



# From the **BAOBAB TREE**

Quarterly Journal of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California, Inc. Founded 1996

**OBJECTIVES** of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California:

- To promote interest in genealogy, biography, and related history among African Americans.
- To supplement and enrich the education of African Americans through the collection, preservation and maintenance of African American genealogical materials.
- To promote the accumulation and preservation of African American genealogical and related historical materials and make such material available to all.
- To promote and maintain ethical standards in genealogical research and publications.

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**MEETINGS**

Meetings are held the third Saturday of every month, at 1:30 pm, at the Oakland Public Library, Dimond branch, located at 3565 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland, CA. There are no meetings during the Summer hiatus (July and August). Guests and visitors are always welcome to attend these open meetings. The AAGSNC Board of Directors meets immediately following the regular membership meetings (from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm) and members are welcome to attend.

**JOURNAL**

*From the Baobab Tree* is published quarterly (in March, June, September, and December) by the AAGSNC and is provided free to all members. Additional copies and past issues may be purchased for \$10.00 per copy.

- Membership categories are Regular \$25, Youth (16 and younger) \$15, Family \$35, Organization \$45, Life Membership - Individual \$200, Life Membership - Family \$300.
- The AAGSNC accepts no responsibility for statements of fact or opinion made by contributors. Deadlines for submission of material for publication in *From the Baobab Tree* are: February 25 for the March issue, May 26 for the June issue, August 26 for the September issue, and November 25 for the December issue.
- Correspondence on editorial matters, submission requests, or permission to reprint articles may be obtained at no cost by written request to the editor (newsletter@aagsnc.org).

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of Northern California  
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(877) 884-2843



IT'S YOUR HISTORY ... ISN'T IT TIME YOU TOLD YOUR STORY?



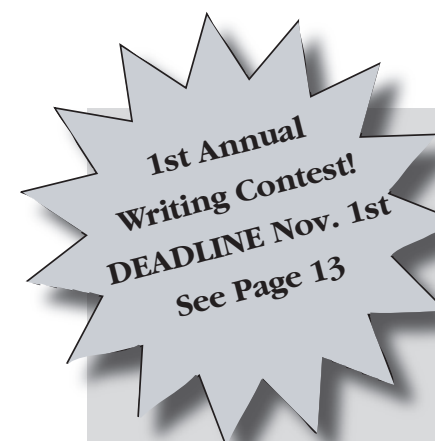
photo courtesy of cable-car-visit-san-francisco.com

## YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL

## ONLINE!!

Our guide to well  
and little known  
Archives, Libraries,  
and History Rooms  
in the San Francisco  
Bay Area.

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- Book-of-the-month ... "BCG Genealogical Standards Manual"
- Society News
- The *Other* Parts of the Federal Census
- 3rd Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy
- AAGSNC Community Events: PortFest 2003 and Bill Pickett Rodeo



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

- Ms. MELVYN L. GILLETTE

### The Other Parts of the Federal Census



You've scoured "the census" and found names, ages and dates of birth, approximate dates of marriage, marital status,

occupation, etc. You probably found this information on what are called "Population" schedules. But did you know that there are also Federal Census "Nonpopulation" schedules that might prove helpful in your quest?

### • Mortality Schedules: 1850 – 1900

Mortality schedules record deaths in the 12 months preceding the taking of the census and may help you locate an ancestor who seems to have vanished into thin air. Mortality schedules in the 1850 and 1860 censuses **include the names of deceased slaves as well**, the only time in the census where slaves are named (with the exception of slaves over the age of one hundred which I'll discuss shortly).

The important genealogical information these mortality schedules contain is the name, age, sex, color, marital status

if married or widowed, occupation, birthplace, month of death, cause of death, number of days ill, the attending physician and other details. In 1870, a question regarding the birthplaces of parents was added to the list. In the 1880 schedule, questions regarding the length of time of residence, and the place where the disease was contracted, were added. Determining the place and date of death through a mortality schedule can lead you to other records in that same locality.

Mortality schedules may be the only record of death for some people because many states did not require the recording of deaths until much later, some as late as the early 1900s. There may also be

no gravestones or cemetery records for the particular individuals. The mortality schedule entry may also be the only record of existence for children who have no gravestone. In addition, the cause of death shown in mortality schedules may be important for your genetic genealogy.

Here are a couple of transcriptions online that will give you an idea of the information available:  
Transcription of 1850 Mortality Schedule: [www.rootsweb.com/~takelley/c1850m1.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~takelley/c1850m1.htm)  
Transcription of 1860 Mortality Schedule: [www.rootsweb.com/~ncalaman/alms1860.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~ncalaman/alms1860.html)

Mortality Schedule - 1870, Live Oak County, TX, courtesy of the National Archives (archives.gov)

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This entire document was created on an Apple Titanium 867 using Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, and Microsoft Excel. Thanks to Kay Smith and Lenore Gobert for proofreading. -- Ed.



## JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please type or print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Month and Day of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

For Family Memberships only:

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Month and Day of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Categories and Annual Fees

Regular Member (Single, 17 and older)	\$ 25.00
Youth (16 and younger)	\$ 15.00
Family (Individual + spouse)	\$ 35.00
Organization	\$ 45.00
Life Membership, Individual	\$200.00
Life Membership, Family	\$300.00
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$	_____

Make check payable to: AAGSNC and mail to  
PO Box 27485 • Oakland, CA 94602-0985

OR

You may join the AAGSNC or renew your membership online at [www.aagsnc.org](http://www.aagsnc.org)

### TELL US ABOUT THE SUR NAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING

SURNAME

State or Province

County or Parish

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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If your name, address, or email information has changed recently, please use this form to notify us.

You can purchase your AAGSNC membership online at [www.aagsnc.org](http://www.aagsnc.org). We accept American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa, and PayPal.



# AAGSNC Writing Contest Submission Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF YOUR MANUSCRIPT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

• The AAGSNC Writing Contest is open to AAGSNC members, however, members of the Board of Directors and AAGSNC Officers are ineligible for cash prizes. If you are not currently a member of the AAGSNC, you may submit your membership fee along with the Writing Contest Submission (see membership application on page 15).

• All submissions will be acknowledged by email or by phone call. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within 7 days, please call the AAGSNC at (877) 884-2843.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (your name) hereby give the AAGSNC full permission to publish my manuscript(s) in the December 2003 edition of our quarterly journal, *From the Baobab Tree*. This manuscript is my own work based primarily on research I have conducted myself. I have cited my sources, my manuscript covers at least three generations of the family, and at least one person in the history was of African descent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CHECKLIST:** Please make sure your submission contains **ALL** of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Printed or typed manuscript

\_\_\_\_\_ Signed Submission Form

\_\_\_\_\_ Pedigree chart that corresponds to your submission

\_\_\_\_\_ Entry must be postmarked **no later than November 1, 2003**, and mailed to  
AAGSNC - Writing Contest  
PO Box 27485  
Oakland, CA 94602-0985

Detach here.

## • Agriculture Schedules: 1840-1910

Your ancestor was a farmer? Agriculture schedules were taken from the 1840 through 1910 censuses and provide the following information for each farm: name of owner or manager; number of improved and unimproved acres, cash value of the farm, farming machinery, livestock, animals slaughtered during the past year, and 'homemade manufactures.' It also includes expenses to operate the farm, the type and value of the farm's produce, and the quantity of each type of livestock. By 1880, the number of poultry, and the number of eggs produced was included.

Not every farm was included in these schedules. In 1850, farms producing less than \$100 were not included. By 1870, farms of less than three acres or which produced less than \$500 worth of products were not included.

Non-resident farm operators are enumerated where the farm is located, which may not be where they lived. So they might appear in one place on the population schedule and in another locale on the agriculture schedule. This may bring to light previously unknown connections between two different locales within a family unit. For example: How did my grandmother down in Chicot County, Arkansas, meet and marry her first husband who is from Clark County, Arkansas, in the days of limited travel?

Unfortunately for me the Agriculture schedule won't answer that, but it might be the key for you with a similar brick wall.

While the Agriculture schedules do not contain basic genealogical information, you can use the information contained in them to "put flesh on the bones" of your ancestors through the history you find there. And occasionally you may find a full name in the agriculture schedule whereas in the population schedule only initials were used for the same individual. Some enumerators took a shortcut and most of their entries appear as P. Jones, etc., as I may have mentioned in a prior letter regarding my paternal grandmother's parents. Would that I could reach back through time and touch him ... the enumerator, that is.

## • Slave Schedules: 1850-1860

Before 1850, only free "heads of household" were listed by name, with others in the household, slave and free, grouped by age and sex. However, starting with the 1850 census all free individuals in a household are named, and in the 1850 and 1860 censuses, free African Americans were enumerated by name along with other free persons. However, most African Americans were still enslaved, and were enumerated separately from free persons on slave schedules. It is important to note that **slaves are not listed by name on these schedules, but under their owner's or overseer's name.**

**The only information included for each slave in these separate schedules is age, gender, and a racial designation as either black or mulatto.** There are a few exceptions. Slaves over the age of one hundred are listed by name and some details of their origin and their life may be included. Otherwise, the inclusion of names is very limited.

Where do you find these supplemental schedules? They are on microfilms that are available through the National Archives and through the LDS Family History Library.

Check at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). Here's how to do a sample search at this website for supplemental schedules for Arkansas for the 1880 census:

1. Click the **Library** tab, then click the **Family History Library Catalog** Link
2. Click **Place Search**
3. In **Place**, type Arkansas, and click the **search** button
4. Select **Arkansas** from search results (not "Arkansas, Arkansas" as that means Arkansas county, Arkansas)
5. Select **Arkansas - Census - 1880** from search results (NOT the index)
6. Select **Arkansas mortality schedules, production of agriculture schedules and manufacturer's schedule, 1850-1880** from search results
7. Click on **View Film Notes** to get details, including film numbers for specific counties.

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**SCHEDULE 2.—Slave Inhabitants in** *Abrams Plains District* **in the County of** *Granville* **of** *NC* **, enumerated by me, on the** *1st* **day of** *June* **, 1860.** *McGarrin* Ass't M

NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	Number of Slaves.	DESCRIPTION.				Fugitives from the State.	Number manumitted.	Deaf & dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	No. of Slave houses.	NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	Number of Slaves.	DESCRIPTION.				Fugitives from the State.	Number manumitted.	Deaf & dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.
		Age.	Sex.	Color.	Age.							Sex.	Color.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
<i>Bartlett Smith</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>						<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>				<i>0</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>					
<i>Alexander Cooper</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>						<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>						<i>1</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>						<i>1</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>					<i>Wm C. Gregory</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>51</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>					

1860 Slave Schedule, Granville County, NC, courtesy of Ancestry.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

AAGSNC meetings are held at 1:30pm on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Dimond Branch of the Oakland Public Library. Visitors are always welcome to attend.

September 20th - "Braggin' & Lyin'"

To celebrate the end of our hiatus, we traditionally devote the September meeting to Show and Tell, where members are encouraged to bring photographs, documents, and stories to share with the group. Each member will have 5 minutes to present their information and we know you have some fascinating information to share.

October 18th - West Coast Summit, Los Angeles

The California African American Genealogical Society (CAAGS) is hosting the 3rd Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy. In lieu of our regular monthly meeting, we encourage all AAGSNC members to attend the Summit in Los Angeles. Registration materials can be found as an insert to this journal and since seating is limited, we suggest you register as soon as possible.

Early registration is \$60 before September 29, 2003, and includes lunch, the keynote (by noted genealogist Tony Burroughs), and all workshops. Late registration is \$75. There will be no onsite registration.

November 15th - Military and Veterans Records

Military records contain amazing bits of information and whether your ancestors served in the U.S. or Canadian military, we will discuss where to find the data, how to gain access, what you can expect to find, and other juicy tidbits. We will cover records from the American Revolutionary

War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), WWI, WWII, and the Korean War.

December 20th - Silent Auction & Holiday Potluck

Plans are underway for our First Annual Silent Auction & Holiday Potluck. In addition to the Silent Auction, we will hold another White Elephant Sale, so start thinking about all those items you've been wanting to clear out of your house. All sales will go to the AAGSNC. Details at a future meeting.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS and OFFICERS:

In recent Board meetings, the AAGSNC Board of Directors (BOD) has elected several new Board members and Officers, to fill vacancies that resulted from resignations. New to the BOD are Barbara Shepherd Dunn and Sarah Robinson. New officers include Lenora Gobert as our 3rd Vice President (and Fundraising Chair), and Dr. Lois Freeman, our Recording Secretary. Their email addresses appear on the back cover of this journal.

Board meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month, directly after the general membership meetings. Members and guests are welcome to attend the Board meetings.

MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS: September

- September Birthdays: Dorothy Shavies, Tina Neal, Mildred Swift Phillips, Laura McDonald, Rita Mae Ballard, Virginia Craft Rose, William Eugene Smith, Barbara Tyson, Joyce Summerville McDaniel, Gwendolyn Booze

October

- October Birthdays: Carol Miller, Nancy Thompson, Marilyn White, Shirley Evans, Lisa B. Lee, Marcella Conley, Dr. Lois V. Freeman

November

- November Birthdays: Thelma Frazier, James Elam, Marcheta Allen Mines, Dr. C. Bruce Lee, Karim Aldridge-Rand, Jim Neal, Joyce Jones, Barbara Nelson, Diane Mitchell

2002-2003 ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTORS:

Fund raising is a continual activity for most non-profit organizations and the AAGSNC is no exception. In December of every year, we send a letter to our members asking them to make contributions in addition to their membership fees.

In our haste, we neglected to thank those who contributed to last year's "tin cup" letter. Their efforts helped us raise an additional \$355 for our society:

- Contributors: Charles T. Brown, Shirley Evans, Dr. Lois Freeman, Shirley Mann Jones, Daniel P. Simmons, Annamae Tolan, Rosemany Williams-Snell

We are ever thankful for all contributions, whether they be in the form of volunteering, helping another member with research, financial assistance, or something else. Thanks to your efforts, the AAGSNC continues to grow, enabling us to accomplish new tasks and reach an ever-growing population of genealogists.



Writing Contest Details!!

You've done the research, now it's time to tell your story. AAGSNC members are invited to compete for cash prizes and national recognition by submitting original family histories. The deadline is November 1, 2003 and details follow:

- Prizes: 1st Prize \$250, 2nd Prize \$100, 3rd Prize \$ 50

In addition, all three winning entries will be published in the December edition of From the Baobab Tree.

REQUIREMENTS:

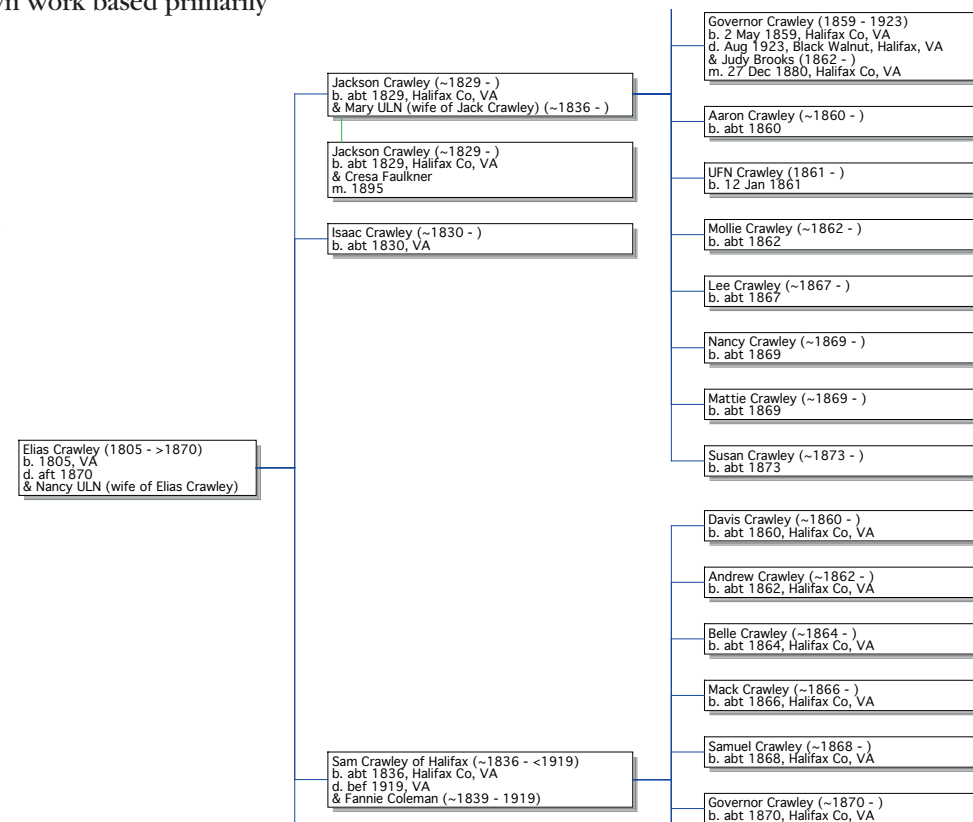
- 1) Your genealogy must cover at least three generations but not more than five. Include the progenitor and spouse as the first generation, all of their children with spouse(s) as the second generation, and all grandchildren with their spouse(s) as the third generation. It is not necessary to list the children in the fourth and fifth generations. 2) Your manuscript must be between 4,000 - 15,000 words. 3) The family history must include at least one person of African descent but the family does not have to have lived in the United States. The writer may be included as a member of the third generation, but not earlier.

ORIGINALITY:

Your genealogy must be your own work based primarily

Pedigree charts may be handwritten or computer generated.

Partial pedigree chart of Elias Crawley, b. 1805 in Virginia.



on research you have conducted yourself. Contributions by family members are expected, but these sources must be cited.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE:

You must be a current AAGSNC member in order to compete. AAGSNC Officers and Board Members are ineligible for prizes.

PEDIGREE CHART:

You must submit a pedigree chart that corresponds to your submission, following standard genealogical naming and numbering conventions.

SUBMISSION:

Your manuscript must be typed or printed and must be Postal mailed to: AAGSNC - Writing Contest, PO Box 27485, Oakland, CA 94602-0985

Please include a Submission Form (see page 14) with each entry.

eMail submissions are not allowed. Please ensure that your name, address, and phone number appear on the title page. Submissions must be postmarked no later than November 1, 2003. We will confirm receipt of all submissions. You may submit multiple entries.



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Michele Wms-Smith was determined to find something memorable for her mother's birthday, and on display at Eddie's Quilting Bee was a photo quilt. A photo quilt is a scrapbook using photos and/or any flat items that can be transferred to fabric using a color copier or inkjet printer to copy the images directly onto transfer papers or cotton fabric sheets.

With much excitement, a great deal of help and some lessons, she made her mother a family photo quilt. The only photo missing was that her grandmother, Marion Eames Brinson. The closest she could get was a picture of her sister, Martha Eames Campbell.

She started to research her family history, and her 92-year old Jamaican-born aunt Ethyl, became an important source of information and inspiration since she visited her in New York two years ago.



## BOOK OF THE MONTH: The BCG Genealogical Standards Manual

- by the Board for Certification of Genealogists

As genealogists, we're driven to find a connection to the past — to ancestors long since passed, hoping to bring their untold stories to life. I firmly believe that genealogists are chosen by the ancestors in that they find a willing, open soul foolish enough to devote all of his or her free time, energy, and money to search for the remnants of lives long gone — in appreciation of all that they left behind.

Yet in this noble quest, we must be careful to tell the stories completely, truthfully, and accurately, and not be tempted to jump to conclusions just because we so dearly want to "connect." There is no substitute for sound, methodical research techniques, and the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) has created an excellent standards manual to assist genealogy hobbyists and professionals in collecting information, evaluating the evidence, compiling the results, lecturing, and even preparing written instructional materials.

For less than \$20, this very easy-to-read manual provides concise standards and provides excellent examples of reports, letters, citations, and other genealogical materials you'll need to use.



Best of all, you can purchase this book through the AAGSNC Online Store at [www.aagsnc.org/store](http://www.aagsnc.org/store). — Ed.

### THE BCG GENEALOGIST'S CODE:

#### To protect the public:

- I will not publish or publicize as fact anything I know to be false, doubtful, or unproved; nor will I be a party, directly or indirectly, to such actions by others.
- I will identify my sources for all

information and cite only those documents I have personally used.

- I will quote documents precisely, avoiding any alterations that I do not clearly identify as editorial interpretations.
- I will present the purpose, practice, scope, and possibilities of genealogical research within a realistic framework.

- I will delineate my abilities, publications, and/or fees in a true and realistic fashion.

#### To protect the consumer (client, correspondent, or relative):

- I will keep confidential any personal or genealogical data given to me, unless I receive written consent to the contrary.
- I will reveal to the consumer any personal or financial interests that might compromise my professional obligations to him or her.
- I will undertake paid research commissions only after a clear agreement as to scope and fee.
- I will, to the best of my abilities, address my research to the issue raised by the consumer and report to that question.
- I will seek from the consumer all prior information and documentation related to the research and will not knowingly repeat the work, as billable hours, without explanation as to good cause.
- I will furnish only facts I can substantiate with adequate documentation and will not withhold any data necessary for the consumer's purpose.

- If the research question involves analysis of data in order to establish a genealogical relationship or identity, I will report that the conclusions are based on the weight of available evidence and that absolute proof of genealogical relationships is usually not possible.
- If I cannot resolve a research problem

within the limitations of time or budget established by agreement or contract, I will explain the reasons why.

- If other feasible avenues are available, I will suggest them; but I will not misrepresent the possibilities of additional research.

- I will return any advance payment that exceeds the hours and expenses incurred.

- I will not publish, circulate research or reports to which the consumer has a proprietary right without prior written consent of the consumer; I will observe these rights whether my report was made directly to the consumer or to an employer or agent.

#### To protect the profession:

- I will act, speak, and write in a manner consistent with the best interests and standards of both the profession and the scholarship of genealogy.
- I will assist legitimate efforts to expose genealogical charlatans; but I will not otherwise knowingly injure, or attempt to injure, the reputation, prospects, or practice of another genealogist.
- I will not attempt to supplant another genealogist already employed by a client or agency. I will substitute for another researcher only with specific written consent of and instructions provided by the client or agency.
- I will not represent as my own the work of another. This includes works that are copyrighted, in the public domain, or unpublished. This pledge includes reports, letters, lecture materials, audio/visual tapes, compiled records, and authored essays.
- I will not reproduce for public dissemination, in an oral or written fashion, the work of another genealogist, writer, or lecturer, without that person's written consent. In citing another's work, I will give proper credit.



## AAGSNC AT OAKLAND PORTFEST 2003

Our new 3rd Vice President and Fundraising Chair, Lenora Gobert, suggested that the AAGSNC start to participate in more community events and festivals. Her plan was to raise public awareness of our organization, entice people to join the society, raise funds, and offer assistance to anyone seeking to learn more about their family's history. This past Summer, the AAGSNC participated in several community events.

So, on Saturday, June 7th, we helped the Port of Oakland celebrate its annual PortFest along the Oakland Estuary. Our booth was staffed by AAGSNC members and family guests, and everyone who attended had a delightful time meeting and greeting.

At the last minute, we were able to create two genealogical pamphlets, which we gave away freely to passers-by. "Beginning African American Genealogy" is an 8-page booklet which includes basic information on getting started, three of the "Golden Rules of Genealogy," blank forms, a guide to requesting vital records, and information about the AAGSNC.

"Writing Your Family History," by Annette Madden is an 8-page booklet based on the wonderful workshop she presented to the members during the May meeting. If you're interested in obtaining copies of these booklets, copies will be available at all AAGSNC meetings, or you can email us at: [baobabtree@aagsnc.org](mailto:baobabtree@aagsnc.org).



## 3RD ANNUAL WEST COAST SUMMIT ON AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY OCTOBER 17-18, 2003 • LOS ANGELES, CA



Internationally known author, teacher, and genealogist Tony Burroughs will be the keynote speaker at the **3rd Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy**.

Hosted by the L.A. based California African American Genealogical Society (CAAGS), this conference will bring together all of the major West coast genealogical groups for a two-day event where beginners and advanced researchers alike can attend workshops, network, and share their research.

Several years ago, AAGSNC founder, Electra Price commented that it was a shame the West coast genealogy groups couldn't come together for a joint meeting, and from her brainchild, The West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy was born. The very first Summit was held in Oakland, CA in 2001 hosted by the AAGSNC, and attended by over 200 genealogists, many of whom traveled hundreds of miles.

For the first time ever, black genealogy groups from Seattle, Sacramento, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Oakland came together to spend a full day in workshops, and meeting face-to-face people they'd come to know only via the internet. The keynote speaker for the first Summit was author and researcher, the late Dr. Dee Parmer Woodtor who presented an "Introduction to Slave Genealogy and Courthouse Records."

The following year, the African American Genealogy Society of Sacramento, CA (AAGSSC) hosted the Summit in Sacramento, highlighted by keynote speaker Reginald Washington, African American Genealogy Subject

Area Specialist from the National Archives (NARA). Reggie presented "The Southern Claims Commission," and like the Summit in 2001, over 200 people came from near and far to attend the event.

Since the first Summit, several new black genealogy groups have formed in the West (Orange County, CA, Las Vegas, NV, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, Phoenix, AZ), and they will be invited to attend this year's Summit in Los Angeles.

The 2003 Summit is being co-sponsored by the African American Heritage Society of Long Beach and organizers expect several hundred people to attend the event. The Summit will be held at **Patriotic Hall**, 1816 S, Figueroa, Los Angeles, and early registration (before September 29th) is \$60, which includes all the workshops, the luncheon, and syllabus. After September 29th, registration will be \$75. There will be NO onsite registration. You must register in advance.

### WORKSHOPS:

The topics for the 2003 Summit include a wide variety of subjects, and will be presented by some members of the West coast groups in attendance:

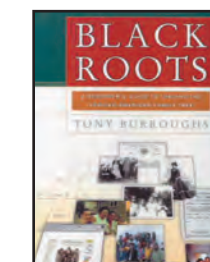
- **Keynote: The Soundex**
- Civil War Years, Reconstructing Our Family's History
- Using College and University Libraries
- Making Records for African Americans Accessible
- Federal Sources
- Cemetery Surveys – Preserving Old Black Cemeteries
- Writing Non-Fiction History
- Census Research on the Internet
- Introduction to Genealogy
- African American and Cherokee Connections

- Searching for My Big Momma
- Slave Research - Two Case Studies

### ACCOMMODATIONS:

CAAGS has arranged for special Summit rate of \$89/night at the nearby Holiday Inn, Los Angeles City Center (1020 S. Figueroa Street, 213-748-1291). When you call, mention that you are part of the "West Coast Genealogy" group. The deadline for that rate is October 3rd, so book your room early. The hotel is approximately 15 miles from LAX airport and about 15 miles from Burbank airport.

Tony Burroughs, FUGA (Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association), is an internationally known genealogist who teaches genealogy at Chicago State University. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Genealogical Society in 1996 and his congressional testimony in 2000 helped preserve records from the Freedmen's Bureau. He is the author of *Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide*



to *Tracing the African American Family Tree*, which is available from the AAGSNC online store: [www.aagsnc.org/store](http://www.aagsnc.org/store).

The Summer 2002 edition of *From the Baobab Tree* featured an interview with Mr. Burroughs. Copies of that journal are also available from the AAGSNC website.

Next year, the San Diego African American Genealogy Research Group (SDAAGRG) will host the Summit the weekend of **October 15-16, 2004**, so mark your calendars now!



oral history of interviews with early Richmond residents, both black and white, documenting the lives of fishermen, WWII Kaiser shipyard workers, cannery workers, etc.

- Biography file (clipping file)
- City directories from 1910-1964, including cities that have since merged with Richmond.

### ❖ Family History Centers

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon)  
www.familysearch.org

The Bay Area is blessed with no less than 17 nearby Family History Centers (FHC). Each of the FHCs has a different collection of materials and different hours. Several specialize in state census records, one specializes in Pacific Islander records, while others provide a good cross-section of information.

It's best to call ahead to make sure the center near you has the records for which you are searching. You can check the Mormon church's online database, but there's no way to search by a specific location ... you can only search by topic/title/area/surname then view the film notes to see if that particular film is carried in your center. It's just better to call and speak to someone who works in the center. The larger bay area FHCs are in **bold** type.

• **ANTIOCH**  
2350 Jeffrey Way, Antioch, CA  
(925) 634-9004  
**HOURS:** T-W 9am - 4pm & 7pm - 9pm

• **CONCORD**  
3700 Concord Blvd., Concord, CA  
(925) 686-1766  
**HOURS:** T-W 9am - 9pm  
Th 9am - 5pm  
Sa 9am - 1pm (2nd, 4th, and 5th Saturdays only).

• **DANVILLE**  
2949 Stone Valley Road, Danville, CA  
(925) 552-5920  
**HOURS:** M, W, Th 10am - 4pm  
T 7pm - 9pm  
1st Su 4pm - 6pm

• **FREMONT**

48950 Green Valley Road, Fremont, CA  
(510) 623-7496  
**HOURS:** W-Th 11am - 3pm; 7pm - 9:30pm  
Sa 10am - 2pm  
Su 1:30pm - 4pm

• **FREMONT**  
3551 Decoto Road, Fremont, CA  
(510) 713-1271  
**HOURS:** T-W 9am - noon; 6:30pm - 9pm  
Th 9am - noon; 3:30pm - 5:30pm  
and 7pm - 9pm  
Sa 9am - noon

• **HAYWARD**  
2000 Highland Blvd., Hayward, CA  
(510) 538-3578  
**HOURS:** T 7pm - 9pm  
W-Th 10am - noon; 1pm - 3pm  
and 7pm - 9pm

• **LIVERMORE**  
950 Mocho Street  
(925) 447-2084  
**HOURS:** M 9am - 3pm  
W-Th 6pm - 9pm  
Sa 1pm - 4pm

• **LOS ALTOS**  
1300 Grant Road, Los Altos, CA  
(650) 968-1019  
**HOURS:** T, Th 10am - 2pm; 7pm - 9pm  
W 7pm - 9pm  
Su 1pm - 5:30pm

• **MENLO PARK**  
1105 Valparaiso Ave., Menlo Park, CA  
(650) 325-9711  
**HOURS:** T, Th 9:30am - 9:30pm  
Sa 9:30am - 4pm  
Su 9am - 4:30pm

• **OAKLAND**  
4766 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, CA  
(510) 531-3905  
**HOURS:** T-Th 10am - 9pm  
F- Sa 10am - 4pm  
**HOLDINGS:**  
- 25,000 microfilms, 6,000 microfiche,  
7,000 books  
- Complete US Census 1800-1880, 1900,  
and most of 1920  
- Complete Census Soundex for 1880,  
partial for 1900 and 1920  
- Internet access to Ancestry.com,  
Genealogy.com, and Familysearch.org

- Many printed census indices, including the TX 1880. Texas is one of only 3 states that have both a printed index of the 1880 census AND a microfilm Soundex for 1880. The Oakland FHC is the only library in the Bay Area that has both. Some entries in the Soundex do not appear in the printed index, and vice-versa.

• **PACIFICA**  
730 Sharp Park Road, Pacifica, CA  
(650) 355-4986  
**HOURS:** T-W 9am - 4pm; 6:30pm - 9pm

• **PLEASANTON**  
6100 Paseo Santa Cruz, Pleasanton, CA  
(925) 846-0149  
**HOURS:** T-W 9am - 1pm; 7pm - 9pm  
Th, Sa 9am - 1pm

• **SAN BRUNO**  
975 Sneath Lane, San Bruno, CA  
(650) 873-1928  
**HOURS:** W 9am - 4pm; 6:30pm - 9pm  
Th, Sa 9am - 4pm

• **SAN FRANCISCO**  
1900 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, CA  
(415) 771-3655  
**HOURS:** Su 2pm - 5pm

• **SAN JOSE**  
3110 Cropley Ave., San Jose, CA  
(408) 259-5501  
**HOURS:** T, Th 7pm - 9pm  
Su 1:30pm - 3:30pm

• **SAN JOSE**  
4977 San Felipe Road, San Jose, CA  
(408) 274-8592  
**HOURS:** T, Th 9am - 9pm  
W 6pm - 9pm  
Sa 10am - 3pm

• **SANTA CLARA**  
875 Quince Ave., Santa Clara, CA  
(408) 241-1449  
**HOURS:** T-F 9am - 4pm; 7pm - 9:30pm  
Sa noon - 4pm



## AAGSNC AT THE BILL PICKETT INVITATIONAL RODEO

To be sure, not all of us were thrilled with the idea of spending a weekend in the presence of horses, pigs, cows, and cowboys. But on Saturday and Sunday, July 19th & 20th, we braved the farm animals, dust and heat to participate in the 20th Annual Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo, the nation's only touring black rodeo.

Our booth was staffed by AAGSNC members and family guests, and we had a grand time meeting cowboys, cowgirls,

and the thousands of people who attended this delightful family event. We signed up a new member, sold a few books, answered a LOT of questions, and gave away hundreds of copies of genealogical materials.

Budget constraints prevent us from printing the Journal on better paper and with a higher resolution, but these grainy photos of our booth will give you an idea of how hard we worked and how much fun we had.





## YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL ONLINE ...

The internet is great and you can find a TON of stuff online, but eventually, you're gonna HAVE to visit a library to continue your research. We hope this guide of well and little known archives, libraries, and history rooms in the SF Bay Area will help you.

- BY LISA B. LEE

### ❖ National Archives

National Archives and Records Administration, Pacific Region  
1000 Commodore Drive  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
(650) 876-9009

[www.archives.gov/facilities/ca/san\\_francisco.htm](http://www.archives.gov/facilities/ca/san_francisco.htm)

**HOURS:** M-F 7:30am - 4pm  
and Wed 4pm - 8pm

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Pacific Region location is in San Bruno, CA, not far from the San Francisco International Airport.

#### **HOLDINGS:**

- Federal population censuses for all states, 1790 - 1930
- Soundex/Miracode for the 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses (not all states are indexed)
- Most printed indexes for 1790-1870 census (not all indexes are available)
- Census listings for Native Americans in California and Nevada, and censuses taken in American Samoa
- Records documenting the removal of Cherokees and other tribes included in the "Oklahoma Removal," ca. 1900
- Index to Deposit Ledgers in Branches of the Freedman's Savings & Trust Co.
- 1850 - 1870 Mortality Schedules (index on microfiche)
- Military service and pension records
- Bounty land warranty applications
- Freedman's Bank & Trust Applications
- Maritime records for San Francisco
- Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands ("Freedmen's Bureau") marriage records LA, MS, TN
- Freedmen's Bureau Field Office records, FL

### ❖ Oakland History Room

Oakland Public Library, Main Branch  
125 - 14th Street, Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 238-3134  
[www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org)

**HOURS:** M-Tu 10am - 5:30pm  
W-Th noon - 8pm  
F noon - 5:30pm  
Sa 10am - 5:30pm  
Su 1pm - 5:00pm

#### **HOLDINGS:**

A reference library devoted to the history of California, holdings include local history materials such as books, magazines, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, photographs, postcards, etc. **Inter-Library Loans available.**

- Oakland City Directories 1869-1943
- Alameda County Voting Registers 1867-1944
- California County Histories
- Oakland Birth and Death Certificates 1870-1904
- Photographs of Oakland neighborhoods, people, houses, events from the 1850s to present
- City block books 1877 - 1925
- Sanborn map books 1882 - 1951
- Every local black newspaper (on microfilm)
- Newspaper clipping files maintained since the 1920s covering state and local events
- Oakland Tribune Yearbooks 1911 - 1949

### ❖ UC Berkeley Libraries

University of California at Berkeley  
(510) 643-4331  
[www.lib.berkeley.edu](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu)

**HOURS:** All libraries open to the public.  
M-Th 8am - 9pm  
F 8am - 5pm  
Sa 9am - 5pm  
Su 1pm - 9pm

#### **HOLDINGS:**

There are microfilms of various black newspapers, journals, and publications, both current and historical, including:

- Over 200 Negro Newspapers from mid 1800s to the mid 1950s - on microfilm
- Journal of Negro History
- Tuskegee Institute News Clipping File, 1899-1966 - on microfilm

### ❖ Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society

Santa Clara City Library Genealogy Room  
3345 Lochinvar Ave., Santa Clara, CA  
(408) 615-2930  
[www.library.ci.santa-clara.ca.us](http://www.library.ci.santa-clara.ca.us)

**HOURS:** M-Th 9am - 9pm  
F-Sa 9am - 6pm  
Su 1pm - 5pm

Library opens 10am 1st Wed of month.

#### **HOLDINGS:**

- US Census thru 1840, California thru 1880, and Santa Clara County thru 1920
- Indexes to ship passenger lists
- Local and state histories
- Early Santa Clara County settler files, cemetery transcriptions, and land records
- Registers of Births for the Bay Area, various years
- Vital records for a variety of locations in U.S., Canada, the Caribbean, and Europe
- Large collection of books relating to African American history and genealogy

### ❖ Stanford University

Green Library  
Palo Alto, CA  
(650) 723-9108  
[www.-sul.stanford.edu](http://www.-sul.stanford.edu)

**HOURS:** All libraries open to the public  
M-Th 8am - midnight

F 8am - 6pm  
Sa 9am - 9pm  
Su noon - midnight

#### **HOLDINGS:**

Holdings similar to those in the UC Berkeley Libraries.

- Black Newspaper Collection (UMI)
- Negro Newspapers on Microfilm
- Afro-American Periodical Press 1838-1909
- Miscellaneous Negro Newspapers from all over the U.S. from as far back as 1853

### ❖ Sutro Library

480 Winston Drive, San Francisco, CA  
(415) 731-4477  
[www.onelibrary.com/Library/cal/sut.htm](http://www.onelibrary.com/Library/cal/sut.htm)

**HOURS:** M-F 10am - 5pm

#### **HOLDINGS:**

One of the largest genealogical collections West of Salt Lake City, with over 7,000 family histories, 35,000 local histories and vital records

- The complete US Census and Soundex 1790 - 1930, except 1890

- Dozens of printed census indexes
- 1851 Canadian Census (Ontario)
- City Directories, both printed and on microfilm

**THIS IS A LENDING LIBRARY** and all non-rare materials (including microfilms) may be checked out by California residents, at no charge.

### ❖ California Genealogical Society and Library

1611 Telegraph, Ste. 100, Oakland, CA  
(510) 663-1358  
[www.calgensoc.org](http://www.calgensoc.org)

**HOURS:** Th-Sa 9am - 4pm  
Free to members, \$5 fee for guests. First Saturday of the month free to all.

#### **HOLDINGS:**

The CGS library holds over 10,000 local and family histories, thousands of microfilms and fiche, numerous maps, reference books, passenger lists, periodicals, and many unpublished manuscripts.

- All California U.S. Census 1850-1930

- San Francisco Cemetery Records 1842-1862
- San Francisco City Directories, various
- San Francisco Death Records, pre 1906
- San Francisco Land Records 1850-1900
- California Deaths Index 1905-1997
- California Births Index 1905-1997

### ❖ S. F. Public Library

San Francisco Public Library - Main  
100 Larkin at Grove, San Francisco, CA  
(415) 557-4400  
[www.sfpl.org](http://www.sfpl.org)

**HOURS:** M 10am - 6pm  
Tu-Th 9am-8pm  
F noon-6pm  
Sa 10am-6pm  
Su noon-5pm

The African American Center of the SF Public Library is a reading room that houses a rotating reference collection of classic black works, houses exhibits and programs, and provides access to the online African American History Network, a database of the SF African American Historical & Cultural Society.

**Inter-Library Loans available.**

Members of the SFPL receive a 10% discount at dozens of San Francisco bookstores, including Marcus Books, a black-owned bookstore dedicated to carrying the works of black writers (Fillmore store only).

#### **HOLDINGS:**

- Black periodicals from all over the U.S.
- California birth and death records (fiche)
- SF History room contains letters, account books, and other docs relating to early San Francisco residents, blacks and whites.
- JSTOR (see inset box)

### ❖ Richmond Public Library

325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA  
(510) 620-6561  
[www.ci.richmond.ca.us/~library](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/~library)

**HOURS:** M-Th 10am-8pm  
Fr 10am-5pm  
Sa 10am-5pm  
Su 1pm-5pm

#### **HOLDINGS:**

- Richmond Community History Project,

### JSTOR - An online database you should get to know.

JSTOR (pronounced JAY-stor) is an online scholarly journal archive providing full text of academic journals going back to 1838, that is available at several local Bay Area libraries. JSTOR has about a dozen black journals in its database, but the most notable collection is *The Journal of Negro History*.

JSTOR, started in 1995 at the University of Michigan and funded by the Arthur W. Mellon Foundation, is an electronic database where each page from the archived journals was converted into high resolution bit-mapped images, and a searchable index created using OCR (optical character recognition) software.

#### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO RESEARCHERS OF BLACK GENEALOGY?**

*The Journal of Negro History*, founded by Carter G. Woodson in 1916, is a virtual treasure trove of information including biographies, articles, and other useful information. The *Journal* provides a great deal of historical and genealogical information and provides a window into black history covering a wide range of topics such as slavery, reconstruction, the caribbean, civil rights, Canada and the Underground Railroad, blacks in insurance, miscegenation, religion, etc. The SEARCHABLE database makes it easy to find information and pages can be easily printed.

Though JSTOR is an online database, **it's accessible only from libraries.** The libraries in the Bar Area where you can access JSTOR:

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cal State University at Hayward | San Jose State University   |
| Mills College (Oakland)         | Stanford University         |
| San Francisco Public Library    | University of San Francisco |
| San Francisco State University  |                             |