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Tony Burroughs was the keynote speaker for the 10th anniversary.

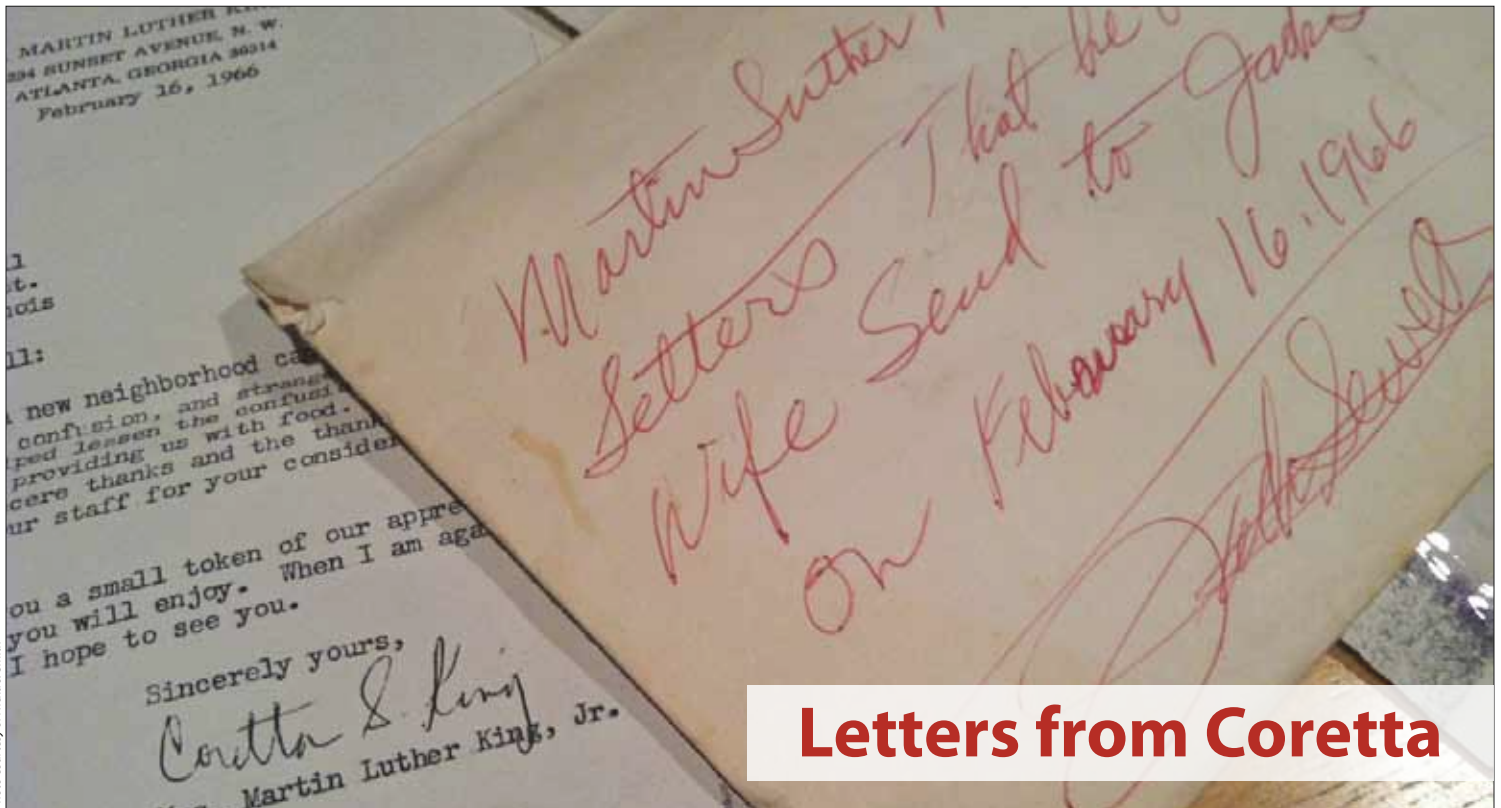


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Dunnigan Hills and Guinda were home to early black settlers.

the Baobab Tree

Journal of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California, Inc. / Vol. 20 No. 2 / Spring 2015 / ISSN 1543-4125



Letters from Coretta

Nicka J. Smith
AAGSNC Board Member

It was 1999. You would have thought we had won the Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes, only it was paid in boxes. A bunch of them were scattered about. My parents, who were retirees, and I, then a college student, pored through each one, sifting out what we'd keep and what we'd throw away. It's the thing you do when you have a family member who has died. We had boxes for three people who had passed away

within four years of each other: both of my paternal grandparents and my only paternal aunt. Most of the boxes were packed with newspaper from 1985 and hadn't been opened for nearly fifteen years.

After enduring the pain of losing my only paternal first cousin, Vance, to a drunk driver, my grandparents had packed up their house and moved to a smaller condo because it was too

much to live there with the memories they had of him. The smaller home was the reason for the unpacked boxes. Stemware, old dish towels, clothes. You name it, it was in there.

Suddenly I saw a yellowed envelope addressed to my grandfather care of his corner store, Gail's Certified Market. The store was at 3748 West 16th Street, Chicago, Illinois and was named after my paternal aunt.

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The African-American Genealogical Society of Northern California (AAGSNC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated in its commitment to national and international black African-ancestry family history research. The society provides a unique approach to education, research skills, and support to anyone interested in genealogy.

Objectives

- To promote interest in genealogy, biography, and related history of 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 material and make such material available to all.
- To promote and maintain ethical standards in genealogical research and publications.

Membership and Its Benefits

Any person interested in furthering the objectives of AAGSNC is eligible for membership upon submission and acceptance of a completed application form and payment of dues.

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To join, please visit <http://www.aagsnc.org/>.

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Don't Be Discouraged!



Photo courtesy of M. Howard Edwards

by **M. Howard Edwards**
President, AAGSNC

Having exhausted the Internet resources used to find your folks, you may have shouted, "I give up!" Well, don't! It may have been declared someplace that you cannot go home again, but in this case you must. This program illustrates the billions of records that can be found only if you go to them; they certainly will not be coming to you. Records are being digitized by the millions daily, true, but I do not anticipate that those important to me will all be made accessible in my lifetime, if ever. There are school records, family histories, family bibles, church records, company histories, fraternal records, criminal records, county histories, and on, and on. And they are only available if you go there.

This is not a plug for the airlines, bus lines, rental car companies, and gasoline retailers, but it is a plug for the communities of your ancestors. Not only is it good to breathe the air of your ancestors, it is gratifying to contact their descendants who stayed local. Even if your search did not reveal a lot that was helpful, the trip will be invigorating, rejuvenating, and enlightening. Local folks will probably take an interest in your search and help in ways you never would have anticipated. Don't be discouraged; be recharged. Go home again.

Watching *Who Do You Think You Are?*, formerly on NBC and now on TLC (The Learning Channel), I am impressed by the resources revealed by the genealogists to document the histories of the subjects. Unlike our journal editor, I have not established any personal connection with any of the celebrities "helped" by the program to find their ancestors. Further, I do not have the experience of the historians and professional genealogists toiling away to document these family histories. I have, however, been guided by their research. They have used local histories, historical newspapers, land records (of course), letters, gravestones, local censuses, military records, federal censuses, and even Ancestry.com.

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June 20

Preserving Your Genealogical Legacy

July 16

FamilySearch Freedmen's Bureau new digitized records and indexing
Oakland FamilySearch Library
10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon (tentative)

August 22

African-American Genealogy: Basics for Beginners
San Francisco Public Library, Main Branch
5th Floor, Computer Training Center
12:00 noon–2:00 p.m.

September 19

Braggin' and Lyin'

October 17

Getting Past a Brick Wall Created by Oral History

November 21

Slave Research

December 19

Annual Holiday Party

For more information and updates on our events and meetings, visit <http://www.AAGSNC.org/>

Finding Black Soldiers in Early U.S. Army Records

Records can be hard to find, but some exist

Eric E. Johnson

Contributor

Finding a black American ancestor in U.S. Army and Navy records before the 1860's is not easy. Blacks (whether free or enslaved) were not always permitted to enlist. Many participated alongside troops in noncombat roles, however, especially before the Civil War. Military and historical documents may have a lot to say about an important chapter in a black ancestor's life.

Whether and where black Americans appear in early U.S. Army records depends on the period and on race-based enlistment policies. This article looks at the enlistment restrictions and records of several distinct periods: peacetime before the Civil War; during the War of 1812; and beginning in 1863, with the onset of black participation in the Civil War.

The army did record, to some extent, on its enlistment rosters whether the soldier was white or black. The recorded physical description of a soldier also indicated race, but this was not always accurate.

Peacetime before the Civil War

Black American soldiers were a rarity between the American Revolutionary War and the American Civil War. It is said that approximately 5,000 free blacks and slaves served in the Continental Army during the Revolution. George Washington needed men. Black American soldiers proved their worth; many fought with distinction, and many gave their lives.

Between the Revolution and the Civil War, black Americans served only as company cooks or as white officers' servants in the army. The peacetime army was small, and the number of black cooks and servants was

correspondingly small. Black slaves serving as servants usually didn't have surnames, and nicknames were used as their given names, that is, Bob or Bill. In the comments section of the enlisted rosters, it may indicate that Bill was a Negro boy who was a servant for a particular officer, while Bob was a colored cook for a particular regiment. These notations will have little genealogical value unless the researcher already has other documentation for that person that places him with a specific slaveholder or regiment.

The U.S. Navy enlisted blacks on an equal footing with common enlisted sailors during this time. The petty officer and officer ranks were still off-limits to blacks, however.

When Congress passed the Militia Act of 1792, it required that "every free able-bodied white male citizen" join his state militia. This act implied that nonwhites could not participate in the militia, but it left open the possibility that nonwhites could enlist in the U.S. Army. On 5 April 1799, the War Department clarified this and established requirements for its recruiting service, stating "natives of good character, are always to be preferred for soldiers. Foreigners of good reputation, for sobriety and honesty, may be enlisted; but Negroes, Mulattoes, or Indians are not to be enlisted."

Black Americans could still serve as cooks and servants. In 1802 Congress helped the officers who hired private servants, or used their personal slaves as servants, by permitting the army to supply one ration (meal) per day for these individuals. An officer had always been allowed to take a soldier from within his command to have as a servant. Soldiers serving in this capacity were called "waiters."

War of 1812

Cracks in this racial restriction appeared for a short time during the War of 1812. Without proper rules and regulations governing this issue, some commanders in the army did recruit black Americans, though the total was only around 400. Louisiana permitted blacks to serve in its state militia. Approximately 800 black Americans fought at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815.

Congress, in 1812, when passing legislation to provide for the army, increased the support for officers' servants by stating "that the officers who shall not take waiters from the line of the army, shall receive the pay, clothing and subsistence allowed to a private soldier." This was a big boost for black servants, for the U.S. Army would now feed, pay, and clothe these men on a level equal to that of a private. Servants now received two rations (meals) per day, the same as privates.

Legislation in 1814 forbade officers from employing soldiers as servants and ruled that the names of the servants must now appear on the muster rolls for each corps. Servants were now full members of the U.S. Army. They were still not permitted to fight.

The genealogical value of War of 1812 records is much higher than previous records. The army recorded age, place of birth, date and place of enlistment, and physical description, and the comments section highlighted the career of a soldier. Two problems exist for this period: Not all of the information is recorded for each soldier, and it is hard to spot a soldier of mixed race (especially a very light-skinned mulatto) in many Army records.

The name column of the enlistment record may include the word "negro", "black", "colored", or "mulatto" under the person's name. Likewise, these words may replace "private" in the rank



[Two brothers in arms.] Two unidentified African American Union soldiers. Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., LCUSZ62-132208. Online at <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3c32208>.

column. "Colored" is often abbreviated as "col'd." The comments section may include these terms, too. Other terms used were "negro boy" and "blackman."

The army also captured the physical description of a soldier by noting the color of eyes, hair, and complexion on the Register of Enlistments. During the 1800's, the term "colored" denoted anyone who wasn't white. In the records of the United States Colored Troops during the Civil War you will find Hawaiians, Mexicans, and Filipinos, among other ethnic groups, serving with black Americans.

Hair and eye color alone do not indicate race. All races had black eyes, including whites. Both white and mixed-race soldiers had various eye colors. Whites had many different hair colors, including dark brown or black, as did blacks and other nonwhites. So hair color is not always helpful in spotting a black American soldier, either. A hair

description of "curly" in army records may indicate a black person, however.

"Complexion" is the best indicator of race. "Black" is rarely used for a white's skin tone; you'll see instead terms such as light, dark, fair, ruddy, sallow, freckled, flesh, red, sandy, or florid. Terms used to describe the complexions of blacks or those of mixed race with black descent are black, brown, chestnut, or yellow. The last three terms usually denote mixed race, then termed "mulatto." "Yellow" was used to indicate a mixed-race person, someone who wasn't fully white or fully black. (It did not mean that the person was Asian.) Specific combinations of these three physical characteristics may indicate either a black or mulatto soldier. Examples are:

Eyes	Hair	Complexion
Black	Black	Black
Black	Curly	Black
Black	Black	Yellow
Black	Curly	Yellow
Brown	Brown	Brown

Many black Americans who served during the War of 1812 received pensions and land bounties. Understanding how the Army kept its descriptive records and enlistment reports can greatly increase success in researching these soldiers. The Adjutant and Inspector General's Office of the U.S. Army issued a general order on 18 February 1820 stating that "no negro or mulatto will be received as a recruit of the army." This ended official black American participation as soldiers in the U.S. Army until the Civil War.

Civil War

The Civil War ushered in a new era for black-American military service, which lasted until the mid-1950's, when the military was fully integrated. This period witnessed the formation of black regiments serving in the U.S. Army, first

as volunteers and then as regular army.

The U.S. Congress finally gave the president the authority to enlist black Americans as soldiers under the Militia Act of 1862. Again, the government needed men. During the Civil War, 209,145 black men served in the United States Colored Troops and the United States Navy. The Colored Troops represented one tenth of the total Union Army's strength during this war. Forty percent of the Colored Troops became casualties, either by bullet or by disease.

A real problem with black military research during the Civil War is distinguishing black Americans from whites and other ethnic groups who served in black regiments. Although these regiments were commanded by white officers, 120 blacks did receive volunteer commissions and served in black regiments. The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) maintains a Web site (<http://suvcw.org/mollus/usctoofficers.htm>) listing these black officers and the regiments in which they served.

Another surprise in black military research during the Civil War period is that the Union Army required that senior sergeants, that is, Sergeant Majors, Quartermaster Sergeants, and Commissary Sergeants, be able to read, write, and do arithmetic (the 3 R's). These three ranks had reports to fill out, orders to read, food to purchase, and clothing and tents to order, among other duties. Knowing the 3 R's helped each company's First Sergeants better perform their duties.

Many black regiments—particularly in the South, where it was illegal to educate slaves—had white senior enlisted personnel until black Americans could be found to replace them. Once these white sergeants were replaced, many would be promoted to the officer ranks. Many recruiters from the South operated in Ohio throughout the Civil War, seeking educated free blacks for their senior sergeant positions.

A number of blacks served in white regiments during the war as soldiers, too, not just as noncombatants. William

Mulligan, John Muncy, Montgomery Muncy, and William Muncy were cavalymen in Company L of the 1st Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. They were all transferred to the 9th United States Colored Heavy Artillery Regiment in January 1865. It is not known if these were voluntary or involuntary transfers. Most black soldiers in white regiments were transferred to the United States Colored Troops. Many mixed-race soldiers with light skin served in white regiments and stayed in these regiments.

The Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio in the War of the Rebellion lists the black cooks in Ohio's white regiments. These men are listed as "cooks" or "colored under cooks" after the listing of privates in the companies of some of the regiments. Only a few regiments had black cooks; the total number is around 400. White cooks were privates from their companies who were detailed to serve as cooks.

You can learn more about researching men who served in the U.S. Colored Troops in *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors* by Franklin Carter Smith and Emily Anne Croom. There is also an article on the U.S. Colored Troops on the FamilySearch wiki (from <http://www.familysearch.org/>, select Search, then Wiki).

Mexican-American War

The Mexican-American War presents a real problem in identifying black Americans who served during the conflict. Blacks were still not permitted to serve as soldiers, only as servants and cooks. Mixed-race men with lighter skin tone are known to have enlisted in the Army, but they are extremely hard to identify as such in the enlistment reports.

Since this conflict was our first true "overseas" war, the army requested that officers leave their personal servants and their company cooks behind. Most American soldiers embarked for Mexico at New Orleans, and the army did not want to pay to transport cooks and servants to Mexico and back. They could hire Mexicans to do these same tasks.

You almost have to know first that your ancestor served in this war as a cook or servant, or possibly as a soldier, before finding him in army records. Family history and tradition are extremely important in order to find these ancestors in Mexican-American War records.

Conclusion

Finding a black ancestor in U.S. Army records during and after the Civil War is much easier, since the army raised the U.S. Colored Troops during the war and Congress created four black regular Army regiments in 1866. You may get lucky in finding your ancestor prior to the Civil War in military records with the help of this article, but research, perseverance, and analyzing your family history may be the keys in breaking down that military brick wall.

The Register of Enlistments in the U.S. Army, 1798–1914 is an extract of personnel information from the land forces of the United States covering the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish-American Wars, and Philippine Insurrection. The data are extracted from documents generated by the U.S. Army such as enlistment records, recruiting reports, discharge records, commissioning records, muster rosters, inspection reports, morning reports, court-martial records, etc. The Army recorded on its enlistment rosters, to some extent, whether a soldier was white or black. The recorded physical description of a soldier also indicated race but was not always accurate. Race indicators may help identify a black American soldier. These records are browsable at FamilySearch.org; a searchable index and images are at Ancestry.com.

This article originally appeared in *Ohio Genealogy News*, Winter 2014. It is reprinted with permission.



Eric E. Johnson is OGS' Vice President of Member Services, Historian General for the General Society of the War of 1812, and a member of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution and the Company of Military Historians.

How I Made Sense Out of Chaos

Do the old-fashioned paper research before you jump online

Angela Williams Brown
Contributor

I woke up one morning and had a burning desire to uncover my ancestry. Here's what I did:

- Joined an online genealogy community. Check.
- Ordered and took a genealogy DNA test. Check.
- Got the results back and felt very overwhelmed. Check.

Pages and pages of matches. Hundreds. And they were all listed as my DNA cousins, ranging from 3rd to 8th. All were people I had never met or even heard of. As my eyes were glued to the computer screen scrolling down names I'd never seen, my initial excitement rapidly diminished with each name that I read. I felt no connection at all to these random people. Then I paused. I found one potential relative who shared 2x-great-grandparents with me and one who shared 3x-great-grandparents. What luck! But it wasn't exactly luck that had gotten me to this point . . .

Flashback

Leave it to me to become interested in my genealogy after my father and his parents, and frankly almost anyone who I could actually have asked questions, had passed. I kicked myself for not paying closer attention to them when they would sit on the couch after Thanksgiving dinner and talk about old relatives. I regretted never asking any questions about WHO my father's grandparents were, WHERE they lived, WHAT they did, WHY he and my grandmother had moved from Georgia to Ohio. I had known there was a painful history somewhere, but never knew WHY. I only knew that not once in my entire life did we ever take a family trip to the Peach State. Not once did my father ever spend the night there—even when a call came saying a relative (of course, I can't recall any names) had passed, they would make the 10-hour drive to Georgia and then turn

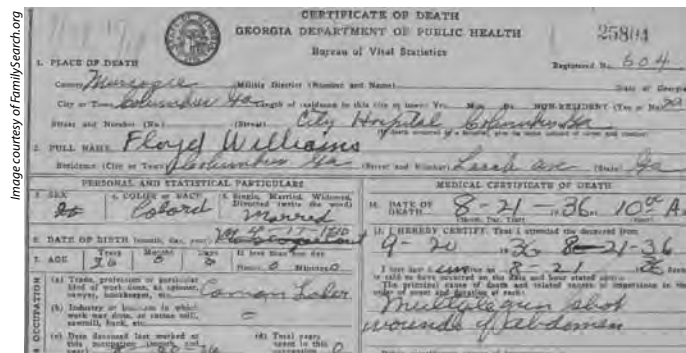
around and come back, sleeping in the car if they had to once safely outside of the state's border. I recall my father vowing never to sleep in Georgia again.

Little did I know that shortly after my father died, my mother had reached out to a professional genealogist (we're lucky to have one in the family). She was able to provide family information that proved invaluable: that my grandfather had been murdered—she even secured a copy of his actual death certificate, along with finding the names of several of my formerly enslaved ancestors and more. It was these “paper” records that had been tracked down several years before I joined the online community that laid the groundwork for my future discoveries, because in your search, names and dates are truly the name of the game.

Flash Forward

With newfound cousins, the pace of my research increased exponentially. My new family members (ironically, one maternal and one paternal) happily shared family reunion programs with me, information on other DNA relatives of theirs who were also related to me, and other discoveries that their hard research had uncovered. I was able to view an ancestor's Revolutionary War pension record and copies of his bible records. I was able to move a little closer to being completely sure of the parentage of one squirrely ancestor who has been quite a mystery.

While only about nine of the 1,500+ matches have so far materialized into real-life identifiable connections, that's nine relatives I didn't know before. That's confirmation of the hundreds of documents identified earlier. That's one more step to uncovering who I really am. And to be honest, it feels great!



Death certificate of Floyd Williams; cause of death is “multiple gunshot wounds of abdomen”

To those people new to genealogy or those who have been doing it old school for years, this newbie has this to say: Online ancestry groups are a great tool. DNA testing for genealogy is a great tool. I highly recommend using both. There is no need to rehash the well known problems of “group think/group click” and people going forward for generations being strong and wrong. Yes, there is that danger. So my advice to anyone who wants to listen is sure, join those groups. Spit in a test tube. But you need somewhere more concrete to start with, if possible. Starting with some real records can separate the genuine ancestors from the misleading ones early on so that you can avoid spending hours on some online genealogy Web site clicking away before you notice that your 9x-great-grandmother gave birth to your 8x-great-grandmother when she was 4 years old. There really is no substitute for doing the hard work first. And once you have a start, there's no telling what you might find. As for me, I guess I'm going to start my application to the DAR; I hear they host some really great concerts!



Photo courtesy of Angela Brown

Angela Brown is a wife, mother, and relative newbie to genealogy. By day she is a city planner for a midsized city in the Midwest and by night she scours resources trying to advance her genealogy research. She graduated from the University of Iowa with an M.A. in Urban and Regional Planning in 1998 and received a B.A. in political science from Capital University in 1996.

2015 Sacramento African American Seminar

The 10th anniversary of a great learning opportunity

Jacqueline Chauhan
AAGSNC Member

“Strength, Courage, and Perseverance” was the theme for the 10th annual African American Family History Seminar held in Sacramento at the FamilySearch Library on March 14, 2015.

The program included a welcome and introduction by the Mistress of Ceremonies, Karen Massie, who has been part of the seminar for ten years, presentation of the flag by the color guard of a Buffalo Soldiers re-enactment group, and audience participation in the Pledge of Allegiance and “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” There was also a presentation of the Proclamation from Sacramento mayor Kevin Johnson.

AAGSNC members have been part of the seminar since its inception as participants and keynote speakers, such as Electra Kimball Price speaking on “Clues and Analysis in Genealogy Research”, Lisa Lee on “Finding Your ‘Unfindable’ Relatives”, and Annette Madden on “The 1940 Census Is Coming.” Seventeen AAGSNC members have presented at the seminar through the years. AAGSNC members Linda Bradley and Jackie Chauhan have been on the seminar committee for all ten years. Other African American Seminar committee members this year were Sharry Covington, Darrell Levias, Sharon Styles, Eric Thomas, Barbara Tyson, and Lynette Williams.

The workshops addressed the needs of beginning, intermediate, and advanced genealogists with topics such as Mississippi Research, DNA, Using Photoshop, Blacks in the Indian Nation, My Book is Finished! Now What?, Mixed Race Ancestry, Freedmen’s Bureau Records, Resources to Locate and Identify Common Names, Roots along the Civil Rights Trail, When Oral History Leads You to a Brick Wall, Moving from Myth to Fact, and



Beginning to Intermediate African American Genealogy.

The keynote speaker was Tony Burroughs, the internationally known author of *Black Roots* and the founder and CEO of the Center for Black Genealogy. The topic of the keynote address was “The Next Phase of African American Genealogy.” In addition to his keynote, Mr. Burroughs conducted a question and answer session. He also signed copies of *Black Roots* purchased with seminar registration or on site.

This year the Buffalo Soldiers 10th Cavalry Company G; Allensworth State Historic Park; AAGSNC; Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., George “Spanky” Roberts Chapter; and AAGSNC member Barbara Tyson provided displays.

This seminar was a joint endeavor between the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Sacramento FamilySearch Library, the African American Family History Seminar committee members, the California

Pioneer Heritage Foundation, and several sponsors.

And of course, there is no celebration without cake. At lunch, two beautiful cakes were cut to commemorate ten years of successful and informative seminars.



Photo courtesy of Jackie Chauhan

Jacqueline “Jackie” Chauhan has had a passion for genealogy since 2001. Her research mostly has been in the Houston area of Texas because both her paternal and maternal ancestors are from there. Jackie was born in San Francisco, California and raised in the Bay Area. Her e-mail address is thefamilypath@yahoo.com.

Photographs on page 8:

1. Marcia Jones Wylie and keynote speaker Tony Burroughs
2. PeggyAllen, EricThomas, and HowardEdwards
3. Michael Willis discussing oral history pitfalls
4. Buffalo Soldier 10th Cavalry display
5. Janice M. Sellers, Linda Bradley, and Tony Burroughs



Celebrating the History of Black Americans in the Capay Valley

Dunnigan Hills and Guinda were home to early black settlers

Elizabeth Monroe
Contributor

Before statehood and after—since California was a free state—there have been sizable enclaves throughout the Capay Valley area with early pioneers of African descent. The Guinda area has a rich history of being well integrated from the beginning of early settlements. Many of the black settlers were never slaves, while others were freed after settling in the area.

One valley pioneer of interest was Basil “Baaz” Campbell. After buying his freedom from the Stephens family, he went on to purchase available sections of land that eventually led to his being the largest black landowner in the area of the Dunnigan Hills between Hungry Hollow and Zamora. He would become a magnet for many black pioneers to follow, some of whom found their way to the Guinda area.

The first black settler to homestead in the Guinda area was Green Berry Logan, who moved his family from the Dunnigan area in the 1890’s. Logan is buried in the Logan Cemetery up on the “summit”, a heavenly 1,200 feet above Guinda, which was at one time home to about 100 settlers. Once the Logans’ private cemetery, it is now located on property left to the Hayes family, which keep access open for descendants to visit.

Following Mr. Logan was a barber/musician, Charles Henry Simpson. Green Berry Logan’s sister-in-law Harriet “Hattie” Emily Logan married Simpson, and they moved with their daughter to a homestead of 160 acres, filed for in 1890, on the summit, near Logan’s homestead. By 1896 Simpson was successful with fruit and nut trees due to a good well dug in 1893. Hattie was a skilled dressmaker, sewing for local Guinda families.



Photo courtesy of Restore/Restory



Image courtesy of NESDAC

Top: Basil “Baaz” Campbell, circa 1854.

Bottom: The Summit School.

Seeing the importance of contact with Guinda, Simpson laid out a road from the ford at the end of Forest Avenue to a switchback at the 1,200-foot level. Worked on for several years, it proved its value in the summer of 1894, when it acted as a barrier to a forest fire. It was always referred to as the “Simpson Grade.” The grade is still kept usable today by the Hayes family. Simpson is also buried in the Logan Cemetery.

There followed other black families, among them the Hemphills, Longrus, and Hacketts, related to local historian Bill Petty’s family by marriage.

The summit settlers built their own school in the 1890’s but eventually joined other local students in the Guinda School after 1912. Green Berry Logan was the school’s first superintendent. The Summit School closed in the 1920’s after a wildfire ravaged the mountain range above the Capay Valley.

Much of this history is courtesy of Bill Petty, a local historian, and Jeannette Molson, a descendant of the Logan family. Jeanette’s grandfather, Alvin Alfred Logan, Sr., was born to Green Berry and his first wife, Lavinia Coffey.

Reprinted from the January 29, 2015 newsletter for the Greater Capay Valley Historical Society. Read more about the society at <http://www.greatercapayvalley.org/>.



Photo courtesy of Betsy Monroe

Elizabeth “Betsy” Monroe is a 5th-generation descendant of pioneers in the Capay Valley who now researches and writes about this special place. Her Web site can be found at <http://www.greatercapayvalley.org/>.

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Most back issues of the journal are available as digital files in the **Members Only** section of our Web site (<http://www.aagsnc.org/>). As each new edition becomes available, it will be added to the collection and a notification will be sent by e-mail to the membership list and posted in the AAGSNC Membership Yahoo! Group site. Those who have opted to continue to receive the printed copy will be mailed their issue at the same time.

New members will be given the option of receiving the publication digitally or by mail.

Current members can state their delivery preference by completing and mailing the request below (or a photocopy if you prefer to not damage your issue). E-mailed requests will also be honored. Please be sure to include the information below in your e-mail. Members can also visit <http://goo.gl/teiFp> to submit their preference.

If a member elects to change his or her mind later, the member should contact the Journal Committee by mail: *The Baobab Tree*, c/o AAGSNC, P.O. Box 27485, Oakland, CA 94602-0985, or by e-mail: journal@aagsnc.org Requests will be honored at any time.

The Baobab Tree
AAGSNC, P.O. Box 27485, Oakland, CA 94602-0985
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Please continue mailing a hard copy of my issues of *The Baobab Tree*.

Name _____

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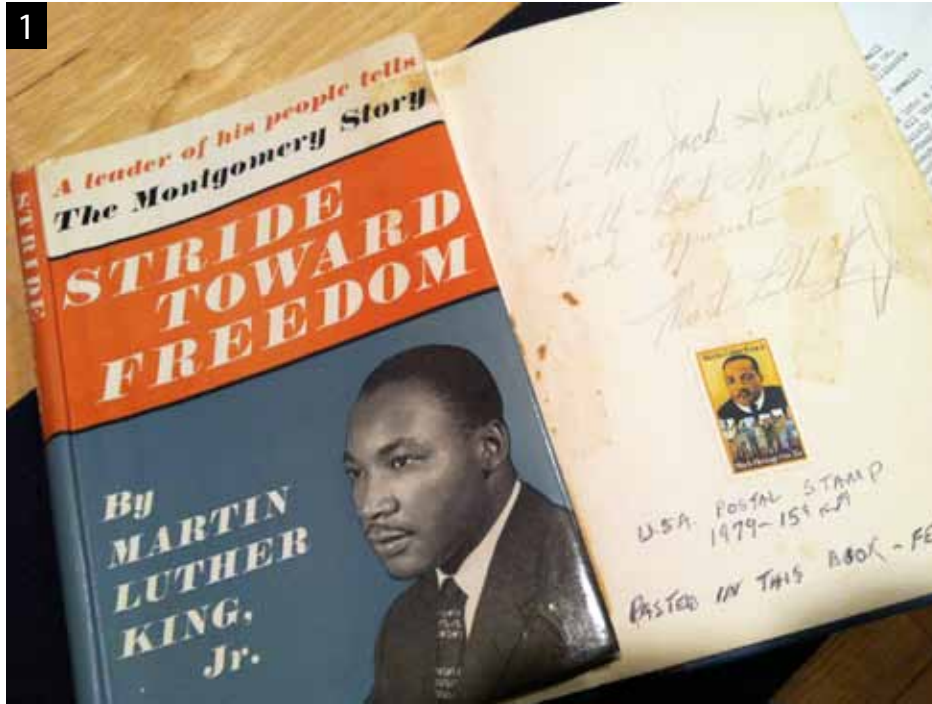
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date _____



Letters from Coretta

continued from cover



As I opened the envelope, I noticed a smaller one labeled, “COPIES OF LETTERS TO: REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR AND HIS WIFE MRS. CORETTA S KING MARCH 1966.”

Wait, what? I looked at my father and said, “Uh, Daddy, what is this?”

My first instinct was to question it. My grandparents had never lived in Atlanta, and Dr. King and his family had never lived in Chicago . . . at least I thought they hadn’t. I knew that nearly a year after the Watts Riots my grandparents had moved from Chicago to Los Angeles, but I knew for sure they had never lived in Atlanta.

As I went further through the larger envelope, I found two letters written on

Cover image: The February 16, 1966 letter written to my grandfather, Oswald (Jack Oscar) Sewell, by Coretta Scott King, and the envelope in which my grandfather kept it

1. The autographed copy of *Stride toward Freedom* and the MLK postage stamp my grandfather pasted in it

2. The entire February 16, 1966 letter written by Coretta Scott King

Photos courtesy of Nicka J. Smith

letterhead from “Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr., 234 Sunset Avenue NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30314.” They too were addressed to my grandparents’ store. The first read as follows:

February 16, 1966

Dear Mr. Sewell:

Moving into a new neighborhood can be maddening, with all the confusion, and strangeness. You certainly helped lessen the confusion at our new apartment by providing us with food. Please accept my sincere thanks and the thanks of my husband and our staff for your consideration and kindness.

I have sent you a small token of our appreciation which I hope you will enjoy. When I am again in Chicago, I hope to see you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature – Coretta S. King]

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The second letter had some of the text cut off, but this is what I could decipher from what was left:

March 2, 1966

Dear Mr. Sewell:

. . . I came to Chicago, I brought this . . . fully intending to deliver it to you [as] an expression of our appreciation . . . you may have seen in the papers, we . . . involved in cleaning up the apartment, house . . . taking care of all the other business, ne[ver] got to see you. Since this sort . . . [in]volvement may happen the next time I . . . thought it would probably be quicker . . . to you.

. . . [a]gain for being so friendly and help-[ful] . . . [hus]band and I, as well as the members of . . . [h]ere in Chicago, greatly appreciate . . . the time and trouble to make us feel

Sincerely yours,

[Signature – Coretta S. King]

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Next was the gift. It was a copy of Dr. King’s book, *Stride toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story* (published November 30, 1957; this copy was printed in 1958), and it was autographed. Later, I would discover that the book detailed Dr. King’s experiences during the Montgomery bus boycott from 1955–1956, and it was the first book he had written!

The inscription read:

To Mr. Jack Sewell
With Best Wishes and appreciation
Martin Luther King Jr.

My grandfather was an avid stamp collector. When the U.S. Post Office released its first-ever MLK stamp, he purchased one and stuck it to the page with the autograph. He also wrote the date he pasted it in there. It was less than a month before I was born.

At this point, my entire face was on the floor. How in the world was this packed in a box in the garage at our house and I had NO idea?! I looked at my dad,

MRS. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
234 SUNSET AVENUE, N. W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314
February 16, 1966

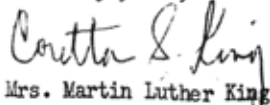
Mr. Jack Sewell
3748 W. 16th St.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Sewell:

Moving into a new neighborhood can be maddening, with all the confusion, and strangeness. You certainly helped lessen the confusion at our new apartment by providing us with food. Please accept my sincere thanks and the thanks of my husband and our staff for your consideration and kindness.

I have sent you a small token of our appreciation which I hope you will enjoy. When I am again in Chicago, I hope to see you.

Sincerely yours,


Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

K.h

who told me he remembered his father mentioning something about this and that Dr. King did live in Chicago at one point. That's when the researcher in me headed out to get more information.

"On 7 January 1966, Martin Luther King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) announced plans for the Chicago Freedom Movement, a campaign that marked the expansion of their civil rights activities from the South to northern cities. King believed that 'the moral force of SCLC's nonviolent movement philosophy was needed to help eradicate a vicious system which seeks to further colonize thousands of Negroes within a slum environment' (King, 18 March 1966). King and his

the campaign leaders, who included Dr. James Bevel and The Rev. Jesse Jackson, settled on terms for ending the campaign at the end of the same month.³ The campaign is widely considered to have led to the creation and passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, also known as the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

Years later, as I sit here typing this, it is still unbelievable to me that my family had a tie to something so significant. Luckily, my grandfather kept copies of the letters he wrote to the Kings. The words he wrote rang true for the time he wrote them, and they resonate even more now that we've recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of the March on Selma.

family moved to one such Chicago slum at the end of January so that he could be closer to the movement."¹

Based upon information in the *Electronic Encyclopedia of Chicago*, Dr. King and his family moved in January 1966². This led me to believe that my grandfather delivered groceries to them around that time, especially since the first letter from Mrs. King was dated February 16 of the same year. My grandfather provided food for one of the most important people in U.S. history. Wow.

Mass marches ensued. Dr. King was hit in the head with a rock while demonstrating in an all-white neighborhood on August 5, 1966. Eventually, Mayor Richard Daley and

March 27, 1966

To:

The Most Honorable Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It is a great honor to know such a dynamic personality. The things you have done will long be remembered in the hearts and minds of many people and children and their children's children. May God help, keep and guide you as you go to and fro from day to day. You have opened doors that have been closed to our people for centuries. You have treaded paths that no one else has dared. You have blazed trails that many thought impossible. You have shown us that opportunity is waiting, we have only to take advantage.

You are a born leader for you have led us, with the help of God, out of darkness into light.

I am not speaking for myself alone but for many, many thousands like me. You are the only true pioneer our people have ever known. We are with you, and you will always have a place of honor in our hearts.

May I say that Mrs. King's position does not remain unnoticed, Behind every successful man is a wonderful woman, be it wife, mother or sister. In this case I think your wife holds this honor.

My sincere thanks to you and your wife for the book and photograph. They will always be our proudest and most treasured possessions in our home. My wife wishes that I express her deepest gratitude.

I remain one of your most humble followers.

Jack Sewell.

What I found in that box is truly priceless. Now, where in the world is that photograph?

1. "Chicago Campaign (1966)", *Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Global Freedom Struggle* (<http://mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/index.php/encyclopedia/>), Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute, Stanford University, no date; http://mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/index.php/encyclopedia/encyclopedia/enc_chicago_campaign/. Accessed June 14, 2015.

2. "Martin Luther King, Jr. in Chicago", *Electronic Encyclopedia of Chicago*, Chicago Historical Society, 2005; <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1438.html>. Accessed June 14, 2015.

3. "Chicago Campaign (1966)", *op. cit.*



Nicka Smith is a board member of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California. She has been researching her family for 14 years. E-mail her at me@whoisnickasmith.com.

The Leaf

Updates from the Board of Directors,
Officers, Society Committees, and Blog

AAGSNC Executive Committee Meeting Notes January 17, February 21, and March 21, 2015

January 17, 2015

Present: President Howard Edwards, Jackie Chauhan, Gerry DeBerry, Annette Madden, Carol Miller, Diana Ross, Alvis Ward, Dera Williams

President Edwards convened the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Committee Reports

Secretary: Dera Williams

The minutes were approved as is.

Membership Committee: President Edwards for Upperton Hurts

The chairman is ill. There are 144 members as of January 17, 2015.

Journal Committee: Annette Madden for Janice M. Sellers

The new *Baobab* will be out mid-February. *The Baobab Tree* has been published for 18 years; it started as a newsletter.

Program Committee: Annette Madden

The January 17 program will be the annual meeting, V.P. Miller remarks, committee reports, and the election.

Ranger Frederik "Rick" Penn of the Presidio will speak about Buffalo Soldiers for the program in February.

March 14 is the date for the Sacramento seminar with Tony Burroughs as the keynote speaker.

Website Committee: Gerry DeBerry

The committee has been meeting through conference calls and online. They are still in the process of migration to the new site.

Treasurer: Vacant

President Edwards reported our balance is \$7,386.06 as of March 2014. We are still searching for a new treasurer.

Historian: Jackie Chauhan

Jackie will give the historical annual report at the general meeting. She sent a memo to past members and also to other societies. There is an inventory of 464 surplus journals.

Publicity Committee: Alvis Ward for Jackie Stewart

Alvis has revamped the annual flyer and will make an announcement at the general meeting.

Volunteers are still needed for Black History Day, February 15, as well as the San Francisco History Expo on February 28–March 1 and the San Francisco Library on February 14.

Other Business:

Discussion about retention of members. Several suggestions were made.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

February 21, 2015

Present: President Howard Edwards, Jackie Chauhan, Gerry DeBerry, Upperton Hurts, Annette Madden, Carol Miller, Diana Ross, Janice M. Sellers, Jackie Stewart, Dera Williams

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m. by President Edwards.

Membership Committee: Upperton Hurts

114 members have paid membership fees for 2015. There were 154 members in 2014. Upperton will reconcile the list to include lifetime members and new members acquired from Black Family History Day.

Vice President: no report

Secretary: Dera Williams

Minutes were approved with corrections.

Website Committee: Gerry DeBerry

There are issues with some links not matching. Nicka is working on them.

There were concerns about how *The Baobab Tree* is sorted online. The problem will be referred to the appropriate person to address this.

There have been positive comments about the Web site.

Publicity Committee: Jackie Stewart

We are out of calendars. The new calendars will have the remaining programs for the year.

Treasurer: Gerry DeBerry

Gerry is the new AAGSNC treasurer. She is working with the past treasurer for input and to establish contacts with the bank for a smoother transition.

Journal Committee: Janice M. Sellers

The Baobab Tree has gone to the printer and will be mailed out by March 1.

Historian: Jackie Chauhan

Jackie received a list of officers' records from 1995–2008 and another list of presidents.

She has sign-up sheets and a list of genealogical societies of the U.S. She found membership sign-in lists and letterhead.

Upperton suggested we need cloud storage to keep documents in case of a fire or other disaster.

Outreach and Education:

The San Francisco Expo is February 28 and March 1. Alvis, Howard, and Janice have volunteered to staff the AAGSNC table.

Other Business:

It was moved and approved to pay 23andMe DNA lecturer Tim Janzen a fee of \$300 for his presentation. This will be a paid fundraising event. Alvis and Diana will take care of PayPal or online registration.

Jackie stated the society needs to expand its number of volunteers. It was agreed we will announce this in our general meetings more often.

A survey was previously sent to members to gather information on what interests them.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

March 21, 2015

Present: President Howard Edwards, Gerry DeBerry, Upperton Hurts, Annette Madden, Janice M. Sellers, Jackie Stewart, Alvis Ward, Dera Williams

The meeting was called to order to approximately 12:45 p.m. by President Edwards.

Membership Committee: Upperton Hurts

We have 139 paid members.

Vice President: absent

Secretary: Dera Williams

The minutes were approved with corrections.

Program Committee: Annette Madden

There is a change in the program for today because the scheduled speaker is ill; she will speak in June instead. The program today will consist of recapping the March 14 African American Family History Seminar in Sacramento for the benefit of those who could not attend.

Website Committee: Gerry DeBerry

The committee continues to make progress on the Web site, with Nicka making headway on broken links and other technical issues. The site will have a new look. It was suggested we have a blog and put up more pictures and YouTube videos.

Publicity Committee: Jackie Stewart

The newly revised program was distributed. The program calendar has a professional appearance.

Treasurer: Gerry DeBerry

New treasurer Gerry took over in February and reports all bills are paid. We have a balance of \$7,455.42.

Journal Committee: Janice M. Sellers

The Winter 2015 *Baobab* was mailed out. Janice is reconciling the mailing list.

Historian: Absent

Outreach and Education:

Twenty-nine people are registered for the Janzen DNA workshop on April 11. If more room is needed, there are two alternative rooms available.

Other Business:

Eight AAGSNC members made presentations at the Sacramento seminar.

It was suggested AAGSNC have its own workshop. This will be put on the agenda for next month.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

A Black Baker at the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition

A letter of thanks belies true attitudes

Janice M. Sellers
Editor, *The Baobab Tree*

This year, 2015, is the 100th anniversary of the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE), which was held in San Francisco from February 20–December 4, 1915. Black Americans were almost completely excluded from the event except as caricatures. One example was baker Rosa McDonald, who was hired to prepare Southern cornbread and “Dixie Doughnuts” all year long as part of the Sperry Flour exhibit. Though her work for Sperry Flour was appreciated, as evidenced by a letter from the company after the Exposition ended, it is plain from her outfit and a 1916 Sperry Flour newspaper advertisement how she was actually viewed.

San Francisco, Cal.
Dec 3rd – 1915

Mrs. Rosa McDonald
City –

It affords me a great pleasure in closing my duties as Manager of the Sperry Exhibit at the Panama Pacific International Exposition, to express to you my personal appreciation of your demonstration of the Cooking of the Colored People of the Southern States.

You have been kind and courteous to everyone, your foods have been most

excellent, and you have more than done your share toward making the Sperry Flour Company's Exhibit the success which it has attained –

The little additional money which I am enclosing herewith is the material appreciation the company has for your work –

I shall be most pleased to have you use my name in reference to any work you may undertake in the future.

With my best wishes,
I am most sincerely,
Bertha Ingels



Photo courtesy of SanFranciscoMemories.com



Image courtesy of Newspapers.com

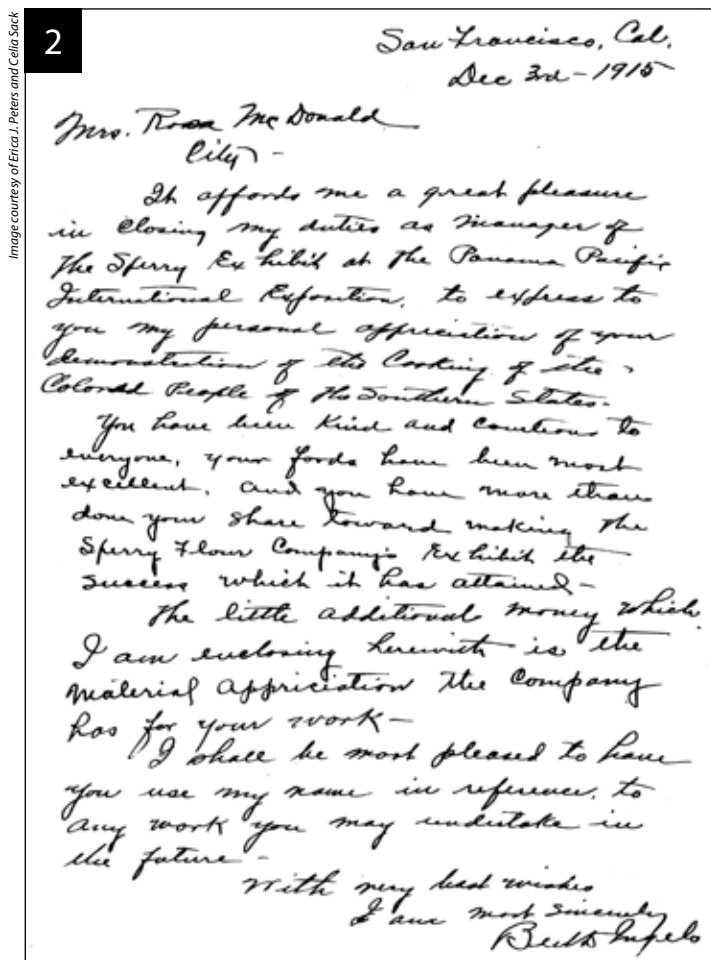


Image courtesy of Erica J. Peters and Ceila Sack

1. Sperry Flour exhibit at PPIE. Mary McDonald is probably the woman in the center.
2. Letter from Bertha Ingels to Mary McDonald, thanking her for her work at the Sperry Flour exhibit.
3. Sperry Flour advertisement from the *Pacific Rural Press*, May 27, 1916.

Janice M. Sellers

Editor, *The Baobab Tree*

Note: All URLs are valid as of the date of publication.

AAGSNC.org rated in top 80 resources for finding African ancestors
<http://crestleaf.com/blog/african-american-genealogy-80-top-resources-finding-african-ancestors/>

A History of the Amistad Captives free PDF download
<https://books.google.com/books?id=jxZWAAAAYAAJ>

A Century of Negro Migration free PDF download
<http://goo.gl/MGdlqT>

Online databases for slave trade ships and manifests
http://genealogy.about.com/od/african_american/tp/African-Slave-Trade-Ships-and-Manifests.htm

Eight-hour video of March 2015 symposium on history of U.S. slave trade
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5oqFStLHR_I

Slaves whose invention patents were blocked by U.S. Patent Office
<http://atlantablackstar.com/2014/02/11/5-inventions-by-enslaved-black-men-blocked-by-us-patent-office/>

The Slave Name Roll Project is a central online location to post names of slaves discovered in documents to make them more easily accessible
<http://tangledrootsandtrees.blogspot.com/p/slave-name-roll.html>

Tips for using 1850 and 1860 U.S. slave schedules in your research
http://genealogy.about.com/od/us_census/fl/US-Census-Slave-Schedules.htm

A copy of the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by Abraham Lincoln, held by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and available to see online

<http://digitalhistory.hsp.org/pafirm/doc/emancipation-proclamation-january-1-1863>

More than 500 Civil War and slavery photos donated to Library of Congress
<http://goo.gl/xw1nrW>

Records created when a slave enlisted in the Army and his owner supported the Union
<http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2015/02/04/the-wages-of-freedom/>

Only known voice recordings of former slaves
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/voices/>

Information about slave narratives
<http://blackthen.com/21-facts-you-probably-didnt-know-about-african-american-slave-narratives/>

Bernice Bennett, Angela Walton-Raji, and Toni Carrier discuss the “Mapping the Freedmen’s Bureau” site
<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/bernicebennett/2015/01/09/mapping-the-freedmens-bureau-with-angela-walton-raji-and-toni-carrier>

Photographs of young Victorian black women
http://dangerousminds.net/comments/wonderful_photographs_of_victorian_women_of_color

Apparently still unidentified late 19th-century photo of Buffalo soldiers
<https://wherehonorisdue.wordpress.com/2015/02/16/military-mystery-u-s-cavalry-9th-regiment-company-g/>

Antiques Roadshow visits the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/video/201403F02.html>
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/video/BF_201403F02.html

Student who went on to become first black female lawyer admitted to bar

in California won contest to create nickname for PPIE in 1915
http://californiahistoricalsociety.blogspot.com/2015/04/ms-mondayppie-part-3-girl-who-named-fair.html?utm_source=California+Historical+Society+Newsletter

“Images of Black Chicago” online photography archive
<http://luna.lib.uchicago.edu/luna/servlet/uofclibmgr2~5~5>

Bloomington-Normal (Illinois) Black History Project
<http://www.idaillinois.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/MCL>

Researching a Negro League player inducted into MLB Hall of Fame
<http://yahoo.thepostgame.com/blog/throwback/201502/pete-hill-baseball-hall-fame-is-this-heaven-documentary-chicago>

The first slavery museum in the U.S.
<http://mobile.nytimes.com/2015/03/01/magazine/building-the-first-slave-museum-in-america.html>
<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/whitney-plantation-museum-confronts-painful-history-american-slavery/>

Massachusetts antislavery and antisegregation petitions database
<http://www.beezodogsplace.com/2012/10/03/1896-african-american-buffalo-soldiers-test-bikes-for-army-on-1900-mile-expedition/>

Mapping Slavery in Detroit
<http://mappingdetroitlavery.com/>

Daguerrotype of identified slave holding a book
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/archive/201004A28.html>

The last slaves of Mississippi
<http://www.people.com/people/archive/article/0,,20061664,00.html>

1896 Buffalo Soldiers bicycle test ride
<https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/antislaverypetitionsma>

Baobab Writer's Guidelines

Interested in submitting your work to *The Baobab Tree*? You don't have to be a professional writer! Just tell your story the best you can and be willing to work with the editors to polish it for publication.

Here are some helpful hints when preparing your submissions:

- Type all submissions. Times New Roman font, 12 point is best.
- Write one to three pages. We always need some one-page stories; more than three pages is too long.
- We will edit. All submissions are subject to review by our journal committee and editors, and may be edited for clarity and to fit the space available.
- Send your bio along with your story; include your contact e-mail and phone number(s). Bio should be in narrative form if possible, not a resume; we will still edit as needed.
- Send your portrait. E-mail a JPG photo of yourself along with your story or article. A good clear head-and-shoulders shot of you is best, in front of a solid color background that contrasts with your hair and skin tone. If you only have a shot of yourself with other people, we may be able to crop it (*i.e.*, cut out the other folks).
- Photos, documents, and other graphics are always welcome, in JPG format. Make sure pictures are at least 300 dpi (dots per inch), sharp, and clear and have enough contrast to show up well in black and white. All photos and documents must have credits and captions submitted in a separate document.
- Respect the deadlines you're given for submissions and corrections. If your material is late, it might have to be held for the next issue or drastically altered to fit the space.

E-mail us at journal@aagsnc.org.

New, earlier poem by America's first published black writer discovered
<http://www.nhregister.com/general-news/20150308/madison-woman-makes-literary-find-at-historical-society>

Adopted woman discovers her grandfather was Nat King Cole
<http://goo.gl/sjPK2e>

102-year-old Harlem Renaissance dancer sees video of herself dancing for first time
<http://goo.gl/gBou6j>

Oral histories from Harlem
<http://oralhistory.nypl.org/neighborhoods/harlem>

First black graduate of the University of Rochester, in 1891
http://www.rochester.edu/pr/Review/V76N6/0504_archivist.html

Copy of local black newspaper, the *Colored Enterprise*, included in 1897 Asheville, North Carolina time capsule
<http://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/local/2015/03/31/city-unearts-time-capsule-beneath-vance-monument/70717222/>

Short bio of early black professional baseball player Fleet Walker
<http://nowiknow.com/before-jackie/>

Bernice Bennett interviews AAGSNC member Dr. Pearl Alice Marsh about black loggers in Oregon
<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/bernicebennett/2015/02/09/the-black-loggers-of-wallowa-county-oregon-with-pearl-alice-marsh-phd>

Historic black Philadelphia cemetery rediscovered under playground
<http://guardianlv.com/2013/07/thousands-of-african-american-graves-found-beneath-philadelphia-playground/>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/29/philadelphia-playground-african-american-graves_n_3671749.html

Army Life in a Black Regiment free PDF download
<http://goo.gl/cN1tiU>

Descendants of former South Carolina slave reunited through research done by unrelated person

http://www.islandpacket.com/2015/02/27/3615818_as-gravestones-mystery-revealed.html

Texas resources for slave research
http://starlocalmedia.com/opinion/blogs/blog_7/texas-independence-day-is-celebrated-on-march/article_6522ccd2-c285-11e4-a7ab-7312601a75b2.html

Only civilian death at Appomattox was former slave who died free
<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2015/04/08/wounded-as-slave-died-free-revelation-about-woman-death-at-appomattox-takes/>

Central Lunatic Asylum for Colored Insane in Petersburg, Virginia to have digital archive
<http://news.utexas.edu/2015/04/08/digital-archives-asylum>

Sweet Briar College, site of former plantation, is closing
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/grade-point/wp/2015/04/06/for-a-family-whose-ancestors-were-slaves-at-the-sweet-briar-plantation-a-loss/>

Names of Virginia slaves available in online database
<http://www.cnn.com/2012/02/05/us/virginia-slaves/>

Post that everyone who is considering DNA testing to help them with their family history research should read before paying for a test
<http://rootsrevealed.blogspot.com/2015/01/20-dos-and-donts-of-dna.html>

"The Genetic Ancestry of African Americans, Latinos, and European Americans across the United States" (research paper)
<http://www.cell.com/ajhg/abstract/S0002-9297%2814%2900476-5>

23andMe study shows average black American is almost 25% European, while 4% of white Americans have detectable black ancestry
<http://atlantablackstar.com/2014/12/20/genetic-study-reveals-average-black-genome-nearly-quarter-european/>

Digital collection of modern-day black oral histories

<http://baystatebanner.com/news/2015/apr/15/history-makers-builds-digital-collection-black-ora/>

“Voices of African-American Women” at the Library of Congress
<http://blogs.loc.gov/folklife/2015/02/african-american-women/>

First black player in NBA passes away
http://espn.go.com/nba/story/_/id/12390897/earl-lloyd-1st-black-player-appear-nba-game-dies

National Museum of African Art online photograph exhibition includes historic east coast of Africa
<http://indian-ocean.africa.si.edu/>

Workshop with African World Heritage Fund held in Cape Verde
<http://cyark.org/news/training-with-the-african-world-heritage-fund>

Story of a native man who fought in WWI for Australia
<http://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2015/mar/25/black-anzac-the-life-and-death-of-an-aboriginal-man-who-fought-for-king-and-country>

Behind the *Book of Negroes*
<http://canadashistory.ca/Magazine/Online-Extension/Articles/Freedom-Bound>

Black Canadian doctor attended dying Abraham Lincoln
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/black-doctor-from-canada-served-in-u-s-civil-war-attended-dying-abe-lincoln-1.3034687>

Canada's first black jew
<http://www.cjnews.com/?q=node%2F136574>

Artifacts stolen from Benin in 1897 returned to Nigeria
<http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-31605284>

Photograph of parade of WWII black U.S. servicemen in Stowmarket, Suffolk, England
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-31662583>

The changing lives of black people in Britain

<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2015/feb/08/black-experience-photography-community-v-and-a>

Research on bodies of three buried slaves found on Sint Maarten
<http://news.sciencemag.org/africa/2015/03/dna-reveals-history-buried-slaves>

Problems that faced 18th-century black sailors
<http://uncoveringhiddenlives.com/2015/01/20/black-mariners-on-martin-luther-king-day/>

Fifteen well known historical individuals said to have black African ancestry
<http://madamenoire.com/481003/historical-figures-you-didnt-know-were-black/>

Sister Rosetta Tharpe, godmother of rock and roll
<http://www.theguardian.com/music/2015/mar/18/sister-rosetta-tharpe-gospel-singer-100th-birthday-tribute>

The creator of kosher soul food
<http://tabletmag.com/jewish-life-and-religion/188125/michael-twitty-kosher-soul>

Leader of African Hebrew Israelites died in December 2014
<http://forward.com/articles/211732/leader-of-israels-black-hebrews-dies-at/>
<http://forward.com/news/israel/211907/ben-ammi-ben-israels-spiritual-journey-from-segreg/>
<http://forward.com/news/breaking-news/212117/israel-tributes-to-black-leader-spotlight-groups-a/>

Jazz great Nina Simone singing “Strange Fruit” and Zionist standard “Eretz Zavot Halav”
<http://thejewniverse.com/2015/when-nina-simone-sang-a-zionist-standard/>

Interview about composer of “Strange Fruit”
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03jb1w1>

Thanks to Dera Williams for posting several of these links.

The Baobab Tree is published four times each year and is provided to all members of the African American Genealogical Society of Northern California (AAGSNC) as a benefit of membership. Additional copies and past issues may be purchased for \$5.00 per copy.

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Deadlines for submission of material for publication in *The Baobab Tree* are March 15 for the Spring issue, June 15 for the Summer, September 15 for the Fall, and December 15 for the Winter.

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- Resources and methods of research in Africa
- Mystery photos

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- Church records (baptisms, burials, marriages, etc.)
- Court records
- Manumission and freedom certificates
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- Newspaper transcriptions
- Plantation family papers relating to slaves
- Tax lists naming free blacks or slaves
- Voter registration lists



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