



# From the Baobab Tree

Quarterly Newsletter of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California

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

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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).

Membership in the AAGSNC may be handled at our website, [aagsnc.org](http://aagsnc.org), where you can register online, or via mail to: PO Box 27485 • Oakland, CA 94602-0985

It's YOUR History. Isn't it Time You Told Your Story?

African American Genealogical Society  
of Northern California  
PO Box 27485  
Oakland, CA 94602-0985



## SEARCH and REWARD NOTICES

After Emancipation, families separated by the ravages of slavery tried to reconnect with their lost loved ones. These notices were commonly published in negro newspapers throughout the country well into the 20th century. See article and complete text of these and dozens of other notices on page 8.

From "Miscellaneous Negro Newspapers," 12 microfilm reels. Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress (filmed for the Committee on Negro Studies, American Council of Learned Societies, 1947).

**\$200 REWARD**—The subscriber will pay the above reward to any one who will bring to him, or to this office, his grandchild, of about five years of age. His father's name was Jacob McKenzie, and his mother's name was Sallua, (by the child called Nena.) The mother was formerly held by Jacob Barrett, of Linton, Ga., and his Carr, of Washington co., Ga. Soon after Sherman's army entered Savannah, the child started for the same place. At Wm. mother was taken sick, and placed the child of a gentleman who had but one leg, and promised to take the child to Savannah for gentleman's name is unknown, but if the finder shall be sufficient to identify the child, the finder of the child will ever be rewarded in addition to the above reward being paid.

### Information Wanted.

Information wanted of my people—Jennie Moses, Meta Fields, Selia Fields, James Fields and Felix Fields. The first three are my sisters, the fourth is my brother and the last is my step-father. They all belonged to Charles Kren. My sister Jennie and myself were sold to Jack Felder. My sister Jennie was sold again to Buchanan. Any information concerning them or their children will be prayerfully received by me. Minder Latson, Postoffice, Brenham, Washington Co., Tex.  
Rev. I. S. W. McLay.

### LOST!

I would like to find my brothers, Elijah Hawkins, who was raised by Hawkins in Nashville Tenn., was brought out to Henderson Texas in 1892, was living with Lsnigan on Sabine River when he was sold to Nute Smith. The last time I seen him was in 1862. He was carried to Waco; his mother's name was Cherry Hicks, she died in Nashville; her oldest sisters' name was Sharlette, the youngest, Heneritte his brother's name was Washington Landis, I belong then to Lanigan. Any information will be gladly received by his brother—Ad-ndis, ita Co., Kas.

### Information Wanted

OF MY WIFE, LUCY BLAIR, WHO LEFT in January, Washington county, West Tennessee, five years ago. She was then living with William Blair. I am a wagonmaker by trade, and would be thankful for any information respecting her whereabouts. I am in Nashville, Tenn., on Gay street, north of the Standard. Address me or the Central Telegraph, Nashville, Tenn., Box 1198.  
HARVEY HILL.

- Successes and Blunders of a Beginning Genealogist
- Member Spotlight - Jackie Stewart
- De Witt Co.,TX: Marriages of People of Color 1847-1883
- African American Search and Reward Notices
- 2nd Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy

# Message From the President ...



The African American Genealogical Society of Northern California, Inc. (AAGSNC) thanks Ranie Smith for his tenure as president. Under his leadership and the dedicated Board of Directors and special committees, the AAGSNC took a quantum leap forward as an organization. Accomplishments include, but are not limited to major

presentations by Tony Burroughs and Dr. Dee Parmer Woodtor, the first annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy, and meetings with groups interested in genealogy and family history.

On January 19, 2002, the AAGSNC thanked outgoing Board members Carole Neal, Recording Secretary; Samuel L. Golden, Treasurer; Jim Neal, Third Vice President; Barbara Dunn, Second Vice President; Electra Kimble Price, First Vice President; and Ranie Smith, President. In addition, the

Society welcomed 2002 Board members Lisa Lee, Recording Secretary; Ranie Smith, Treasurer; Cleveland Smith, Third Vice-President; Jim Neal Second Vice-President; Barbara Sheppard Dunn, First Vice-President; and Juliet E. Culliver Crutchfield, President. Jackie Stewart was re-elected as Corresponding Secretary.

An organization's strength rests in member participation and AAGSNC members include talented and dedicated individuals. I am pleased to have been given the opportunity to serve as AAGSNC's president. To this end, I look forward to working with the Board, special committees, and AAGSNC members at large. I urge you to take an active roll in our Society, thereby ensuring a future full of endless genealogical and family history possibilities.

## Juliet E. Culliver Crutchfield

AAGSNC President 2002

The **AAGSNC Online Store** is now open for business. We carry a full line of genealogical books and videos, Family Tree Maker software (PC only), AAGSNC-branded products (tote bags, magnifiers, coffee cups, and mouse pads).

[www.aagsnc.org/store](http://www.aagsnc.org/store)

Tied in with Amazon.com, our Online Store can meet all of your reading needs. The AAGSNC receives a portion of all book sales purchased from Amazon.com, but you must use the link from our store in order that we receive the credit.



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

- To enlighten and enrich self-worth and self-esteem of African Americans through genealogical research and interest.
- 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.

### 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. From 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, following the general meeting, we provide one-on-one genealogical training and assistance to members only.

### OFFICERS

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This entire newsletter was created on an Apple iBook 500, using QuarkXPress, Photoshop, and Excel.  
Many thanks to

## AAGSNC Upcoming Events 2002

May 2002	Family History Fundamentals
Workshop	1:30pm - 3:30 pm, Dimond Library
June 2002	West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy, Sacramento Convention Center
July	Hiatus
August	Hiatus
September	Show & Tell (Lyn' and Braggin') "What I Did Last Summer"
October	Black Family History Day Workshop
November	Founder's Day Luncheon
December	Holiday Social

## Successes and Blunders of a Beginning Genealogist

by Lou W. Robinson



Lou W. Robinson continues to explore her family history. Before leaving St. Louis for California in 2000, she created a photo tribute to deceased relatives for the family reunion. Lou won the 2000 Playwright of the Year Award from the Missouri Association of Playwrights for *Secret Ways*, a play about a slave escape using the Underground Railroad and coded quilts. She is the author of *The Black Occupational Therapy Caucas: The First 25 Years* and is owner of **River's Edge Communications**, a family history writing and education business which teaches an 8-week journal writing workshop intended to help people of the African Diaspora write their histories. She eagerly awaits the forthcoming arrival of her first grandchild later this year, and looks forward to eventually writing the family history. Ms. Robinson holds a B.S. Occupational therapy, an M.S. in Mass Communications, and is currently employed as a part-time occupational therapist.

Ms. Robinson can be reached at [riversedgecom@hotmail.com](mailto:riversedgecom@hotmail.com)

My odyssey into personal history/family genealogy began with a notice in the newspaper about the free staged reading of a play. I enjoyed the activity so much that I later joined the Missouri Association of Playwrights (MAP) in 1994, but I didn't expect joining to have such a profound effect on my life. Not only did MAP expect members to attend staged play readings and offer critiques; they also expected members to write plays. My motivation in joining was simply to enjoy free plays while living off part-time wages and completing my master's degree. I eventually tried my hand at playwriting after watching for a couple of years, but soon discovered that I didn't know enough detailed African American history to write plays that were both entertaining and accurate. I fell in love with African American history while completing research for my plays.

### Family Amnesia

Researching the lives and history of African Americans made me even more curious about my own roots. I knew that tackling my family history was going to be a significant challenge. The adults in my large family have always had a sort of amnesia about facts and details related to our history. The research I had done on African American history convinced me of the value of knowing more about who we are. So, in spite of the family amnesia, I managed to collect some basic data from different family members in preparation for a family history research trip.

In 1997, armed with a lot of enthusiasm and a slim volume on beginning genealogy,

I packed my girlfriend and myself into my car and headed to Crenshaw, Ms. in the Mississippi Delta. My cousin, who is the closest link to my maternal grandmother, spoiled us with lavish southern hospitality. She agreed to be our guide for our research trip to my grandparents' hometown, Carrolton, Ms. Driving south from Crenshaw I saw signs for many of the little towns I'd overheard my family talk about or seen on my previous visits. I stopped in Rome, the town where I was born. The exterior of the little shotgun church I'd attended as a child had been updated with white shingles. Bean crops encroached on the cemetery head stones beside the church. As I looked down a long stretch of road, I felt like I was in a time warp. I could almost see the families sharing the dusty road with horsedrawn wagons on Sunday mornings as we walked to church. I remember that the dust was so thick we walked in bare feet, and it clung to and covered our little legs by the time we arrived at church.

We drove into Carrolton and located the local government buildings. Unfortunately, there had been a fire, and some vital statistic records had been destroyed. What was left had been sent to Jackson to archive. They did have land records, but I was not yet there in my research. Disappointed, we decided to take a stroll around this charming little country town before driving down to Jackson. One of the first sights we saw was the office of the superintendent of education, which was across from city hall. We walked over, explained what we were doing, and received very courteous service from the two clerks.

### Beginner's Luck

My friend and I hand-copied all the school enrollment records for African Americans with the Gayden and Peoples surnames for the decade 1890-1899, since my grandparents were born in 1884 and 1886. And, I snapped pictures of the enrollment records, since they didn't have a copier I could use, but unfortunately, the film didn't develop. Records for 1892 netted my grandfather and his siblings, and possibly his father, although the father's name has not been verified. The 1896 record showed my grandmother and her siblings, along with her father's name, which was later confirmed by a family member. I couldn't believe our luck!

The adrenaline was flowing as we drove the four hours to Jackson. Since Jackson's archives couldn't offer us anything new, we settled into examining census records, receiving tips from a man who'd been researching his family history for ten years. When I found my grandfather in the 1910 census, I was astounded. I just sat and stared at the record, imaging him and my grandmother as young adults with young children, as the record showed. On our way back to Crenshaw, my cousin mentioned that it might be helpful to stop in Ruleville, to speak with cousin "Merle," since she was older, and may remember some history about the Peoples side of the family. "Merle" was really Muriel, whose name I had seen on the 1910 census with her family, except that it had been misspelled as Miriam. Her father was my grandmother's brother. Not only was she able to tell me about all the people listed with her father, she also



confirmed ages, corrected spellings of names, and identified current locations of many of them. She confirmed my great grandfather's name and cleared up confusion about some of the other names. It seems that my family recycled names, so often both boys and girls were named after their parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. So, for over a hundred years, the names Jessie Mae, Annie Mae, and Emma have been passed down through my maternal grandmother's line.

### Learn From My Mistakes

Some time later, as I became more informed about genealogy, I kicked myself for the blunders I made on that research trip. Although I had brought a tape recorder, I didn't have it with me when we visited Cousin Muriel. By the time we arrived at her house, all the film in my camera had been used. Now that I'm learning more about genealogical research, I've learned the importance of making copies of records. And, what treasures might have awaited me in those land and church records. Reading my genealogy primer more thoroughly could have made a difference in how I organized the research trip. I'm trying to remember to keep a genealogy research kit in my car that includes a camera, tape recorder, and documents for tracking research and recording results.

I still feel like a beginner, because my commitment to the research has been spotty at best. Every time I go to a genealogy library, I feel as though I'm there for the first time, and need reorienting. But, every research trip is a learning experience. This year I've dedicated myself to becoming an *experienced* genealogist, because one of the first bedtime stories I want my grandchild to remember is the family story.



Photo courtesy of Lou Robinson

## Genealogical Sources in the San Francisco Bay Area - Part One

### • SUTRO LIBRARY

480 Winston Drive, San Francisco, CA (415) 731-4477  
Open: Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm [www.library.ca.gov](http://www.library.ca.gov)

This is a **lending** library where you may borrow microfilms, books, and other non-rare material for a period of five weeks, free of charge.

**Collection includes:** Microfilm/microfiche reader/printers, over 10,000 family histories, local histories (city, county, state, town, region), over 20,000 city directories, complete U.S. Census and Soundex/Miracode for 1790-1920 (except for 1890), most of the printed U.S. Census Indexes, CDs containing Social Security Death Index (SSDI), Family History Library (FHL) catalog, Ancestral File, International Genealogical Index (IGI), Pre-1900 Indexes to Ship Passenger Arrival Lists for major European ports, D.A.R. lineage books, historical & genealogical periodicals, guides, bibliographies, and how-to-books. Sutro Library continually adds to its collection of the latest books and periodicals.

### • NATIONAL ARCHIVES & RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (NARA)

1000 Commodore Drive, San Bruno, CA (650) 876-9001  
Open: Mon - Fri 7:30am - 4:00pm, and Wed 4:00pm - 8:00pm  
[www.nara.gov/regional/sanfranc.html](http://www.nara.gov/regional/sanfranc.html)

**Collection includes:** Microfilm/microfiche readers, two microfilm printers, the entire U.S. Census and Soundex/Miracode (including 1890), most of the printed U. S. Census Indexes, 1930 Census Finding Aid (City Directories Index), Enrollment Cards for the Five Civilized Tribes 1898-1914, Selective Service Draft Registration Cards for California, Hawaii and Nevada, Census Enumeration District Maps, Index to and Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Savings & Trust Company 1865-1874, Index to and Records of the Southern Claims Commission files 1871-1880, Records of the Board of Commissioners for the Emancipation of Slaves in the District of Columbia 1862-1863, The Negro in the Military Service of the United States 1639-1886, Registers and Letters Received by the Commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands 1865-1872, California, Spanish and Mexican Land Grants 1852-1910, List of North Carolina Land Grants in Tennessee 1778-1791, Baker Roll of Eastern Cherokees, Cherokee Censuses 1880-1890, Chickasaw Rolls 1878-1890, Civil War Service Records (Union and Confederate), and Register of Enlistments in the U. S. Army 1798-1914.

**Additional sources to be published in the next edition of *From the Baobab Tree***

**Sarah Peoples Gayden**, the daughter of Hiram and Laura Peoples, grew up in Carrollton, MS, and attended the same school as her future husband, John Thomas Gayden. She dropped out after four years, around the time of her father's death, when she was ten. Sarah helped out on the farm during many years of her marriage, and later devoted much of her time to raising her children.

### Online Databases

Best Efforts, Inc. and DarkGenes.com are co-producing an online database of search and reward notices that will be searchable by person, place, and other particulars referred to in the notices. The database will appear on [www.darkgenes.com](http://www.darkgenes.com) in April 2002.



Photo courtesy of Annette Madden

**Calvin Johnson, Sr.**, maternal grandfather of AAGSNC member Annette Madden, was one of the first black policemen on the Coffeyville, KS police force. He retired as a Lieutenant Detective.



were sold. My name was Lamy Detella, but I am now married and my name is Lamy A. **Only**. Also Cassie Detella, my husband's cousin. My husband's name is Geo[rge]. Only, better known by Geo[rge]. **Hull**. Any information will be thankfully received. Address our pastor, Rev. J. J. Brown, Bucksville, S. C.

.....  
INFORMATION WANTED of Laura **Collins** of Leesburg Co. [city], Va. She was owned by James **Thomas**. She ran away during the war. Her mother's name was Ann Collins. She belonged to Dr. Edwards of Leesburg Co. I heard she was in Canada, Ont[ario Province]. She is married but I don't know [what] her married name is. Any information on her whereabouts will be thankfully received by her niece, Lizzie Collins, 320 S. Juniper St., Philadelphia, Pa. Ministers in Canada will please read this to their congregations.

.....  
Information wanted of Mrs. Millie **Dukes**. Her owner was Paten Dukes; he lived in Grandville county, Ockford P. O. [Granville Co., Oxford, NC?]. Her mother's name was Elizabeth. Her uncle's name was Anderson Dukes. Mrs. Millie was sold at her boss' store at sheriff sale to Bob Morris. [Address?] A. Clark.

.....  
Information Wanted of my son Martin **Dennis**. His mother's name was Emily Dennis. His sisters and brothers were Frank, Wesley, Stephen, Tom, Hezekiah Unettie, Emily, Margaret [sic], Amelia, Nellie and Caroline. We all belonged to a man by the name of Amos Riley, Newmadrick [New Madrid?], Mo. Martin left home during the war to work as a boat hand. The last time I saw him was at Helena, Ark. Frank and Emily are still in Newmadrick, Mo., Nellie, Hezekiah and Tom are in St. Louis; Wesley is in Poplar Bluff, Mo., Amelia and Caroline are in Holly Grove, Ark. Any information of my son Martins [sic] will be thankfully received. Address, Emily Dennis, Newmadrick, Mo.

.....  
INFORMATION WANTED Of Jacob Edwards, who used to be Jacob Koakley. His mother's name was Ann Koakly [sic]. The oldest sister was named Abbey. The

last time I heard of them (Jacob especially), they were somewhere in Georgia. Any information of them will be thankfully received by A. W. Harvey, Pine Level, Ala.

.....  
INFORMATION WANTED Of my brother, Smith **Satchell**, son of Ann and John Satchell, who left Eastville, Eastern shore of Virginia, several years before the war. Any information of him will be thankfully received by addressing his brother, Chas[les]. W. Satchell, 320 Dugan St., Philadelphia, Pa.

.....  
Information Wanted of Wesley **Ramsey**, who left Natchez, Miss., with General Ransoms's [Ransom] brigade about 1864. He is the brother of Dennis Ramsey; his father's name was Peter Ramsey; had a sister named Lottie Ramsey. Any information as to his whereabouts will be thankfully received by his mother Caroline Ramsey, 4526 Conslance street, New Orleans, La.

.....  
INFORMATION WANTED As to the whereabouts of my mother, Maria **Taylor**. Last seen her in Middle Tenn., Franklin Co., about 40 years ago. She was owned by Samuel Taylor. He moved from Tenn., to Missouri, thence to Tex., settling, I think, in Red River Co. Step father's name was Wyatt Taylor. Had three children named Thomas, Hughie and Ted. She took two with her. Information of any kind thankfully received by THOMAS SCOTT, 224 Walker St., Dennison [Denison], Tex.

.....  
INFORMATION WANTED Of my relatives. I was born in Nansemon [Nansemond?] County, Virginia, about three miles from Carsville [Carrsville?], on a plantation owned by Henry Holland. My father and mother belonged to him, and their names were James and Kenna, I had five sisters and three brothers. Brothers' names were Lamb, Jonah and Nathan. Sisters' names were Edie, Hester, Jane, Hannah and Matilda Holland. They all went by that name (**Holland**), when I left them. I ran off in March of 1862 and followed the Union Army until the surrender. I bid my father good bye the morning that I left, and I have not heard of a living relative since.

Any information concerning their whereabouts will be gratefully received. LAZARUS HOLLAND. P. O. Box 88, Pueblo, Colo.

### Sources

Craighead, Sandra G, comp. "Want Ads for Lost Relatives 1865-1867, Abstractions from The Colored Tennessean, Davidson County, Tennessee" (1998). In WWW homepage "From Africa to America / People of Color South / In Old Tennessee," TNGenWeb.org, hosted by USGenNet, 1999. <http://www.tngenweb.org/tncolor/ads.htm> [May 2001].

Franklin, John Hope and Loren Schweningen. *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1999.

Lee, Paul, comp. and ed. "LOST! African American Search Notices After Slavery, 1865-92." The Michigan Citizen (Highland Park), Feb. 13-19, 2000. Reprints 41 search and reward notices from six black newspapers.

\_\_\_\_\_, comp. and ed. "INFORMATION WANTED! More African American Search Notices After Slavery, 1892, 1895." Ibid., May 13-19, 2001: B2, B4. Reprints 28 search notices from two black papers.

Miscellaneous Negro Newspapers. 12 microfilm reels. Wash., DC: Library of Congress [filmed for the Committee on Negro Studies, American Council of Learned Societies, 1947], Newspaper Microfilm 932.

# West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy

by Barbara Tyson

With the stimulating backdrop of Black History Month, African American genealogy clubs on the West coast are gearing up for a second gathering of family history buffs and genealogy devotees. Building on the highly successful one-day event of March 2001, the 2002 Summit conference should attract approximately 275 people to California's capitol city.

Summit 2000 will be hosted by the African American Genealogy Society of Sacramento, California (AAGSSC), and co-hosted by the five other African American genealogical societies:

- Black Genealogy Research Group, Seattle, WA
- African American Genealogical Society of N. California (Oakland)
- California African American Genealogical Society (Los Angeles)
- San Diego African American Genealogy Research Group
- Orange County African American Genealogical Society (CA)

A Friday evening hospitality event will welcome visitors from local as well as out-of-state areas. The main event will take place on Saturday, June 15, from 8:30 am - 9:00 pm. The extended day's events will feature nationally known archivist **Reginald Washington** from the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. Mr. Washington will speak at the conference luncheon on the topic of the Southern Claims Commission, whose files offer an extraordinary amount of information useful for the study of Southern social history and the African-American family.

Plenary sessions throughout the day will cover a wide variety of topics of interest to family historians and genealogists at all levels of experience. These sessions include, People of Color in the Bible; Louisiana Research; Using Color Clues in African American Genealogical Research; and Oklahoma Indian Pioneer Records.

Attendees will select break-out workshops covering topics such as Beginning Genealogy; Creating a Family History Website (computer demonstration); Blacks

in Canada; and Louisiana Conveyance Records. To further whet the appetite of diehard genealogists, there will be evening open forums on still-to-be-determined topics. It is anticipated that individual states, surnames, and spontaneous groupings will constitute the open forums.


Youth attendees will be attracted to sessions on constructing a family history book and genealogy for youth. Vendors will have ample avenues to market their cultural and historical wares and exhibitors will display informational items related to genealogy clubs, African American culture, and ancestor tracing. Publicity and promotion for the Second

Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy will be in full force over the next few months. Members of AAGSSC invite all interested parties to assist in the dissemination of information about Summit 2002, encourage businesses to support this event through advertisements, and make this second conference even more memorable than the first.

**Early registration** (through April 30): Adults \$50; Young adult \$25, Youth \$20  
**Late registration** (May 1 - May 31): Adults \$60, Young adult \$30, Youth \$25

(Young adult = 18-21; Youth = 12-17)

[www.aagssc.org](http://www.aagssc.org)




## The 2nd Annual West Coast Summit on African American Genealogy

"Honoring the Legacy of our Fathers"

June 14-15, 2002  
Sacramento Convention Center • Sacramento, CA

Presented by:  
The African American Genealogy Society of Sacramento, CA  
[www.aagssc.org](http://www.aagssc.org)



# Marriages of People of Color De Witt County TX • 1847-1883

This is the third installment of **Barbara Shepherd Dunn's** transcription of the DeWitt County, TX marriages of people of color. This installment lists all the colored brides and grooms with surname beginning with the letter "C." These marriages were transcribed from the De Witt County, TX Marriage License General Index, Books C and D, FHL film 1012058.

Groom	License	Page	Bride	Date	Comments
Calvin, Peter	614	188	Angeline North	1/2/1867	
Campbell, Robert	639	200	Elvire Pearson	3/16/1867	
Collins, Tom	672	217	Mary Taylor	7/13/1867	
Campbell, Jack	725	243	Ellen Miller	2/30/1868	D, Pct 2, Pg 93, HH 24
Chapman, William	836	298	Melissa Matthews	2/7/1869	
Coppidge, Jeffrey	853	307	Martha Void	4/1/1869	D, Pct 2, Pg 14, HH 101
Calloway, Pleasant	864	312	Nancy Evans	----	D, Pct 5, Pg 4, HH 24
Coats, Dennis	891	326	Amanda Mack	11/17/1869	
Collier, James	904	332	Mahala Brown	12/9/1869	
Coleman, Dan	1035	9	Emaline Brooks	4/25/1871	
Cavitt, Peter	1041	11	Sofa Ann Williams	6/11/1871	
Crone, Peter M.	1069	21	Mary North	9/1/1871	
Collin, John	1100	31	Nicy White	12/20/1871	
Crawford, Samuel	1122	39	Margaret Crawford	5/4/1872	
Caruthers, Dave	1147	47	Mariah Lewis	----	
Chatman, Martin	1185	60	Amandy Standy	----	
Clay, Henry	1371	122	Rosetta Pridgton	1/31/1875	
Calloway, Robert	2028	338	Susie Armstrong	10/19/1881	
Crackum, Joe M.	2046	344	Melinda Hudson	11/10/1881	
Carter, Littleton	2084	356	Fannie Williams	2/25/1882	
Carr, Jacob	2102	362	Eliza Bichop	----	

Bride	License	Page	Groom	Date
Cox, Sylva	528	145	Haywood Webb	12/28/1865
Coppidge, Mahaley	541	151	Manuel Green	2/8/1866
Coppidge, Elizabeth Frances	552	157	Peter Bowles	3/10/1866
Carroll, Marinda	553	157	Nicholas Douglas	3/31/1866
Crawford, Harriet	598	180	Stanton Powell	11/10/1866
Campbell, Cyrena Catherine	618	190	John Shannon	1/6/1867
Coppidge, Mary	622	192	Carey Herron	1/18/1867
Covey, Minerve	657	209	Ben Keys	6/1/1867
Cavitt, Adaline	706	234	Daniel Hunt	12/26/1867
Carie, Vina	708	235	Elza Bane	12/30/1867
Cavitt, Sarah	849	305	Charles Russell	3/24/1869
Chamblin, Ailsie	893	327	Harry Gelham	11/1/1869
Collier, Texana	908	334	Nathaniel Edwards	12/17/1869
Coach, Nancy	910	336	Sam Pickens	1/13/1870
Crawford, Ellen	922	342	Thornton, Lewis	1/15/1870
Cook, Telda Ann	1044	12	Warner Jackson	5/26/1871
Cook, Leonora	1051	15	Anason Sample	6/4/1871
Caruthers, Elle	1066	20	Dewitt Roberson	7/30/1871
Colloway, Catherine	1118	37	Thos Jackson	3/8/1872
Coles, Sereptha	1120	38	Ephrain Taylor	3/24/1872
Crawford, Margaret	1122	39	Samuel Crawford	5/4/1872
Campbell, Catherine	1213	69	Joshua Parker	7/3/1873
Campbell, Bell	1214	69	Lonzo Peterson	7/3/1873
Campbell, Mary Jane	1442	147	Berry Dally	12/9/1875
Coats, Lucy	1926	303	Monroe Timmons	9/18/1880
Campbell, Nancy	2096	360	George Fisher	6/31/1882
Cris, Ella	2128	371	Henderson Wright	11/16/1882



**Barbara Shepherd Dunn** is the First Vice President and Fundraising Chair of the AAGSNC.

While researching her own family's history last year, she decided to extract all of the marriages of free people of color from the counties of De Witt, Gonzales, and Lavaca, TX. Barbara realized that the names of the witnesses were as important as the names of the brides and grooms and rather than going back over the microfilm again and again, it made more sense for her to extract ALL of the information for the licenses of black folks and keep them for future reference. She has extracted over 1,000 records and is considering writing the local history of the area, in concert with a local Texas historian.

Her family comes from TX, GA, and LA, and she has been researching her genealogy for over thirty years.

Ms. Dunn can be reached at [fundraising@aagsnc.org](mailto:fundraising@aagsnc.org)

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED Of my mother Mrs. Louisa **Hacket**. She was the wife of Lloyd Hacket. They lived in Prince George [George's?] County, Maryland near Laurel Mills. There were two brothers, George and Greenberry, and sisters Annie, Caroline, and Emily Hacket; have not seen them for near 44 years. Any information from these people will be gladly received by me. Address Mrs. Fanny **Robinson**, No. 1227 Bainbridge street, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED. Of my mother, Lucinda **Johnson**, of Essex County, Va. She was owned by Robert G. Hingen, of Warrenton Springs, Va., and he also lived in Bolden Green, Caroline County, Va. Brothers, Eddie and Jerry Johnson; sisters, Betty and Lucy Johnson. Mother's husband's name was Jerry Johnson. Her oldest boy got killed on the railroad. I was sold in Richmond, Va., by R. G. Hingen, to John Dorris, and carried to New Orleans, La. Information will be thankfully received by Emma **Washington**, 611 37th Avenue, Meridian, Miss.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED. Of John **Haskins**. He belonged to Mrs. William Hayward, who lived at Goven Bridge, Bailey Neck, and Easton, Talbot Co., Md. He left Baltimore, Md., and went to Cincinnati, Ohio. We heard that he got married in Cincinnati and made it his home. His niece Sarah E. **Wilson**, daughter of Peter and Mary **Richards**. wants to know of his whereabouts. Any information will be thankfully received. Address SARAH E. WILSON Easton, Talbot Co., Md.  
 .....

.....  
 Information Wanted of my father Rev. Richard **Green**, of the A. M. E. Church, pastor of Galveston, Tex. I am anxious to know his whereabouts, being his daughter —Daisy **Boyd**, my marriage name. He is quite white, some people would take him for white. I have not seen him since I was two years old. He married a lady by the name of Annie **Kelly**. He is tall, heavy set, quite white, curly hair and very black. Address, Daisy Boyd, San Angelo, Texas, Lock Box 38.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED Of Randell **Hord** and wife Charlotte Hord —father and mother of the undersigned, also of Vester and Lizzie Hord daughters of said Randell and Charlotte Hord, also I state for information that Martin, Brice, Abram, Tom, Warner and Susan Hord, all seven children of said Randell and Charlotte Hord, came to the state of Texas in the year of 1851, from Jackson County, Tennessee. Any information concerning them will be thankfully received by me their son.

.....  
 BRICE HORD, Como, Bastrop Co., Texas  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED. Of my brother Samuel **Reed**. I saw him last at a convention in New Orleans, just before the war. Any information concerning him will be thankfully received by his sister Elizabeth Reed. He was a member of the St. Paul Church, New Orleans. Address: S. L. SANDFORD. Knox Point, Red River [Parish, LA].  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED. Of my mother Rachel **Embry**. My name was Henrietta Embry when I was taken from home. I left my mother in Baltimore, Md., and came to Texas with Rutineth **Barafe**. My name is Henrietta **Anderson**. Any one who can tell me where my mother is, I will reward them. Address me, care Rev. W. H. Anderson, San Angelo, [Tom] Green Co., Tex.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED. Of Johnson **Hansberry**, Peter **Henderson**, Andrew **Jackson** and Aaron **Thomas**. The first two are my brothers, the next two, my cousins. They all belonged to the Gains' estate, at Culpepper Court House, Virginia. We were separated about ten years before the war of 1861, and I have never heard concerning them since that time.

.....  
 Any news of them or their children will be prayerfully received by me.

.....  
 CALEB MOORE. Amelia P. O., La.  
 .....

.....  
 Information wanted of my brother, Henry **Taylor**, whose owner was John B. Hunter, of Charleston, Tallicache

.....  
 [Tallahatchie] County, Miss. Was seen for the first time the 2nd year of the war, when he went away with the first regiment that passed through the place. His mother's name was Mariah **Smith**. He had three sisters, Georgia, Margaret, Mary, besides the writer Eliza Bronson. He had a brother William Taylor, who went away with him. Any information concerning him will be gladly received by Mrs. Eliza **Brunson** [sic], 522 Manasses St., Memphis, Tenn.  
 .....

.....  
 Information Wanted of my relatives, from whom I was sold in 1857, at Brown Marsh Meeting House, Bladen county, N. C., of the estate of Duncan McKithon. There were left there my brothers Thomas and James, and sisters Julia, Mary Jane, Eliza and Lucy Ann **McKithon**, our own name. I go by my father's name, William **Taylor**, address, 17 West St., Lynn, Mass.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATON WANTED Of my Brother Stephen **Canady**, he was born on the Eastern Shore of Md., Caroline county. His mistress' name was Clara P. Parnell. I saw him last in 1839. Also William **Walker**, son of Allen Walker, of the same place. My former name was Alonzo Canady, but now Joseph **Peco**. Any information concerning them will be gratefully received. Address, Joseph Peaker [sic], Lahasta [Lahaska], P. O., Bucks county, Pa.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED OF my husband and son. We were parted at Richmond, Va., in 1860. My son's name was Ja[me]s. Monroe **Holmes**; my husband's name was Frank Holmes. My son was sold in Richmond, Va. I don't know where they carried him to. My husband was not sold; I left him in Richmond, Va., and I and five children, Henry, Gabriel, Charles, Dortha and Jacob were sold to a trader who lived in Texas. I am now old, and don't think I shall be here long and would like to see them before I die. Any information concerning them will be thankfully received by Eliza Holmes, Flatonia, Fayette Co., Tex.  
 .....

.....  
 INFORMATION WANTED Of my sister, Matsey **Detella**. She belonged to Captain Detella. She married Abram **Thomas** and had one child before they



- An attempt was made to confirm all military references using the National Park Service's Web site, Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System <http://165.83.216.56/cwss/index.html>.

- Background on the United States Colored Troops (USCT) was provided by the African American Civil War Memorial Web site <http://www.afroamcivilwar.org/index.html>.

- The original formats of the notices were standardized.

- As an aid to historical, genealogical, and family history research, all personal names, courtesy titles (Mr., Miss, etc.), and military ranks are printed in bold font and abbreviated names are expanded [within brackets].

## THE NOTICES

Compiled and Edited by Paul Lee

*The Langston City Herald*, Jan. 23, 1892  
PINE BLUFF, ARK., Jan. 3, 1892.  
MR. W. L. EAGLESON [Editor]:

Please publish this in the HERALD for me and let me know the charges.

Mrs. Mary **Johnson**, of Pine Ridge, Arkansas, wishes to find her mother and sisters, Lucy, Mira and Amanda and brother Joseph. I was parted from my mother and sisters in Hickory Flat, Alabama, and from my brother in Homer, Louisiana. We were owned by Mr. Jessie Garrett. My mother was called Dinah Garrett, and also my Uncle Harry who was owned by Mr. Gus Hammons. I was parted from him in Hickory Flat, Alabama, and also his wife Mira and son Lee.

*The Christian Recorder*, Sept. 12, 1895

Information wanted of my people Jennie **Moses**, Mela **Fields**, Selia Fields, James Fields and Felix Fields. The first three are my sisters, the fourth is my brother and the last is my step-father. They all belonged to Charles Baren. My sister Jennie and myself were sold to Jack Felder. My sister Jennie was sold again to Buchanan. Any information concerning them or their children will be prayerfully received by me. Minder Latson,

Postoffice, Brenham. Washington Co., Tex.  
.....  
Rev. J. S. W. McLay.

INFORMATION WANTED Of my people: mother, father, brother and uncle. My mothers name was Nancy **Slater**, my father Carlisle Slator [sic], and uncle Moses Slater. We all lived on Main street, Richmond, Va. My uncle had a caste in the eye. Now I will give a discription of Carlisle my father, he was very bright with blonde hair, my mother was dark my brother was dark and uncle was dark. I was separted from them just before the war and sold to a man by the name of John A. Beale, in Alabama. So my name was Pleasant Slater until I was sold and now I go by the name of Pleasant **Beale**. Any information concerning their whereabouts will be gladly received.

Address  
PLEASANT BEALE.  
Paragould, Green Co., Ark.

[Note: The following notice is published out of sequence because it is a slightly different version of the above. It adds the names of the author's brother and first owner, gives a different given name for her father, a different spelling of her second owner's (and her second) surname, and apparently transfers her uncle's eye injury to her brother.]

INFORMATION WANTED Of my mother, father and brothers [sic]. My mother's name is Nancy **Slater**, father's name is Charlie Slater, brother's name is Peter Slater, uncle's name is Moses Slater and my name is Pleasant Slater.

I was separated from them just before the war. My master's name was W[illia]m. Slater, who lived in Richmond, Va., on Main Street, and ran a grocery. He sold me to a man in Alabama by the name of John A. **Beal**, so I now go by the name of Pleasant Beal.

My brother Peter was very dark, and he was shot in the eye, my uncle Moses was dark and had a crooked leg; my father was very light with blonde hair; my mother was dark, but tall and slim.

Any information concerning their whereabouts will be gladly received.  
Address, Pleasant Beal, at Paragould,

Greene [Green] County, Ark.  
.....

INFORMATION WANTED Any one knowing the whereabouts of Orderly-Sargeant Peter R. **Laws**, of Company I, 55th Massachusetee Volunteers, and Sargeant James H. **Mattew** of the same company, will kindly forward information to J. T. Rex, 15 Veasey Street, Newark, N. J. The matter is important to them.

[Note: The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System Web site lists Peter R. Laws as a private and sergeant in Company I, 55th Massachusetts Infantry (Colored), but does not list a "James H. Matthew." The latter was apparently James Mathis, same company and regiment. Both men are listed on plaque E-156 of the African American Civil War Memorial.]

INFORMATION wanted of my father Frank. He used to belong to Anthony White, of Sumter, S. C., and was sold away to Alabama. His father's name was Sam and he lived at White's Mill in Sumter county. Address his son, Samson **Burroughs**, Sumter, S. C.

INFORMATION WANTED Of my grandmother whose name was Ritter **Payne**. She was sent South just before the war and sold to a Negro trader named Haden, who lived in Leon County, Tex. She left two children, Amanda Payne, my mother, and Pink Payne, my uncle. When last heard of she was in Galveston, Tex. Any information concerning her will be thankfully received.

Address DOVIE EPPS.  
Olyphant St., Jackson Co., Ark.  
.....

INFORMATION WANTED Of my brother James **Green**. I left him in Washington, D. C., after the rebellion. We went through the war together. Our home was in Richmond, Va. Had two brothers, John and William, and two sisters, Sarah and Dianna. My father is named Joseph Green. My mother, long since dead, was named Marinda Green. Any information of the whereabouts of any of my relatives will be thankfully received by Joseph Green, 3001 5th avenue, Chicago, Ill.

# Member Spotlight - Jackie Stewart



“The ancestors talk to me all the time. They talk to all of us -- they lead us, give us clues. I try to be obedient because the ancestors get ticket off at you, and make it REAL hard to find them.”

had no idea what was in store for her and how those six months would grow to become her life's ambition.

Jackie feels that the most important thing Electra taught her was **how to be organized**. Jackie started going to the Oakland Family History Center (FHC) on a weekly basis to work with Electra, who was working there as a volunteer. On her own, Jackie decided to start going twice a week to increase the amount of time she'd have to do research.

Jackie remembers how finding two specific documents caused her to devote her life to tracing the lives of her family:

1) Her great grandfather/s WWI Draft Card. When she saw his signature on the back of the card, along with a physical description of this man of whom she has never even seen a photograph, she just broke down and cried. This one document touched her to the very depths of her soul -- these folks had truly become real to her.

2) Her grandfather's (Nathan **Trotter**) death certificate where it listed the name of both of his parents, information she'd never before known ... Mose Trotter and Fanny **Johnson**.

When you talk to Jackie, you understand how important her connection to her ancestors really is. “The ancestors begin to give you clues and talk to you. Sometimes I'd wake up in the middle of the night. I'd wanted to find the Johnsons but I kept ketting led to the Trotters. Finally I gave up the fight and started looking for my Trotters.”

Shortly thereafter, Jackie found two other Trotter researchers, one in Washington state, and the other in Chicago. They eventually met when each visited the Bay Area on separate business trips. When they put their Trotter files together, all three (hers and the other two) led to one

Bias Trotter in Hempstead County, Arkansas about 1820. Jackie started making phone calls to Trotters in Arkansas and was invited to attend the upcoming Trotter family reunion.

Apprehensive about attending a reunion with alot of people she'd never met, she consulted with Electra who helped her organize her data. Jackie was so nervous about her trip that she even met with her Minister and had him pray with her. Through this whole ordeal, Jackie figured out that she had an underlying fear of rejection, which she faced head-on when she made the trip down to the reunion. “They couldn't have been nicer. The people were so warm, friendly, and helpful.” Once down there she discovered that the Trotters all knew about Nathan Trotter's info, but they knew nothing about his mother, Fanny Johnson -- information that Jackie had and was willing to share. The elders at the reunion were Nathan's grandchildren and until Jackie arrived, the story of his mother's side of the family had been lost. Jackie prefers to think of it like this:

### History is never lost, just misplaced.

At the reunion, her relatives took her to an old well Nathan had dug where the whole community came to get water. When his last child was born, Nathan planted a tree next to the well -- that tree is now huge and is a constant reminder her family's lasting legacy.

Jackie spends time everyday doing genealogy. She realizes the importance of belonging to a local genealogical society and in addition to the AAGSNC, she's a member of several local societies in Arkansas, Missouri, and South Carolina.

One interesting fact Jackie discovered is the large number of fraternal twins in her family. She has twin grandchildren, and her cousins have a total of 5 sets of twins.

# African American Reward and Search Notices

by Paul Lee



Historian and filmmaker **Paul Lee** is director of Best Efforts, Inc., a professional research service that specializes in the recovery, preservation, and presentation of black history and culture. Born and raised in Highland Park, MI, he studied broadcast production and history at Howard University in Wash., DC. He has served as an historical researcher and consultant for several television series and programs. These include *Like It Is* (WABC-TV, New York), the nation's longest-running black affairs series, produced and hosted by Gil Noble; *Eyes On the Prize II*, the second part of the award-winning PBS history of the civil-rights movement, produced by the late Henry Hampton; and the PBS historical series *The American Experience*. He was a researcher-consultant for *Ralph Bunche: An American Odyssey*, which premiered on PBS in February 2001. He provided the same services for the documentary *Ralph Ellison: Indivisible Man*, which aired on the PBS series *American Masters* in February 2002. He is currently co-producing and directing *Julia's Story: Eyewitness to the Tulsa Disaster of 1921*, a documentary film based on a recently discovered 1921 eyewitness account of the Tulsa Race Riot. He is also working on *Hegira*, a projected two-part documentary on the original Great Migration of African Americans to Kansas and Oklahoma in the last quarter of the 19th century and their creation of black towns, settlements, and enclaves. In May 2001, *Essence* magazine published his article on the Tulsa Disaster, *The Day That Greenwood Burned*. He is also editing collections of historical documents on Tulsa disaster, early black migration to West, and Ida B. Wells-Barnett.

Mr. Lee can be reached at [besteffortsinc@yahoo.com](mailto:besteffortsinc@yahoo.com)

**"INFORMATION WANTED** *OF my husband and son. We were parted at Richmond, Va., in 1860. My son's name was Jas. Monroe Holmes; my husband's name was Frank Holmes. My son was sold in Richmond, Va. I don't know where they carried him to.*

*"...I and five children...were sold to a [slave] trader who lived in Texas. I am now old, and don't think I shall be here long and would like to see them before I die. Any information concerning them will be thankfully received by Eliza Holmes, Flatonia, Fayette Co., Tex."*

Published in September 1895, this moving plea for information is but one example of the poignant search and reward notices that appeared in the classified sections of black newspapers from the Civil War to at least the first decade of the 20th century.

Placed by black people in search of relatives and friends that were separated from them—often by force—during the dark period of enslavement, these notices, sometimes called ads, usually bore the headings “LOST!” or “INFORMATION WANTED.”

As an aid to historical, genealogical, and family history research on African Americans and their enslaved ancestors, *The Baobab* is republishing 28 search notices that were compiled and edited

from two 19th-century black newspapers.

## Separated, Not Destroyed

The notices demonstrate that, though slavery inflicted lasting damage on black families by ruthlessly dividing them, it could not erase the love and loyalty that family members felt for one another—even after decades of separation.

The notices make clear that, through all of slavery's horrors, many bondsmen and -women found reasons and ways to maintain their sense of familyhood, and acted upon it when freedom finally arrived.

## Freedom Trails

Some separations were voluntary—though no less painful. Tens of thousands of bondspersons managed to escape from enslavement every year, but only a fraction were able to remain free and begin new lives elsewhere. Most were recaptured and returned to their owners. Those considered “runners” were usually sold or traded.

In their groundbreaking 1999 study *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation*, John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger assert that, contrary to popular belief, the destination of many “runaways” was neither the northern

United States nor Canada. Instead, most fled to nearby plantations, cities, or other parts of the South.

Even less well known is the fact that some joined “maroon” colonies of fugitive and free blacks that were concealed in woods, swamps, and backcountry.

During the Civil War, the Union Army's relentless march to smash the Confederacy created new openings. While most of the newly freed persons remained bound to the land, some followed after and assisted their liberators. Others left in search of relatives, or tested their new freedom by doing what had previously been illegal—going wherever they wished to. Some, evidently traumatized by slavery and war, simply wandered off, never to be heard from again.

## Earlier Notices

Prior to search notices, black people usually appeared in the classified sections of 19th-century papers in two other notable ways: as property in for-sale ads (often nameless) and as “runaways” in fugitive slave notices (often identified by given name), the latter sometimes featuring the famous “running man” or “running woman” illustrations.

It is conceivable that an individual could have been advertised as property in one

notice, branded as a fugitive in another, and finally given their full personhood in a search or reward notice placed by a loved one.

## Untapped Resource

Despite their richness, African American search and reward notices have been almost wholly unused as a source for historical, genealogical, and family history research.

Because they were an effort to locate lost relatives, the notices provided a great amount of detail—listing parents, children, siblings, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Significantly, some notices listed more than one surname for a relative, which might indicate multiple slave owners, or one of the most basic rights of freedom—choosing one's own name.

Notices often identified the last known location of a relative, and even previous ones. Sometimes locations (and probably surnames) were spelled phonetically—the way that they sounded. This, of course, is understandable because many of those who wrote the notices lived during a time when it was illegal to educate the enslaved.

Many notices also included descriptions of physical features (usually skin color), references to military service, and the circumstances of separation.

Often notices were movingly impressionistic, suggesting the psychic scars of enslavement and the emotional toll of separation. In this sense, they are a gold mine for historical research, providing first-hand accounts of this painful, yet integral, aspect of enslavement—the separation of loved ones, whether thru sale, transfer, migration with slaveholders, or escape.

## The Wall

The importance of search notices to genealogical and family history research is just as significant. This is because they offer the possibility of breaking thru the “wall” of the 1870 federal census. This census was the first to enumerate formerly enslaved blacks, providing their given and surnames, age, sex, occupation, birthplace, and other helpful details.

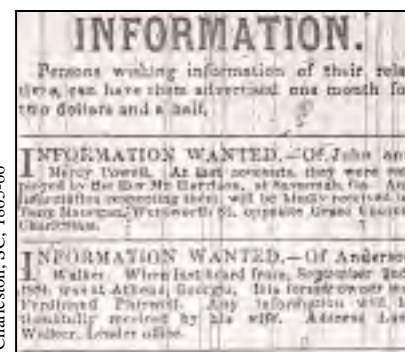
However, those seeking to identify enslaved blacks using the 1850 and 1860 federal censuses are often stymied because Slave Schedules rarely identified the bonded by name. The enslaved were, after all, legally defined as property, not persons.

Search notices can help to add branches—or, better, roots—to family trees that extend back behind the veil of chattel slavery. However, they will only become useful when they are collected, organized, and made widely available.

## Taboo

On the other hand, some people might prefer that certain roots remain hidden.

Given the commonness of its occurrence, it is possible that some notices will provide clues or evidence to help piece together a reality that is still taboo to



From *The South Carolina Leader*, Charleston, SC, 1865-66

many blacks and whites—namely, the familial relationships between the enslaver and the enslaved and, therefore, their descendants.

Many notices identify white slave owners and slave traders. Through relationships with enslaved black women—forced or consensual—some of these men might have been related to the “black” relatives that were later sought.

Descriptions of some relatives in the notices below seem suggestive. Pleasant Beale (or Beal) of Paragould, Ark., recalled that her father “was very bright with blonde hair.” Daisy Boyd of San Angelo, Texas, reported that her father was “quite white, some people would take him for white.”

If true, then their white forebears would

also be branches of many “black” family trees—and vice versa.

## About The Notices

The first notice below is from *The Langston City Herald*, Jan. 28, 1892, and the remaining 27 are from *The Christian Recorder*, Sept. 12, 1895.

*The Langston City Herald*, published in the old Oklahoma Territory, was the “booster” organ for Langston City, one of the first, and the most famous, of the black-governed towns in what is now central Oklahoma. It is also believed to be that territory's first black paper.

*The Christian Recorder*, then published at Philadelphia, Penn., is the organ of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church. It was founded in 1848 and is thought to be the oldest continuous black paper in the United States. Now published at Nashville, TN, the *Recorder* was an important medium for news and opinion about black people, not only in the U. S., but also throughout the world.

## Editorial Note

In editing the notices, we have endeavored to strike a balance between authenticity and readability. The following rules have been applied:

- Grammatical, punctuation, and spelling irregularities are retained—unless they obscure meaning, in which case they have been silently standardized and corrected.

- No attempt was made to verify given and surnames, but different spellings of a given or surname within a single notice are noted with [sic]. Internal contradictions are also noted with [sic].

- An attempt was made to verify all place names using contemporary atlases and gazetteers. However, some were not found and others could only be conjectured.

- Misspellings of place names are retained and the correct spellings and additional information are enclosed in [brackets]. Conjectures are bracketed and followed by a [question mark?].

- Explanatory matter is enclosed in [brackets].