

PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Next Meeting:
October 18, 2015 - 2:30 p.m.



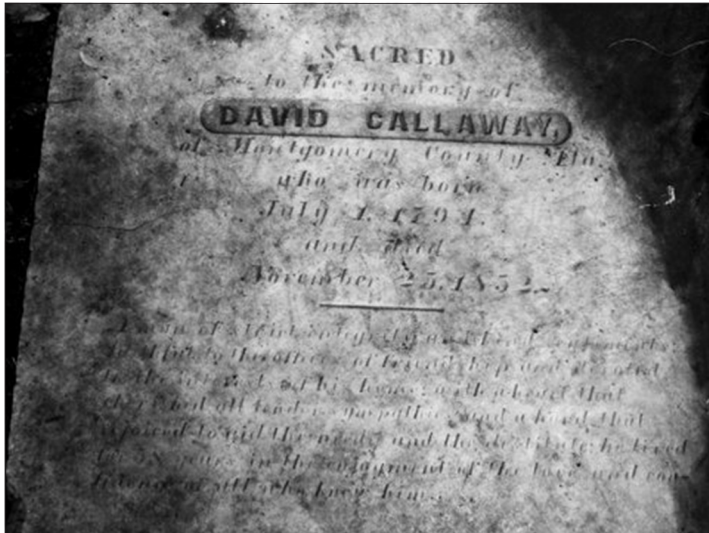
*c/o Pintlala Public Library
 255 Federal Road
 Hope Hull, Alabama 36043*

Volume XXIX, Number 4

www.pintlalahistoricalassociation.com

October 2015

Uncovered tombstones in Callaway Cemetery, Hope Hull, Alabama, L to R: Marker for David Callaway; Double marker for his daughter, Ellen Peninah Taylor and her husband, Abner Clark Taylor. Abner Taylor was a grandson of Abner McGehee (1779-1855) buried in McGehee Cemetery, Hope Hull, Alabama.



Photographs courtesy of Gary Burton

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From the President

"A Cause For Worry, Two Events, and One Visit To Pintlala"

I worry sometimes if we are educating for citizenship, responsible citizenship. In a narcissistic age, it seems to me that the ability for critical thinking is being lost. To think on all sides of an issue before forming a fixed opinion is a skill which requires much practice and experience. Good citizens are independent thinkers. My point is not profound but it seems to be lost on many of our contemporaries: **A basic knowledge of history makes for a good citizen.** Without it, the chances go way down. Well, that's what I worry about these days.

Speaking of history...be sure to read Alice Carter's promotion of our next program featuring **Mary Allen Meadows** of Lowndesboro. Her presentation on Wilson's Raiders is impressive. The PBC Fellowship Hall is the place; October 18, 2:30 is the day and time. Be prepared to experience much regret if this program is missed.

After the turn of the year, January's program will become a magnet for those interested in Creek Indians, Sam Manac, and the early settlement of our area. Our guest presenter will be the popular **Robert Thrower**, member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. He is also the sixth great grandson of Sam Manac (Moniac). Reserve January 17, 2016.

While researching the 1812 murder of Thomas Meredith on Pinchona Creek about five years ago, I was contacted by a Meredith descendant, **Sandra Bennett**, of Irving, Texas. Recently she returned to Pintlala on a once-in-a-lifetime genealogical trip which would take her to South Carolina. Pintlala was her first stop. I enjoyed spending the morning of September 14 with Sandra. The weather was perfect for showing Sandra the site of Manac's Tavern/Store, and a remaining vestige of the Old Federal Road, and then walking the almost dry creek bed of the Pinchona near the place where Thomas Meredith was killed by militant Indians.

Indeed, the knowledge of history makes for a good citizen.

Gary Burton, President

garyburton1@charter.net



Robert Thrower, Photograph courtesy Bob Crisp,
Consolidated News Service, Anniston Star.



Sandra Bennett/Irving, Texas , Photograph courtesy Gary Burton

Canoe Trail Dedicated! Harold Banks, Author and Long-Time HOBE Supporter Honored

After nearly two years of work and preparation, the Harold Banks Canoe Trail for the Tallapoosa River finally opened. A ribbon cutting and dedication of the trail took place at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park in Tallapoosa County on Friday, July 24th.

At the ceremony, the new informational map brochure and signs were unveiled. And the trail was officially named after Dadeville resident and expert canoeist Harold Banks. At the event, signs and map brochures with Harold's name on them were unveiled. Shane Harris, Tallapoosa County Extension Coordinator, broke the news. "There is one final and most important piece of the puzzle we must add. It needs a proper name." Harris stated. "Today we. Dedicate this Canoe Trail to a man who knows and loves the Tallapoosa River more than anyone. Someone who not only has been a leader for this local project but has paddled the entire 258 miles of the Tallapoosa River. That person is Mr. Harold Banks. It is my honor and privilege to announce and open the Harold Banks Canoe Trail."

Permission to reproduce excerpt from: *The Newsletter from Friends of Horseshoe Bend, V.4, #1, Summer 2015* granted by Dr. Catherine Braund.



Welcome 2015 New Members

- Mr. and Mrs. Nick Burton

*Thank you for your support and interest in
the Pintlala Historical Association!*

In Memoriam

- ◆ *Christine Lee Hornday, 1931-2015*
- ◆ *Julius Britt Norman, 1925-2015*

PHA October Program

Pintlala Historical Association will meet on Sunday, October 18th at 2:30 P.M. at Pintlala Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Mary Allen Meadows of Lowndesboro, Alabama will present a program on the march by Union General James Wilson and his troops through Lowndes County following the Battle of Selma in April 1865. This group has acquired the name "Wilson's Raiders."

Mrs. Meadows is a native of Brewton, graduated from Huntingdon College, earned a graduate degree from the University of Alabama and has taught history on the secondary and college level. She was married to her late husband Howard Payne Meadows a native of Lowndesboro.

She has spent many months and hours working with a Lowndes County committee researching and writing a forthcoming history of Lowndesboro which will be published by the Lowndesboro Landmarks Foundation.

Please join with us on the 18th as we welcome Mrs. Meadows and other members of the Lowndesboro Landmarks Foundation to Pintlala. "Scenes from our Home Front" will certainly be of interest to the PHA as we reflect on the march through our community by Union troops lead by General A. J. Smith.

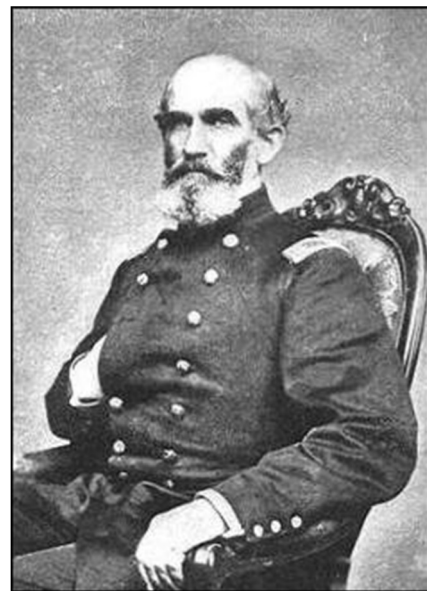
Were Union Troops in Pintlala? - By Gary Burton Reprinted from PHA Newsletter January 2006 IDENTIFYING UNION TROOPS

Is it possible to identify the Union troops who were in Pintlala? It is unlikely that a contingent of General James H. Wilson's troops (Wilson's Raiders) would have been as far south as Pintlala. Rapidly advancing from Selma after capturing and seizing control of the city, Wilson's men approached Montgomery and occupied the former capital of the Confederacy without resistance.

Then whose federal troops were in Pintlala? The Montgomery Daily Mail on May 22, 1865 informs the question. F.M. Tankersley posted a notice warning others not to cash or trade on the bonds or notes which had been taken from his residence. Mr. Tankersley was a well known citizen of Pintlala serving as a Justice of the Peace. The newspaper notice then identifies those who plundered Tankersley's place. They were "General Smith's soldiers."

Upon the federal occupation of Montgomery, General Andrew Jackson Smith was ordered to bring the Sixteenth Army Corps to Montgomery following the siege of Spanish Fort, Fort Blakeley, and Mobile. A. J. "Whiskey" Smith arrived in the capital city on April 25.

Although the war had officially ended, hostilities had not ceased. Smith's Sixteenth Army Corps would have moved right through the center of Pintlala. Colton's 1866 map of Alabama indicates the major artery which the Sixteenth Corps would have traveled after breaking camp in Greenville. Soldiers would have marched through Sandy Ridge, Davenport, and on through Pintlala. The major route was paralleled by a railroad also giving access to the capital.



Major General A.J. Smith

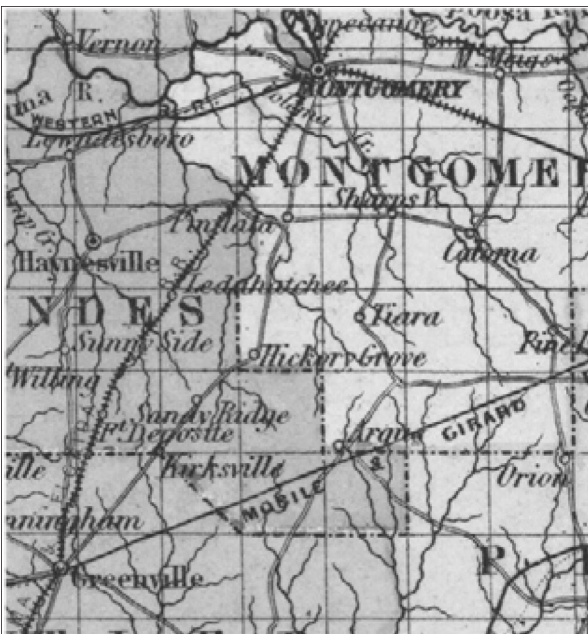
The Official Record of the War gives us an idea of the number involved in Smith's corps of men. The Abstract from Return of the Military Division of West Mississippi, Maj. Gen. Edward R. Canby reports that Smith's Sixteenth Army Corps occupying Montgomery in April 1865 was comprised of a total of 17,376 staff, artillery, and infantry combined. The total for May was 19,218. Moving an entire corps through Pintlala

must been an incredible, heart-rending sight. It is conceivable that, as General Smith's Sixteenth Corps was approaching Pintlala, with Montgomery only a day's march ahead, military intelligence revealed that Governor Watts' plantation home was less than three miles to the west.

The same edition of the Montgomery Daily Mail, May 22, 1865, which posted the Tankersley warning, also gives front page coverage to a reprint from the Macon Telegraph describing the dramatic capture of Jefferson Davis. Also on the front page is the Military Directory for the federal occupation of Montgomery. It is the Sixteenth Army Corps which becomes organized to enforce the federally-imposed peace. Major General A.J. Smith and his corps would remain in Montgomery until the fall, phasing out their operations and relinquishing government positions to their appointees until elections were held. Col. James L. Geddes of the Third Brigade commanded the "Post of Montgomery."

General A. J. "Whiskey" Smith was a Pennsylvanian born on April 28, 1815. He was appointed to West Point on July 1, 1834 and graduated No. 36 in the 1838 class. He died in St. Louis on January 28, 1897. While in Montgomery, Smith sent detachments to the outlying countryside for weeks after the city was under federal control. For instance, the Official Record indicates that the Seventy-second Illinois Infantry, Second Brigade, Third Division "camped at Pintlala Creek near Montgomery, Alabama" on April 30 after arriving in the city five days previous.

More than likely, with the exception of the incident of burning the Watts' plantation house and his crops, other Pintlala skirmishes took place during the post-occupation period. Certainly the Tankersley article was dated May 19 and published on May 22. The war was over; a President had been assassinated and replaced. Union troops were in Montgomery and strategically camping throughout the countryside. Menacing citizens of the county was not only a further attempt to reinforce control and bring stability, but, soldiers, knowing that returning home was an immediate prospect for them, pillaged and plundered for souvenirs. Incidents of physical and verbal resistance on the part of Pintlala residents have lived on in family traditions.



Colton's General Atlas 1866
 Cartographic Research Laboratory
 University of Alabama

TAKE NOTICE.

I FOREWARN all persons from trading for or paying the following notes, receipts and bonds. They were taken from my premises by some of General Smith's soldiers, as follows:

- Bond No. 3223, due July 1, 1868, for \$100.
- " " 3222, " " 1. 1868, for \$100.
- " " 10825, due July 1, 1868, for \$100.
- " " 10831, due July 1, 1868, for \$100.
- " " 10823, due July 1, 1868, for \$100.
- " " 248, due July 1, 1867, for \$500.
- " " 1320, due July 1, 1871, for \$100.
- " " 37756, due July 1, 1868, \$500
- " " 10836, due July 1, 1868, for \$100.
- " " 10837, due July 1, 1868, for \$100.

One note made by T. K. Carter for \$1160, with some credits on it, due 1st January, 1862; one made by E. Gregg and Wm. Farmer, for \$1080, dated July 7th, 1833, and due twelve months after date; one made by W. C. Beach and M. A. Pettis, due about the 1st Jan., 1861, for \$150 20; one note by W. C. Beach and M. A. Pettis, due about the 1st Jan., 1861, for \$145; one note made by K. W. Harrison and Jacks'n Harrison, dated 3d Jan., 1861, and due 1st Jan. 1862 for \$150 63; one made by Wm. Wheeler and Wm. Mastin, due 1st Oct., 1st0, for \$20 25; one made by Jno. Pettis, due about the 1st Jan., 1863, or \$75; also, one receipt given by G. L. Cox to J. R. Sanderson, for a note on E. R. Donaldson, R. F. Taylor and A. W. Hurst, (the said note due the 1st Jan., 1-61 or '62,) for \$759 37; also, a number of other notes, accounts and receipts, in my favor, the amount and dates of which is not now collected; also, one bill on the Central Bank of Alabama, No. 3317, and letter A and date, Jan. 10, 1855; also, one note on S. A. R. L. Hancock, for \$600, dated the 28th Feb., 1865, and due 1st Jan., 1866; one note made by Wm. B. and John A. Stringer, payable to Sarah Stringer, due on first January, 1864, for \$236, or about that amount; one note made by R. O. Sankey, payable to George Tankersley, due 1st October, 1860, for \$160; also one receipt given to me by G. S. Cox for a note made by E. R. Donaldson and R. F. Taylor, for about \$107,50, said note payable to Sarah Stringer.

may 19, 1865
 F. M. TANKERSLEY.

Transcription from an article written by J. Fred Thornton and published in the *Montgomery Advertiser/Alabama Journal*, Sunday, March 22, 1959, p.3. Original article from the files of the late Ethel Tankersley Todd:

Senator Renza M. Guy

Alabama lost an elder statesman and a man widely beloved and honored in the death of former State Senator Renza M. Guy of Davenport. A veteran of five terms in the Legislature from Lowndes County, he was known at the capitol as a hard fighter and a fair one, and one who knew how to take a stand and stick to it. In both public and private life he was a man of firm convictions and uncompromising integrity. He was past 80 when he died.

I knew Senator Guy when he was in the Legislature, and later as a guest at his home. I have never known a man with a greater capacity for making and holding friends. I have heard more than one man say that he loved Senator Guy, using the word in the noble sense in which David used it to express his feeling for Jonathan. Personally, I found a wealth of inspiration in his life. In a world in which trimming and hypocrisy sometimes seem to hold the upper hand, I found it good to draw near an honest, forthright man, one who made his mark and left a worthy imprint.

Renza/Renzo Guy (1878-1959), son of Samuel Joseph Guy, Jr. and Ira E. Powell Guy is grandfather of PHA member, Meade Guy and great grandfather of PHA member, Robert Guy. His home still stands in Davenport and he is buried at Hickory Grove Memorial Cemetery, Davenport, AL, along with his wife Carrie Lee Tankersley Guy, daughter of Hiram McLemore Tankersley and Susan Virginia Sanderson Tankersley, both buried at Tabernacle Methodist Church.

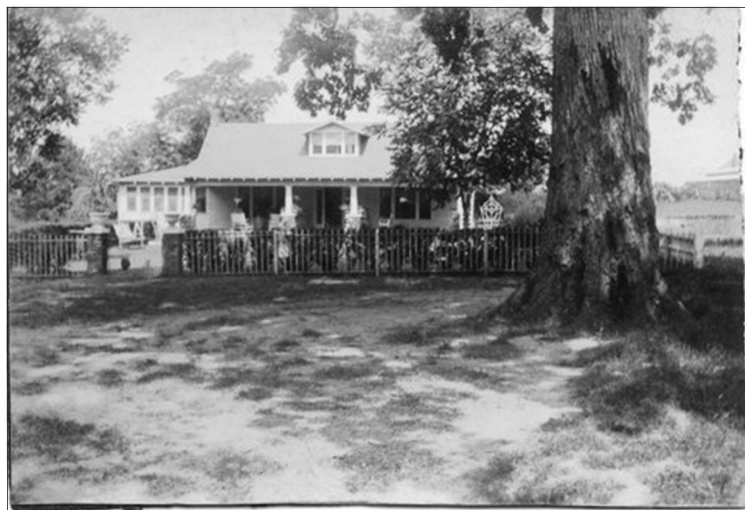
Renzo was a farmer/merchant and served in the Alabama Legislature for five terms representing Lowndes County. Guy served in both the Alabama House of Representatives and Senate beginning in the early 1920s and remained in government service until 1942 when he resigned to run for the office of Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture, which he lost to a man named Pool. The years for his terms in either House and Senate are unknown.



Renza/Renzo Meade Guy, date unknown



Front row, left: Renza Guy as a student cadet at the Alabama Military Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, 1898



Home of Renza and Carrie Lee Tankersley Guy, Davenport, Alabama, date unknown

Callaway Cemetery Research

By Alice T. Carter

Caroline Tait of Shreveport, Louisiana contacted the PHA more than a year ago seeking information on a Callaway Cemetery supposedly located in Snowdown, Alabama. Initial investigation did not turn up any information. Ironically, several weeks later, a casual conversation with Bruce Murchison brought to light the location of an unnamed cemetery near the old dairy barn once owned by Wallace Bush. This property is now owned by Matt and Donna Piel. On March 16th, Gary Burton, Wallace Bush, Alice Carter and Bruce Murchison explored the small burial site. The markers are broken, scattered, buried under several inches of black dirt and difficult to read. The men used shovels to remove dirt from pieces of markers found by probing and water to remove dirt in attempts to read the text. It is believed that the grave of Arabella Hamilton Butler, wife of David Callaway, is in the cemetery also, but not located.

Bruce Murchison who was of great help finding this small cemetery lives less than a quarter of a mile north on Highway 31 at the "Callaway Place" so designated on brick pillars at the head of his driveway. We fully believe that there is a connection between David Callaway (1794-1852) and William David Callaway (1848-1923), who is listed in Murchison's Abstract and Title. William David Callaway is listed as purchasing 113 acres in 1873 of a portion of the property now owned by Murchison.

There has been confusion over the location of this cemetery for many years. Written information from several sources record the cemetery as being at Snowdown rather than Hope Hull. Records found at the Alabama Department of Archives and History list seven graves in Montgomery County, Alabama as the Callaway Burial Ground with the accompanying text:

Burial ground in deplorable condition with magnificent tombs overturned and broken to pieces with fragments trampled in the deep prairie mud by cows. Used as a dairy lot by Stacy, former owner and Robert deYampert, present occupant. Every indication of wealth and culture in mutilated Callaway Tombs.

Information from M. E. & F. Richardson, Mar. 9, 1936.



Broken and scattered tombstones belonging to members of the David Callaway family, Hope Hull, Alabama



Bruce Murchison studies uncovered tombstone for David Callaway

The following report details what was found in the Callaway Cemetery, Hope Hull, AL in 2015:

GPS Reading:

Latitude: 32.218169

32 degrees, 13 ' 5.41 " North

Longitude: -86.346265

86 degrees 20 ' 46.55 " West

Graves found in random order, dug from beneath approximately three inches of black soil are:

1. Dr. R. C. Callaway
Died
August 20, 1863
Aged 27 years
2. A square stone that appears to be part of another monument of some type has the words around the sides of the square: Callaway, Our Father, Our Mother
3. Sacred
to the memory of
David Callaway
Of Montgomery County, Alabama
Who was born
July 1, 1794
And died
November 25, 1852
A man of strict integrity and kind sentiments;
Faithful to the offices of friendship and devoted
To the interests of his home; with heart that
Cherished all tender sympathies and a hand that
Rejoiced to aid the needy and the destitute; he lived
For 58 years in the enjoyment of the love and confidence of all who knew him.
4. Sacred
To the memory of
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Dillehay
Wife of
J. M. Dillehay
And daughter of David and Arabella Callaway
Of Montgomery County, Alabama
Who was born February 5, 1824
And died September 2, 1854

5. A large dual headstone for Ellen Peninah Taylor and Abner Clark Taylor, strangely written:

Left side of the headstone:

In Memory of
Ellen Peninah Taylor
Who died
April 21, 1855
Age 22 years
6 months and 2 days

A devoted wife, and affectionate daughter, sister, relative and friend, endowed with singular sweetness of disposition and rare gentleness of manner. She attracted and attached all that knew her. She found peace with God by faith in Jesus and died in assurance of rest in heaven.

“Asleep in Jesus blessed sleep from which none ever wakes to weep.
A calm and undisturbed repose
Unbroken by the last of foes.”

Right side of headstone:

Abner Clark Taylor
Born
May 31, 1826
Died
June 26, 1858



Bruce Murchison, Alice Carter and Wallace Bush at
Callaway Cemetery

Research on *ancestry.com* indicates that Abner Taylor was son of William (Brickhouse) Taylor and Ann Scott McGehee Taylor both of whom are buried at McGehee Cemetery, Hope Hull. A marriage record found on *ancestry.com* shows that Abner and Ellen married on September 22, 1853, Montgomery, Alabama by J. C. Davis, Methodist Minister. A family tree on *ancestry.com* shows that Abner and Ellen had one son: William David Taylor.

W. G. Robertson writes in his *Recollections of the Early Settlers of Montgomery County and their Families* (Montgomery, Al, Excelsior Printing Company, 1892): *David Calloway* (note spelling) *another of these old settlers, moved from Georgia and settled on the Mobile road, twelve miles south of Montgomery. Mr. Calloway was a successful farmer, and was a man that was highly respected for his many good qualities. He reared a large family, three sons and six daughters. John B. Calloway, of Snowdown, is his oldest son. The other two sons died in early manhood. One of Mr. Calloway's daughters is the wife of William C. Mason; another married Thomas Davis; another married Mr. Hays; another married Clark Taylor; another married James Taylor (brothers); and another married Scovil Battle. Mr. Calloway lived to a good old age and died at the old homestead about the year 1851.*

In comparing the 1936 Callaway cemetery listing and the March 2015 listing, there were two persons not found in 2015 who were found in 1936. The two NOT found in 2015 are: John B. (1820-1893) and Mary Fox Callaway Davis, (?-1857).

The Heritage of Montgomery County, Alabama, Vol. 51 entry for David and Arabella Butler Callaway written by Clifton Powell Capell lists the following as children of David and Arabella Butler Callaway:

Arabella Corinthia (m. William D. Bobbitt)

Henry A. (m. Mary C. Read)

Elizabeth Ann (m. James M. Dillehay)

Martha Jane (m. Archibald S. Hays)

John B. (m. Lucinda McGehee)

Mary Fox (m. Thomas Jewett Davis)

Ellen Peninah (m. Abner C. Taylor)

Medora Almeda (m. William T. Mason)

Ralph C.

Georgia Ann (m. J. Scovil Battle)

Edna Eliza (m. James Taylor brother of Abner C. Taylor)

I have concluded that John B. (Butler?) and Lucinda McGehee Callaway are parents of William David Callaway mentioned in the Murchison Abstract. This would make David Callaway (1794-1852) grandfather of William David Callaway.



Memories

Photo courtesy Gary Burton

Margery and Davis Henry of Pintlala recently shared with me the above watercolor painting signed by “ML Brower, 8/82.” This work was a gift to the couple from the estate of their late sister-in-law, Jean Henry. How Jean obtained the work is unknown, however, she wrote in her memoirs of her experiences riding a school bus, either the featured bus 27A or one similar, into Montgomery to attend Cloverdale School. These memories include the paving of Highway 331, a wreck involving the school bus and the wearisome ride each school day on bumpy, dusty dirt roads.

M. L. Brower’s watercolor parallels visually what Jean shared in the written format. Brower depicted a rural scene featuring school buses on Highway 331 at the intersection with the Butler Mill Road at the Snowdown railroad crossing. She included the D. T. Trawick Store, where she lived at one time and homes in close vicinity of the store. Brower noted the presence of Curry’s Store and the U. S. Post Office on the opposite side of Highway 331. The work titled “Memories” is a sentimental depiction of Margaret Louise Brower’s rural neighborhood. The Henrys will bring the painting to the October PHA meeting to share with attendees. Perhaps your memories of days gone by will be stirred.

The story of discovering who M.L. Brower was is too complicated to present here, but it is known that she was a cousin of PHA member, Joyce Nicoll, now of Chattanooga, who grew up among her McGehee relatives on the Old McGehee Road.



**PINTLALA HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION**

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

NEXT MEETING

OCTOBER 18, 2015

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 _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone (Home & Office) _____

E-Mail Address _____

Areas of Interest _____

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

\$15.00 Annual Dues