand look at this prolific writer and true southern gentleman.

Peter Alexander Brannon was born August 30, 1882 in the Seale community in Russell County, Alabama. He graduated from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn University) in 1900 as a pharmacist. In 1911 he began working for the Alabama Department of Archives and History as a curator. He moved into an archivist position in 1941 and was promoted to Director of the Department upon the retirement of Marie Bankhead Owen in 1955. Brannon remained director until his death in January 1967 at age 84. He was succeeded by Milo B. Howard.

Brannon wrote on a broad range of topics relating to the history of Alabama and its culture. A few of the publications for which he wrote include:

Alabama Highways, the official publication of the Alabama Highway Department; editor, *The Alabama Historical Quarterly*; editor(1920-1937), *Arrow Points*, published by the Alabama Anthropological Society; and *The Montgomery Advertiser*. He also wrote numerous articles, papers and books.

His associations with historical groups are too many to list; however one of the most important was the Alabama Historical Association of which he was a founder. His overall contributions to Alabama history are inestimable. We thank him for his trips to Pintlala and for recording in great detail his visits and findings.

Sources: Files, Alabama Department of Archives and History	

The following article by Peter Brannon was faithfully transcribed from the July 4, 1937 *Montgomery Advertiser*. Spelling and grammar are just as published. Brannon wrote in a rather convoluted style making it necessary for the reader to read slowly and sometimes reread his work in order to get the correct meaning. It is worth the struggle, I assure you! Transcribed by Alice Carter.

Montgomery Advertiser July 4, 1937

Through the Years
Near The Forks of Pinchona

By Peter A. Brannon

(The compilation of this paper is purposely attempted as a contribution in the interest of that annual affair, the Fourth of July meeting of the Shackelford family association. It is scheduled to be held tomorrow July 5, Monday at the old settlement site on the Mobile Road some 16 miles west of Montgomery when the exercises incident to the get-together and the family dinner will be indulged in at the consolidated school building there.)

At the dawn of the history of Montgomery County, an Indian, who was part Dutchman resided in the northwest corner of the land which we now call by that name and his family is for all time intimately woven into the traditions of that section. The Dutchman resided near the mouth of Pinchona Creek on the old Federal Road. A Scotch family which is tied to the history of the country certainly shortly after the period of the admission of the State into the Union, resided a little further east, just about the junction of

the old Federal road with what became years later to be the Hayneville road. Up the streams, Pintlalla and Pinchona were in later years. Shackelfords, Bozemans, Riveses, Cappses, Quarleses, and as well, the Tankersleys, Barnes, Butlers, and many others lived east and south toward the headwaters of Pintlala.

The Dutch family had in it the blood of the leading and most aristocratic one of the Upper Creek Indians, Wind Clan, for on the female side of the house they were direct descendants of Sehoy, that maiden who at old Fort Toulouse, charmed the captain and subsequently became the mother of a long line of pioneers who figured prominently in our development days. Those Dutchmen who were actually a little Scotch, also had some Indian and French blood. That Scotch family (the one out off the Creek, I suspect, was out of East Georgia, and I for one have no idea how long out of Scotland. So far as I have been able to determine this one, the Bonhams, are first referred to by another Scotchman, James Stuart who traveled that way in 1830, and who spoke of the lady of the house as "Mrs. Bonum." His reference is not a happy one. This traveler says that noting a rather good meal which had been prepared for the up stage and —if I may read between the lines—which seems to have been almost all eaten by the passengers on the stage, none being left for the down stage group, he insisted that he be furnished with actually as good, when the tavern hostess argued that she should to be held to account for that, not, being responsible for the lateness of the coach. This chronicler records that the lady's temper was not flowing as smooth on that occasion as it perhaps should and enters in his journal, among other things, that she resolutely refused to furnish any salt for the eggs arguing that the butter was sufficiently spiced.

#### **Early Land Entries**

In order that those who may read these lines may have the advantage of the official records in the matter if of of the original land entries. I have had a transcript made of the pages of the Track book on file in the Secretary of State's office at the capitol, for those original entries in sections 4,5,6,7,8,9,10, 15,16, 17, 20 and 28. To those who may care to go deeper into the subject, if you will consult a map you will find that this has reference to parcels of land lying in Township 14, North, range 17 East near the western line of Montgomery County where it touches Lowndes, and bordering the waters of Pintlalla and Pinchona creeks. Interesting observations immediately made by me that while Sam Manac and Bonham the Tavern keeper, who were both living on these lands before 1820, neither entered under the land office permits, any tract in this region.

The record book shows that the entire section five, was set aside for the benefit of the State. Of course section 16 was school land. George Shackelford bought the southeast quarter May 10, 1841. The west half of section 20 was set aside as an Indian reservation. It so happens that this west half of section 20 is the old Cowpens plantation of Sam Manac and the birthplace of David Manac (in the military records Moniac), there fore I can readily reconcile why it is designated as an "Indian reservation." Sam Manac went from this country perhaps before the coming of the Bonhams for he was quite early in the Tensaw country, down at what was after 1819, Montpelier. Even so, at the date of the survey in 1833, and for years later, this half-section was a reservation. These particular settlement sites, Manac's and Bonham's taverns, have figured much in the story of the Federal road and the Indian trail which formed the main route over which went practically all of those who formed the Tensaw and Tombigbee colonies in the Mississippi Territory. "Manac's house on the Pinchona" has been written numerous times into our records. The tavern on the Federal road, next after Milly's (Bonhams), is a permanent landmark in our early history. It must be remembered though that the traveler, generally, after 1823, went through Montgomery and that Bonham's was on what was later known as the "Mobile Road."

The east half of the northwest quarter of section 17 was entered in the United States Land Office on August 6, 1835, by George Shackelford. He had already entered the west half on March 21, 1821. The heirs of Dr. James Gustin entered the northwest quarter of section 17 on Aug. 7, 1817. George M. Rives had at various dates in 1831 entered the south half of section 15 and on July 17, 1835, James Brantley entered the northwest quarter of the southwest of that section. John and John M. Rives entered the northeast quarter (of 15) on May 17, 1831. Elijah Anderson got, on Sept. 13, 1833, the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter by Sarah Blaine and Andrew Carothers on August

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17, 1817. Silas Ballard entered the west half of the northeast quarter of section 8 on Feb. 2, 1819. He also entered the east half of the northeast quarter of section 9, this entry being dated Oct. 14, 1817. These two families, such large land owners in the southern part of the country, the Markses and the Matthewses, had their eyes on this land for on March 9, 1819, the northwest quarter of section 6 was granted to J. H. Marks and C.L. Matthews. Samuel Quarles on Oct. 19, 1818, got the northeast quarter of section 10.

In June and July, 1826, this same man got the entire southwest quarter. Adam Capps on July 21,1824, got the west half of the northwest quarter of section 10 and Stephen Brown on Feb. 7, 1825, got the east half of the northwest quarter. John M. Rives on May 17, 1831, was granted the entire southwest quarter. Of course it should be remembered that these grants and entries, be they considered either way, are for otherwise unclaimed Government land, and were actually purchases at the low rate.

Brown, Capps and Quarles, and another one of the Rives family, this time Thomas, and George Shack-leford entered other parcels during the years up to 1837. As well, the property owners of these lands along Pinchona and Pintlala included Albert Gallatin McGhee, Britton Capel, Haley Hutchinson, John Barrett, and Joseph Hatch, all in Section Six. Jesse Bozeman, George B. Bibb, James H. Smith, John Greene, Bunberry Flynn, all in Section Four, William Harwell, Allen Gilmore, Wade Allen, Alex McKithen, Leak Frolich, all in Section Seven; James Coil in Section Eight, and the Ballards, Bibbs and Quarles got all of Section Nine. Wade Allen got Section Eighteen and some of SectionTwenty-seven and Benajah S. Bibb got much of Fifteen and Seventeen. John Goldthwaite seems to have had country land as well as town land, for in June, 1836, he got the west half of the northwest quarter of Twenty-seven and also the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Twenty-eight. John R. Tankersley got the north half of the southeast quarter of the same quarter.

His entries date December 1, 1835, and June 20, 1836. Of course it must not be assumed that these above named parties lived on these lands. No doubt some of them were purchased from the Government, particularly for speculative purposes. In fact, the old settlers down in that section of the country do not recall some of these names, but do recall others, and these original purchasers probably transferred their holdings onto those who made up the community as it was known by the grandparents of the Shackelfords, the Moseleys, Jeters and Garretts, those who we think of as being the Pintalala neighborhood. The present day settlers all insist that they had a family of Busseyes in there (and I have heard others, you may see many names in the subjoined Mexican war roll.)

#### Those Not of Pintlala

The traditional folkore and the recollections of the older citizens of Pintlala insist that the Butler and Tankersley settlements were not a part of them, and only in some cases did they mix. The Bibb lands and the Allen lands even though they overlapped in a few cases, were developed only as plantation sites and not as homesteads, so we must separate them in any discussion of this locality in the pioneer development of Montgomery County.

In talking to one of the natives (though not one of the oldest of this locality), I learn that the old Federal road did not cross the present Mobile Highway immediately at Moseley's store, but somewhere near the "cut" north of the Garrett home. It proceeded on out in the general direction of that point on Pinchhona where the present road (generally designated as the Hayneville Road) crosses Pinchona to fork, the righthand branch as you face West going in the direction of Saint Clair on the Western of Alabama Railroad. The daughters of the American Revolution in placing the marker at Moseley's store fixed the location of the latter road of about 1840, that is, the stage road, and as well, put the marker at the more prominent point (that is, the crossroads), seeking to fix another historic incident, and to call attention to Manac's birthplace two miles west.

#### Early References to Old Federal Road

Travelers of that Indian trail which after 1805 was a Federal road, followed a pre-historic path from the Oconee River in Georgia, across the Flint, by the present Macon, down west of Upatoi Creek, Georgia, across the Chattahoochee, south of Coweta town, generally west and southwest through what were sub-

sequently Forts Bainbridge and Hull, by Polecat Springs, through the prairies and southwest to cross the Alabama River at Fort Claiborne, into Saint Stephens. After the other agreement of 1811, tavern stops and places of accommodation were fixed at points then settled and after the opening of the stage lines, about 1821, houses of entertainment were designated at distances which approximated sixteen miles apart. Crabtree's Tavern on the Yuchi Creek (when the travelers did not stop at Crowell's at Fort Mitchell two miles east), Lewis, Walkers, Bonhams, Colonel Woods, McMillan's, Mill's and many others could be named), were night stops where breakfast might be had. Manac's House, referred to in 1803 by Lorenzo Dow as the "first stop in the Nation". (Lorenzo and Peggy was traveling North and East), was for a time long preceding the Federal agreement with the Indians to provide these houses of entertainment and furnish ferries across the streams, the sole one of these forests.

#### Manac's House

Sam Manac's plantation house (according to the land records he had another one at the mouth of Pintlala, at our present railroad station of the name on the Western of Alabama), enjoyed the distinction of entertaining many more prominent guests than the eccentric Methodist preacher and his bride, for in 1807 Colonel Perkins and his guard, which escorted Aaron Burr to Richmond, Va., for trial, partook of one of

Manac's meals which Mr. Dow vigorously asserted as charged to him at the rate of fifty cents. General Wilkinson and his lady spent the night at Manac's house when he traveled on an inspection tour going East from Mobile in April 1812. George S. Gaines, commander of the United States Army in the South was a guest in that house. Mentioning others of a different prominence, General Thomas S. Woodward at times before he became a brigadier of Alabama militia, and was merely an Indian countryman, was there with his erstwhile friends, William Weatherford, Josiah Francis, Ne-he-mathla (these latter two both of royal Indian blood, destined to suffer the wrath of Andrew Jackson and be hung at Fowlstown in the Seminole Nation), were just a few others who may be assumed to have eaten that, so much at the present day discussed, Indian pudding, and of the venison of the swamps of Pintlala and fish of its waters.

Of course the outstanding incident in connection with this site was that here lived in boyhood David Manac, in the U. S. official records Moniac, destined by selection of the president to be the first real "American" honored with an appointment to the Military Academy. Young Manac was undoubtedly named for his uncle David Tate, son John, the British agent, who married one of the Sehoys and who died in 1780 at Cusseta town on Upatoie Creek in the present Fort Beninng military reservation. Mrs. Tate subsequently married Charles Weatherford. From this house went David, 16 years of age, about the Fall of 1816 to be tutored by John McCleod an Irish teacher at Washington City and the records show that he passed his entrance examination even though I doubt whether he had even seen inside a school book, or probably even been outside of the Indian Nation prior to going to Washington to prepare for West Point. This man graduated from the Academy in 1821, served a few months and retired to his plantation in the Little River swaps of south Alabama where he accumulated some property. In the Florida Indian War of 1837 he volunteered to lead a company against the Seminoles and as a major in command of a battalion of volunteers, was killed at Wahoo Swamp not far from Fort Dade.

To those who might vision the days of early travel along that highway of commerce, as you drive today by the school and go down the hill, in sight of the bridge half a mile away which spans Pinchona, you may know this as the point where old Thomas Meredith, on his way to the Mississippi Territory with his family, met his death in 1813, at the hands of the Indians when they demanded more of his party than he choose to give them. You may find this incident noted in the Indian Affairs volumes of the American State Papers as the "crossing on Catoma, at Manac's house" but Manac never lived on Catoma, therefore it obviously means his Pinchona house.

Manac's house, for the benefit of those who may want to know the exact site, was on the left side of Pinchona about a quarter of a mile down stream, out on the hill from the Indian mound at the present day crossing place where there was a few years ago a small negro church. This property long time owned by Manac, is now one of the plantation of Mrs. J. Watt Cook, of Montgomery.

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In recent years I have frequently seen this word written into records as "Pinchony". That spelling is entirely incorrect, not very euphonious, and entirely foreign to the meaning of the word which probably has its origin in the circumstance of someone in pre-historic days having seen in these woods a wild turkey running, while he still stooped. Hawkins, the Indian agent, in 1796, called this creek "Pinchunc." La Tourette, in his original 1844 map, enters it erroneously as "Pinchoma." The original is in two words "pin" which should have ? written "wa" combined with it, and "Chuni-nitkita." That last long word is Creek Indian, though some writers have tried to give it a Choctaw derivation. The two words "Pin (wa) and the "Chuni-nitkita" pronounced "Chunee" "Nitkeeta," should be condensed to "Pin-chuni" and pronounced "Penchonar." Dr. William A. Read, of the Louisiana State University, who has written much of Indian names of the South, has been interested much both in "Pinchona" and "Pintlalla." I am far more in accord with his recent volume on Alabama place names, in respect to these two than I am in accord with some early writers on the subject.

Pintlalla, two "Il's" on the end, never one, is properly pronounced as if it was being spoken through your nose, for Col. Hawkins so accented it in 1796, but the accepted way at the present time is as "pennt" and the final sound must necessarily be "larlar." Some people attempt to affect much difficulty in pronouncing and spelling Indain words. They should all be sounded euponiously and all of them are easily spelled and easy to pronounce if you will allow yourself to think so.

The proper origin of the word Pintlalla is the same (or quite close to) one from which comes "Opelika" a chop off, wear down or cut down of Opilwa." "Lala" or "Lalla" is the Creek Indian word which designates "fish" and as "Opilua" means "swamp" then Pintlalla means "fish swamp." Dr. Read does not think that the last syllable can possibly be "lako" which would make it "big swamp" instead of "fish swamp." Some early writers have translated the word "pintlala" as "mud fish" and this is not a bad translation for "swamp fish" could easily be "mud cats" as we some times name them today. These early translators may have had enough association with the Indians to get such an origin.

#### Pintlalla's Old Settlers

Many years ago, in fact 27 years of them, I had my first experience at a Pintlalla old settler's picnic, and an annual occasion. The old Prof. Barnes, that very interesting senior teacher of the name, was the inspiration of those occasions and he used to tell them a great deal of Butlers Mill and the early settlers of Pintlalla. On many of these occasions they held their annual get-together meetings at this site. The last one which I attended was at Ada, some little distance off the creek, but it served to bring together many interested in the traditions of the valley of the two streams. In recent years the annual reunion of the Shackelford Association which includes everybody inter-married into the Shackelford family, (obviously a growing institution), while not a successor to the old group in the legal sense of the word, at least is positively preserving the traditions of those settlers on the lands between the creeks. These lands have produced fighters, educators, electricians and physicians—and probably all the other professions—for I, even, have known men of those mentioned.

#### Those "Bonums"

When one "runs the records, there are pertinent and rather romantic references to the descendants of that couple who lived in "the first house in the woods after the stage left Montgomery," quoting more than one traveler. While I never knew personally anyone of this early family name, I have known cousins and in-laws of these Bonhams (who agree with the pronunciation as "Bonum") and I find Capt. John N. Bonham, of the Montgomery Invincibles, offering his services for the War with the Indians in 1836. The captain was none other than the head of this one-room log house on the road to Mobile. Malachi F. and James, his sons, were Sergeant and Corporal, respectively, in Siebels' Battalion, in the War with Mexico, and James Butler Bonham, born Feb. 28, 1807, near Travis, S.C., was a volunteer from Montgomery County, Alabama, in the Texas uprising against Mexico in 1836. He was one of those who died with Travis at the Alamo. Sergeant Malachi went in to the Confederate service in 1861, in the Third Alabama Infantry. Apparently he enlisted at Lowndesboro, April15, 1861, in Company "H," from which he was transferred May 1, 1862, to command Company "G." I find also, that Jim of the name, a boy from Sandy Ridge, served in Company "K," 53<sup>rd</sup>Alabama Cavalry, and J. J., age 20, Montgomery County, served as

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a private, in Company "B," 14th Alabama Infantry Regiment.

In the Spanish-American War Service, I find Olin F., Company "A," 2<sup>nd</sup> Alabama Volunteers, born in Montgomery; and Thurston, of the same command, 25 years old, born at Lowndesboro. They were the sons of N.F. Bonham. Edward T., a third Sergeant, belonged to that command, and Armistead M. of Company"E," 25 years old, was born at Mobile. If he is of the same family, I do not know it.

#### **The Present Names**

When I drive at the present time down the Mobile Road and I find a "Hope Hull" sign at about 200 yards of Moseley's Store, I am somewhat bewildered as I can not exactly reconcile Hope Hull on the West side of Pintlalla Creek; Moseley's Store is a Montgomery County Land Mark, but as those mentioned original entries will show, these Moseleys, did not get into that country until about 100 years ago. In the estimation of us who live, (or who are accused of living) in the years antedating 100 years ago, these century ago comers, were late into that section. They did inter-marry with the Shackelfords and others originally settled there, so of course they belong there, and we expect to find them there. Hope Hull belongs to the old Abner McGehee Settlement where the Graves and Clarks later lived. Even so, William Graves, the Revolutionary Soldier lies out toward Burkeville, so some of them belong to neither locality.

This "Pintlalla Community" produced Dr. Edward Madison Shackelofrd, for a long time, and until recently, head of the State Normal School, now the State Teachers' College, of Troy; Moseleys galore, including Frank, the preacher; Garrett, the engineer; those Normans, (I seem to remember them always as tall men), and other, in the scope of this paper, too numerous to mention.

Attached, for the interest of those who might be pleasantly reminded at the sight of these names, is a list of Capt. James M. Curtis's Company "A" of an Infantry Battalion under Lieut. Col. P.H. Raiford, mustered in May 23, 1846, at Mobile, for six months' service in the Mexican War. The list will serve as a pretty good census for that time and the reader can go back to the original entries and find several of the old family names therein.

Captain J. M. Curtis Company A, six months' service, Mexican War:

James M. Curtis, captain; Norfleet Ivey, first lieutenant, John C. Parham, second lieutenant; James W. Moore, first sergeant; Edward M. Bussey, third sergeant; John R. Waller, fourth sergeant; Asa Allan, first corporal; Richard A. Wright, second corporal; Charles R Waller, third corporal; Robert Auvant, fourth corporal; John Campbell, musician; Meedy Bozeman, musician.

Privates: Mastar H. Allen (Martin), Cornelius Anderson, Robert T. Allen, Thomas S. Bennett, William P. Brantley, Lawrence W. Balls, Benjamin Bussey, Austin Bunch, Willaim Bussey, William Boyd, Silas H. Ballard, William Capps, Stephen K. Daniel, Thomas Duffey (Durfey), James Gamewell, Edward Tarver, Elijah C. Hickson (Huckson), Jesse Hedgepeth, John Hedgepeth, Alpheus G. Jones, Benjamin F. Jackson, James Karr, John A. Lasiter, James A. Luckey, Alfred Lewis, Daniel McQueen, Mason Mosely, Stephen G. Middleton, Mumford L. Merrill, George B. A. Mosely, Elder S. Nixon, James Perdeu, Jesse W. Payne, James M. Saggers, Eli Suggs, James A Strickland, Jefferson Sharp, William Todd, Thomas Turner, John Vincent, George N. Ward, Bunberry B. Wilson, James Tunnel.

Discharged, Privates, William W. Ballard, Phillip E. Grover, William Jarnigan, William H. Williams, Solomon Young.

Dead John R. B. Tankersley, third sergeant; George W. Ball, private; Layfayette Downing, private; Joseph C. Sharp, private; Reddin D. Simmons, private.

#### **Dr. John Hazard Henry: Inquiry**

Some months ago someone asked if I had any information on Dr. J. H. Henry. At the time of the inquiry I had no knowledge of Dr. Henry. Unfortunately, I do not remember who made the inquiry, but I now have an answer! Hopefully the inquirer will read this bit of information on Dr. Henry.

First of all, he is not related to the Pintlala Henry family. John Hazard Henry was born in Montgomery on January 3, 1829 to parents Dr. Hugh William Henry and his wife Martha Falconer Henry. Martha's father was William Falconer a prominent planter in Montgomery County in 1819.

Dr. Hugh William Henry was commissioned as a surgeon in the United States Army, with it head-quarters at Sacketts Harbor, New York. He settled near Mobile, in 1817 and made his way to Montgomery in 1818. He was on the committee of citizens who welcomed General LaFayette to Montgomery at the time of his visit there in1825. He shared a friendship with General Andrew Jackson and served as a colonel in the Indian War of 1836. He also served as an alderman of Montgomery and was a member of the Montgomery True Blues, one of the oldest military companies in Alabama. He died in Baltimore and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Montgomery, Alabama.

His son Dr. John Hazard Henry was educated at Clarkston Institute in New York and in 1847-1848 he studied medicine with Dr. J. Marion Sims in Montgomery. On the grounds of the State Capitol, Dr. Sims is memorialized with a statue, as the Father of Modern Gynecology. Dr. Henry continued his medical education and in 1851 in Philadelphia earned a degree in Homeopathy. He came home to Montgomery to begin his practice.

Henry was keenly interested in politics and when Alabama seceded from the Union in 1861 he actively participated in the South's struggle for independence. At the end of the Civil War, Henry was mayor of Selma and became an organizer for the Republican party.

In 1864 John Hazard Henry married Mary Jane McCurdy, daughter of A. Pinckney McCurdy a large planter of Dallas County. Of their three children only one survived to adulthood. Martha Singleton Henry married Ernest Stay in 1899. Stay was a merchant in Montgomery.

Dr. John Hazard Henry was a large landowner in Montgomery city and county. Both father and son are buried in Oakwood cemetery. However, there is a cemetery near Sprague, which we have been unable to locate, that is referred to as the Henry Plantation Cemetery. There are no Henry's interred there but William Falconer and three other members of his family are resting in this yet unfound cemetery.

I do hope this will help the mystery inquirer!

Alice Carter

# **Pintlala School Sign**

The Pintlala Historical Association is working with the Pintlala School PTA and principal, Shannon Schmidt to replace a sign that was in front of the school, near the historical marker. The sign was made of wood and has fallen into irreparable condition. Southern Sign Crafters has agreed to work with us to produce a sign that will last "forever". It will be made of sheet aluminum with lettering produced from a pvc product that will provide a raised effect. We would like to have the sign made in time for the ninetieth celebration of the school's founding which will be observed by PHA on November 4, 2012. We are attempting to get contributions from interested parties to cover this expense. We have a bid of \$525.00 of which we have to date \$300.00 in pledges.

Today we ask PHA members to consider helping to underwrite this project. If you can help in any amount, please see Ina Slade at the end of the PHA meeting or mail her a check at the address shown on the back page of the newsletter.

Thank you all for your support of this small project.

# **Welcome New Members**

Mrs. Patricia H. McLaney Hope Hull, Alabama (Fleta)

Mr. and Mrs. William D. Sellers Hope Hull, Alabama (Fleta)

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Slauson Wetumpka, Alabama

Dr. and Mrs. Dudley Terrell Hope Hull, Alabama (Fleta)

This family is currently restoring the old William Caffey Norman home in Fleta. Mrs. Terrell is the granddaughter of the Normans. They have moved to Fleta from New York City. Can you imagine the culture shock they have experienced!

We appreciate all of you and your interest in and support of our organization.

# History Made on September 22: Pintlala Elementary School

Pintlala Elementary School celebrated its 90th anniversary on Thursday, September 22, 2012. Students and faculty held a rousing birthday party on the front lawn. Principal, Shannon Schmidt, emphasized the significance of the historic day. Just as on the 1922 opening day the Superintendent of Education was in attendance along with a Board of Education member.

#### MAKING HISTORY ON NOVEMBER 4: PINTLALA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

As the community continues its celebration of the 90th year of education for Pintlala Elementary School, a grand event is being planned for Sunday, November 4, 2:30-4:00 p.m. The school will be the site for a gathering of school officials, Montgomery Public School board members and elected leaders as Pintlala alumni, former faculty and staff, join the event. After a very brief program most of the time will be allotted for alumni and others to tour the building and to reminisce with long-time friends. This may be a-once-in-a-lifetime gathering to express our gratitude for principals, teachers, and former students. Here is what you can do to help:

- Plan to attend. Don't miss this.
- Send to me your contact information and please include your graduating school year. If you know others who attended Pintlala School, get me their information too.

Gary Burton 13812 U.S. Highway 31 Hope Hull, AL. 36043 334-288-7414 (h) garyburton1@charter.net





Students Celebrating 90th Anniversary of Pintlala School



# PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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

### **NEXT MEETING**

OCTOBER 21ST, 2012 2:30 P.M.

# PINTLALA BAPTIST CHURCH

Join the Pintlala Historical Association Please mail completed form & dues to:

Pintlala Historical Association Ina Slade 15212 Highway 31 Hope Hull, Alabama 36043

Name	
Address	
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Phone (Home & Office)	
E-Mail Address	
Areas of Interest	
If you are interested in genealogy, please indicate family surnames	